

# 2017 TCR #5

## World and life



International Series: Five for the title

Feature: The long way to Asia

Reports: The World in action

# THE TCR SNAPSHOT



## 60 cars invade Germany

**Where:** TCR Weekend at Oschersleben (photographer Francesco Toso)  
**What:** There were 60 TCR cars between the International and German series, enough to fill the grid and the paddock



## What's next in the world of TCR

22/23 July	TCR Germany	Zandvoort, Netherlands
22/23 July	TCR Baltic	1006Km Palanga, Lithuania
5/6 August	TCR Russia	Smolensk
5/6 August	TCR Germany	Nürburgring
5/6 August	TCR China	Shanghai
12/13 August	TCR Scandinavia	Karlskoga
19 August	VLN	Nürburgring
19/20 August	TCR Baltic	Bikernieki
19/20 August	TCR Russia	Moscow
19/20 August	TCR Thailand	Buriram
26/27 August	TCR Asia & TCR China	Shanghai
26/27 August	24H Series	24H Portimão, Portugal

**2016 TCR**  
World and life

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**TCR UK promoter  
Jonathan Ashman (right)  
with Marcello Lotti**



## TCR UK announcement creates a buzz

The press release was fairly short, but to the point: in 2018, the UK will become the latest country to host a TCR series when TCR UK takes to British circuits. The reaction from Touring Car fans on social media was swift and seemed to be split between those who welcomed the series and loyal supporters of the BTCC who declared that it would never replace their series.

That, of course, misses the point of the series completely. TCR UK isn't intended to replace the British Touring Car Championship, but to act as a feeder series – a bridge between the likes of the single make racing series and the BTCC (or regional or global championships such as the TCR International Series).

Although details such as the calendar have yet to be confirmed, two facts announced by the press release immediately confirmed the status of the

new series. The championship will be run by the British Racing and Sports Car Club (BRSCC), who already coordinate several high-profile racing series, and the promoter will be Jonathan Ashman, a former Chairman of the FIA's Touring Car Commission and the man credited with coming up with the Super Touring regulations that proved to be so popular in the 1990s.

*"I have worked with Marcello Lotti since the TCR concept was launched," said Ashman. "This new adventure with TCR UK brings me back to my previous experience as a Touring Car promoter, which gives me plenty of motivation to repeat the earlier success. I'm also especially pleased to have an experienced and professional management team alongside me."*

Marcello Lotti, creator of the TCR commented: *"This is a particularly important achievement for us, because*

*the UK remains the reference country for motorsport due to its concentration of engineering companies, teams and professional people. We are confident that the new series will be successful thanks to the long-standing British tradition for motorsport in general, with particular enthusiasm for the various Touring Car categories."*

Lukoil Craft-Bamboo driver Dan Lloyd, who joined the 2017 TCR International Series from the Austrian event onwards, was a BTCC regular and views the introduction of a UK TCR series as a logical step. *"My honest reaction is why not? TCR has been popular around the world and the UK is a perfect place for a TCR series. The cars are around a third of the price of a BTCC car, so teams don't have to find the same level of money to fund a programme. I agree with the people who've said the series won't compete with the BTCC – it's been pretty dominant for so long and TCR UK is a feeder series. It'll be really interesting."*

The fans' reaction might have given the announcement a cautious welcome, but the early feedback from teams, drivers and suppliers has been hugely positive. It'll be fascinating to see what happens when TCR UK hits the track in the spring of 2018....

**TCR**  
International Series

# One title, five bidders

THE SUMMER BREAK PRECEDES THE FINAL SPRINT





The battle will go on until the last minute. The only thing for sure, as the TCR International Series contenders head eastwards for the Asian tour that will conclude the season, is that nothing is decided and the three rounds in Buriram, Zhejiang and Abu Dhabi will see a superb battle for the title. The European part of the season is now over and yielded a situation where five drivers, representing four different teams and car brands and separated by only 43 points, are in a position to bid for the crown. By taking a superb double win at home at the Hungaroring, in the penultimate event, Attila Tassi, the young gun at the wheel of the M1RA Honda Civic, had joined the "Club of

the 4" which included his team mate Roberto Colciago, reigning double champion Stefano Comini (Comtoyout Racing Audi), Pepe Oriola (Lukoil Craft-Bamboo SEAT) and Jean-Karl Vernay (Leopard Racing Volkswagen Golf). The weekend at Oschersleben, though, has added further suspense, as three of the title contenders (Tassi, Colciago and Oriola) took no points in the races, thus freezing their positions. The only drivers scoring a handful of points in a German round characterized by many incidents and a pile-up at the start of Race 2 (which left a number of cars damaged right ahead of the long boat journey to Thailand) were Comini and Vernay.





## Representatives of Japanese brands visited TCR

A Japanese delegation has visited Oschersleben to take an inside view of both the TCR International Series and ADAC TCR Germany.

The members of the delegation were representatives of three car manufacturers with JAF, Japan's National Sporting Authority: Kaoru Shimamura of Honda, Masahiro Moritani of Toyota and Shoichi Kamimura of Mazda.

During the weekend they also had a meeting with the TCR promoter Marcello Lotti.







## OSCHERSLEBEN - RACE 1, SUNDAY 9 JULY 2017

	DRIVER	CAR	TEAM	
1	Gianni Morbidelli	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	WestCoast Racing	19 laps in 31:28.263
2	Daniel Lloyd	SEAT León TCR	Lukoil Craft-Bamboo	2.134
3	Rob Huff	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	Leopard Racing	5.890
4	James Nash	SEAT León TCR	Lukoil Craft-Bamboo	6.454
5	Giacomo Altoè	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	WestCoast Racing	9.938
6	Stefano Comini	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	Comtoyout Racing	16.300
7	Mat'o Homola	Opel Astra TCR	DG Sport Compétition	16.794
8	Jaap van Lagen	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	Leopard Racing	16.992
9	Danny Kroes	SEAT León TCR	Ferry Monster Autosport	23.892
10	Frédéric Vervisch	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	Comtoyout Racing	27.858

