



The Tabard - September 2011

Welcome to the second 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 a few more details on enrolling for the event, an update on the World Rally Championship so far after a few more events and some training information for the event. 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

Enrolling on Wales Rally GB 2011

Marshals' enrolment on the 2011 event is going extremely well - in fact some stages are already full. If you haven't yet enrolled but you want to marshal on the event, please enrol as soon as possible or you may not be able to choose the stages you'd like.

The main enrolment process uses the excellent www.RallyStageTeam.co.uk online staffing system to enrol marshals in Wales Rally GB. This has proved to be the easiest way to manage the event staffing across multiple days, regions and stage teams.

If you have used the system previously, you will know how easy it is to use. If you haven't used the system, it's a 3 stage process to enrol.

- 1 - Create an account on www.rallystageteam.co.uk using your email address as your username and giving us your contact details so we can send you passes and event information.
- 2 - Enrol for the event using the button showing the event logo.
- 3 - Choose the stages you would like to marshal on, answer a few simple questions regarding how many people coming with you and how many vehicle passes you need.

That's the enrolment process done from your perspective. The staffing officers then work through the stage enrolment requests and liaise with the stage commanders to allocate groups to the most appropriate places on the stages.

You can still contact a staffing officer directly (contact details overleaf) if you would prefer but logging onto the automated systems help us do the staffing job much more easily and accurately.

Fancy a Recce...?

Despite the stages filling up, we still need a number of radio crews to help provide safety cover for the stages during the recce. The recce takes place on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th November and anyone that can make those dates can enrol on the Rally Stage Team website or contact one of the radio staffing officers directly.

Training Evenings

We have recently held three very successful training seminars and content for each of these events is available to view on the WRGB website. We are now looking forward to coming out to see you at your club nights. We have a very flexible programme so whether your teams are new or very experienced we'd love to come out and spend an hour or so, updating you and answering any event specific questions you may have. If you are interested, please send an email to training@walesrallygb.com or call Ian Jarrett on 07710 296308 and he will arrange for one of our experienced training team to contact you in order to find a suitable date.

Shakedown

The pre event Shakedown will this year be run on Wednesday morning, a day earlier than normal, to give the teams time to travel up to the Llandudno Start on Thursday. Another departure from the norm this year is that the Shakedown will be held on a course within the Royal Welsh Showground adjacent to the Service Park. The rules requiring the Shakedown to be on roads representative of the rally route was dropped a few years ago (but is making a return next year, see later in this newsletter).

WRC Academy

This year has seen the introduction of the WRC Academy on 6 rounds of the WRC and we will be hosting the final round. This championship replaces the Junior World Championship which had become very expensive to compete in. The Academy is contested by drivers under 25 years old and they use identical Fiesta R2 cars. All the cars are run by M-Sport mechanics removing the need for drivers to bring along their own service personnel. About 18 cars will be starting Wales Rally GB and they run as part of the International event but they finish at the end of the Saturday route and do not take part on the Sunday stages.



2011 WRC Roundup

Since the last newsletter, both Rally Germany and Rally Australia have taken place.

Rally Germany - an asphalt event that takes place around the vineyards of the Mosel region and on the roads of the Baumholder tank testing grounds proved how strong the Citroën DS3 is on tarmac. The Citroën works drivers of Loeb and Ogier started strongly, with a tactical tyre choice on a wet start to Day 1 giving them a huge advantage which they didn't give up.

A puncture for Loeb on Day 3 gave the win to Ogier at the end of the event. Meanwhile, Mini had a strong showing on their first tarmac event with Dani Sordo taking third. Mikko Hirvonen in the Ford Fiesta took 4th place with Petter Solberg in his Citroën DS3 in 5th.

Rally Australia moved to a new base at Coffs Harbour and had an eventful debut. Day 1 saw extremely tricky conditions due to rain and the Citroën duo of Loeb and Ogier both crashed and retired for the day.

The Ford pairing of Latvala and Hirvonen took over the lead and set fantastic times with Latvala handing the lead to Hirvonen at the end of the event as a sporting team-mate and bringing Hirvonen back into the title fight. Petter Solberg was back on the pace after struggling in the last few events.

This leaves the drivers' championship much closer than it has been during the rest of the season and gives Hirvonen a fighting chance to still win the title.

