

Interview with the best from the Rally Bohemia 2011

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The 39th Rally Bohemia starts off on Friday night 13th July 2012 by the ceremonial start in the centre of Mladá Boleslav city. Even there are still two months left to the start of the rally, it may be the right time for remembering the most successful crews, which have taken the winners' places.

The happiest crew standing on the highest step of the podium during the prize ceremony on last year's Rally Bohemia was the Belgian crew under the flag of the Škoda Motorsport Team consisting of Freddy Loix – Frederic Miclotte, driving Škoda Fabia S2000. The second place in the overall classification of the Rally Bohemia and at the same time the first place in the International Rally Championship of the Czech Republic was taken after a very tight fight by the crew Pavel Valoušek – Zdeněk Hrůza driving in Peugeot 207 S2000. They won three special stages. We have asked a few questions the two Czech crews. They would like to show up at the start of the Rally Bohemia also this year.

Pavel Valoušek:

Pavel, the Rally Bohemia 2011 was in your performance a tactically great handled race taking place on demanding surface. How do you recall this race?

I'm very glad, that we could finish last year's Bohemia, because in terms of the weather it was very demanding. Many favourites had problems, fortunately we had avoided the mistakes. The Rally Bohemia is a very demanding race on its own and the heavy rain made it extremely demanding.

How the tracks of the Rally Bohemia suit the special Peugeot 207 S2000?

I take the Rally Bohemia as the competition, where within the MMCR Championship are the most beautiful and the most demanding tracks. Very often changing surface of the special stages is very demanding on precise set up of the chassis, but generally speaking this technical track suits to our car.

Pavel, what will be your preparation like before the start of the Rally Bohemia 2012?

Before the Rally Bohemia there certainly will be some test, because this year I sit in a car less than I assumed. It will be important to get in the proper rhythm. The physical exercise will be also necessary before such a long competition.

A fantastic performance, which deserved the valuation from both experts and public, showed during the last anniversary's Rally Bohemia duo Václav Arazim – Julius Gál. This non-ageing crew from Litvínov took in loaded competing field incredible third place overall in production Mitsubishi Lancer EVO IX. We have asked a few questions also Václav Arazim.

Václav Arazim:

Last year on the Rally Bohemia you have showed a great performance. How much do you treasure it in terms of your very rich racing carrier?

Of course we appreciate this result very much. It is one of the best results especially these days, when we race in production car against specials S2000, which are technically speaking more evolved. Last year we have managed to drive very good on water and I'm pleased, that despite the sum of our ages we have shown the youngsters our back.

What do you think was the main reason for your quality result?

It was the complex performance for sure, because rally is very complex sport. Everything has to work out together. Our car was perfectly set up, right choice for tyres, perfect pace notes, which counted also on slippery surface... It was many circumstances at the same time.

Do you think that this result in production car can be against S2000 these days repeated again?

Why not? It is rally and everything can happen there. Till we don't cross the line of finish, we haven't finished. What I wanted to say is that last year we got helped by the adversity of our competitors. Generally speaking demanding conditions suit us. It cannot be predicted, whether something like this can be repeated again.

You have announced at the end of last year the racing retirement leave. But this year you have started twice already. Is the Rally Bohemia your plan as well?

The retirement leave still applies. I attended to the Wallachian Rally thanks to the grace of a co-driver, who wanted to drive with me and has paid 90% of expenses. We drove the Rally Šumava, because we don't want to give up yet and also there are some potential sponsors out there still in touch. Nothing has been signed yet so at the moment it looks like we won't attend in another race. We like the Rally Bohemia very much and since many years we had been getting good results. As long as we get our expenses covered, we would like to arrive very much.

More information about the 39th Rally Bohemia can be found at www.rallybohemia.cz.

Organizing Team RB 2012

Petr Eliáš, M.Sc., Media Officer

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E-mail: press@rallybohemia.cz

Web: www.rallybohemia.cz, www.nakarmeli.cz