

# ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE



Page 1 of 4

## Rally Italia Sardegna: Swedish ŠKODA privateer Pontus Tidemand maintains WRC2 lead

- › After the second leg, former WRC2 champion Pontus Tidemand and co-driver Patrik Barth (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) from Sweden top the category with more than one minute
- › Title contender Kajetan Kajetanowicz (POL) advanced to second in WRC3, powering his privately entered ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo to two category stage wins on the way
- › ŠKODA Motorsport supported Oliver Solberg (SWE) and co-driver Aaron Johnston (IRL) had to retire from WRC3 lead

**Alghero, 10 October 2020 – Mixed fortunes for the top ŠKODA crews during the second leg of Rally Italia Sardegna (9-11 October 2020), sixth round of the FIA World Rally Championship. Driving a privately entered ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, Pontus Tidemand/Patrik Barth (SWE/SWE) managed to extend the lead in category WRC2. Meanwhile, ŠKODA Motorsport supported Oliver Solberg (SWE) and co-driver Aaron Johnston (IRL) had to retire during the day's last stage. Polish driver Kajetan Kajetanowicz in another private ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo climbed to second in WRC3, while ŠKODA privateer Eyvind Brynildsen (NOR) holds the same position in WRC2.**

WRC2 leader Pontus Tidemand experienced a problem free morning loop in his privately entered ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo. The pressure of second placed Adrien Fourmaux (Ford) vanished in stage 9, when the Frenchman stopped. From there on Tidemand and co-driver Patrik Barth could take it easier. The Swedish pairing reached the day's finish with a category lead of more than a minute from another ŠKODA private team, Eyvind Brynildsen from Norway and Austrian co-driver Ilka Minor. "Everything went well today, no dramas," Tidemand said. "But a puncture could quickly ruin everything. So I need to stay cool for the remaining four stages on Sunday." A WRC2 win in Italy would mean a big step towards the second category title for Tidemand since 2017.

Overnight WRC3 leader Oliver Solberg started leg 2 in style, posting another fastest WRC3 time on the day's first test. But two stages later, bad luck struck the 19 years old Swede. "I had everything under control and took it very easy. All of a sudden the tyre delaminated," he explained his time loss of nearly a minute, dropping him to category third. It took Solberg only two stages to capture back the WRC3 lead. But it was to no avail. During the last stage of the day, the No. 32 ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo got stuck in a ditch after hitting a compression under braking. Without spectators nearby for help, Solberg und Johnston had to call it a day. After the stage was opened for recovery vehicles, he was towed out of the ditch and could drive back to the service park in Alghero, where his ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo was prepared for the re-start on Sunday.

Oliver Solberg's bad luck in WRC3 meant progression for Kajetan Kajetanowicz and co-driver Maciej Szczepaniak from Poland. Albeit winning two stages during the day, they kept their privately entered ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo out of trouble. Holding second position in the category, Kajetanowicz keeps his hopes for the WRC3 title alive. The same position in WRC2 is occupied by the Norwegian-Austrian mixed team of Eyvind Brynildsen/Ilka Minor (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo).

Rally Italia Sardegna's final leg on Sunday consists of four more stages totalling 41.90 kilometres. The podium ceremony is scheduled for 3:00 pm close to the service park in Alghero.

# ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 2 of 4



## Standings Rally Italia Sardegna after Day 2 (WRC2)

1. Tidemand/Barth (SWE/SWE), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, 2:22:23.6 hrs.
2. Brynildsen/Minor (NOR/AUT), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +1:03.9 min.
3. Veiby/Andersson (NOR/SWE), Hyundai i20 Rally2, +1:04.03 min.
4. Østberg/Eriksen (NOR/NOR), Citroën C3 Rally2, +5:02.5 min.
5. Gryazin/Aleksandrov (RUS/RUS), Hyundai i20 Rally2, +23:23.0 min.

## Standings Rally Italia Sardegna after Day 2 (WRC3)

1. Huttunen/Lukka (FIN/FIN), Hyundai i20 Rally2, 2:21:34.2 hrs.
2. Kajetan Kajetanowicz/Maciej Szczepaniak (POL/POL), ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo, +10.5 sec.
3. Bulacia Wilkinson/Der Ohannesian (BOL/ARG), Citroën C3 Rally2, +1:57.6 min.
4. Scandola/D'Amore (ITA/ITA), Hyundai i20 Rally2, +3:09.7 min.
5. Johnston/Kihurani (USA/USA), Citroën C3 Rally2, +5:36.6 min.