## OSCHERSLEBEN - RACE 2, SUNDAY 9 JULY 2017

	DRIVER	CAR	TEAM	
1	Gianni Morbidelli	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	WestCoast Racing	15 laps in 23:29.470
2	Mat'o Homola	Opel Astra TCR	DG Sport Compétition	0.434
3	Jean-Karl Vernay	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	Leopard Racing WRT	0.716
4	Daniel Lloyd	SEAT León TCR	Lukoil Craft-Bamboo	0.908
5	Stefano Comini	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	Comtoyout Racing	16.127
6	Frédéric Vervisch	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	Comtoyout Racing	27.291
7	Duncan Ende	SEAT León TCR	Icarus Motorsports	31.037
8	Jens Reno Møller	Honda Civic Type-R TCR	Reno Racing	1:06.803
9	Davit Kajaia	Alfa Romeo Giulietta TCR	GE-Force	2 laps
10	Ferenc Ficza	KIA cee'd TCR	Zengő Motorsport	2 laps

Often spectacular and usually in the middle of all the battles, the Swiss had a more calculating approach in Germany, taking a fifth and a sixth that allowed him to reduce the gap in the standings. As for the Frenchman, he was able to salvage a very useful podium finish in Race 2, which meant retaking the lead in the overall classification, although by only two points over Tassi. Colciago and Comini are only 8 and 9 points behind, respectively, with Oriola still in the race 43 points behind the leader and closing on the quintet of drivers that have passed the threshold of 100 points.

In Germany, the real stars were some of the outsiders and there is no doubt that their current excellent form will play a role in the final and decisive rounds. With a sensational hat-trick (pole and both race wins) Gianni Morbidelli finally opened the victory count this year of WestCoast Racing, which has now come to terms with the Volkswagen Golf after a somehow difficult start to the season. The Italian veteran also reminded everybody that a great champion remains so and therefore has always to be taken into account...

Mat'o Homola came extremely close to give the maiden win to the DG Sport Compétition Opel Astra in Race 2 at Oschersleben. He actually led the entire race, conceding the top spot only two corners from the flag. The Slovak's frustration was comprehensible, but the positive side of things is that the Astra is now considered among the potential winners. A status that Daniel Lloyd can also claim. The young Briton, who replaced Hugo Valente at Lukoil Craft-Bamboo only three events ago, was the best of the SEAT ambassadors in Germany, collecting a second and a fourth. Without forgetting the GE-Force Alfa Romeo Giulietta cars of Dušan Borkovič and Davit Kajaia, who have collected three race wins so far but had poorer outings more recently; undoubtedly, they will find the Asia tracks more favourable to help them play again among the front-runners.



# The long way to Asia

SEL ARCESE HAS ORGANIZED THE SHIPPING TO THAILAND



For the third successive year, the final race meeting of the TCR International Series' European leg also marked the beginning of the logistics operation to ship cars and parts to Asia for the final part of the season.

On July 11th and 12th, at Genoa's Voltri harbour, personnel of SEL Arcese, the official logistics partner of the series, organised the loading of 19 containers (482 items weighing a total of 100 tons between cars and spare parts) that were loaded onto the cargo ship Tampa Triumph on July 16th. This brand new, Panama-registered vessel, with a gross tonnage of 151,000 tons, set sail on

July 18th to Singapore, where it is due to call on August 13th. There, the TCR containers will be transferred to the Thai ship Wana Bhum (gross tonnage 31,000 tons) that is due to arrive at Laem Chabang in Thailand on August 17th. Once in Thailand the containers will be loaded on trucks to cover the 420 km on the crowded Thai motorways up to Buriram's Chang International Circuit.

The operation in Genoa involved 38 people: three from SEL, three workers of the harbour warehouse, three employees of the shipping company, three custom officers and twenty-six team members.

"These three years with the TCR International Series have been exciting and full of challenges. We have believed in this project from the very beginning and we are very pleased to have given our contribution to the success of this wonderful championship. When we started, our company was not well known in the car racing business, however we have managed to gain the confidence of teams, promoters and suppliers, proving to be a professional and reliable partner. And we thank Marcello Lotti for giving us the opportunity to be part of this fantastic adventure," said Pier Carlo Bottero, the CEO of the



company based in Rivalta, near Turin. The 19 racing cars shipped included those damaged in the pile up at the start of Oschersleben's Race 2: the Lukoil Craft-Bamboo SEATs of Oriola and Nash, Huff's Leopard Racing Volkswagen, Altoè's WestCoast Racing Volkswagen and the M1RA Honda of Colciago. Most of them have been repaired enough so that they can fit into the containers, but they will be stripped and rebuilt after the delivery at Buriram. Only the Honda was not repairable, which meant that engine and gearbox had to be

removed from the wreck and installed in a brand new car. This joint M1RA-JAS effort was completed in less than 24 hours before the truck left Oschersleben.

After the races in Thailand, the containers will be trucked back to Laem Chabang harbour from where they will be shipped to Shanghai and subsequently sent by truck on the 250km drive to the Zhejiang International Circuit. The provisional dates for this leg are: September 11th - departure from Laem Chabang and September 24th - arrival at Shanghai.



# Logistics

Our objective is to deliver on time, in full and accurately. Our Air, Ocean, Land Freight & Customs Operations services, coupled with an extensive knowledge of on site handling and management services on a global scale result in a quality service offering. Our services have grown in the world of motorsports recently we have expanded our services offering to single and multisport events such as Car Racing, Triathlon, Rowing, Canoeing and Kayaking.



# Travel

Fulfilling market research and knowledge we offer the optimal flight, accommodation and transfer services. Our customer service approach is realised in advance, during, and post event activities.

We provide an integrated solution to our sport clients, by not only transporting their sport equipment, but providing travel for their athletes, teams, sponsors, suppliers and media.



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sport & events logistics

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International Series



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# Sritrai makes it a double at Bangsaen

TCR Asia and TCR Thailand joined forces for a couple of eventful races at the infamous Bangsaen Street Circuit that provided lots of drama. In the first race Kantadhee Kusiri (Team Engstler Volkswagen) caused a pile up at the start that involved six other cars. When the race restarted, Lai Wee Sing (R Engineering Honda Civic) led from Tim Sritrai (Team Thailand Honda Civic) who was followed by Shaun Thong (Audi Hong Kong) and Diego Moran (Team Engstler Volkswagen). On lap 2 Sritrai dived inside Lai's car and overtook it after a light contact; on lap 4, S. Thong tried to overtake Lai for second, but he outbraked himself

and ran wide; Moran was following closely and could not avoid the collision. On lap 5, Pasarit Promsombat (RMI Racing SEAT) overtook Jasper Thong (Audi Hong Kong) for third. Sritrai was victorious, while Lai beat Promsombat for second, but the latter won the TCT Thailand race. In Race 2, Thai Lady driver Nattanid Leewattanavaragul (RMI Racing SEAT) made a good start from pole position, but J. Thong and Lai managed to overtake her during the first lap. Kusiri observed a drive-through penalty for causing the pile up at the start of Saturday's Race 1 and rejoined at the back.

