

TCR

2017

#6

World and life



International Series in Thailand

Reports: the world in action

Endurance series: round up

THE TCR SNAPSHOT



2016 TCR
World and life

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The Chinese series gets underway

Where: TCR China inaugural event at Shanghai

What: The Audi cars of Andy Yan and Huang Chu Han lead a field of 11 cars



What's next in the world of TCR

9/10 September	TCR Italy	Imola
15/16 September	TCR Scandinavia	Mantorp Park, Sweden
16/17 September	TCR Germany	Sachsenring
16/17 September	TCR Ibérico & TCR Spain	Barcelona
23 September	VLN	Nürburgring
23/24 September	TCR Benelux	Mettet, Belgium
23/24 September	TCR Germany	Hockenheim
23/24 September	TCR Italy	Vallelunga
23/24 September	TCR Russia	Kazanring
23/24 September	TCR Thailand	Buriram
23/24 September	TCR Baltic	Pärnu, Estonia



A lady from Lithuania is TCR ambassador in the Baltic States

When Darius Jonušis, promoter of the Baltic Touring Car and Endurance championships, launched a TCR Baltic Trophy he knew very well that he was embarking on a difficult challenge. And indeed, only a couple of teams have committed for the series' maiden season, which forced Jonušis to aggregate the TCR and the BTC2 classes in the same sprint races.

"Traditionally there have always been many powerful 'homemade' race cars in our region and they do not especially suit sprint races. Over the last year our company has worked a lot to promote endurance races in the region; we have been successful and now they are booming in all the Baltic States. At the same time, sadly, sprint races have been neglected," Jonušis explains, although he is optimistic about the future.

"With TCR developing so fast across the whole world, the time has come to make sprint races popular again in the region. Maybe we will need a few years to do so, but we are confident that this was the right time to introduce the TCR cars in the Baltic States."

Despite the current lack of cars, TCR is already having an impact. For the first time, two cars took part in the ENEOS 1006 KM of Palanga and, despite lacking power compared to most of the other 39 cars that took the start, they proved consistent and reliable. Eventually, the Nero-GSR Racing Team Volkswagen Golf GTI driven by Ernesta Gloybtė, Dainius Matijošaitis, Nerijus Malaševičius and Eugenijus Misiūra finished in a respectable fifth position overall, behind four GT cars and just ahead of the the SEAT León shared by

Igoris Ivanovas, Kęstutis Vilkas, and Sigitas Ambrasevičius.

On top of this Ernesta Gloybtė is leading the BTC2/TCR class of the Baltic Touring Car Championship in the Golf run by the Nero-GSR Racing Team against an assorted bunch of big-engined BMW cars.

"I was looking for something new and TCR drew my attention because the category is growing fast. I was invited by Speedfactory Racing to test an Audi RS3 LMS; it was very unusual for me, because for ages I had raced rear-wheel-drive cars. So I made few spins, but I enjoyed the test and fell in love with TCR!" says the Lithuanian lady driver.

This means facing competitors in more powerful cars. "The TCR cars may not be the most powerful, but they have other advantages. If you use them in the proper way, you are able to overtake many cars that are expected to be more competitive, at least on paper." What about TCR's future in the Baltic States? "TCR is the quickest growing racing category in the world. I am sure it has a very bright future and this will apply to the Baltic States as well. Perhaps it will take some time, maybe a few years, but I am pretty sure that in a couple of years we will have at least ten/twelve TCR cars, which would be very good for such a small market as ours."





TCR
International Series

The championship battles start to hot up

TASSI REGAINS THE LEADERSHIP IN THAILAND





Following the eight-week summer break, the TCR International Series resumed in Buriram, Thailand – the third time the series had raced at the Chang International Circuit. Arriving in Thailand, the battle for the Drivers’ title was still wide open, with a possible 165 points still on offer from the remaining three race weekends. The Teams’ championship, on the other hand, looked like being a straight fight between M1RA Racing and Lukoil Craft-Bamboo, but events over the weekend would suggest neither winner will be easy to predict....

Qualifying and the two races witnessed drama after drama. Had Dušan Borković not clipped a tyre stack in Q1, the Serbian driver would surely have taken a commanding victory in the first race, while his teammate Davit Kajaia suffered an under-bonnet fire in Q2 and so was also denied the chance of adding to the win he scored in the series’ opening round in Georgia. It seemed Mat’o Homola was on

course to finally give the Opel Astra its first International Series victory in Race 1, but his eagerness to pull away from the chasing pack resulted in a blown front tyre in the race’s closing stages and he ended the race in the pit lane. There was disappointment too for Pepe Oriola, who badly needed a win in Buriram, but left Thailand empty-handed after gearbox failure frustrated a potential podium finish in Race 1 and the team were then unable to change the gearbox in the available time before Race 2.

