



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 1 of 3

ŠKODA's WRC 2 champion Jan Kopecký wins GP Ice Race ahead of junior Julian Wagner

- › Unique event on an ice track in Zell am See/Austria saw a double ŠKODA victory
- › ŠKODA works driver and WRC 2 champion Jan Kopecký won on both days and also took the overall category victory with his ŠKODA FABIA R5
- › Record German Rally Champion Matthias Kahle entertained the crowds drifting a historic ŠKODA 130 RS over the frozen tracks of a former airfield

Zell am See, 20 January 2019 – At the GP Ice Race in Zell am See (19 and 20 January 2019) ŠKODA factory driver Jan Kopecký was in a class of his own. On day one of the event, powered his ŠKODA FABIA R5 to class win ahead of Volkswagen driver Romain Dumas. Sunday saw a double ŠKODA victory. Kopecký won the day two race and the overall competition ahead of Austrian BRR junior Julian Wagner, both driving a ŠKODA FABIA R5. Seven times German Rally Champion Matthias Kahle entertained the thousands of spectators on the ice track in Zell am See/Austria with a 140 horse power, rear wheel driven ŠKODA 130 RS.

"It was really amazing to compete here with my ŠKODA FABIA R5 on ice and snow. Even in the car I could feel the enthusiasm of the fans," said reigning WRC 2 champion Jan Kopecký. On a demonstration run on Saturday, he was supported by a very special co-driver. Bernhard Maier, Chairman of the Board of Management ŠKODA Auto, enjoyed the ride from the passenger seat of the ŠKODA FABIA R5.

Promising Austrian 23 year old junior Julian Wagner, driving a ŠKODA FABIA R5 from Austrian team BRR Baumschlager Rallye&Racing, impressed with his speed on ice and snow already two weeks ago by winning the first round of the national series, the Jaennerrallye. In Zell am See, he finished the final heat behind works driver Jan Kopecký.

"We never expected such a tremendous success, when we decided to re-invent the legendary Ice race in Zell am See after a long slumber of 45 years with a modern interpretation. The competition of the modern R5 cars was really a highlight for our fans," emphasized Ferdinand Porsche, together with Vinzenz Greger founder of the GP Ice Race in Zell am See.

The GP Ice Race featured modern and historic race- and rally cars from all decades of motorsport history. Seven times German Rally Champion Matthias Kahle was one of the stars amongst the group of historic race cars, driving a lightweight ŠKODA 130 RS, featuring rear wheel drive and 140 horse power, mostly sideways around the ice track in Zell am See.

Final Result GP Ice Race (R5 category)

1. Jan Kopecký (CZE), ŠKODA FABIA R5, 1.24.400 Min.
2. Julian Wagner (AUT), ŠKODA FABIA R5, +1.145 sec.
3. Romain Dumas (FRA), Volkswagen Polo GTI R5, +1.945 sec.
4. Jürgen Knobloch (AUT), ŠKODA FABIA R5, +3.859 sec.

ŠKODA Media Services

media@skoda-auto.cz



FROM DETAILS TO STORY
skoda-storyboard.com

 Follow @MotorsportSkoda



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 2 of 3

Number of the day: 16

Two ŠKODA drivers, which took part at the GP Ice Race, represented 16 titles. ŠKODA works driver Jan Kopecký won the Czech Rally Championship six times plus titles in the European Rally Championship (ERC), the Asian Pacific Rally Championship (APRC) and the WRC 2 category of the FIA World Rally Championship. Matthias Kahle won the German Rally Champion seven times.