## Number of the day: 18.2

During the second leg, the competition could never get closer than 18.2 seconds to WRC2 leaders Pontus Tidemand/Patrik Barth (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo).

## The calendar of the 2020 FIA World Rally Championship

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
Monte-Carlo	23/01–26/01/2020
Sweden	13/02–16/02/2020
Mexico	12/03–15/03/2020
Estonia	04/09–06/09/2020
Turkey	18/09–20/09/2020
<b>Italy</b>	<b>08/10–11/10/2020</b>
Belgium	19/11–22/11/2020
Monza/Italy	04/12–06/12/2020

## Further information:

Zbyněk Straškraba, Communications Motorsport

P +420 605 293 168

[zbynek.straskraba@skoda-auto.cz](mailto:zbynek.straskraba@skoda-auto.cz)

<http://skoda-motorsport.com>

## ŠKODA Motorsport:



Facebook



YouTube



Twitter

ŠKODA Media Services

[media@skoda-auto.cz](mailto:media@skoda-auto.cz)



FROM DETAILS TO STORY  
[skoda-storyboard.com](http://skoda-storyboard.com)

Follow @MotorsportSkoda



**ŠKODA**  
SIMPLY CLEVER

# ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 3 of 4

## Media images:



### ŠKODA Motorsport at Rally Italia Sardegna

After two of three legs, Swedish privateers Pontus Tidemand/Patrik Barth (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) hold a comfortable lead in WRC2 category

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



### ŠKODA Motorsport at Rally Italia Sardegna

After not bringing their ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo to the finish of leg 2, ŠKODA Motorsport supported Oliver Solberg (SWE) and co-driver Aaron Johnston (IRL) re-start on Sunday

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO



### ŠKODA Motorsport at Rally Italia Sardegna

Polish privateers Kajetan Kajetanowicz/Macej Szczepaniak (ŠKODA FABIA Rally2 evo) climbed to second position in WRC3

[Download](#)

Source: ŠKODA AUTO

## ŠKODA Motorsport Overview

2019 was the most successful year in the history of ŠKODA Motorsport so far. Kalle Rovannerä and Jonne Halttunen (FIN/FIN) won the WRC 2 Pro drivers' and co-drivers' title of the FIA World Rally Championship 2019 as well as substantially supporting ŠKODA Motorsport to win the WRC 2 Pro manufacturers' title. Also in 2019, ŠKODA customer teams conquered five FIA championships and took additional 23 national titles around the world.

Driving a ŠKODA FABIA R5, Chris Ingram/Ross Whittock (GBR/GBR) won FIA European Rally Championship (ERC). Filip Mareš/Jan Hloušek (CZE/CZE) took the FIA European Rally Championship/ERC1 Junior title. Manvir Singh Baryan/Drew Sturrock (KEN/GBR) powered a ŠKODA FABIA R5 to the FIA African Rally Championship (ARC), while Ricardo Triviño/Marc Martí (MEX/ESP) won the FIA North American and Central American Rally Championship (NACAM).

The ŠKODA FABIA R5 evo, a high-tech 4x4, was homologated by the International Automobile Federation FIA on 1 April 2019 and is successfully continuing the long tradition of ŠKODA Motorsport. In total, both generations of the Czech rally car have been sold more than 320 times worldwide.

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.

ŠKODA Media Services

[media@skoda-auto.cz](mailto:media@skoda-auto.cz)



FROM DETAILS TO STORY  
[skoda-storyboard.com](http://skoda-storyboard.com)

Follow @MotorsportSkoda

# ŠKODA MOTORSPORT PRESS RELEASE

Page 4 of 4



**ŠKODA**  
SIMPLY CLEVER

## ŠKODA AUTO

- › is this year celebrating 125 years since the company was founded during the pioneering era of the automobile in 1895, making it one of the longest-established car manufacturers in the world.
- › currently offers its customers ten passenger-car series: the CITIGO® iV, FABIA, RAPID, SCALA, OCTAVIA and SUPERB as well as the KAMIQ, KAROQ, KODIAQ and ENYAQ iV.
- › delivered 1.24 million vehicles to customers around the world in 2019.
- › 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 and India mainly through Group partnerships, as well as in Ukraine and Kazakhstan with local partners.
- › employs approximately 42,000 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](mailto:media@skoda-auto.cz)



FROM DETAILS TO STORY  
[skoda-storyboard.com](http://skoda-storyboard.com)

 Follow @MotorsportSkoda