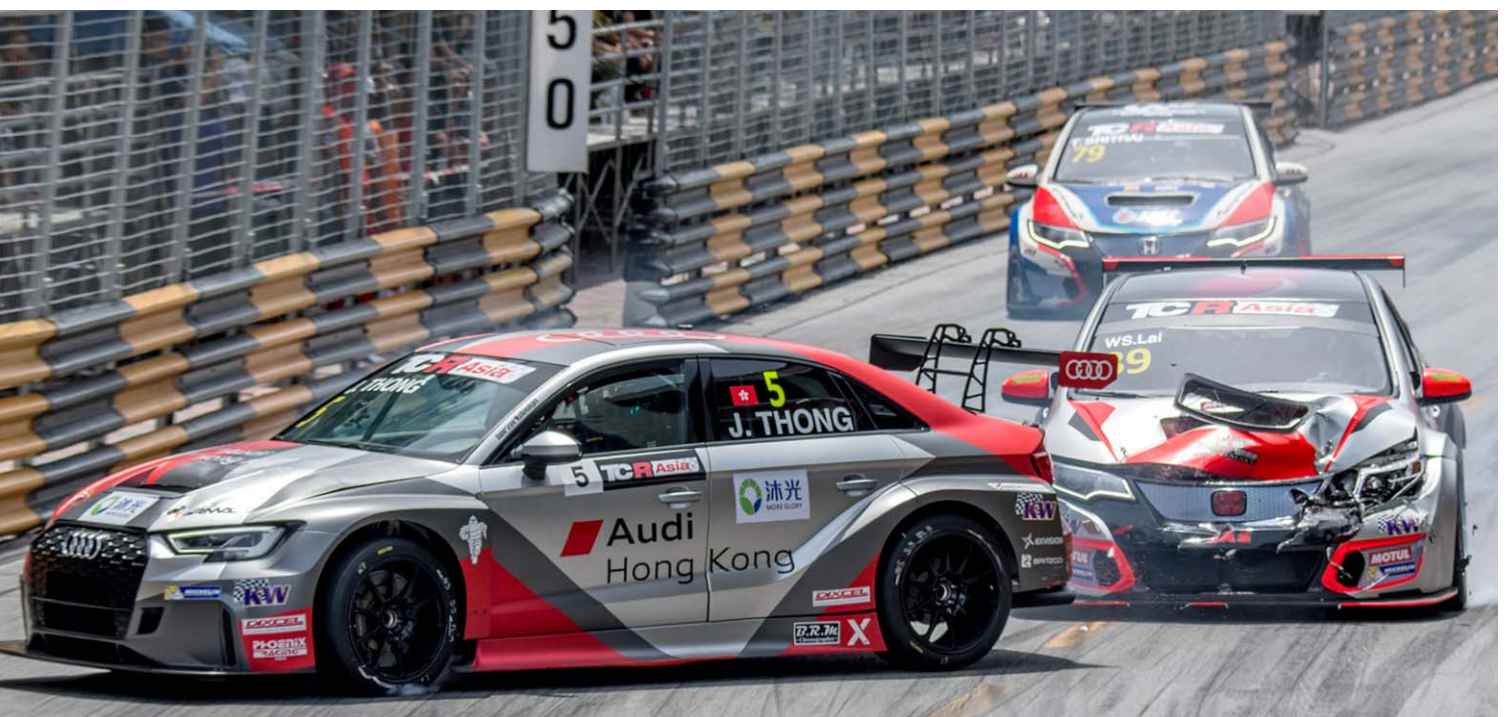
Moran and Sritrai were fighting for the fourth position when the safety car was deployed on lap 4 after an incident that eliminated Douglas Khoo (Viper Niza Racing SEAT), Chariya Nuya (Billionaire Boy Racing Honda) and Eric Kwong (Elegant Racing Team SEAT). When the race resumed on lap 9, Sritrai overtook Moran and Leewattanavaragul, moving up to third and closing the gap from the leading duo of J. Thong and Lai. On lap 11, Lai hit the back of Thong's Audi at the braking of Turn 18; both cars crashed into the barrier. The safety car was deployed once again, but after a couple of laps the race was red-flagged with Sritrai in first position ahead of Moran and Leewattanavaragul who finished a brilliant third and won the TCR Thailand race ahead of her teammate and Race 1 winner Promsombat. Only half points were awarded for Race 2, which helped Lai Wee Sing to maintain the lead in the TCR Asia standings, 4.5 points ahead of Sritrai; Moran lies third, a further 9.5 points adrift. The two series will resume in August: TCR Thailand at Buriram (19/20) and TCR Asia at Shanghai (26/27).



## Results

Bangsaen, TCR Asia Round 7 / TCR Thailand Round 3, Saturday 1 July  
1. Tin Sritrai (Honda Civic); 2. Lai Wee Sing (Honda Civic); 3. Pasarit Promsombat (SEAT León)

Bangsaen, TCR Asia Round 8 / TCR Thailand Round 4, Saturday 2 July  
1. Tin Sritrai (Honda Civic); 2. Diego Moran (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Nattanid Leewattanavaragul (SEAT León)





# First wins for Oestreich and Langeveld

The ADAC TCR Germany series returned to Oschersleben for its third race meeting where Moritz Oestreich (ADAC Sachsen Honda) and Niels Langeveld (Racing One Audi) claimed their maiden wins in the series. At the start of Race 1, Oestreich and Kris Richard (Target Competition Honda) managed to overtake Langeveld who was on pole. The race was disrupted once by the safety car and after the restart there was a tough fight for sixth between Steve Kirsch (ADAC Sachsen Honda), the championship leader Josh Files (Target Competition Honda) and







Langeveld that resulted in a series of contacts that helped Florian Thoma (Team Engstler Volkswagen) and Tim Zimmermann (Target Competition Audi) to move up to 4th and 5th. The race ended in drama, as at the beginning of last lap the engine of Richard's Honda, that had been chasing the leader Oestreich for the entire race, blew at the beginning of the straight and caught fire. Oestreich therefore won under yellow flags, preceding Pascal Eberle (Steibel Motorsport SEAT) and Luca Engstler (Team Engstler Volkswagen). In Race 2, Thoma made an excellent start from P2 and took the lead ahead of Kirsch, Engstler, Langeveld and Files. On lap 2, Langeveld took third from Engstler, but the safety car was out to allow the retrieval of the Honda of Jürgen Schmarl from the gravel trap. At the restart there was a nice fight for the lead between Thoma and Kirsch, with the Swiss keeping the advantage, while Kirsch was defending the position from Langeveld. A slight contact between them sent Kirsch's Honda into the gravel trap, with the safety car out again.

