

News release
March 30, 2017
World RX of Barcelona preview

It's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for Petter and Johan

Wake up Petter, the dream's real. It's here, it's happening. To bring a team like PSRX Volkswagen World RX Team Sweden into the FIA World RX Championship, has always been Petter Solberg's dream. Or, the first part of that dream.

It's Solberg, Johan Kristoffersson, Volkswagen Sweden and a Volkswagen Polo GTI Supercar all for the 2017 World RX.

Norway, Sweden and Germany have gathered to create one of motorsport's most dynamic and potential-packed teams ever in PSRX Volkswagen World RX Team Sweden. It's genuinely the realisation of a dream for Petter Solberg. Or at least half of a dream; the other half starts at this weekend's FIA World RX of Barcelona, where Petter and Johan chase the drivers' title and join as team mates in an effort to fit PSRX a first-ever teams' crown.

"I'm dreaming of both titles," he said. "I want PSRX Volkswagen Sweden to celebrate drivers' and teams' crowns at the end of this season, that's my target. I've waited a long time to be in that position and thanks to a fantastic co-operation with Volkswagen Sweden and Volkswagen Motorsport in Hannover, we hope to be in that position now.

"To have my team in a place like this, has always been my dream. Or, the first part of my dream."

Being able to leave most of the car preparation to such off-road experts as four-time World Rally Champions and three-time Dakar winners Volkswagen is a weight off Solberg's mind.

"Those guys are the best," said Solberg. "But, for me, the really nice thing about this is the philosophy we share, it's the same in terms of the pursuit of results, commitment and attitude towards car set-up."

Petter is also looking forward to working with Johan.

"We have seen the speed he's capable of, you don't finish second in World RX without being one of the best drivers in the world and to have a guy like that alongside me in my team is so special. Johan and I know each other and we have a good way of working. I'm so excited about the year ahead."

That excitement will reach fever pitch at the start of the new World RX season at the Circuit de Barcelona Catalunya, when Saturday morning's opening practice session brings a new beginning for Johan as well as Petter.

“This is the next step for me,” said Johan. “The chance to drive alongside Petter is a very special one for me and to be involved in a project at this level with the familiar faces of PSRX, Volkswagen Sweden and some new and impressive figures from Volkswagen Motorsport is fantastic. What we need now is a good start from Barcelona this weekend. After a really busy winter season, it’s going to be incredible to finally take these Polo GTIs Supercars racing.”

What? When?

Qualifying 1/2: Saturday April 1 1200/1430

Qualifying 3/4: Sunday April 2 1100

Semi-finals/Final: Sunday April 2 1500

Where?

Barcelona.

Track length:

1.133km

Track details:

60.4% Asphalt/39.6% Gravel

The bit about Barcelona...

Before PSRX and our rallycross buddies arrived at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, this track was probably best known for Ayrton Senna and Nigel Mansell going head-to-head and wheel-to-wheel at 300kph in 1991. A year later and the same straight was used for a cycling event at the 1992 Olympics. While this is the Catalan track’s third time on the FIA World RX calendar, it’s the first time it has opened the season.

Previous winners:

Petter Solberg (2015)

Mattias Ekström (2016)

Closest international airport:

Barcelona–El Prat Airport 40km

Currency:

Euro

Capital city:

Madrid

Language:

Spanish

Seriously... if you’re phasmophobic probably worth steering clear of Barcelona’s 12 abandoned Metro stations. They’re all haunted. Who you gonna call?

Contact:

Per-Espen Lochen PR/media manager

per-espen@pettersolberg.no

+46 76 110 7 110

+47 952 43 245

psrxvw.com
@Petter_Solberg
www.facebook.com/PetterSolbergWRC

Produced in association with Words PR