

# VW Challenge

1989 – 2017

## VW Challenge brigade head for Phakisa

Approaching the half-way mark of the 2017 season, no clear leader has yet emerged at the head of the overall title race with the top three drivers separated by just four points. This could change on Saturday, 22 July when the fifth round of the 2017 championship takes place at Phakisa Freeway outside Welkom.



Stiaan Kriel (Spanjaard Polo) experienced a clutch problem in the opening race last time out at Zwartkops, allowing Rory Atkinson (Pozi Drive Polo) to return to the top of the overall championship log, albeit by just a single point. The first of the class B competitors, Adrian Wood (Laserfische Polo), is a further three points back in third. Two wins at Zwartkops have moved Nic Clarke (pozi Drive Polo) back into fourth place with Iain Pepper (Husqvarna / Campos Transport Polo) and Lyle Ramsay (Monroe Racing RSA

Polo) rounding out the top six.

Class A is developing into a three-way battle in 2017 although Kriel still holds a clear advantage over Pepper and Devon Piazza-Musso (Allegiance Polo). Based on performance this year, the winner at Phakisa is likely to come from this trio, although Waldie Meintjes (LTR / Marty's Body & Spray Polo) will be aiming to get his season back on track after a string of mechanical problems have spoilt his early season chances. Wayne Masters (Performance Masters Polo) and Wayne Crous (Delway Polo), fourth and fifth on the class A championship log respectively, should also be up with the leaders.



There is another three-way battle at the head of the class B field with Wood, Clarke and Ramsay fighting it out for the title. Jacques Smith (Hydra Arc Polo) is next up followed by Deon Holliday Jnr (Centworx Polo) and Quinton Needham (Megatron Polo). While the top three have shared the race wins between them at every event this season, there is no guarantee that this will be the case in Welkom as their challengers have been getting closer each outing.



In class C Atkinson has a clear advantage over Shaun Crous (Ancro Building Projects Polo) and Wouter Roos (Strata Drilling Polo) who are separated by just two points in second and third respectively. Chris Dale (Pozi Drive / Dale Automation Polo) is next up with Gareth Lyke (Gaz-O-Matic Polo) and Piet Potgieter (Polo) rounding out the top six. Based on his performances so far this season, Atkinson is the clear favourite at Phakisa but both Crous and Roos have taken wins in 2017 and will be out to repeat that in the Free State.



As usual, Friday is dedicated to practice sessions before qualifying at 09h00 on

Saturday morning. The two 8-lap races are scheduled to take place at 11h10 and 14h10.

The VW Challenge would like to acknowledge the valuable support of their sponsors, ATE Brakes, Dicktator Engine Management Systems, Tron Lubricants, Glasfix Windscreen Repairs and Norbrake, who make the series possible.

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