Shortly after the restart, Thoma spun in the last corner and was luckily avoided by the other cars; Langeveld inherited the lead ahead of Files, who had passed Engstler. Files has further stretched his leading margin in the championship classification to 87 and 88 points ahead of Oestreich and Thoma respectively. The ADAC TCR Germany will resume on 22 and 23 July at Zandvoort, Netherlands.

### Results

Oschersleben, Round 5, Saturday 8 July  
 1. Moritz Oestreich (Honda Civic); 2. Pascal Eberle (SEAT León); 3. Luca Engstler (Volkswagen Golf)

Oschersleben, Round 6, Sunday 9 July  
 1. Niels Langeveld (Audi RS3 LMS); 2. Josh Files (Honda Civic); 3. Luca Engstler (Volkswagen Golf)



## Comte wins twice in a first for Peugeot

The most memorable fact from the TCR Benelux series' fourth event at Zolder was the double victory of DG Sport Compétition's Aurélien Comte in the third and fourth sprint races, which were also the first ever sprint race victories in TCR for the Peugeot 308. Previously, Mathieu Detry had won both Race 1 and Race 2 at the wheel of the Team WRT Volkswagen Golf he shares with Maxime Potty, while on Saturday Sam Dejonghe and Denis Dupont (Team WRT SEAT) won a lively Qualifying race. Benjamin Lessennes (Boutsen Ginion Racing Honda Civic) maintained the lead in the standings, although his margin was reduced to only three points ahead of Guillaume Mondron (Delahaye Racing Volkswagen). Potty-

Detry now rank third with a gap of 36 points. In Race 1, de Kimpe stalled from pole and Detry took the lead from Dupont. The latter retired after an incident on lap 1, which promoted Mondron and Lémeret to second and third. Detry and Mondron had a close fight for victory and finished in that order, with Lémeret third and Abbring fourth. In Race 2, Detry encored with his second lights-to-flag win of the day; he was closely followed by Mondron throughout the race, while Abbring pipped Lémeret at the start and finished third. In Race 3, Comte sprinted ahead of pole sitter Potty and led, Lessennes moved up to third while Donnicu-

o spun, prompting the Safety Car. At the restart, Comte defended his lead as he was chased by the trio of Potty, Lessennes and Dejonghe. Positions did not change and they finished in that order. In Race 4, once again Comte made the best start and left Potty to defend his second place from Lessennes. The latter pitted after a spin and rejoined at the back. Comte duly took his second win ahead of Potty, while Donnicuoco completed a great recovery by stealing third place from Dejonghe.

### Results

Zolder, Round 13, Sunday 16 July  
1. Mathieu Detry (Volkswagen Golf);  
2. Guillaume Mondron (Volkswagen Golf);  
3. Stéphane Lémerete (Honda Civic)

Zolder, Round 14, Sunday 16 July  
1. Mathieu Detry (Volkswagen Golf);  
2. Guillaume Mondron (Volkswagen Golf);  
3. Kevin Abbring (Peugeot 308)

Zolder, Round 15, Sunday 16 July  
1. Aurélien Comte (Peugeot 308);  
Maxime Potty (Volkswagen Golf);  
3. Benjamin Lessennes (Honda Civic)

Zolder, Round 16, Sunday 16 July  
1. Aurélien Comte (Peugeot 308);  
Maxime Potty (Volkswagen Golf);  
3. Lorenzo Donnicuoco (Volkswagen Golf)





**TCR** Italy  
Touring Car Championship

## Baldan jumps to the top of the standings

Nicola Baldan (Pit Lane Competizioni SEAT León) won Mugello's Race 2 and so jumped ahead of Eric Scalvini (MM Racing Honda Civic) in the championship classification with a margin of four points.

Scalvini had been lucky enough to maintain the series lead after the first race, in which he salvaged a second position despite blowing the engine on the last lap, but in the second race he couldn't achieve anything better than a ninth.

After losing a couple of victories in previous events because of tyre failures, Kevin Giacon had his best weekend so far in the season, as he was finally able to grab his maiden win at the wheel of his Opel Astra in Race 1 and then finished second in Race 2.

Race 1 – Scalvini and Giacon started better than pole sitter Baldan who nearly stalled and dropped to fifth. During the opening lap, Giacon benefited from a mistake from

Scalvini and took the lead.

Behind the Giacon-Scalvini duo, Mugelli, Kralek and Baldan were in a close fight for third. After resisting the assaults from Baldan, Kralek overtook Mugelli on lap 7 and began to close the gap to the leading duo. In the final part of the race, Giacon was being chased by Scalvini and Kralek, then on the last lap Scalvini's engine blew and spilled oil onto the track, which forced the Race Director to wave the red flag. Consequently, the final classification was that of the previous lap, meaning that Scalvini maintained his second position behind Giacon and ahead of Kralek.

Race 2 – The MM Racing crew succeeded in changing Scalvini's engine and he made the best start and took the lead from Baldan and Mugelli, but the Safety Car was deployed on lap 1 to recover a couple of cars that had spun off.

The race resumed on lap 3 and Baldan overtook Scalvini for the lead; behind

them Giacon moved up to third ahead of Kralek and Mugelli. From the 5th lap onwards, Scalvini's pace faded and he began to lose positions. Giacon and Kralek advanced to second and third, but Baldan had already built a safe margin and went to claim his fourth win of the season. After the race Kralek was demoted to ninth by a penalty for overtaking during the Safety Car period and so Mugelli inherited third.

The TCR Italy series will resume on September 9 and 10 at Imola.

