

News release
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Records? They're made to be broken by PSRX Volkswagen Sweden

A fourth straight FIA World Rallycross win moved Johan Kristoffersson further clear at the top of the table and forced series officials to re-write the history books. Again.

The PSRX Volkswagen World RX Team Sweden driver was on sensational form at the Lohéac track to take a sixth victory of the year for the Torsby-based team. Kristoffersson's commanding win in Brittany was his fourth in succession. That's a record. It was also his eighth podium in succession. That's another record – but that one's just slightly less impressive: he already had that record from the last round in Canada!

Once again, both PSRX Volkswagen Sweden Polo GTI Supercars made the final, but a front-left puncture ruled team owner and two-time FIA World Rallycross Champion Petter Solberg out of the running for victory.

Petter was fifth in the final and those points were crucial in helping build PSRX Volkswagen Sweden's lead in the FIA World RX Teams' standings – the advantage now stands at 112 points over Peugeot-Hansen.

Talking of tables, Johan's awesome French weekend means he boosts his lead in the drivers' championship by 11 points over team-mate Petter.

And, in front of another capacity crowd at Lohéac, it really was an awesome weekend for PSRX Volkswagen Sweden.

"I haven't ever felt so comfortable in the car in the wet," said Kristoffersson. "Yesterday, the sun was shining and the track was dry and [Sébastien] Loeb was quite close to us, but today the team has just done a fantastic job with the set-up for the car.

"If there was one area where we needed to find something from the Polo it was in the wet and I have to take off my hat for this team – they have done that. I know some people think I am thanking the team a lot, but you need to know this team – they are the best!

"Petter and I work really hard together, we work in the same direction all of the time and we worked for this result. We talked to the engineers and we found the set-up for the car which made me comfortable and was perfect for these conditions. When you have a car around you which gives you confidence, it means you can push and this weekend I could push really as hard as I wanted. It's a fantastic feeling."

Another fantastic feeling is topping the podium for the fourth time in four races.

"That's quite incredible," continued Johan. "I am so happy for this record. You don't think to them [records] at all when you are racing, you are so focused on every corner and every lap. But then when I was getting out of the car somebody reminded me and I was: "OK, yeah, that's a good one!" But the most important thing from this weekend is more points for the team and another step towards the dream."

Petter echoed those sentiments, adding: "We knew what we had to do this weekend. It wasn't always straightforward, I had a stall on the line yesterday and then the puncture today isn't so good – but look at the semi-final: Johan and me were one-two and everything was perfect.

"Like he [Kristoffersson] said, we made a real step with the car in the wet here and that's so positive for the team. But now we stay focused; we have one aim this year and we are still working and giving 110 per cent for that title – and for Johan's drivers' title as well!"

Now, we started this story talking about records, so let's finish it on the same topic. Johan has now won five World RX rounds this season and that equals the record number of wins for one driver in a single year... a record held by Petter. Victory from one of the three remaining races will mean another record for Johan and another one lost for Petter. Does Mr. Solberg mind? Not a bit of it; he's all about keeping the records in the family.

Result:

1 Johan Kristoffersson	4m08.408s
2 Sébastien Loeb	4m11.989s
3 Mattias Ekström	4m12.994s
4 Andreas Bakkerud	4m15.794s
5 Petter Solberg	4m47.098s
6 Timmy Hansen	DNF

Drivers' championship positions:

1 Kristoffersson	241pts
2 Solberg	195pts
3 Ekström	180pts
4 Loeb	169pts
5 Hansen	155pts
6 Bakkerud	146pts

Teams' championship positions:

1 PSRX Volkswagen Sweden	436pts
2 Team Peugeot-Hansen	324pts
3 EKS	266pts

Next time out Neste World RX of Latvia

If you want capital city racing, this is as good as it gets. As the drivers are tearing up this lovely circuit, they can just catch a glimpse of some of Riga's taller apartment blocks. The Bikernieki National Sports Base has hosted motorsport events since 1966, but World RX's arrival heralded a major overhaul of the track in 2015. The gravel was laid with beautifully profiled jumps, but this is not a place for the wild-at-heart. Lined by ARMCO for much of the lap, Latvia loves and Riga rewards the neat and tidy.

Want to know more?

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