With Roberto Colciago forced to miss the two Buriram races because of the lasting effects of the three broken ribs he suffered in Oschersleben, he was replaced by his team boss Norbert Michelisz. The Hungarian Touring Car ace took his first win in the TCR International Series in Race 1, with his young countryman Attila Tassi finishing third behind Borković and so netting a useful haul of points for both himself and his team.







Race 2 saw a light-to-flag victory for the Boutsen-Ginion Honda of Aurélien Panis; like Michelisz, the French youngster also taking his maiden TCR International Series win. Giacomo Altoè, who had switched from a WestCoast Racing Volkswagen to a M1RA Racing Honda for Thailand, finished second and Stefano Comini finished a relieved third in the Audi RS 3 LMS.

The dramas and disappointments of Buriram left Tassi back in the lead of the Drivers' series by just two points from Jean-Karl Vernay, who failed to finish on the podium in either race. Comini is still in touch with the leaders, but is now 14 points down on Tassi while Colciago's absence means he slips to fourth place in the standings. Oriola and Borković – 5th and 6th – are 69 and 71 points behind the leader. James Nash and Gianni Morbidelli are mathematically still in the fight, but realistically the 2017 champion will come from one of the top six.

In the Teams' series, M1RA Racing now have a lead of 93 points over Lukoil Craft-Bamboo, while Leopard Racing has closed to within 42 points of second place. Two more race meetings remain, with the penultimate round being in Zhejiang in China on October 7th/8th, where Gabriele Tarquini and Alain Menu will join with the new Hyundai i30 N TCR.

BURIRAM - RACE 1, SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2017

DRIVER	CAR	TEAM	
1 Norbert Michelisz	Honda Civic Type-R TCR	M1RA	14 laps in 24:44.820
2 Dušan Borković	Alfa Romeo Giulietta TCR	GE Force	3.769
3 Attila Tassi	Honda Civic Type-R TCR	M1RA	5.923
4 Jean-Karl Vernay	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	Leopard Racing WRT	6.211
5 Rob Huff	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	Leopard Racing WRT	6.428
6 Giacomo Altoè	Honda Civic Type-R TCR	M1RA	7.358
7 Stefano Comini	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	Comtoy Racing	10.610
8 Davit Kajaia	Alfa Romeo Giulietta TCR	GE-Force	11.142
9 Daniel Lloyd	SEAT León TCR	Lukoil Craft-Bamboo	14.196
10 Gianni Morbidelli	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	WestCoast Racing	15.050

Fastest lap: Mat'o Homola, 1:44.834, average 156.38 kph, lap 4

BURIRAM - RACE 2, SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2017

DRIVER	CAR	TEAM	
1 Aurélien Panis	Honda Civic Type-R TCR	Boutsen Ginion Racing	14 laps in 24:34.503
2 Giacomo Altoè	Honda Civic Type-R TCR	M1RA	1.274
3 Stefano Comini	Audi RS3 LMS TCR	Comtoy Racing	6.120
4 Attila Tassi	Honda Civic Type-R TCR	M1RA	7.994
5 Jean-Karl Vernay	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	Leopard Racing WRT	9.414
6 Dušan Borković	Alfa Romeo Giulietta TCR	GE Force	12.632
7 James Nash	SEAT León TCR	Lukoil Craft-Bamboo	13.369
8 Rob Huff	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	Leopard Racing WRT	13.861
9 Mat'o Homola	Opel Astra TCR	DG Sport Compétition	18.084
10 Kantadhee Kusiri	Volkswagen Golf GTI TCR	WestCoast Racing	18.830

Fastest lap: Aurélien Panis, 1:44.446, average 156.96 kph, lap 4





Thrilling races at Zandvoort and the Nürburgring

The fourth and fifth race meetings of the ADAC TCR Germany series provided plenty of 'coups de théâtre', setting the scene for an exciting end to the season.

At Zandvoort, Dutch driver Niels Langeveld (Racing One) crossed the line first in both races. However, after the first race was reduced in length by a series of incidents and changeable weather conditions to only a couple of racing laps amid Safety Car interventions, penalties were poured onto the competitors. Seventeen drivers received a 30-second time penalty either for changing tyres on the grid or for committing infringements during the Safety Car periods. Langeveld was dropped from 1st to 13th, which handed victory to Jason Wolfe (Liqui

Moly Team Engstler), while Rik Breukers (Bas Koeten Racing) and Josh Files (Target Competition) completed the podium. After being stripped of Saturday's victory, Langeveld then actually won the second race. He took command after starting from pole position and never looked back. Behind him Sheldon van der Linde (Prosport Performance) was classified second after a close fight with Files; eventually the latter dropped down in the order to finish 14th and Wolfe was promoted to third. Incidents and Safety Car interventions also plagued the Nürburgring event where Files took his fourth victory of the season after making a brilliant start in Race 1. The Briton passed both pole-sitter

Mike Halder (Wolf-Power Racing) and Langeveld on the run down to Turn 1, so setting the scene for a race-long battle between the trio. After two Safety Car periods, the final lap saw Files and Halder fighting side by side, but the leader held his nerve and so took the win. A dramatic second race saw Antti Buri (LMS Racing) claim his first victory of the season, finishing ahead of van der Linde. The race, however, will be remembered for a number of incidents, including one at the start that eliminated Dino Calcum's Opel Astra and Files' Honda. Following a second appearance of the Safety Car, Buri flew to victory, while van der Linde defended second place from Halder who eventually lost third place to Harald Proczyk (HP Racing).

