

News release
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Petter Solberg... *you win again!*

Petter Solberg extended his lead in this year's FIA World Rallycross Championship with his third win, dominating the final at World RX of France at Lohéac, France today (Sunday).

Solberg, who made more World RX history in France today by becoming the first driver to win three rounds of the series, said: "This feels just incredible! I am tired, exhausted and so sweaty – it was hot at work today! This has been a very tough weekend, one of my hardest and most nervous ever in my career. It wasn't just the warm weather or the driving which made it tough, it was the atmosphere at the race; with tens of thousands of spectators all wanting your autograph and a picture, the emotion is incredible. It's also a really big and quite tiring challenge.

"But you know me, I would never ever complain about this – I love these people, they are part of my life and part of my sport.

"We started yesterday without a perfect car, but my mechanics did a lot of changes overnight. As usual, these guys were the best around and didn't switch off the lights in the workshop until one in the morning. But by then, they had transformed the car for me. Today, I had speed, traction and stability in the semi-finals. Not only did that give me confidence, it also gave me performance and the chance to save our tyres. Ultimately, it gave me the chance to dominate the final from pole position. The final was quite straightforward for me, but the celebrations are never straightforward, I am so happy! I came close to winning here last year, so to finish the job is perfect. It was also a good way for me to finish with a new lap record, that one was for the team, those guys helped me so much again. I couldn't have done this without them.

"My strategy now is to continue being clever and collect world championship-winning points at each race. There's still a long way to go – and a 28-point lead [over Reinis Nitiss] isn't much if we should experience any kind of problem. But for now, I will enjoy the moment of another win and the enjoyment of extending my World RX."

Tonight's a double celebration for the PSRX team in France. Petter's son Oliver might not be with the team, but he's very much in their thoughts having won the Swedish Crosskart Championship yesterday.

"Knowing that Oliver had won the championship was such an incredible motivation for me at my race today," said Petter. "I'm sure this will be the first of many for him and hopefully there will be more titles for PSRX to celebrate this year!"

And there it is, win number three, title number one. At moments like this, it's

almost impossible not to turn to music. And the Bee Gees. Notably, the 1987 Bee Gees.

Does this sound familiar?

*There's no fight you can't fight,
This battle of love with me,
You win again...*

One thing we liked about Lohéac:

Writing one letter and one word: P Solberg. Petter signed thousands of autographs this weekend and loved every minute of it. Oh, and winning. We never tire of winning.

One thing we didn't like about Lohéac:

Having to leave! This place is crazy for rallycross and we are crazy for Lohéac.

Final result:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Petter Solberg | 3m48.241s |
| 2 Reinis Nitiss | 3m49.690s |
| 3 Timmy Hansen | 3m49.854s |
| 4 Ken Block | 3m50.991s |
| 5 Pontus Tidemand | 4m04.793s |
| 6 Timur Timerzyanov | N/A |

Championship positions:

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 Petter Solberg | 182pts |
| 2 Reinis Nitiss | 157pts |
| 3 Toomas Heikkinen | 147pts |
| 4 Andreas Bakkerud | 126pts |
| 5 Anton Marklund | 124pts |
| 6 Timmy Hansen | 118pts |

Next time out (Red Kiwi World RX of Germany, September 20-21)

Were you in Lohéac today? Were you sitting down? Folding chair? Comfortable? If that's a yes, yes, yes and yes, then you're comfort was intrinsically linked with Buxtehude and the venue for the next round of the World Rallycross Championship. The Daensen folding chair was discovered 115 years ago close to where Petter will race at round nine. The chair is reckoned to date back to the Nordic Bronze Age, which means it could be 2,500 years old. Buxtehude's Estering rallycross circuit isn't nearly as old: it's only 42.

But in the meantime, if you want to know more:

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