### Results

Mugello, Round 7, Sunday 16 July  
1. Kevin Giacon (Opel Astra); 2. Eric Scalvini (Honda Civic); 3. Plamen Kralek (Audi RS3 LMS)

Mugello, Round 8, Sunday 16 July  
1. Nicola Baldan (SEAT León); 2. Kevin Giacon (Opel Astra); 3. Massimiliano Mugelli (Audi RS3 LMS)



## Mora and Abreu win in Vila Real

The infamous street circuit of Vila Real hosted the third race meeting of the TCR Ibérico series, in which Francisco Mora (VeloSO Motorsport SEAT) and Francisco Abreu (Team NovadrivEer Volkswagen) claimed one win apiece.

Mora maintained the leadership in the standings, with a margin of 19 points ahead of Abreu; the pairing of Rafael Lobato and Patrick Cunha (VeloSO Motorsport Audi) slipped to third place, six points behind Abreu. The first race was disrupted by three safety car interventions, one after a

collision between José Pedro Faria's KIA and Edgar Florindo's SEAT, the second when a TCR2 car stopped on the track and then again when João Carvalho's SEAT crashed in the final turn.

Despite this, pole sitter Francisco Mora (SEAT) and Rafael Lobato (Audi) had a close fight for victory; eventually Mora won by a slim 2-tenths margin, while Francisco Abreu came a close third in his Volkswagen Golf.

In the second race, Abreu started from pole and took an authoritative

lights-to-flag victory, with a 15-second margin ahead of Mora. Patrick Cunha (Lobato's co-driver) won the battle for third, beating César Machado, Carvalho and Gustavo Moura.

The next and final event will be at Barcelona, Spain, on September 16th and 17th.

### Results

Vila Real, Round 5, Sunday 9 July  
1. Francisco Mora (SEAT León); 2. Rafael Lobato (Audi RS3 LMS); 3. Francisco Abreu (Volkswagen Golf)

Vila Real, Round 6, Sunday 9 July  
1. Francisco Abreu (Volkswagen Golf); 2. Francisco Mora (SEAT León); 3. Patrick Cunha (Audi RS3 LMS)





## Dmitry Bragin takes the point lead

LADA Sport Rosneft drivers Kirill Ladygin and Vladimir Sheshenin claimed one victory apiece in the TCR Russia series' fourth race meeting at Kazanring.

Saturday's Race 1 started behind the safety car, as the track was still wet after a shower. Ladygin and Sheshenin used their front row positions to take the lead, but the latter was soon involved in a battle for second place with Dmitri Bragin (TAIF Motorsport SEAT), Nikolay Karamyshev (Lukoil Racing SEAT) and Irek Minnakhmetov (Tschingiskhan Audi). Sheshenin's pursuers swapped positions several times and this allowed the LADA driver to pull away.

The fight for third place went on until Minnakhmetov began having problems with his tyres on the drying track and lost contact.

Ladygin and Sheshenin went to secure a 1-2 finish for LADA Sport Rosneft, while Karamyshev tried in vain to steal third place from Bragin. There were still damp patches when Race 2 got underway. Anton Badoev (Rail Pro Racing) SEAT was on pole, but Minnakhmetov took the lead ahead of Bragin and Sheshenin. The three of them were fighting for the lead, while another trio – Ladygin, Karamyshev and Aleksey Dudukalo (Lukoil Racing SEAT) – competed for fourth position.

On lap 2, Bragin took the lead from Minnakhmetov, who then also lost second place to Sheshenin. On lap 5, Sheshenin overtook Bragin who was in trouble with the wet tyres on the drying track, just like Minnakhmetov and Karamyshev.

On lap 11 the safety car was deployed after Ladygin's LADA got stranded in the gravel while it was sixth. When the race resumed, Sheshenin pulled away from Dudukalo and Klim Gavrilov (Lukoil Racing SEAT), while Bragin dropped to sixth.

However, Bragin maintained the championship lead, 17 points ahead of Dudukalo, while Sheshenin climbed to third, 24 points behind the leader.



### Results

Kazanring, Round 7, Saturday 1 July  
 1. Kirill Ladygin (LADA Vesta); 2. Vladimir Sheshenin (LADA Vesta); 3. Dmitri Bragin (SEAT León)

Kazanring, Round 8, Sunday 2 July  
 1. Vladimir Sheshenin (LADA Vesta); 2. Aleksey Dudukalo (SEAT León); 3. Klim Gavrilov (SEAT León)





# Kristoffersson Motorsport drivers win all

The fourth race meeting of TCR Scandinavia took place at Falkenberg, where the Volkswagen Golf cars run by Kristoffersson Motorsport dominated the field as their three drivers – Fredrik Blomstedt, Fredrik Eklom and Johan Kristoffersson – took one win apiece. The first race was red-flagged after the start for an incident that eliminated four cars. The race restarted with less than four minutes remaining, but it was a processional affair, with Blomstedt holding off Kristoffersson to win, with Eklom making it a Volkswagen 1-2-3. Series leader Robert Dahlgren (PWR Racing SEAT) finished fourth. In Race 2 Blomstedt and Kristoffersson were again fighting for the lead. The safety car was deployed when Andreas Ahlberg's Volkswagen crashed at Turn 6 and at the restart Blomstedt and Kristoffersson cut the chicane to avoid contact. This enabled Eklom to take the lead, while Dahlgren and Daniel Haglöf (PWR Racing SEAT) moved up to second and third. The leading quartet remained nose-to-tail for the whole race, with Eklom successfully defending the lead from Dahlgren and Haglöf managing to keep Blomstedt at bay for third. Heat 3 saw the day's third different race winner. Kristoffersson returned to his winning ways, taking victory by less than half a second over Dahlgren and Reuben Kressner (Brovallen Design Audi) in a race that was dominated by punctures. It was one of those punctures that denied

Eklom his second win of the day. After leading for much of the race, a deflated front-left tyre sent him into the barriers with only six laps remaining. The result means Dahlgren now leads the series by 12 points from Kristoffersson, with Eklom a further 20 points adrift. The next event will be at Karlskoga on August 13th.