REGIONAL & NATIONAL



Files' lead in the series has been reduced to 77 points ahead of Halder, while Langeveld and van der Linde lie in third and fourth with gaps of 91 and 101 points respectively. The ADAC TCR Germany series will come to an end with two back-to-back weekends at the Sachsenring (16/17 September) and Hockenheim (22/23 September).

Results

Zandvoort, Round 7, Saturday 22 July

1. Jason Wolfe (Volkswagen Golf);
2. Rik Breukers (SEAT León);
3. Josh Files (Honda Civic)

Zandvoort, Round 8, Sunday 23 July

1. Niels Langeveld (Audi RS3 LMS);
2. Sheldon van der Linde (Audi RS3 LMS);
3. Jason Wolfe (Volkswagen Golf)

Nürburgring, Round 9, Saturday 5 August

1. Josh Files (Honda Civic);
2. Mike Halder (SEAT León);
3. Niels Langeveld (Audi RS3 LMS)

Nürburgring, Round 10, Sunday 6 August

1. Antti Buri (Audi RS3 LMS);
2. Sheldon van der Linde (Audi RS3 LMS);
3. Harald Proczyk (SEAT León)





Bragin stakes a claim on the title

Dmitry Bragin has staked a serious claim for his second consecutive TCR Russia title. The TAIF Motorsport driver put together a solid string of results in the two latest events: one third and one second place at the Smolensk Ring and one victory (his fourth so far in the season) at the Moscow Raceway. Between the two race meetings, Bragin switched back again from the SEAT León to the Audi RS3 LMS he drove in the first two events of the season (which resulted in a grid penalty that deprived him of the pole position in Moscow's Race 1) and further stretched his leading margin in the standings. With only one race meeting to go – at Kazan Ring on September 23 and 24 – and 53 points to be awarded, Bragin has built a gap of 31 and 42 points respectively ahead of the only competitors who are still in

contention: LADA Sport Rosneft's Vladimir Sheshenin and Lukoil Racing's Aleksey Dudukalo.

Sheshenin claimed his second victory of the season in Smolensk's Race 1, leading home his LADA Sport Rosneft teammate Kirill Ladygin, with Bragin in third position.

The second race was won by Lukoil Racing's Klim Gavrilov – his maiden victory in the series – who benefited from a mistake by Irek Minnakhmetov who had taken the lead at the start. Eventually Bragin managed to overtake Minnakhmetov and finished second behind Gavrilov.

The following event at the Moscow Raceway provided plenty of emotions. Vitaliy Dudin (Akhmat Racing Team SEAT León) became the seventh different winner in the current season, as he emerged victorious in Race 1

after a thrilling three-way fight with Sheshenin and Dudukalo who completed the podium. Bragin recovered from the back of the grid to finish in fifth position.

The second race turned into a perfect demonstration of Bragin's ability to exploit the situation at its best. He made a great start from the second row of the grid and led Dudukalo throughout the whole distance; behind them the battle for third position raged, involving up to seven drivers in door-to-door fighting. Finally it was Sheshenin who finished third, beating Dudin on the line.

Results

Smolensk Ring, Round 9, Saturday 5 August

1. Vladimir Sheshenin (LADA Vesta);
2. Kirill Ladygin (LADA Vesta);
3. Dmitry Bragin (SEAT León)

Smolensk Ring, Round 10, Sunday 6 August

1. Klim Gavrilov (SEAT León);
2. Dmitry Bragin (SEAT León);
3. Irek Minnakhmetov (Audi RS3 LMS)

Moscow Raceway, Round 11, Saturday 19 August

1. Vitaliy Dudin (SEAT León);
2. Vladimir Sheshenin (LADA Vesta);
3. Nikolay Karamyshev (SEAT León)

Moscow Raceway, Round 12, Sunday 20 August

1. Dmitry Bragin (Audi RS3 LMS);
2. Aleksey Dudukalo (SEAT León);
3. Vladimir Sheshenin (LADA Vesta)







Dahlgren is one step away from the title

PWR Racing's Robert Dahlgren has staked a claim on the first TCR Scandinavia title by taking four victories out of the six races held in the fifth and sixth events of the series at Karlskoga and Anderstorp. As his main competitors in the title fight – Kristoffersson Motorsport's Fredrik Eklom and Johan Kristoffersson – suffered with a few dramas, Dahlgren leading margin grew to 76 points ahead of Eklom, while 78 are still to be awarded in the final event at Mantorp Park on October 16. At Karlskoga, Dahlgren beat Eklom 2-1 as he won the first and third races and his rival the second. Kristoffersson – who had collected six victories and two second places in the previous nine races – made a rare mistake while

