

## **TCR Eastern Europe powered by ESET Ryba and Vesnič shared wins in Hungary**

The inaugural season of the TCR Eastern Europe powered by ESET kicked off at the Hungaroring, where Martin Ryba and Milovan Vesnič took one win apiece. In the first race Ryba held on the lead from the start to the end, but behind him there was a close fight between Vesnič and Jáchym Galáš who eventually finished in the order. Jakub Wyszomirsky was classified fourth. It was raining at the start of Race 2; Galáš had a poor start, was hit from behind and sent into the pit wall. After a safety car period the rain intensified; Ryba who was leading, retired with damage to the front of his car. This paved the way to Vesnič who won from his teammate Wyszomirsky, while Petr Čížek completed the podium. The series will resume on May 17/19 at the Red Bull Ring.

### Race 1

1. M. Ryba (Brutal Fish, Honda Civic FK7), 13 laps
2. M. Vesnič (ASK Vesnič, CUPRA), 3.944
3. J. Galáš (GT2 Motorsport, VW Golf GTI), 8.023

### Race 2

1. M. Vesnič (ASK Vesnič, CUPRA), 11 laps
2. J. Wyszomirsky (ASK Vesnič, Honda Civic FK2), 35.152
3. P. Čížek (Fullinrace Academy, CUPRA), 51.657

### Championship points

1. Vesnič 35 pts; 2. Ryba 26; 3. Wyszomirsky 68

## TCR Eastern Europe @ Red Bull Ring First victory for the Renault Mégane RS

The second event of the TCR Eastern Europe powered by ESET series, at the Red Bull Ring, marked the first victory for the Renault Mégane RS. To achieve this first important success was Tomáš Pekař in the second race. In Race 1, Milovan Vesnič started from the pole and led from Pekař and Dušan Kouřil. Vesnič was in control, while Pekař followed until he was given a drive-through penalty for track limits. Kouřil finished second, but was disqualified after the race for not serving a drive-through. The penalties promoted Jáchym Galáš and Jakub Vyszomirski to second and third. Race 2 started on a drying track. Once again Vesnič led, followed by Galáš, Pekař and Kouřil who delivered a thrilling battle. In the second half of the race, Vesnič's pace faded and so Kouřil moved into the lead; Galáš overtook Kouřil but then was stopped by a puncture. Kouřil inherited the lead, but he was passed by Pekař who won from Kouřil and Rudi Pešovič. By winning Race, Milovan Vesnič has stretched his leading margin in the standings. The next event of the series will be at Grobnik on July 27 and 28.

### Race 1

1. M. Vesnič (ASK Vesnič, CUPRA), 16 laps
2. J. Galáš (GT2 Motorsport, Volkswagen Golf GTI), 19.457
3. J. Vyszomirski (ASK Vesnič, Honda Civic FK2), 21.902

### Race 2

1. T. Pekař (Besagroup, Renault Mégane RS), 10 laps
2. D. Kouřil (K2 Engineering, Hyundai i30 N), 4.551
3. R. Pešovič (GM Racing, Audi RS 3 LMS), 26.578

### Championship points

1. Vesnič 57 pts; 2. Vyszomirski 47; 3. Petr Čížek 34

Photos: Milan Bydžovský

## TCR Eastern Europe powered by ESET A merging for five race meetings

Eastern European teams and drivers will have plenty of opportunities to run their TCR cars from the current season onwards, as the WSC Group has signed a licensing deal with promoters of both the TCR Eastern Europe series and the ESET V4 Cup.

The two series will merge in the TCR Eastern Europe Trophy powered by ESET that will be run over five events at Hungaroring, Red Bull Ring, Grobnik, Slovakia Ring and Brno.

The opening races in Hungary, in the frame of the WTCR weekend, will see the TCR Eastern Europe Trophy powered by ESET competitors joining the same grid of the TCR Europe Series, but with their own classifications and podium ceremonies.

TCR Eastern Europe will come to an end with a sixth event at Monza, together again with the TCR Europe Series.

WSC president Marcello Lotti commented: *"We are delighted to expand TCR competition to the Eastern European countries. There are many TCR cars that were involved in races open to a medley of classes, now they have the opportunity to compete under TCR technical regulations and control."*

Rainer Werner, promoter of TCR Eastern Europe echoed: *"We are grateful to WSC for giving us this opportunity. The participation of drivers and teams from Eastern Europe in the 2018 TCR Europe and the FIA Central European Zone were evidence that those countries are a large enough basin to deserve a dedicated trophy."*

Josef Krenek, promoter of the ESET V4 Cup concluded: *"I'm very happy that we have managed to find common interest, and wish to thank WSC for placing their confidence in us. TCR is very important for our drivers and our region and I believe, that in the coming years it's going to be fundamental for the whole Central European Zone. We have already received ten applications for this season and they keep coming..."*

### 2019 TCR Eastern Europe Trophy powered by ESET

26/28 April – Hungaroring (with TCR Europe)

18/19 May – Red Bull Ring

27/28 July – Grobnik

24/25 August – Slovakia Ring

7/8 September – Brno

12/13 October – Monza (with TCR Europe) \*

\* TCR Eastern Europe Trophy only