



## The Tabard - November 2011

Welcome to the fourth and final 2011 edition of "The Tabard" - the marshals' newsletter for Wales Rally GB. Previous newsletters are available to download from the event website if you would like to take a look. This newsletter includes an update on the WRC after Rally Spain, plus some last minute info. We hope this will allow you to keep up-to-date with the event as an essential part of the team.

*Paul Rees*

Marshals Liaison and Newsletter Editor

### 2011 WRC Roundup

Last weekend saw the penultimate rounds of the 2011 World Rally Championship in Catalunya, Spain. The title contenders of Sebastien Loeb and Mikko Hirvonen came into the event on the same number of points whilst Sebastien Ogier was only 3 points behind.

The event was interesting for a number of reasons. It was held over the usual 3 day format, but Day 1 was gravel with days 2 and 3 on asphalt. With the championship leader - Loeb - starting the event first on the road, it was expected that Mikko Hirvonen would be able to take advantage due to the first car usually sweeping the road surface.

However, despite the organisers giving 3 minute gaps to the following cars, there was a huge issue with dust limiting visibility for the following cars so Loeb took full advantage and led from the start. At the end of Day 1, Loeb led from Jari Matti Latvala then Hirvonen and then Sebastien Ogier with Mini drivers Sordo in 5<sup>th</sup> and Meeke in 6<sup>th</sup>.

Day 2 saw the switch to asphalt and Loeb continued to lead the event, although Latvala did a superb job of keeping pace having found his tarmac form. Hirvonen lost some time to the top 2 but finished the day in 3<sup>rd</sup> with Ogier, Sordo and Meeke in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Into the final day of the event and Loeb took a cautious approach to stay at the top of the leaderboard for Citroen. Meanwhile Latvala once again proved his worth as a team-mate by taking a 2 minute penalty and allowing Hirvonen to finish the event in 2<sup>nd</sup> whilst Latvala finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dani Sordo finished in 4<sup>th</sup> in the Mini whilst Ogier retired on the last day giving Kris Meeke an excellent 5<sup>th</sup> position.

The power stage proved to be an excellent finish to this event due to the closeness of the leading drivers. Kris Meeke put in a stunning time to win the stage with Dani Sordo in 2<sup>nd</sup> on the stage and Sebastien Loeb taking 3<sup>rd</sup> on stage.

This all means that going into Wales Rally GB, we have Loeb and Hirvonen separated by 8 points so it is now all down to their respective finishes on our event - one of the closest finishes to the championship for a few years - maybe it will even be decided on the last stage of the event

### Drivers' Standings after Rally Spain

1 <sup>st</sup>	S Loeb	Citroën Total WRT	222
2 <sup>nd</sup>	M Hirvonen	Ford Abu Dhabi WRT	214
3 <sup>rd</sup>	S Ogier	Citroën Total WRT	193
4 <sup>th</sup>	J Latvala	Ford Abu Dhabi WRT	146
5 <sup>th</sup>	P Solberg	Petter Solberg WRT	110
6 <sup>th</sup>	M Ostberg	M-Sport Stobart Ford	70

### Manufacturer Standings after Rally Spain

1 <sup>st</sup>	Citroën Total World Rally Team	397
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ford Abu Dhabi World Rally Team	351
3 <sup>rd</sup>	M-Sport Stobart Ford WRT	145
4 <sup>th</sup>	Petter Solberg WRT	98

### Marshals Packs and Signing On Information

The marshals' packs have now all been sent out by the Rally Stage Team personnel and the event stage teams so should have arrived by post. If you are missing any packs, please contact a staffing officer as soon as possible so we can get the packs resent to you.

Please try to print your signing on cards from the Rally Stage Team system for each of your stages. These barcoded and printed cards help the signing on process to be much quicker and more accurate and allows us to ensure your details are kept up to date.

Please ensure you stick to the marshals signing on routes when travelling to signing on. Otherwise you might find you get stuck at a roadblock as only the correct route will allow access to the stages with your marshals' car pass.

Finally, and most importantly, have an enjoyable and safe rally, wherever you happen to be on the event.



## Outline Event Timetable

(All timings approx for 1<sup>st</sup> car)

### Monday 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Recce - Various Stages

### Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November

Shakedown - Builth Wells 09:00

### Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November

Ceremonial Start - Llandudno 14:30  
SS1 - Great Orme 1 - FULL 14:35  
SS2 - Great Orme 2 - FULL 14:52  
SS3 - Clocaenog 16:15  
Service A - Llandudno (Remote) 18:22

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November

SS4 - Gartheiniog 1 07:30  
SS5 - Dyfi West 1 08:27  
SS6 - Dyfi East 1 - FULL 08:45  
SS7 - Dyfnant 1 09:35  
Service B - Builth Wells 11:50  
SS8 - Dyfi West 2 14:10  
SS9 - Dyfi East 2 - FULL 14:28  
SS10 - Gartheiniog 2 14:43  
SS11 - Dyfnant 2 15:48  
Service C - Builth Wells 18:03

### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Service D - Builth Wells 07:56  
SS12 - Hafren 1 09:21  
SS13 - Sweet Lamb 1 10:02  
SS14 - Myherin 1 - FULL 10:20  
Service E - Builth Wells 11:53  
SS15 - Hafren 2 13:48  
SS16 - Sweet Lamb 2 14:29  
SS17 - Myherin 2 - FULL 14:47  
Service F - Builth Wells 16:20

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November

Service G - Builth Wells 06:51  
SS18 - Halfway 1 07:40  
SS19 - Crychan 1 08:08  
SS20 - Monument 1 - FULL 08:44  
Service H - Builth Wells 09:19  
SS21 - Halfway 2 10:33  
SS22 - Crychan 2 11:01  
SS23 - Monument 2 (Power Stage) FULL 12:08  
Service I - Builth Wells 12:43  
Finish Cardiff - FULL 14:52

## Event Staffing Contacts:

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### Marshals Forum:

<http://staffing.walesrallygb.com/forum/>

### Official Website:

<http://www.walesrallygb.com>

### Online Enrolment:

<http://www.rallystageteam.co.uk>