### Results

Falkenberg, Round 10, Sunday 9 July  
1. Fredrik Blomstedt (Volkswagen Golf); 2. Johan Kristoffersson (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Fredrik Eklom (Volkswagen Golf)

Falkenberg, Round 11, Sunday 9 July  
1. Fredrik Eklom (Volkswagen Golf); 2. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León); 3. Daniel Haglöf (SEAT León)

Falkenberg, Round 12, Sunday 9 July  
1. Johan Kristoffersson (Volkswagen Golf); 2. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León); 3. Reuben Kressner (Audi RS3 LMS)



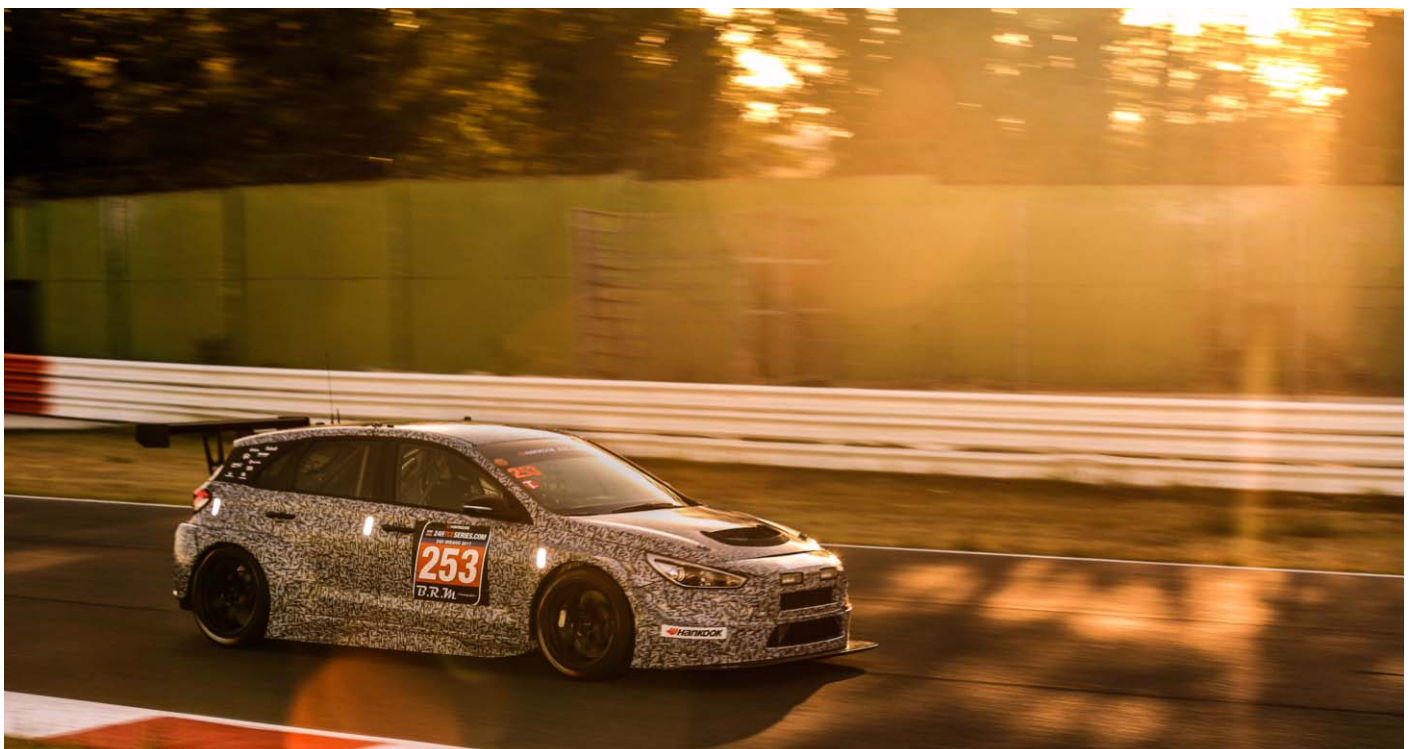
**TCR<sup>24H</sup>** Series **TCR<sup>24H</sup>** TC Series

## SEAT cars wins as Hyundai tests

The SEAT León DSG cars have won both the long distance races held by Dutch company Creventic in Italy: the 12H Imola, fifth round of the 24H Series, and the 24H Misano, the third round of the 24H Touring Car Endurance Series.

At Imola, the TTC Racing car driven by Daniel Schilliger, Fredy Suter and Klaus Kresnik dominated the TCR class and finished a brilliant 21st in the overall classification. One week later at Misano, the 24 hours for Touring Cars was won by the Spanish quartet of Jurgen Smet, José Manuel Perez Aicart, Alba Cano Ramirez and Jaime Font Casas in the Monlau Competición car.

The new Hyundai i30 N TCR made its first public appearance at Misano, although the car shared by Gabriele Tarquini and Antti Buri was entered in the SP3-GT4 class because it has not yet been homologated. The team took part as a further step in the technical development, focusing on completing longer runs and testing different set-up combinations. Having completed the work planned, the team decided to stop running early on Saturday morning. It's worth pointing out that the fastest lap of the race (1:44.077) was clocked by Tarquini in the early stages.





## **TCR cars deliver good battles on the Nordschleife**

Competition in the TCR class of the VLN is becoming fiercer. In the 4-hour ADAC ACAS H&R Cup, the third round of the series, cars of four different brands had a close battle for victory. Eventually the SEAT León run by FEV Racing and driven by Benedikt Gentgen and Marcell Willert won the race from the LMS Engineering Audi RS3 LMS of Matthias Wasel/Marcus Löhnert/Christian Schmitz, but only following the bad luck that hit the two fastest cars: the Mathilda Racing Volkswagen Golf GTI of Andreas Gülden/Benjamin Leuchter was slowed down by a technical problem, while the Kissling Motorsport Opel Astra shared by Volker Strycek and Hannu Luostarinen retired after a collision.

Two weeks later, Gülden and Leuchter took their revenge by claiming their third victory out of the four rounds held so far in the 48. Adenauer ADAC Rundstrecken-Trophy. They completed 27 laps to be classified an impressive 17th overall out of the 144 starters; the FEV SEAT (with Markus Horn replacing Willert) and the LMS Audi finished second and third, two laps behind.





