

Warsaw, 24th September 2014

Lot of excitement with champions at the track - Volkswagen Castrol Cup 2014 great finale at Poznan Circuit

On Saturday, September 27th at around 4.00 PM, everything will be clear in Volkswagen Castrol Cup 2014. At this time last race of the series will be over. During the final round, which will be held at Poznan Circuit, we'll find out who will win the cup - Robertas Kupcikas or maybe Jeffrey Kruger? We will also find out who's going to take third place. Will it belong to Polish driver? Janek Kisiel, currently third in the overall standings, has a great chance to repeat his last year's success. Not only Kisiel has the chance to fight for the third podium spot. Marcus Fluch, Jonas Gelzinis and Maciej Steinhof – also those drivers still can reach third place. The hot atmosphere of the final will be additionally heated by the participation of guests and a special VIP driver. Speed skater, Olympic gold medallist and world cup winner – Zbigniew Bródka – will join Volkswagen Castrol Cup pack of drivers.

[Watch video with a summary of the sixth round of the Volkswagen Castrol Cup](#)

Who on the podium? Who in the top ten?

The championship definitely will go to one of these two – Robertas Kupcikas or Jeffrey Kruger. The Lithuanian driver has much easier task than a 21-year old driver from South Africa. Kupcikas already scored 508 points, while the surprising rookie has scored 436 points in 12 races so far. It means that title race is not over yet because in one round of the cup, drivers can earn as many as 100 points.

The battle for third place also is not over yet. Currently, Janek Kisiel occupies this position in the overall standings. The young Polish driver is close to repeat his success from last year, when he finished Volkswagen Castrol Cup season on third place. Kisiel's most dangerous competitor is Marcus Fluch. Throughout the season the Swede showed great consistency, which let him stay third until round in Brno. After the penultimate round Fluch dropped to fourth position, but the difference between him and Kisiel is only 4 points. Also Jonas Gelzinis and Maciek Steinhof for sure will try to reach third podium spot. These fast drivers gained their experience during many seasons in other racing series. This means that Steinhof and Gelzinis are always determined and demanding competitors. They will not quit fighting for third place.

Meanwhile 10th place belongs currently to Dylan Pereira. A driver from Luxembourg scored 219 points already, but still there are more drivers who have a chance to take place in the top ten. In addition to Dylan, this goal is of course possible for the participants who occupy higher places than him. Even drivers from places 11 to 17 can make their way to the top ten during the final round. Patryk Strzesak, who is currently 17th with 134 points, which means that even he can be in the top ten after Poznan round.

Dudek's full season

In previous season Castrol brand ambassador Jerzy Dudek competed as a VIP driver. This season he is a regular participant of the cup. It means that former Real Madrid and the Polish national team goal keeper scored points throughout whole season. Dudek got used to racing Golf GTI, but tracks in Volkswagen Castrol Cup, besides venue in Poznan, were completely new to the former keeper. In the 12 races held so far Jerzy Dudek won a total number of 113 points. His best result was 11th place in the first race of the third round. On the track in Poznan Dudek scored 20 points for the first and 10 for second race.

Motivating awards

Top drivers of Volkswagen Castrol Cup can on attractive awards, both at the end and during the season. Total amount of 56 000 euro to share is given to drivers during the season. This means 8 000 euro to share per round. This amount is divided among top eight drivers in each round. A driver who will finish third overall will receive amount of 10 000 euro, while runner-up of the series will be awarded with 20 000 euro. A brand new Volkswagen Golf – Car of the Year 2013 – and 30 000 euro is a main prize for a winner of Volkswagen Castrol Cup. What is important the money is devoted to further driver's career development.

Kupcikas flies the flag

The first round of the Volkswagen Castrol Cup 2014 was held at the most famous track in Eastern Europe - Hungaroring near Budapest. There, both in the wet and dry conditions, Marcus Fluch was the fastest and left Hungary as a cup leader. In the next round, however, Robertas Kupcikas began his show. Lithuanian driver left his rivals hopeless and won both races at the German track EuroSpeedway Lausitz. Round the track in the state of Brandenburg started a fantastic series of Robertas Kupcikas. From the third race of the season, until the penultimate round in Brno Kupcikas never once finished a race at a position lower than third. Jeffrey Kruger is the driver who was closest to keep Kupcikas' pace. So far, Kruger won one race and 8 finished races on podium. For the first win for Polish driver we had to wait until the fifth round of the cup. The one who did it is Janek Kisiel. The driver from Warsaw in the second race at the Slovakia Ring made use of his clever tactics to catch Kruger and Kupcikas and pass them a few laps before the finish. In six rounds of the 2014 season we had four race winners. Kupcikas scored 8 wins, while Marcus Fluch got two victories and Jeffrey Kruger and Janek Kisiel were fastest once.

The grand finale with the Olympic champion

In Poznan, Olympic gold medallist in speed skating – Zbigniew Bródka, will drive Golf with number 101. Bródka is a specialist on the distance of 1500 m. Bródka is the first Pole in history who won the speed skating World Cup. During the Olympic Games in Sochi Polish representative won the individual Olympic gold medal and bronze in the team competition in a distance of 1500 m. On Track in Poznan the skater and the Volkswagen brand ambassador will cover much longer distance. Bródka will start as a VIP driver at 4,1-kilometre long track in Przemierowo.

