

LET'S GO FOR A RIDE

## 2019















Volkswagen Motorsport





## Round 1 of the 2019 season - 8/9th of March – Zwartkops Raceway

Round 1 of the 2019 championship took place in Pretoria at Zwartkops this past weekend, with the newly wrapped Polo, now sporting a clean new white look with a host of colour and a very welcome list of new names on her...thanks to AKA Signage, for the stunning new look.

Friday saw us take to the circuit after a long break (since November – that is as good as 4 months!)

First session I was there or there a bouts, but I found myself overdriving instead of easing back into it and as a result the times were not great..



The  $2^{nd}$  session Wouter asked me to please follow him to just settle into things, and it worked, I dropped my time by a second and I was back in the 1m17's where we know we should be.

Saturday morning, and qualifying went alright, I managed to put the little Polo 5<sup>th</sup> in class and on the road I was 11<sup>th</sup> overall...

Once the grid had been sorted by class I was still 5<sup>th</sup> in class but 17<sup>th</sup> on the grid itself, I had a fairly ok start, with a small rub into turn one, getting a scrape on the front left door, but I maintained my fifth spot in class, a few tussles with some slower class A cars and Wouter having his bonnet pop open and shatter his front windscreen in front of me into turn 5 on lap 2 promoted me to 4<sup>th</sup> in class... this is where I stayed a little lonely with those ahead just too far and out of reach and those behind just to far to catch me... and we brought the little Polo home in 4<sup>th</sup> in class and 11<sup>th</sup> on the road.





2019





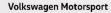
















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Race 2 and the top 5 per class reversal, put me 2<sup>nd</sup> in class and 14<sup>th</sup> on the grid, not losing any ground and managing to get past the slower class A guys by turn 2, so that was a great start... a few small tussles and just not catching Matt, Nic and Wouter managed to get past in lap 4 and Matt ran wide with 2 laps to go and gifted me 3<sup>rd</sup> place...

And that is where I finished up 3<sup>rd</sup> in class and 9<sup>th</sup> on the road.

And for the day some silverware with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place in class B, not a bad start to our season (3)

BUT without the support of all my sponsors, my great team at Nathans Motorsport and my better half Wouter, this wouldn't be the same, THANKS to ALL of you ③

Round 2 of the 2019 championship will take place at Midvaal on the  $12/13^{th}$  of April...

TV times for round 1 will be distributed as soon as I have them.



Mel #64

Pics by Paul Bedford @ Action Images