

Colin has established himself at the top

With three more podium finishes in the United Arab Emirates, Porsche Carrera Cup rookie Colin Bönighausen has consolidated his position in the top-3 of the championship standings ahead of the final showdown at the beginning of March.

The inaugural season of the Porsche Carrera Cup Middle East continued in January 2024 with events at the Dubai Autodrome and the Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi. FIRE Racing driver Colin Bönighausen has once again become the rising star of the event. Top-three finishes have become the rule rather than the exception, especially in qualifying. The newcomer has recently improved his tyre management (“I am beginning to understand the Michelin tyres better and better now”) and reduced his error rate. As a result, the 18-year-old was able to finish in the top-3 three times in the half-hour races. In Dubai, Colin finished third twice, and in Abu Dhabi he even managed second place in the second race: “Things are going quite well! But I’m still focused on improving every time.”

Colin still sees deficits in the first few laps of the race: “If the start isn’t quite right or you’re not well positioned in the first corner, you quickly lose one or two places – and then you have no rhythm.” Overtaking is difficult among the top drivers, because everyone “drives at the limit and hardly makes any mistakes”. However, the man from Lower Saxony kept a cool head even in these difficult situations and was able to regain one or two places later in the race with clean manoeuvres. Bönighausen is very satisfied with the Lechner Racing team and the cooperation with

his engineer Frank Funke, who will also join him in the Porsche Carrera Cup Germany in 2024: “The Porsche 911 GT3 Cup is set up so well that I can concentrate primarily on driving – that helps me enormously, especially in the first year.”

After eight of twelve races in the Porsche Carrera Cup Middle East 2023/2024, Colin Bönighausen is now in third place overall. This is remarkable because Colin is ahead of numerous internationally more experienced drivers and even sees potential for improvement: With a 14-point gap – there is a maximum of 50 points up for grabs on a race weekend – Janne Stiak’s second place is also still within reach and the declared goal for the final races of the season. Theo Overhaus, who will be Colin’s teammate in the German Cup 2024, is in the overall lead.

The last two events in the PCCME will be held as part of the Formula 1 Grand Prix in Bahrain (29.02.–02.03.) and in Saudi Arabia (07.03.–09.03.). Unlike the previous races, there is no additional testing time available in the tight F1 schedule: “We already know Bahrain very well and in Jeddah at least it will be the same challenge for everyone,” says Colin, unfazed. All races with Colin’s Porsche 911 GT3 Cup in the eye-catching FIRE livery can also be seen live and re-live on the [PCCME YouTube channel](#).



Colin on the podium with Overhaus and Stiak





About FIRE Racing:

FIRE Racing is backed by Colin Jamie Bönighausen's main sponsor – the FIRE Group! The FIRE Group is a Dubai-based property investment company founded by leading experts from the property and finance industry. It specialises in combining the world of real estate with modern blockchain technology and making it accessible to investors of all kinds. FIRE stands for "Fixed Income Real Estate" and offers everyone the opportunity to invest profitably in luxury real estate around the world and includes a large community that cheers on the racetrack with Colin!

More at www.fire-token.com

That's Colin:

Colin Jamie Bönighausen („CJB“), born in Hanover (Germany) in 2005, has been involved in motorsport since he was ten years old. He is currently undergoing apprenticeship training to become a plant mechanic. Like many racing drivers, the driver from Lower Saxony began his motorsport career in karting. The title in the ROK Cup Germany as well as numerous victories and top results in the ADAC Kart Masters and the Rotax Max Challenge highlight Colin's career to date. In 2022, he switched from racing karts to racing cars. He celebrated immediate success in the Porsche 911 GT3 Cup car and won the Porsche Sprint Challenge Central Europe in both the Sprint and Endurance classifications. The 18-year-old is currently competing in the Porsche Carrera Cup Middle East before stepping up to the Porsche Carrera Cup Germany in 2024.

More at www.cjb-racing.de



About VPD Racing:

Since 2010, VPD Racing from Adnet in Salzburg is a reliable partner for hobby racers and professional racers. The experienced team offers a wide range of products for kart racing, including a full-service center for chassis and motors as well as full support during race events. As the official Austrian importer of Vega tyres as well as authorised Rotax service center we are your trustworthy partner for karting in Austria as well as abroad. More at www.vpdracing.com

DEINE LOBBY supports companies worldwide with a professional social media campaign and uses innovative strategies and creative content to increase visibility and interaction. DEINE LOBBY started out in the automotive industry and now supports the entire racing team around Colin with marketing measures and PR work.

