

# comsol vw challenge

1989 – 2016

## Wins for championship leaders on Youth Day

Class A championship leader Tasmin Pepper (Campos Transport / Alpine Motors Polo) won her opening Comsol VW Challenge race at Zwartkops Raceway on Youth Day, 16 June 2016 but could not keep her winning streak going in the second heat which went to Waldie Meintjes (LTR / Marty's Body & Spray Polo).

In class B Darren Nathan (Sex Trader Polo) and Adrian Wood (Laserfiche Polo) each took a win while Luan Roos (Nathan's Motorsport Polo) was chased to the line in both class C heats by Elke van Vledder (Golf).



Stiaan Kriel (Imperial Select Polo) surprised in the morning qualifying session. The Capetonian, in only his second event after returning to circuit racing, claimed pole position from Pepper, who was running with a spare motor after popping hers during the final practice session on Wednesday. James Hurley (The Starter Pack Company Polo) headed the

second row with Rory Atkinson (Comsol Polo) alongside him. Meintjes and Derick Smalberger (Sabertek Beetle) rounded out the top six. With the top five separated by just 0.363 seconds, close racing was on the cards.

comsol  
WIRELESS SOLUTIONS



SABAT  
BATTERIES

NORBRAKE cc  
DISTRIBUTORS



Driven by Powertech

OASIS  
LUBRICANTS | SOUTHERN AFRICA  
WWW.OASISLUBRICANTS.CO.ZA

BSG  
BEST SAFETY GLASS  
Quality Windscreens @ Affordable Prices

ULTRON

In class B Nic Clarke (Central Technical Services Polo) and Nathan continued their season-long battle. This time it was Clarke who emerged on top to take the class B pole. Wood and Jacques Smith (Hydra Arc Polo) were next up ahead of Francois van Zyl (Jesus Saves Polo) and Mile Stewart (RCS Security Services Polo).

The morning mist had only just lifted when the class C field went out for their qualifying session and it was van Vledder who made the best use of a cold track. She claimed pole position from Luan Roos with Wouter Roos in the second Nathan's Motorsport Polo a tenth further back. Shaun Crous (Ancro Building Projects Polo), Sam Dale (Dale Automation Polo) and Stuart Mack (Goldwagen JHB CBD and Wynberg Golf) completed the top six.

In race 1 Kriel led the opening lap but Pepper was not going to let him stand in the way of her fourth consecutive class A heat win. She made her way onto the lead on the second lap and was never seriously challenged on her way to the chequered flag.

Kriel had to fend off the attentions of Hurley for the next few laps until the former champion went wide in turn 4 allowing both Meintjes and Atkinson through. Meintjes found a way past Kriel but the Capetonian managed to keep Atkinson behind him and claim the final podium position. Hurley had to settle for fifth with Smalberger in sixth.

In class B Clarke led in the initial stages of the race but Nathan found a way through early on. While Clarke was never more than a couple of car lengths behind, he could not find a way back to the front and had to settle for second place. Behind the leading duo, Wood kept a watching brief but could not get close enough to mount a challenge and eventually came home in third.



Van Zyl, Brad Hall (Hellermann Tyton Racing Polo) and Stewart rounded out the top six.



Luan Roos was also chasing his fourth consecutive class heat win and had to fight van Vledder all the way to the flag although he did manage to pull away slightly in the last couple of laps. Wouter Roos was next across the line, just over quarter of a second back. Dale, Graham Savage (Goldwagen JHB CBD and Wynberg Golf) and Crous

spent most of the race fighting it out for fourth place. They eventually finished in that order with Dale managing to pull away slightly in the latter third of the race.

Meintjes, by virtue of his fastest lap time in the opening race, started the second heat from pole position which allowed him to escape the chaos that developed behind him in turn 2. Kriel locked his front wheels coming into the corner and tagged the back of Pepper's car, turning her sideways. As she rolled backwards across the track he hit her in the door and Hurley, with nowhere to go, hit the back of Kriel's Polo. Atkinson just managed to avoid everyone but lost a lot of time as he took a trip through the kitty litter.



At the end of the first lap Meintjes had a lead of 1.4 seconds over Devon Piazza Musso (Allegiance Polo) with Smalberger not far behind in third. They stayed in that order until the race was stopped after Andre Needham hit the wall on the exit of turn 1 in his class B Technikon Auto Spares Polo, causing safety concerns after the tyre barrier was moved.

Meintjes again opened up a substantial lead at the head of the field when the race restarted. He held the lead until the flag. Hurley was next across line followed by Pepper. When the time of the two sections of the race were added together Meintjes emerged as the winner by almost 10 seconds. Piazza Musso was second with Smalberger in the final podium position. Hurley, Atkinson and Wayne Crous (King Price Insurance Polo) rounded out the top six.



There was a three-way battle at the front of the class B field with Wood leading Clarke and Nathan when the red flag came out. In the second half of the race it looked like Nathan was going to take the flag first but both Clarke and Wood got through on the final lap. Once the times were added Wood was credited with the win, just 0.026 seconds ahead of Clarke.

Nathan had to settle for third. Van Zyl ended fourth with Stewart and Deon Holliday Jnr (T&T Windscreens Polo) in fifth and sixth respectively.

The second class C race again saw Luan Roos and van Vledder in close company at the head of the field with Savage and Dale just behind them. A mistake by Savage, with Dale following him, allowed Wouter Roos and Shaun Crous through to third and

fourth, positions they held until the flag. Dale managed to hang on to fifth but Savage dropped further down the field allowing Mack to take sixth.

The VW Challenge competitors have a winter break before they take to the track again for round 6 which takes place at Red Star Raceway on 13 August 2016.

ENDS

