

# Polo Cup India



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Parth Ghorpade on Pole for the first race of Round 5 of Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India 2010 at Irungattukottai Race Track in Chennai**

**Parth beats Vishnu to take the Pole Position / Round 5 to be flagged off on Sunday, November 28, 2010 at Irungattukottai Race Track, Chennai**

Chennai, November 27, 2010 – Parth Ghorpade put in an impressive lap to claim the Pole Position for the 1<sup>st</sup> race of the 5<sup>th</sup> Round of Polo Cup India 2010, at the Irungattukottai Race Track, Chennai, covering the 3.717 km track with the best lap time of 2:03:135. Championship leader Sailesh Bolisetti will start from 5<sup>th</sup> position, with a difference of one-tenth of a second from Karthik Shankar.

Vishnu Prasad clinched the 2<sup>nd</sup> position with a time of 2:03:423 followed by Sahil Shelar with a lap time of 2:03:511. Mohd Fahad Kutty, who is placed third in the Championship, will start 11<sup>th</sup> in the first race tomorrow.

Speaking about winning Pole Position, Parth said, “It feels great to be on Pole. With only two rounds left in the season it’s now crunch time. Being the 1<sup>st</sup> on the grid will give me the advantage I need to fight for a place on the podium and earn the crucial championship points.”

Local boy, Vishnu Prasad was second on the grid just tenth of a second away from the leader. Currently 5<sup>th</sup> on the championship standings, Vishnu said, “Starting second on the grid will be crucial as it will better my chances of finishing on the podium and thus help me in moving up in the championship standings.”

The qualifying grid for Race 1 is as follows:

<b>Driver</b>	<b>Best Lap</b>
Parth Ghorpade	2:03:135
Vishnu Prasad	2:03:423
Sahil Shelar	2:03:511
Kartik Shankar	2:03:587
Sailesh Bolisetti	2:03:749
Dhruv Behl	2:03:903
Anthony George	2:04:130
Prateek Dalal	2:04:366
Nikhil Kashyap	2:04:394
Munjal Savla	2:04:441
Mohd Fahad Kutty	2:04:483
Vikash Anand	2:04:623

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Imran Majid	2:05:081
Gurniaz Mann	2:05:169
Oshan Kothadiya	2:05:251
Shrivatsa Sinha	2:06:253
Alisha Abdullah	2:06:571
Suraj Bhagat	2:06:803
Saurav Bandopadhyaya	2:09:018
Nawaz Bhathena	2:10:489
Sneha Sharma	-

*\*Guest Driver*

*\*\* Nikhil Kashyap and Sneha Sharma have replaced Gokul Krishna and Ameya Bafna for the rest of the season*

The highly successful Volkswagen-JK Tyre Polo Cup India is in its debut year in India. This will be the fifth and pen-ultimate round of the Championship with Sailesh leading the Championship, closely followed by Parth Ghorpade and Mohd Fahad Kutty.

The current driver standings after the first 4 rounds of Polo Cup India 2010 in are as below:

Position	Driver	City	Points
1	Sailesh Bolisetti	Chennai	271
2	Parth Ghorpade	Kolhapur	251
3	Mohd Fahad Kutty	Mumbai	207
4	Sahil Shelar	Pune	194
5	Vishnu Prasad	Chennai	177
6	Imran Majid	Mumbai	155
7	Vikash Anand	Chennai	149
8	Karthik Shankar	Hyderabad	146
9	Munjal Savla	Mumbai	139
10	Gurniaz Mann	Mumbai	137
11	Gokul Krishna	Chennai	136
12	Alisha Abdullah	Chennai	116
13	Anthony George	Kochin	111
14	Oshan Kothadiya	Pune	105
15	Prateek Dalal	Bahadurgarh	68
16	Saurav Bandopadhyaya	Mumbai	57
17	Suraj Bhagat	Ahmednagar	42
18	Ameya Bafna	Mumbai	42
19	Sneha Sharma	Mumbai	16
20	Shrivatsa Sinha	Pune	12

The Polo Cup India will have six races in total. The final race of the Championship will take place on the race course in Chennai.

- 18/19 Dec 2010 at Chennai (Irungattukottai Race Track)

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Motor sports enthusiasts interested in getting further information can log on to the website, [www.polocup.in](http://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.*

Volkswagen Group Communications

Contact: Pradnya Joshi Chaudhury

Phone: +91 - 9764999349

E-mail: [pradnya.chaudhury@volkswagen.co.in](mailto:pradnya.chaudhury@volkswagen.co.in)

20:20 Media

Contact: Nishant Maller

Phone: +91/9840070444

E-mail: [nishant@2020india.com](mailto:nishant@2020india.com)

David Vaz

+91/9322652611

[david@2020india.com](mailto:david@2020india.com)