**TCR International Series**

(after rounds 14 of 20)



Drivers

1	Jean-Karl Vernay	Volkswagen Golf GTI	153 pts
2	Attila Tassi	Honda Civic Type-R	151
3	Roberto Colciago	Honda Civic Type-R	145
4	Stefano Comini	Audi RS3 LMS	144
5	Pepe Oriola	SEAT León	110
6	James Nash	SEAT León	86
7	Dušan Borković	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	82
8	Gianni Morbidelli	Volkswagen Golf GTI	77
9	Mat' o Homola	Opel Astra	69
10	Frédéric Vervisch	Audi RS3 LMS	62
11	Davít Kajala	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	61
12	Daniel Lloyd	SEAT León	47
13	Hugo Valente	SEAT León	46
14	Rob Huff	Volkswagen Golf GTI	44
15	Giacomo Altoè	Volkswagen Golf GTI	37
16	Ferenc Ficza	SEAT León / KIA cee'd	32
17	Benjamin Lessenes	Honda Civic Type-R	31
18	Norbert Michelisz	Honda Civic Type-R	31
19	Jens Reno Møller	Honda Civic Type-R	25
20	Thomas Jäger	Opel Astra	25
21	Pierre-Yves Corthals	Opel Astra	19
22	Edouard Mondron	SEAT León	18
23	Jaap van Lagen	Volkswagen Golf GTI	8
24	Duncan Ende	SEAT León	6
25	Tom Coronel	Honda Civic Type-R	4
25	Stian Paulsen	SEAT León	4
27	Danny Kroes	SEAT León	2

Teams

1	M1RA	308 pts
2	Lukoil Craft-Bamboo Racing	275
3	Comtoy Racing	212
4	Leopard Racing Team WRT	209
5	GE-Force	145
6	WestCoast Racing	127
7	DG Sport Competition	92
8	Boutsen Ginion Racing	37
9	Zeke Racing	32
10	Reno Racing	25
11	Kissling Motorsport	25
12	Delahaye Racing	18
13	Icarus Motorsports	7
14	Stian Paulsen Racing	6
15	Ferry Monster Autosport	2
16	Zengő Motorsport	1

Model of the year

1	Honda Civic Type-R	364 pts
2	SEAT León	316
3	Volkswagen Golf GTI	313
4	Audi RS3 LMS	228
5	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	155
6	Opel Astra	139
7	KIA cee'd	3

**TCR Asia**

(after rounds 8 of 12)



Drivers

1	Lai Wee Sing	Honda Civic Type-R	113 pts
2	Tin Sitrai	Honda Civic Type-R	108.5
3	Diego Moran	Volkswagen Golf GTI	99
4	Kantadhee Kusiri	Volkswagen Golf GTI	95
5	Abdul Kaathir	Honda Civic Type-R	85
6	Jasper Thong	Audi RS3 LMS	70
7	Eric Kwong	SEAT León	60
8	Alex Liu	SEAT León	51.5
9	Shaun Thong	Audi RS3 LMS	40
10	Douglas Khoo Kok Hui	SEAT León	30

TCR Asia Cup

1	Abdul Kaathir	Honda Civic	145 pts
2	Jasper Thong	Audi RS3 LMS	115
3	Eric Kwong	SEAT León	99

Teams

1	R Engineering	198 pts
2	Liqui Moly Team Engstler	194
3	Audi Hong Kong	112

**TCR Benelux**

(after rounds 16 of 24)



Drivers

1	Benjamin Lessenes	Honda Civic Type-R	285 pts
2	Guillaume Mondron	SEAT León / Volkswagen Golf GTI	282
3	Mathieu Detry	Volkswagen Golf GTI	251
3	Maxime Potty	Volkswagen Golf GTI	251
5	Aurélien Comte	Peugeot 308 RC	238
5	Kevin Abbring	Peugeot 308 RC	238
7	Tom Coronel	Honda Civic Type-R	195
8	Sam Dejonghe	SEAT León	163
8	Denis Dupont	SEAT León	163
10	Stefano Comini	Audi RS3 LMS	138

Junior

1	Benjamin Lessenes	Honda Civic Type-R	180 pts
2	Mathieu Detry	Volkswagen Golf GTI	155
3	Maxime Potty	Volkswagen Golf GTI	144

Teams

1	Delahaye Racing	80 pts
2	Team WRT	63
3	Boutsen Ginion Racing	59

**ADAC TCR Germany**

(after rounds 6 of 14)



Drivers

1	Josh Files	Honda Civic Type-R	202 pts
2	Moritz Oestreich	Honda Civic Type-R	115
3	Florian Thoma	Volkswagen Golf GTI	114
4	Mike Halder	SEAT León	100
5	Tim Zimmermann	Audi RS3 LMS	100
6	Sheldon van der Linde	Audi RS3 LMS	97
7	Pascal Eherle	SEAT León	96
8	Kris Richard	Honda Civic Type-R	90
9	Sandro Kalbach	Audi RS3 LMS	90
10	Steve Kirsch	Honda Civic Type-R	88

Rookies

1	Luca Engstler	Volkswagen Golf GTI	44 pts
2	Simon Reicher	Audi RS3 LMS	32
2	Robin Brezina	Audi RS3 LMS	32

Teams

1	Target Competition UK-SUI	204 pts
2	Honda Team ADAC Sachsen	184
3	Junior Team Engstler	145

**TCR Ibérico**

(after rounds 6 of 8)



Drivers

1	Francisco Mora	SEAT León	110 pts
2	Francisco Abreu	Volkswagen Golf GTI	91
3	Rafael Lobato	Audi RS3 LMS	86
3	Patrick Cunha	Audi RS3 LMS	85
5	César Machado	SEAT León	57
5	Manuel Pedro Fernández	SEAT León	57
7	Manuel Gíão	SEAT León	46
7	Ricardo Gomes	SEAT León	46
9	Eduardo Leitão	SEAT León	41
10	Nuno Batista	SEAT León	36
10	Edgar Florindo	SEAT León	36

**TCR Portugal**

(after rounds 6 of 10)



Drivers

1	Francisco Mora	SEAT León	142 pts
2	Francisco Abreu	Volkswagen Golf GTI	116
3	Rafael Lobato	Audi RS3 LMS	96
3	Patrick Cunha	Audi RS3 LMS	96
5	César Machado	SEAT León	80
5	Manuel Pedro Fernández	SEAT León	80
7	Eduardo Leitão	SEAT León	71
8	Gustavo Moura	SEAT León	67
10	Nuno Batista	SEAT León	56
10	Edgar Florindo	SEAT León	56

## TCR Italy

(after rounds 8 of 14)