Further information:

Zbyněk Straškraba, Communications Motorsport

P +420 605 293 168

zbynek.straskraba@skoda-auto.cz

<http://skoda-motorsport.com>

ŠKODA Motorsport:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter

Media images:



ŠKODA at GP Ice Race in Zell am See (Austria)

Driving a ŠKODA FABIA R5, Czech ŠKODA factory driver Jan Kopecký won the R5 category at the GP Ice Race in Zell am See

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



ŠKODA at GP Ice Race in Zell am See (Austria)

With his lightweight ŠKODA 130 RS, featuring rear wheel drive and 140 horse power, seven times German Rally Champion Matthias Kahle entertained thousands of fans around the ice track in Zell am See

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO

ŠKODA Media Services

media@skoda-auto.cz



FROM DETAILS TO STORY
skoda-storyboard.com

Follow @MotorsportSkoda



ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 3 of 3

ŠKODA Motorsport Overview

ŠKODA has been successful on the motorsport scene since 1901. Be it on the circuit or in rallies, ŠKODA has celebrated victories and won titles all around the world. Historical highlights include winning the title in the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC 2) for the first time in 2016, numerous title wins in the FIA European Rally Championship (ERC), the FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship (APRC) and the Intercontinental Rally Challenge (IRC), as well as the victory in the European Touring Car Championship in 1981. ŠKODA teams have also triumphed in the world's oldest and most famous rally, taking several class victories in the legendary Monte Carlo, which was first held in 1911. The ŠKODA FABIA R5, a high-tech 4x4, was homologated by the International Automobile Federation FIA on 1 April 2015. ŠKODA's new FABIA R5 is successfully continuing the long tradition of ŠKODA Motorsport. Its predecessor, the FABIA SUPER 2000, won 50 national and international titles around the world. In the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC 2) 2016, Esapekka Lappi/Janne Ferm (FIN/FIN) won the title for the Czech car maker

In 2017, works duo Pontus Tidemand/Jonas Andersson (S/S) became WRC 2 Champions, ŠKODA Motorsport won the Team Championship. Jan Kopecký/Pavel Dresler (CZ/CZ) won the Czech Rally Championship (MČR) for the third time in a row and are the spearhead of in total 14 crews winning their country's national titles. Furthermore the FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship (APRC), the FIA South American Rally Championship (CODASUR) and the FIA African Rally Championship (ARC) have been won by teams competing in a ŠKODA FABIA R5.

2018 was the most successful year in the history of ŠKODA Motorsport so far. Jan Kopecký/Pavel Dresler (CZE/CZE) became WRC 2 champions and managed to win the Czech Rally Championship (MČR) for the fourth consecutive time. 2017 WRC 2 winners Pontus Tidemand/Jonas Andersson finished second overall, and youngsters Kalle Rovanperä/Jonne Halttunen (FIN/FIN) completed a pure ŠKODA podium in the final standings of the 2018 FIA World Rally Championship's WRC 2 category. For the fourth time in a row ŠKODA Motorsport won the WRC 2 Championship for Teams. The success story of the Czech brand took place worldwide. The private ŠKODA driver Yuya Sumiyama and navigator Takahiro Yasui from Japan won the 2018 FIA Asia-Pacific Rally Championship (APRC), Manvir Singh Baryan/Drew Sturrock (KEN/GBR) took the title win in the FIA African Rally Championship (ARC). After winning the FIA South American Rally Championship (CODASUR) in 2013, 2016 and 2017, ŠKODA crew Gustavo Saba/Fernando Mussano (PRY/ARG) again were successful. On top of that, ŠKODA crews won 17 national championships.

ŠKODA AUTO

- › was founded during the pioneering days of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established automobile companies in the world.
- › currently offers its customers nine passenger-car series: the CITIGO, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA, KAROQ, KODIAQ, as well as the KAMIQ (in China) and the SUPERB.
- › delivered more than 1.2 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2017.
- › has belonged to Volkswagen Group since 1991. The Volkswagen Group is one of the most successful vehicle manufacturers in the world. In association with the Group, ŠKODA AUTO independently develops and manufactures vehicles, as well as components such as engines and transmissions.
- › operates at three locations in the Czech Republic; manufactures in China, Russia, Slovakia, Algeria and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs over 35,000 people globally and is active in more than 100 markets.
- › is pressing ahead with the transformation from a traditional car manufacturer to the 'Simply Clever company for the best mobility solutions' as part of the ŠKODA 2025 Strategy.

ŠKODA Media Services
media@skoda-auto.cz



FROM DETAILS TO STORY
skoda-storyboard.com

 Follow @MotorsportSkoda