

Rally Bohemia has won after dramatic finish Juho Hänninen in Fabia S2000

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With an unbelievably dramatic final culminated the 37th volume of the popular Rally Bohemia. After the ravishing fight Juho Hänninen won in Škoda Fabia S2000, the second finished Bryan Bouffier in Peugeot 207 S2000 and the third was Martin Prokop in Ford Fiesta S2000.

The last section brought the starting field to the special stages Chloudov, Návarov and Sychrov again. Everybody has expected above all the duel between Hänninen and Bouffier. With these two Pavel Valoušek still kept the contact, who however focused on the maximal point gain for the ranking of the Championship of the Czech Republic. But after the incredibly equable executions he became one of the biggest badluckers of the competition, when he crashed in the last but one fifteenth special and lost so almost sure third place.

In the same special stage Martin Prokop pushed through ahead of Roman Kresta and the result list was all of sudden full of changes. There was only the second passage of Sychrov left to the finish, but everyone knew, that it's still very long 28 kilometres. Kresta was troubled by his shock absorbers and that prevented him from the attack on Prokop. The full fight for the tier was however in the class of production cars. Throughout well driving Štajf didn't handle the high tempo and crashed. Right after him his big opponent Běhálek took his leave from the track as well. They both ended up just a few kilometres before finish and confirmed the generally known fact, that the victory is certain only at the finish ramp, on which after 228 deadly fast kilometres the crew of Juho Hänninen and Mikko Markkula drove over as the first. The second in the finish was Bryan Bouffier and Xavier Panseri, the third two were Martin Prokop with Jan Tománek. The fourth finished Roman Kresta with Petr Gross, and after the defect in the first leg with beautifully executed chase drive Václav Pech with Petr Uhel forged to the fifth position.

Juho Hänninen – Škoda Fabia S2000

“The race was very nice. Our car worked great and we avoided the serious mistakes. We really enjoyed it thanks to the close fight with Valoušek and Bouffier. They annoyed us a lot and I can't remember when we drove with two opponents almost the whole competition at more than five seconds distance.”

Bryan Bouffier – Peugeot 207 S2000

“Thanks to the close fight with others it was very interesting event. I was in constant touch with Juha, but unfortunately not ahead of him. The whole weekend was very challenging and I feel really sorry, that Valoušek got out so close to the finish. But such is motorsport and I'm very satisfied with the second place and the maximum of points gained for the Polish Championship.”

Martin Prokop – Ford Fiesta S2000

“We were setting up our car the whole weekend, it was a real pain, we couldn’t find the right combination. We have done some improvements though, but it still isn’t it. I’m very satisfied with the third place considering. Bohemia has given to us valuable experiences just before the tarmac Rally Deutschland (Germany). At least we know now, what has to be changed and what should be tested. Apart from that it was really nice weekend and beautiful race. For us it was worth it.”

Roman Kresta – Peugeot 207 S2000

“Of course it would please me, if we win in the terms of the Czech Championship. This way Martin took some points from us, but regarding the unfortunate crash of Valoušek we held ourselves in the fight for the master title. It all stays open for me and Václav Pech. In a way I’m satisfied, but pity that defect. We could have been the third. Moreover in the last passages we were troubled by the shock absorbers so I could only drive to finish.”

Václav Pech – Mitsubishi Lancer EVO IX

“We are satisfied. The fifth place and above all the third position in the Czech Championship is for us regarding the yesterday’s defect a good result. I’m sorry for Valoušek, he deserved to win, but unfortunately the competition really ends at the finish line. He had bad luck today, but happily they are both all right. I committed a driver’s mistake at the last insertion, went out and couldn’t get back again. At the end I took the advantage of the opposite hillside, driven off and got out afterwards. It turned out well, I’m glad we have finished.”

Pavel Dušánek – The Chief of Organizing Committee of Rally Bohemia

“By my opinion it was the most beautiful event in the last five years. We want to take up again on the golden era of rally in Czech. The words of Roman Kresta for the final resume are enough for me, when he was talking at the finish ramp about the Bohemia as greatly prepared competition with demanding tracks and huge spectators’ coulisse.”

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