Drivers Standings after Rally Australia

1 st	S Loeb	Citroën Total WRT	196
2 nd	M Hirvonen	Ford Abu Dhabi WRT	181
3 rd	S Ogier	Citroën Total WRT	167
4 th	J Latvala	Ford Abu Dhabi WRT	116
5 th	P Solberg	Petter Solberg WRT	110
6 th	M Ostberg	M-Sport Stobart Ford	56

Manufacturer Standings after Rally Australia

1 st	Citroën Total World Rally Team	347
2 nd	Ford Abu Dhabi World Rally Team	285
3 rd	M-Sport Stobart Ford WRT	117
4 th	Petter Solberg WRT	98

Marshals Goodies for 2011

Although we understand marshals don't come out on the event for the goodies, we do try to provide something as a little thank you or memento of the event every year. This year is no exception so when you sign on you will be given a useful WRGB branded bag containing a copy of the official programme, a WRGB pen and the 2011 event pin badge.

New Faces

The expansion of the event into North Wales has meant some new faces joining the team. Keith Ashley (Dyfi, Dyfnant,) and Alyn Edwards (Llandudno, Clocaenog) join us as Regional Organisers. Keith has for many years been the organiser of the Severn Valley National Rally and Alyn has run the BTRDA championship Cambrian Rally for quite some time.

New Stage Commanders are Mike Bastiana (Great Orme) and Jon Binns (Clocaenog). The fact that the South Wales stages are not being used this year has not meant that the experienced personnel from that area have been lost to the event. We are very pleased that Julian Smith, Gary Mitchell and Mario Mangano together with their teams have all taken on the challenge of running stages in the Dyfi and Dyfnant forests

One other change is that Steve Gregg has taken over the responsibility for the Mid Wales region after Ray Barlow stood down after a very long involvement with the event. Ray was planning to continue as Car Park Manager in the region but unfortunately he has not been well recently, including a stay in hospital. We all wish him a speedy recovery and hope he enjoys a very quiet November for the first time in many, many years.

2012 World Rally Championship (!)

This year's event has not yet taken place but we have just passed the date of next year's rally (14-16 September). Already the Rally Guides for both Monte Carlo and Sweden are available highlighting the remorseless nature of the WRC where December is the only month without an event.

There are a number of detailed rule changes for next year but the major one is to do with Shakedown and the running order on the stages (always a contentious point on gravel events). On gravel events the Shakedown will be renamed Free Practice and then become the Qualifying Stage. The Priority 1 & 2 drivers will be allowed 2 free practice runs and then a single run at the qualifying stage. These drivers will then choose their starting position for the first day of the rally based on their times over this stage with the fastest driver having first choice of road position. It is for this reason that the stage needs to again be representative of the rally.

On the subsequent days the starting order of the Priority 1 & 2 drivers will be in reverse order of their positions at the end of the previous day. This is of course not new and was the normal procedure until 2008.



Outline Event Timetable (All timings approx for 1st car)

Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th November

Recce - Various Stages

Wednesday 9th November

Shakedown - Builth Wells 09:00

Thursday 10th November

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

Friday 11th November

SS4 - Gartheiniog 1 07:30
SS5 - Dyfi West 1 08:27
SS6 - Dyfi East 1 08:45
SS7 - Dyfnant 1 09:43
Service B - Builth Wells 11:55
SS8 - Dyfi West 2 14:15
SS9 - Dyfi East 2 14:33
SS10 - Gartheiniog 2 14:48
SS11 - Dyfnant 2 15:53
Service C - Builth Wells 18:08

Saturday 12th November

Service D - Builth Wells 08:04
SS12 - Hafren 1 09:29
SS13 - Sweet Lamb 1 10:10
SS14 - Myherin 1 10:31
Service E - Builth Wells 12:04
SS15 - Hafren 2 13:59
SS16 - Sweet Lamb 2 14:40
SS17 - Myherin 2 15:01
Service F - Builth Wells 16:34

Sunday 13th November

Service G - Builth Wells 06:54
SS18 - Halfway 1 07:43
SS19 - Crychan 1 08:11
SS20 - Monument 1 08:47
Service H - Builth Wells 09:22
SS21 - Halfway 2 10:36
SS22 - Crychan 2 11:04
SS23 - Monument 2 (Power Stage) 12:11
Service I - Builth Wells 12:46
Finish Cardiff 15:07

Event Staffing Contacts:

Staffing Officers:

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Marshals Forum:

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

Official Website:

<http://www.walesrallygb.com>

Online Enrolment:

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