

# comsol vw challenge

1989 – 2014  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year

## Weather provides the challenge for VWs at Zwartkops



While the overall results of the day had largely familiar look to them, rain and slippery track conditions led to a few surprises at the final round of the 2014 Comsol VW Challenge held at Zwartkops on Saturday, 15 November 2014.

Shortly before the cars went out for qualifying the heavens opened. Incredibly the rain

fell even harder as the session progressed, making things a bit of a lottery. With rivers running across the circuit in places lap times were over 20 seconds slower than those set in the dry. At the end of the session Waldie Meintjies (Performance Masters / Marty's Body & Spray Polo) emerged on top of the time sheets. The class C cars seemed to have an easier time getting their power down on the saturated track and Wayne Crous (X35 Energy Drink Polo) was next quickest with Tyrell Govindsamy in his class B Petroplast International Polo in third place.

The next three quickest times were recorded by class C cars, Wayne Masters (Performance Masters Golf) fourth quickest followed by Shaun Crous (X35 Energy



Drink Golf) and Jacques Smith (Triplicon Construction / ELB Construction / UTI Logistics Polo).

By the time the first race got underway the track had dried out a bit but there was still rain falling intermittently. Meintjies led class A from pole position followed by James Hurley (The Starter Pack Company Polo) and Lyle Ramsay, who wrapped up the class B title at the previous outing. An off-track excursion by Hurley at turn 5 allowed Ramsay through into second place and he set about catching and passing Meintjies, going on to take victory in his first outing in a class A car. Hurley recovered from his mistake and managed to force his way past Meintjies on the final lap, taking second place by just under four hundredths of a second. Rory Atkinson (Comsol Polo), Peet Visagie (Polo) and Gavin Ross (Norbrake Polo) rounded out the top six.



In class B Govindsamy held off an early challenge from Darren Nathan (Sex Trader Polo) and went on to take a comfortable maiden win. Nathan stopped when his car started overheating allowing Andy Gossman (Chamdor Veridot & Police Clearance Golf) to claim second place ahead of Deon Holiday (Snap On SA Polo). Piet Potgieter and Andre Needham, both in Polos, crossed the line in fourth and fifth respectively while Vaughn Edeling brought his Polo Classic home in sixth.

Wayne Crous used his pole position to full advantage and opened up a substantial gap at the head of the class C field, going on to win by over 13 seconds. His brother Shaun and Smith were involved in a battle for second in the early stages of the race but Smith found a way past and went on to take second. Jakes Jacobs (Nathan's Motorsport Polo) closed the gap to Shaun but could not get past, and had to settle for fourth behind Crous' Golf. Stuart Mack (Goldwagen Jhb CBD / Wynberg) and Masters were fifth and sixth in their Golfs.



The second race started on a dry circuit but another storm was on its way. Hurley grabbed the class A lead at the start with Meintjies not far behind. Atkinson got past Meintjies on the third lap and rapidly closed the gap to Hurley, but before he could set up a pass on the leader, his gearbox creaked enough forcing him into retirement. When the red flag came out after Daine

Stewart slammed into the wall after turn 1 Hurley was still in the lead ahead of Meintjies and Ramsay. Iain Stevenson (Comsol Polo), Ross and Visagie filled the minor placings.

Nathan's crew repaired his car in the gap between the two races and he and Govindsamy were involved in a titanic struggle for the lead of class B once they disposed of early leader Gossman. Govindsamy held his more experienced rival at bay until almost the half-way mark but eventually Nathan got past and went on to win. Gosman had to settle for fourth after Holiday got past him as well. Despite finishing his race in the barriers, Stewart was classified sixth behind Needham.

In class C the battle was between Smith and Elke van Vledder (Golf) after first race winner Wayne Crous suffered a broken drive shaft on the way to the start line. Smith held the lead for the first five laps but van Vledder eventually found a way through and claimed the win. Wouter Roos (Nathan's Motorsport Polo) slowly worked his way through the field to finish third, up from tenth on the grid. He was followed by Masters and Jacobs with Shaun Crous in sixth.



James Hurley's overall win for the day gave the 2014 champion the unique record of taking the overall win in every event this season. Tyrell Govindsamy was the overall victor in class B while class C went to new champion Jacques Smith.

## Overall Points

POS	CLASS	DRIVER	POINTS
1	A	James Hurley	170
2	B	Lyle Ramsay	144
3	C	Jacques Smith	118
4	B	Darren Nathan	118
5	A	Rory Atkinson	109
6	C	Elke van Vledder	90
7	A	Waldie Meintjies	87
8	B	Gerhard Henning	84
9	C	Jakes Jacobs	84
10	C	Henry van Vledder	80

ENDS