leading Race 1 and did not start Race 2 due to a broken driveshaft. Dahlgren won Race 1 from Eklom, with Mattias Andersson third. Eklom responded with a victory in Race 2 ahead of his teammate Fredrik Blomstedt, while PWR's Daniel Haglöf handed the third place to Dahlgren. In Race 3, Dahlgren and Kristoffersson clashed while fighting for the lead, but the SEAT driver maintained the first position while Kristoffersson was given a warning and dropped to fifth. Eventually Haglöf kept Eklom at bay for second place. Kristoffersson skipped the Anderstorp event due to another commitment. In Race 1, Haglöf claimed his first victory, leading from lights-to-flag and beating Eklom by a slim margin;

Dahlgren took third, overtaking Blomstedt on the first lap. The second race saw Blomstedt and Dahlgren deliver a thrilling fight for the lead; they swapped positions several times until Dahlgren managed to stay ahead for good. Behind them, Haglöf and Eklom collided and the latter rejoined at the back of the field; Haglöf duly finished third, but was demoted by a 30-second penalty. This promoted Lappalainen to third, his maiden podium result in the series. In the final race, Dahlgren made a perfect start from pole position and led for the whole distance, closely chased by Blomstedt who never found a gap for an overtaking manoeuvre. Haglöf managed to pass Eklom for third.

Results

Karlskoga, Round 13, Sunday 13 August

1. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León);
2. Fredrik Ekblom (Volkswagen Golf);
3. Mattias Andersson (Honda Civic)

Karlskoga, Round 14, Sunday 13 August

1. Fredrik Ekblom (Volkswagen Golf);
2. Fredrik Blomstedt (Volkswagen Golf);
3. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León)

Karlskoga, Round 15, Sunday 13 August

1. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León);
2. Daniel Haglöf (SEAT León);
3. Fredrik Ekblom (Volkswagen Golf)

Anderstorp, Round 16, Sunday 3 September

1. Daniel Haglöf (SEAT León);
2. Fredrik Ekblom (Volkswagen Golf);
3. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León)

Anderstorp, Round 17, Sunday 3 September

1. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León);
2. Fredrik Blomstedt (Volkswagen Golf);
3. Joonas Lappalainen (Audi RS3 LMS)

Anderstorp Round 18, Sunday 3 September

1. Robert Dahlgren (SEAT León);
2. Fredrik Blomstedt (Volkswagen Golf);
3. Daniel Haglöf (SEAT León)





A close fight between NewFaster and TeamWork



The inaugural season of TCR China got underway with two race meetings at the Shanghai International Circuit. A field of eleven cars made the grid and were joined by the TCR Asia competitors for the second event. The format of the new series provides two sprint races and one 60-minute long race at each event, which encourages drivers to share cars in order to reduce running costs. However, those who want to race by

themselves are allowed but they have to make a pit stop during the half-race window for driver changes.

The start of the season immediately revealed the rivalry between the NewFaster team that runs two Audi RS3 LMS cars and one Volkswagen Golf GTI and the trio of Golf cars entered by TeamWork Motorsport. The Audi drivers dominated the season opener: Huang Chu Han won

the first sprint race, beating Sunny Wong (TeamWork Motorsport) and his own teammate Andy Yan. A former CTCC champion, Yan claimed an authoritative victory in a wet Race 2, while Filipe de Souza (TeamWork Motorsport) completed an excellent recovery to finish second ahead of teammate Paul Poon. Yan won the long race as well, ahead of two TeamWork cars driven by Wong/Fung and Poon/Hui.



Three weeks later the series returned to the SIC, where TCR China drivers and teams proved to be a fair match for the more experienced TCR Asia competitors.

At the start of Race 1, Yan made life hard for the eventual winner Kantadhee Kusiri, but eventually slipped down to fifth overall and second in the TCR China race that was won by his teammate Huang. In the second sprint race, Wong claimed the first victory in the series for

TeamWork Motorsport and Volkswagen, beating his teammates Ma Qing Hua and Yan. Huang then dominated the long race although Ma was able to close in on him over the final laps, finishing second with a gap of less than two seconds. The pairing of Wong and Fung was classified third and took the lead in the standings. The next event of TCR China will be at Zhejiang Circuit on October 6th and 7th.

