

RALLY BOHEMIA – Flash Info 03

PRESS PRELEASE no. 23

Mladá Boleslav, 3rd July, 2010

The first leg of this years' volume of the Rally Bohemia went in the spirit of ravishing fights among Juho Hänninen, Pavel Valoušek and Bryan Bouffier. Mentioned three were fighting for every single metre of the tracks and at the finish they all fit into 3.5 seconds. At the first place were alternating several times Valoušek and Hänninen, who at the end sleeps through the night as the provisional leader of the competition. Bouffier is steadily on third, but he annoyingly pushes on the second Valoušek. The fourth place belongs to Roman Kresta with almost half a minute spacing and the pentad is closed by Martin Prokop.

Juho Hänninen - Škoda Fabia S2000

"We drove well all day, we didn't have any problems, so we can sleep peacefully. There are still the long and demanding tests waiting for us out there. We have to be careful, but it will be driven in fast pace again. It surely will be interesting."

Pavel Valoušek - Škoda Fabia S2000

"We have fought all day long not only with Juha, but also with Bryan. It going fast and there are no mistakes. The intervals are at the minimum, guys drive amazingly, but I have to say, that the highest priority for us is the Czech Championship. Roman and Vašek are behind us and this is the most important for us. Tomorrow it will be in fast pace again, we have no other strategy. It will be same demanding as today and I hope we can make it."

Bryan Bouffier - Peugeot 207 S2000

"I have good feelings as we have won the special at the end of the day and that we keep in touch with the front drivers. The second passage through this track was really fast. They have beaten me up by 4 seconds, that's why I'm so pleased that I paid it back. It all remains open, I will have to spurt properly. The test will be demanding again, we will try to defeat the opponents."

Roman Kresta - Peugeot 207 S2000

"It was very demanding day and my assumptions came true. Already before start I was telling to everybody 'beware of Valoušek, he will be very fast here'. And Hänninen and Bouffier the same. We are losing a little, but it's not that bad. Apart from the first crisis on the first special it all was ok. In a way we just wait off, if something happens among the first three, because they drive really fast and there are a lot of kilometres waiting for us out there. I think it is far from decided."

Martin Prokop – Ford Fiesta S2000

"It was much better now. Finally we have found the way around our set up and now I have generally a good feel about it. The postponed start time worried us a little, our tyres cooled down and we were quite unsure at the beginning, but other than that ok. I'm now satisfied and looking forward to tomorrow."

Václav Pech – Mitsubishi Lancer EVO IX

“I’m satisfied with the times we’ve achieved, we have held ourselves around Roman, but we were moved back because of the flat tyre. We have lost two minutes and now we have to bite our way out and in the terms of the points into Czech Championship to move through the tier order. Will see where we get.”

Vojtěch Štajf – Subaru Impreza WRX STi

“I knew though we will be fast, because we have done a lot of work on the car, but I didn’t expect the seventh place in the contemporary order in this competition. Only Kuzaj withdrew from the top and all the more it pleases me. Our aim was the second place in the Czech Championship behind Václav Pech and I hoped that we will fit within the first ten places in total order. So hopefully it will last till the end of tomorrow.”

Michal Solowow – Ford Fiesta S2000

“Today went without problems. At service we have only replaced the suspensions and the assisted steering pump. Generally we are satisfied. Tomorrow will be another hot day. I will try to drive as fast as possible and keep my opponents behind me.”

The Rally Bohemia is observed also by the popular TV moderator and occasional racer David Gondík. He assesses the first leg: *“I honestly admit, that I’m surprised how fast they drive and how close to each other the guys are. I have seen four beautiful passages; we have always found the fast pass, heavy braking and sharp turning and it literally caught my breath. Hänninen and Valoušek are just totally another league. Then Roman Kresta drives nicely and it is also amazing, that but for the defect Václav Pech could keep up with the absolute top. Else I really enjoyed the two Dan Běhálék with Vojtěch Štajf in N classer. And there is another one I don’t follow. Because at the first sight he doesn’t look like fast or somehow brutal, but he stands very high in the tier. And by him I mean Bryan Bouffier. The race is just beautiful, wonderful.”*

The today’s progress is also watched closely by the Manager of Škoda Delimax National Team and magnificent racer Josef Kopecký: *“During this hot weather Valoušek has surprised me. He set the pace and keeps the high tempo with Juha. Bouffier the same, who seconds those two with ease. I expected a little bit more from Martin Prokop, but I don’t know if he possibly has some technical issues. I would say Roman Kresta has bet on sure card. He drives calculatedly, because he surely knows, that neither Juho nor Bryan will take his points into the Czech Championship and in this situation he can use every point. In any case this really is an interesting competition.”*

Organizing Team RB 2010

Jan Koudelka

Media Officer

XXXVII RALLY BOHEMIA

E-mail: press@rallybohemia.cz

Web: www.rallybohemia.cz