

Polo Cup India



PRESS RELEASE

Nawaz Sandhu wins Special Ladies Polo Cup race in Chennai

Fast cars and Bollywood thrilled audiences at the Polo Cup India 2010

Chennai, November 30, 2010 – Volkswagen India & JK Tyre held a special Ladies Race during the 5th Round of Polo Cup India 2010 on Sunday, November 28, 2010, at the MMSC Irungattukottai Race Track, Sriperumbudur in Chennai - the heartland of Indian Motorsports. Ace-rallyist, Nawaz Sandhu thrilled spectators to win the 7-lap all ladies Special Polo Cup race with a best lap time of 1:14.623, at a speed of 178.5 km/h. Bollywood actor Gul Panag also participated in the race. The race was flagged-off by Dr. John Chacko, Volkswagen Group Chief Representative India, President and Managing Director, Volkswagen India Private Limited and Mr. Prakash Jha, producer of the upcoming movie, “Turning 30”.

Race Day at Round 5 of the Polo Cup 2010 was bursting with Bollywood glamour from start to finish. The first Polo Cup race of the weekend was flagged-off by leading lady, Gul Panag. The ladies special Polo Cup race was the finale to an already action-packed weekend. Along with Nawaz Sandhu, popular Indian racers Sarika Sherawat and Anita Kholay completed the top 3.

Behind the wheel of their Race Polos, the ladies wowed audiences with some fabulous driving skills, making for a truly exciting race. The galleries were filled with fans screaming at the top of their lungs, proof that Motorsports in India is no longer just for men.

Speaking about her experience of racing in the Polo Cup, actress Gul Panag expressed, “I think Volkswagen has done a tremendous service to Motorsports in India by encouraging women to come forward and race. Racing is one sport where males have no advantage over females and there is no reason women cannot compete. The whole ethos and spirit of the race gels beautifully with character I play in ‘Turning 30’, who incidentally is a racer at heart and always wants to win.”

Fans were witness to a star-studded stellar event as the sirens of Indian Motorsports barrelled past them on the home straight. The results of the Ladies Race at the Polo Cup India 2010 in Chennai are as below:

Position	Driver	Total Time
1.	Nawaz Sandhu	00:08:55.345
2.	Sarika Sherawat	00:09:24.061
3.	Anita Kholay	00:09:27.073
4.	Isabel Franco	00:09:27.377
5.	Farah Vakil	00:09:31.210
6.	Firdaus Shaikh	00:09:46.251

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7.	Sohini Dutt	00:08:56.753
8.	Gul Panag	00:09:19.789

This was a special race held during the 5th and pen-ultimate round of India's first ever Polo Cup. The series has 6 racing weekends in total. Polo Cup India races are part of the JK Tyre National Racing Championship, which is a flagship motorsports event in India series finale will take place on December 18/19 here on the race circuit in Chennai.

Motor sports enthusiasts interested in getting further information can log on to the website, www.polocup.in. This website will display information about the format of The Polo Cup India, race updates and driver profiles.

About Volkswagen Motorsport

Volkswagen is committed to broad-scale motor sport as in internationally staged cross-country rally racing programmes in countries including Germany, Europe and the United States apart from other countries in Asia and has a long tradition of promoting young talent. Following the legendary Formula V as of 1966 the brand, in 1976, sponsored a one-make touring car cup for the first time. Among others, the Scirocco Cup produced drivers like the subsequent Formula 1 racer Manfred Winkelhock. In 1977 the first-generation Golf GTI replaced the Scirocco as the cup vehicle and remained the popular competition car for a generation of young racers up to 1982. In 1983, the second-generation Polo followed as the cup vehicle – initially using the 88-hp normally aspirated engine version and, from 1986, the 112-hp compressor engine. At the relaunch in 1998, Volkswagen presented the Lupo, which offered top-class sport at fair prices, as well as the Volkswagen New Beetle Cup.

The year of 1998 stands for an all-new concept in the world of racing. To this day, this new concept featuring centrally fielded vehicles and car swapping among the drivers guarantees maximum equality of opportunity. In 2004 the 150-hp Polo replaced the small Lupo as the cup vehicle and the concept was subjected to further refinement. The Polo Cup's success story is closely linked to the DTM-Deutsche Tourenwagen Meisterschaft. The premier league of touring car racing has evolved into a real crowd-puller and is envisaged as a concrete career goal by many junior racers.

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