Results

Shanghai, Round 1, Saturday 5 August
 1. Huang Chu Han (Audi RS3 LMS); 2. Sunny Wong (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Andy Yan (Audi RS3 LMS)

Shanghai, Round 2, Sunday 6 August
 1. Andy Yan (Audi RS3 LMS); 2. Filipe de Souza (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Paul Poon (Volkswagen Golf)

Shanghai, Round 3, Sunday 6 August
 1. Andy Yan (Audi RS3 LMS); 2. Sunny Wong/Alex Fung (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Paul Poon/Alex Hui (Volkswagen Golf)

Shanghai, Round 4, Saturday 26 August
 1. Huang Chu Han (Audi RS3 LMS); 2. Andy Yan (Audi RS3 LMS); 3. Alex Fung (Volkswagen Golf)

Shanghai, Round 5, Sunday 27 August
 1. Sunny Wong (Volkswagen Golf); 2. Ma Qing Hua (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Andy Yan (Audi RS3 LMS)

Shanghai, Round 6, Sunday 27 August
 1. Huang Chu Han (Audi RS3 LMS); 2. Ma Qing Hua/Alex Hui (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Sunny Wong/Alex Fung (Volkswagen Golf); 3.





Kusiri wins twice and regains the lead

TCR Asia's fifth race meeting took place at the Shanghai International Circuit, where TCR China competitors joined in the double-header.

Kantadhee Kusiri and Diego Moran dominated the weekend in their Liqui Moly Team Engstler Volkswagen cars, finishing first and second in both races.

The results helped Kusiri to regain the lead in the Drivers' championship, with a margin of 10.5 points ahead of his Thai countryman Tin Sritrai (Team Thailand Honda), while Moran lies third with a gap of eleven points and Lai Wee Sing (R Engineering SEAT) is fourth, a further ten points adrift.

During the first race Kusiri and Andy Yan (NewFaster Audi) delivered a thrilling fight for the lead, but eventually the Thai driver was able to pull away.

Halfway through the race, Moran climbed to second while Yan's teammate Huang Chu Han finished third overall and so won the TCR China race. Sritrai completed the TCR Asia podium in fourth position overall.

Race 2 was nearly a copy of the first one. Kusiri took the lead at the green flag and left the rest of the field behind, while Moran recovered quickly to lie in second place after having lost four positions at the start.

Sritrai was involved in the fight with the TCR China drivers and finally was classified sixth overall and the third of the TCR Asia competitors once again.

The TCR Asia Series remains in China for its final event that will take place at Zhejiang Circuit on October 7th and 8th.

Results

Shanghai, Round 9,
Saturday 26 August
1. Kantadhee Kusiri (Volkswagen Golf); 2. Diego Moran (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Tin Sritrai (Honda Civic)

Shanghai, Round 10,
Sunday 27 August
1. Kantadhee Kusiri (Volkswagen Golf); 2. Diego Moran (Volkswagen Golf); 3. Tin Sritrai (Honda Civic)





Nuya wins two from Lewattanavaragul

For the second consecutive year, TCR Thailand's competitors raced together with the International Series at Buriram's Chang International Circuit. Chariya Nuya scored a double victory in the Billionaire Boys Racing Honda Civic, which helped him to take the lead in the series' Pro Am class, 11 points ahead of Morin Racing's Nattanid Lewattaravanagul. The lady driver proved to be fast and tough enough to make Nuya's life hard in both races, finishing a very close second on both occasions.

Despite the fact that he was forced to retire in Race 1 Pasarit Promsombat (RMI Racing) clinched the title in the Am class with one event still to go.

In Race 1, Promsombat took the lead from Nuya on lap 3; however with only three laps to go he hit a pile of tyres and retired. Nuya inherited the lead and crossed the finishing line only three seconds ahead of Leewattanavaragul. Rattanin Leenutaphong (Yontrakit Racing) completed the podium.

Nuya led the whole second race, but he had to fight hard to defend his lead from the attacks of Lewattanavaragul. Behind them, the fight for third was white-hot and eventually Promsombat managed to clinch it on the last lap from Leenutaphong and Nattachak Hanjitkasen (TBN MK There Racing).

The championship will return to Buriram for its final race meeting on September 23 and 24.

Results

Buriram, Round 7, Sunday 3 September

1. Chariya Nuya (Honda Civic); 2. Nattanid Lewattaravanagul (SEAT León); 3. Rattanin Leenutaphong (SEAT León)

Buriram, Round 8, Sunday 3 September

1. Chariya Nuya (Honda Civic); 2. Nattanid Lewattaravanagul (SEAT León); 3. Pasarit Promsombat (SEAT León)





Mora clinches his second title in Braga



Braga's Vasco Sameiro circuit hosted the fourth event of TCR Portugal that was run over four sprint races. Veloso Motorsport's Francisco Mora dominated, claiming three undisputed victories. This also meant that he stretched his leading margin to 72 points ahead of Francisco Abreu (Novadriverr) and so clinched his second consecutive TCR Portugal title. Edgar Florindo provided the icing on the cake for Veloso Motorsport by winning the fourth race.