27 drivers in Poznan

In addition to the 20 regular cup participants there will be some guests drivers including Scirocco R-Cup winner, multiple karting champion and a rally driver. Thanks to drivers' exchange program between Volkswagen racing series, Jordan Lee Pepper – the winner of Scirocco R-Cup – will have a chance to race in Poznan. The winner of the prestigious German series will join his countryman – Jeffrey Kruger, who is currently second in Volkswagen Castrol Cup overall standings. Also, Volkswagen Castrol Cup competitors will have the opportunity to take advantage of the drivers' exchange program. The winner of the Polish Cup will compete in the final round of the Scirocco R-Cup at the German Hockenheim. Two other drivers will get a chance to join the last round of the Volkswagen Polo Cup India, where Jeffrey Kruger competed successfully last season. Another guest will be Karol Basz. Multiple Polish karting champion and this year's winner of the prestigious WSK Champions Cup, already had a very successful debut in car racing. Therefore we can expect very interesting battle between Basz and other drivers. In Poznan, behind the wheel of the Cup Golf GTI will also sit Krzysztof Oleksowicz – the founder of the Inter Cars Group and a rally driver.

Tight schedule

Friday and Saturday – 26th and 27th September will be very busy days for Volkswagen Castrol Cup participants. For the first time the drivers will enter the track on Friday at 9:35 for the first of two 30-minute practice sessions. The second will be held at 12:30. At 15:50 qualifying session is scheduled. Saturday morning is the time for the first race (10:00). The last time this season Cup Golf GTI will go at the track on Saturday at 15:15, when second race will be held.

Valuable 50 hp

The additional 50 horsepower, provided by Push - to - Pass system, can be used by each driver 19 times during the race. Push - to - Pass system allows to increase engine power from 260 to 310 hp for 10 seconds. The use of this system is a key element of racing tactics. Well-chosen and implemented strategy is the key to a good result in the race. The numbers displayed on the side windows of racing Golfs show how many times the driver can use the Push - to - Pass. Blue light placed behind the windshield indicates that this system is active at the moment.

Final will as virtual

Not only real final will be held at Poznan track. The last round of the 2014 season is also a final of virtual Volkswagen Castrol Cup. During the summer, Volkswagen Castrol Cup Road Show visited four Polish cities. A special truck equipped with Xbox360 with game Forza Motorsport IV was a venue of virtual Volkswagen Castrol Cup. The winners of the four rounds of virtual Cup will compete in Poznan for the final prize - a chance to test Golf GTI at real racetrack, and on the road. The winner will also have an opportunity to cover some laps of the track with professional racing driver. Who knows, maybe this will be the beginning of a new racing career?

Quotes before the final round of the Volkswagen Castrol Cup at Poznan Circuit:

Robertas Kupcikas, 1st place in the overall standings:

I do not feel any pressure. I feel pleasure, because this is what racing gives me. Driving a racing car is a great fun, so how can I feel pressure behind the wheel. Is not due to my advantage in standings. However, we must remember that many things can happen, because this is racing. Still, I'm not going to go slower to minimize the risk. I want to show good performance in last two races.

Jeffrey Kruger, 2nd place in the overall standings:

I would like to beat Robertas. His advantage is large, but this is racing and lot can happen, so for sure I will push until I see chequered flag. At the same time, I will remember that I want to keep Janek Kisiel behind me. He is a very fast driver, especially at the track in Poznan.

Jan Kisiel, 3rd place in the overall standings:

Jeffrey has 64 points more than me, and that is quite a lot. Of course, it would be much better to finish the season in second place instead of third. In Poznan, certainly I will do my best, but I do not concentrate on the standings. Clean and fast driving – this matters to me. Jeffrey is a very fast driver, so even if I win both races is the gap between us may be difficult to level. This season in qualifying at this track gap between me, Robertas and Marcus was less than 0.1 sec. Competition for sure is going to be fierce, because also Maciek Steinhof, Jeffrey Kruger and Paul Krężelok will be fast. It will be one of the toughest rounds of the season, if not the hardest.

Jordan Lee Pepper, winner of the Scirocco R-Cup 2014:

My main goal for the guest start is to win, however I have to be realistic. I have never driven the car before or been to Poznan. I would be really happy to get a top 5 or to be on the podium if possible. I think the best way to prepare is to watch onboard footage of the track so you can get a feeling of where you must brake and how you must approach each corner. I'm really looking forward to the weekend and I want to say thank you to all who have organized this.

Maciek Steinhof, 6th place in the overall standings:

The last two races were not successful for me. Probably I had some small problems with the car. But now I focus only on good driving in Poznan. Unfortunately, this year I am a bit unlucky. In previous round in Poznan and in Slovakia my competitors crashed into my car what cost me a lot of points. Sometimes such a situations happens in this kind of sports, so I know have to fight until the end. Now I do not focus on battle for a certain place in the overall standings of the season. I just want to finish the season with the good result in the last round.

Marcus Fluch, 4th place in the overall standings:

I like the Poznan track very much. It suits my driving style. I know that Janek is fast at this track so it will be an interesting fight until the end I hope. Of course there will be more pressure before final round. I always deal with it in the same way. I try to relax, to do thing I want to do and try to be always positive.

Karol Basz, winner of the karting WSK Champions Cup:

- Participation in the last round of the season certainly will not be easy. All of the drivers are already know cup Golfs well, while I have to learn how this car perform. I know Poznan track, so thanks to this my debut surely will be a bit easier. My goal for this weekend is clean driving and gaining further experience. Of course I would like to score good result, but it is not most important to me

Volkswagen Castrol Cup 2014 calendar:

- 25-27 April – Hungaroring (Hungary)
- 23-25 May – EuroSpeedway Lausitz (Germany)
- 13-15 June – Tor Poznań (Poland)
- 8-10 August – Autodrom Most (Czech Republic)
- 22-24 August – Slovakia Ring (Slovakia)
- 12-14 September – Automotodrom Brno (Czech Republic)
- 26-28 September – Tor Poznań (Poland)

Latest news at www.volkswagencastrolcup.pl/en/

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