Drivers			
1	Nicola Baldan	SEAT León	119 pts
2	Eric Scalvini	Honda Civic Type-R	115
3	Plamen Kralev	Audi RS3 LMS	63
4	Massimiliano Mugelli	Audi RS3 LMS	55
5	Massimiliano Gagliano	Volkswagen Golf GTI	47
6	Kevin Giacon	Opel Astra	36
7	Jonathan Giacon	Opel Astra	33
8	Andrea Argenti	SEAT León	31
9	Alessandro Thellung	SEAT León	24
10	Vincenzo Montalbano	SEAT León	20
10	Giuseppe Montalbano	SEAT León	20

Manufacturers			
1	SEAT		119 pts
2	Honda		114
3	Audi		85

## TCR Middle East

(after rounds 6 of 6)



Drivers			
1	Josh Files	Honda Civic Type-R	110 pts
2	Brandon Gdovic	Volkswagen Golf GTI	105
3	Luca Engstler	Volkswagen Golf GTI	79
4	Davit Kajala	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	56
5	Giacomo Altoè	Subaru WRX Sti /Volkswagen Golf GTI	46
6	Stefan Goede	Volkswagen Golf GTI	38
7	Mat'o Homola	Volkswagen Golf GTI	30
8	James Kaye	Audi RS3 LMS	22
9	Michela Cerruti	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	19
10	Filip Sládečka	Volkswagen Golf GTI	19

Teams			
1	Liqui Moly Team Engstler		210 pts
2	Lap57 Motorsport		121
3	Mulsanne Racing		76

## TCR Russia

(after rounds 8 of 14)



Drivers			
1	Dmitry Bragin	Audi RS3 LMS / SEAT León	133 pts
2	Aleksey Dudukalo	SEAT León	116
3	Vladimir Sheshenin	LADA Vesta	109
4	Nikolay Karamyshev	SEAT León	95
5	Kirill Ladygin	LADA Vesta	90
6	Kim Gavrilov	SEAT León	79
7	Roman Golikov	SEAT León	74
8	Vitaliy Dudin	SEAT León	68
9	Denis Grigoryev	SEAT León	65
10	Irek Minnakhmetov	SEAT León	61

Teams			
1	Lukoil Racing Team		211 pts
2	LADA Sport Rosneft		199
3	TAIF Motorsport		174

## TCR Scandinavia

(after rounds 12 of 21)



Drivers			
1	Robert Dahlgren	SEAT León	215 pts
2	Johan Kristoffersson	Volkswagen Golf GTI	203
3	Fredrik Ekblom	Volkswagen Golf GTI	183
4	Fredrik Blomstedt	Volkswagen Golf GTI	123
5	Daniel Haglöf	SEAT León	99
6	Tobias Brink	Audi RS3 LMS	76
7	Dennis Strandberg	Volkswagen Golf GTI	53
8	Joonas Lappalainen	Audi RS3 LMS	47
9	Mattias Andersson	Honda Civic Type-R	41
10	Reuben Kressner	Audi RS3 LMS	39

Teams			
1	Volkswagen Dealer Team Sweden		437 pts
2	PWR Racing Team - SEAT Dealer Team		334
3	Brink Motorsport		139

## TCR Spain

(after rounds 6 of 8)



Drivers			
1	Francisco Mora	SEAT León	113 pts
2	Francisco Abreu	Volkswagen Golf GTI	96
3	Rafael Lobato	Audi RS3 LMS	87
4	César Machado	SEAT León	57
5	Gustavo Moura	SEAT León	38
6	Manuel Gião	SEAT León	36
7	Eduardo Leitão	SEAT León	35
8	João Carvalho	SEAT León	34
9	Patrick Cunha	Audi RS3 LMS	34
10	Pedro Manuel Fernandes	SEAT León	34

## TCR Thailand

(after rounds 4 of 12)



Drivers PRO			
1	Pasarit Promsombat	SEAT León TCR	93 pts
2	Kittipol Pranoj Na Ayudhya	SEAT León TCR	43 pts

Drivers AM			
1	Charitya Nuya	Honda Civic Type-R	80 pts
2	Nattaniid Leewattanavaragul	SEAT León TCR	80
3	Nattachak Hanjtkasen	Honda Civic Type-R	69
4	Douglas Khoo	SEAT León TCR	37
5	Rattaniin Leenutaphong	SEAT León TCR	32

Teams			
1	RMI Racing Team		110 pts
2	Billionaire Boy Racing		68 pts
3	TBN MK Ihere Racing Team		57

## 24H Series

(after rounds 5 of 6)



Drivers			
1	James Kaye	Audi RS3 LMS	65 pts
2	John Shen/Wayne Shen/Francis Tjia	SEAT León	55
3	Thierry Blaise/Kim Holmgaard	Peugeot 308 RC	53
4	Thierry Boyer	Peugeot 308 RC	50
5	Dirk Voriänder	Audi RS3 LMS	42
6	Eric Holstein	Audi RS3 LMS	41
7	Guillaume Roman	Peugeot 308 RC	39
8	Michel Derue	Peugeot 308 RC	38
9	Jason Coupal	SEAT León / Audi RS3 LMS	36
10	Stéphane Ventaja	Peugeot 308 RC	33

## 24H TC Series

(after rounds 3 of 5)



Drivers			
1	Jurgen Smet/José Manuel Pérez Aicart/Alba Cano Ramírez	SEAT León	68 pts
2	Felix Wimmer/Matthias Kaiser/Martin Gasser	SEAT León	50
3	Maxim Aronov	SEAT León	43
4	Alvaro Bajo	SEAT León	39
5	Kristian Jepsen/Jan Sorensen	SEAT León	37
6	Roberto Ferry/John Filippi/Zach Arnold	Audi RS3 LMS	36
7	Harry Hilders/Gijs Bessem	SEAT León	36
8	Ivo Breukers	SEAT León	35
9	Melvin de Groot/Sebastian Bleekemolen/René Steenmetz/Robert Smith	SEAT León	30
10	Jaime Font Casas	SEAT León	29

## SUPER TAIKYU

(after rounds 4 of 6)



Drivers			
1	Motul Dome Racing Project	Honda Civic Type-R	79 pts
2	Audi Team DreamDrive	Audi RS3 LMS	60
3	Modulo Racing Project	Honda Civic Type-R	59
4	BRP Audi Mie	Audi RS3 LMS	50
5	Adenau Golf	Volkswagen Golf GTI	9