In the first race, Mora and César Machado (Speedy Motorsport) made a better start than pole sitter Rafael Lobato and took the lead and second place respectively. While Mora was able to pull away, Lobato was threatening Machado's second place, but on lap 6 he retired due to a puncture. Machado finished second, with Florindo third.

In Race 2 Mora started from pole and

took another lights-to-flag win. Florindo overtook Abreu for second; eventually Abreu dropped to fifth behind Machado and Lobato's codriver Patrick Cunha.

In the third race, Mora benefited from Abreu's bad start and took the lead on his way to another victory. Behind him, Florindo, Cunha and Abreu finished in that order after a close fight.

Florindo and Machado led the fourth race at the start, with Mora third. On lap 2, Mora overtook Machado and settled into second position that was enough to secure the title. Lobato and Abreu overtook Machado moving up to third and fourth.

The TCR Portugal series will come to an end in the TCR Ibérico event at Barcelona, Spain, on September 16th and 17th.



Results

Braga, Round 7, Saturday 2 September
1. Francisco Mora (SEAT León); 2. César Machado (SEAT León); 3. Edgar Florindo (SEAT León)

Braga, Round 8, Saturday 2 September
1. Francisco Mora (SEAT León); 2. Edgar Florindo (SEAT León); 3. César Machado (SEAT León)

Braga, Round 9, Sunday 3 September
1. Francisco Mora (SEAT León); 2. Edgar Florindo (SEAT León); 3. Patrick Cunha (Audi RS3 LMS)

Braga, Round 10, Saturday 3 September
1. Edgar Florindo (SEAT León); 2. Francisco Mora (SEAT León); 3. Rafael Lobato (Audi RS3 LMS)

TCR^{24H} Series **TCR^{24H}** TC Series

The 24H Series visited Portugal and Spain

The Creventic-promoted endurance championship visited Portugal and Spain in two back-to-back weekends.

The 24H Series came to an end in Portimão, where the Team Altran Peugeot won the TCR class and was classified 14th overall. The team's Peugeot 308 Racing Cup shared by Thierry Blaise, Kim Holmgaard, Michael Carlsen and Mathieu Sentis beat the sister car of Stéphane Ventaja, Gonzalo Martín de Andrés, Thierry Boyer and Thierry Chkondali that had set pole position, but was delayed after a collision on Saturday evening.

With James Kaye forced to withdraw in the Cadspeed Racing Audi RS3 LMS, Blaise and Holmgaard grabbed the title in the TCR class.

One week later, 18 TCR cars took part in the 24H TCE Series' fourth round at Barcelona that was dominated by SEAT León cars. The

Team Bleekemolen León driven by Sebastiaan Bleekemolen, Melvin de Groot, Rene Steenmetz and Michael Bleekemolen finished second overall to take the TCR class victory ahead of Monlau Competición (Àlvaro Bajo/Alba Cano Ramírez/Jurgen

Smet/José Manuel Pérez Aicart) and Bas Koeten Racing (Kristian Jepsen/Jan Sorensen/Martin van den Berge/Anders Fjordbach). The series' final round will be the 12H Spa Francorchamps on October 6/8.





First victory for the Opel Astra TCR in the VLN

The Kissling Motorsport Opel Astra TCR car claimed its maiden victory in the VLN series at the Nürburgring. Former DTM champion Volker Strycek and Hannu Luostarinen won the TCR class in the 40. RCM DMV Grenzlandrennen, sixth round of the endurance series.

They completed 26 laps of the Nordschleife during the four-hour race and were classified 23rd overall out of the 155 starters. A close second in the class was the Audi RS3 LMS shared by Norway's Håkon Schjærin, Atle Gulbrandsen and Kenneth Østvold (the winners of the previous round) that finished only seven seconds behind the winning Opel.

The Mathilda Racing Volkswagen Golf GTI of Michael Paatz and Constantin Kletzer completed the podium one lap down.

The VLN's seventh round will be the 57. ADAC Reinoldus-Langstreckenrennen on 23rd September.



Honda and Volkswagen win in Super Taikyu



Autopolis and Fuji hosted the fourth and fifth rounds of the Super Taikyu series.

In the Autopolis 3 Hours, the Honda and Audi cars delivered some close battles. After an early lead by the pole sitter Team DreamDrive Audi (Shozo Tagahara/Takuya Shirasaka/Naoto Takeda) the Motul Dome Racing Project Honda Civic shared by Takuya Kurosawa, Keishi

Ishikawa and Hiroki Kato took command and eventually won from the sister car of Modulo Racing Project (Shinichi Ito/Keiichi Tsuchiya/ Shinji Nakano). Last week, the Racingline Performance Volkswagen Golf GTI of Philippe Devesa, Shogo Mitsuyama and Juichi Wakisaka won the Fuji 10 Hours, the longest round of the series. They finished 5 laps ahead of

the BRP Audi RS3 LMS (Koichi Okumura/Kei Akiyoshi/Daisuke Yamawaki/Yoshizo Ueno), while the Modulo Racing Project Civic (Ito/Nakano/Hidenori Kouchi/Ryo Michigami) finished in third position. The Motul Dome Racing Project team leads the standings with only one round to go, at Okayama on 22 October.

TCR International Series

(after rounds 16 of 20)



Drivers

1	Attila Tassi	Honda Civic Type-R	179 pts
2	Jean-Karl Vernay	Volkswagen Golf GTI	177
3	Stefano Comini	Audi RS3 LMS	165
4	Roberto Colciago	Honda Civic Type-R	145
5	Pepe Oriola	SEAT León	110
6	Dusan Borković	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	108
7	James Nash	SEAT León	96
8	Gianni Morbidelli	Volkswagen Golf GTI	78
9	Mat'o Homola	Opel Astra	76
10	Davit Kajaja	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	65
11	Giacomo Altoè	VW Golf GTI / Honda Civic Type-R	63
12	Frédéric Vervisch	Audi RS3 LMS	62
13	Norbert Michelisz	Honda Civic Type-R	59
14	Rob Huff	Volkswagen Golf GTI	58
15	Daniel Lloyd	SEAT León	49
16	Hugo Valente	SEAT León	46
17	Ferenc Ficza	SEAT León / KIA cee'd	32
18	Benjamin Lessennes	Honda Civic Type-R	31
19	Aurélien Panis	Honda Civic Type-R	25
20	Jens Reno Moller	Honda Civic Type-R	25

Teams

1	M1RA	382 pts
2	Lukoil Craft-Bamboo Racing	289
3	Comtoy Racing	247
4	Leopard Racing Team WRT	236
5	GE-Force	177
6	WestCoast Racing	130

Model of the year

1	Honda Civic Type-R	451 pts
2	Volkswagen Golf GTI	355
3	SEAT León	335
4	Audi RS3 LMS	263
5	Alfa Romeo Giulietta	189
6	Opel Astra	149
7	KIA cee'd	3

TCR Asia

(after rounds 10 of 12)



Drivers

1	Kantadhee Kusini	Volkswagen Golf GTI	150 pts
2	Tin Sitrjai	Honda Civic Type-R	139.5
3	Diego Moran	Volkswagen Golf GTI	139
4	Lai Wee Sing	Honda Civic Type-R	129
5	Abdul Kaathir	Honda Civic Type-R	108
6	Jasper Thong	Audi RS3 LMS	86
7	Eric Kwong	SEAT León	62
8	Alex Liu	SEAT León	51.5
9	Douglas Khoo Kok Hui	SEAT León	42
10	Shaun Thong	Audi RS3 LMS	40

TCR Asia Cup

1	Abdul Kaathir	Honda Civic	193 pts
2	Jasper Thong	Audi RS3 LMS	151
3	Eric Kwong	SEAT León	111

Teams

1	Liqui Moly Team Engstler	289 pts
2	R Engineering	237
3	Team Thailand	139.5

TCR China

(after rounds 6 of 15)



Drivers

1	Sunny Wong/Alex Fung	Volkswagen Golf GTI	101 pts
2	Andy Yan	Audi RS3 LMS	99
3	Huang Chu Han	Audi RS3 LMS	93
4	Alex Hui/Paul Poon/Ma Qing Hua	Volkswagen Golf GTI	76
5	Wang Hao/Lin Li Feng	Volkswagen Golf GTI	55
6	Samuel Hsieh/Filipe C. de Souza	Volkswagen Golf GTI	42
7	Qi Pei Wen/Zhou Hao Wen	SEAT León	35
8	Deng Bao Wei/Li Lin	Audi RS3 LMS	30
9	He Xiao Le/Lu Chuang	Volkswagen Golf GTI	24
10	Han Hui Lin/Tian Li Ying	Volkswagen Golf GTI	22

Teams

1	NewFaster Racing Team	192 pts
2	TeamWork Motorsport	177
3	HE Racing	46

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 10 of 14)



Drivers

1	Josh Files	Honda Civic Type-R	288 pts
2	Mike Halder	SEAT León	211
3	Niels Langeveld	Audi RS3 LMS	197
4	Sheldon van der Linde	Audi RS3 LMS	187
5	Harald Proczyk	SEAT León	160
6	Moritz Oestreich	Honda Civic Type-R	153
7	Antti Buri	Audi RS3 LMS	146
8	Sandro Kalbach	Audi RS3 LMS	144
9	Steve Kirsch	Honda Civic Type-R	140
10	Pascal Eberle	SEAT León	132

Rookies

1	Luca Engstler	Volkswagen Golf GTI	83 pts
2	Simon Reicher	Audi RS3 LMS	57
3	Rudolf Rhyh	SEAT León	34

Teams

1	Target Competition UK-SUI	297 pts
2	Honda Team ADAC Sachsen	255
3	AC 1927 Mayen	244

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 Gião	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 10 of 12)



Drivers

1	Francisco Mora	SEAT León	242 pts
2	Francisco Abreu	Volkswagen Golf GTI	170
3	Rafael Lobato	Audi RS3 LMS	145
3	Patrick Cunha	Audi RS3 LMS	145
5	César Machado	SEAT León	142
6	Edgar Florindo	SEAT León	138
7	Eduardo Leitão	SEAT León	111
8	Gustavo Moura	SEAT León	101
9	João Carvalho	SEAT León	95
10	Manuel Pedro Fernández	SEAT León	80

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 12 of 14)



Drivers			
1	Dmitry Bragin	Audi RS3 LMS / SEAT León	208 pts
2	Vladimir Sheshenin	LADA Vesta	177
3	Aleksey Dudukalo	SEAT León	166
4	Nikolay Karamyshev	SEAT León	145
5	Kirill Ladygin	LADA Vesta	122
6	Kim Gavrilov	SEAT León	120
7	Vitaliy Dudin	SEAT León	116
8	Irek Minnakhmetov	SEAT León	107
9	Roman Golikov	SEAT León	101
10	Denis Grigoryev	SEAT León	83

Teams			
1	LADA Sport Rosneft		299 pts
2	Lukoil Racing Team		298
3	TAIF Motorsport		275

TCR Scandinavia

(after rounds 18 of 21)



Drivers			
1	Robert Dahlgren	SEAT León	347 pts
2	Fredrik Ekblom	Volkswagen Golf GTI	271
3	Johan Kristoffersson	Volkswagen Golf GTI	217
4	Fredrik Blomstedt	Volkswagen Golf GTI	198
5	Daniel Haglöf	SEAT León	174
6	Joonas Lappalainen	Audi RS3 LMS	100
7	Tobias Brink	Audi RS3 LMS	96
8	Mattias Andersson	Honda Civic Type-R	91
9	Dennis Strandberg	Volkswagen Golf GTI	61
10	Micke Ohlsson	Audi RS3 LMS	54

Teams			
1	Volkswagen Dealer Team Sweden		588 pts
2	PWR Racing Team - SEAT Dealer Team		547
3	Brink Motorsport		187

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 8 of 10)



Drivers PRO			
1	Pasarit Promsombat	SEAT León TCR	143 pts
2	Kittipol Pranoj Na Ayudhya	SEAT León TCR	58
3	Settasit Boomyakiat	SEAT León TCR	36

Drivers AM			
1	Chariya Nuya	Honda Civic Type-R	170 pts
2	Nattaniid Leewattananavaragul	SEAT León TCR	159
3	Nattachak Hanjtkasen	Honda Civic Type-R	105
4	Rattarin Leenutaphong	SEAT León TCR	95
5	Douglas Khoo	SEAT León TCR	57

Teams			
1	Billionaire Boys Racing		153 pts
2	Morin Racing		136
3	RMI Racing Team by Sunoco		110

24H Series

(after rounds 6 of 6)



Drivers			
1	Thierry Blaise / Kim Holmgaard	Peugeot 308 RC	95 pts
2	Thierry Boyer	Peugeot 308 RC	83
3	Stéphane Ventaja	Peugeot 308 RC	66
4	James Kaye	Audi RS3 LMS	65
5	Michael Carlsen	Peugeot 308 RC	57
6	John Shen / Wayne Shen / Francis Tjia	SEAT León	55
7	Thierry Chkondall	Peugeot 308 RC	51
8	Philippe Ulivieri	SEAT León	48
9	Dirk Vorländer	Audi RS3 LMS	42
10	Eric Holstein	Audi RS3 LMS	41

24H TC Series

(after rounds 4 of 5)



Drivers			
1	Jurgen Smet / José Manuel Pérez Aicart / Alba Cano Ramirez	SEAT León	77 pts
2	Felix Wimmer / Matthias Kaiser	SEAT León	68
3	Álvaro Bajo	SEAT León	67
4	Maxim Aronov	SEAT León	67
5	Kristian Jepsen / Jan Sorensen	SEAT León	63
6	Melvin de Groot / Sebastiaan Bleekemolen / René Steenmetz	SEAT León	60
7	Harry Hilders / Gijs Bessem	SEAT León	58
8	Roberto Ferry / John Filippi / Zach Arnold	Audi RS3 LMS	56
9	Martin Gasser	SEAT León	50
10	Ivo Breukers	SEAT León	49

SUPER TAIKYU

(after rounds 5 of 6)



Drivers			
1	Motul Dome Racing Project	Honda Civic Type-R	94 pts
2	Modulo Racing Project	Honda Civic Type-R	77
3	BRP Audi Mie	Audi RS3 LMS	72.5
4	Audi Team DreamDrive	Audi RS3 LMS	59
5	Racinglife Performance	Volkswagen Golf GTI	41