## RALLY BOHEMIA 1974 - 2015

## Rally Bohemia 2015 introduces itself

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Five events of different importance, from European through national and regional up to exhibition, will be held within Rally Bohemia 2015.

This year, the famous Rally Bohemia will be already held for the forty-second time. As usual, the race centre as well as the rally service park background will be placed in the city promised to cars, Mladá Boleslav. The time-proven term at the second weekend of July does not change either. What is big news, however, are five events of different importance, from European through national and regional up to exhibition, held within Rally Bohemia.

At the national level, it is the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rally Bohemia that will be the most important. At the same time, it will be the fourth event of this year Czech rally Championship. Rally Bohemia is traditionally one of the two most prestigious and most viewed rallies in the Czech Republic, and this year will not be different. Last year Rally Bohemia finished with a perfect hattrick of home cars Škoda when the crews of cars Fabia S2000 in the order Jan Kopecký - Pavel Dresler, Umberto Scandola - Guido D'Amore and Seep Wiegand – Frank Christian took all three winning places. We will see what will happen this year when anything is more difficult than ever to anticipate after the change of Czech orders and admission of older WRC specification cars into the national championship. Watching the competing of different conception cars, namely the latest R5, enhanced S2000 and the older WRC (up to year 2006) will be definitely attractive for spectators.

The big premiere will be that the Historic Rally Bohemia will be event of the FIA European Historic Sporting Rally Championship. So it will be the first time that we will be able to see the fastest European historical cars and crews from various parts of Europe around Mladá Boleslav and at the foothills of the Jizera Mountains. The age limit for the cars to participate in the European Championship of historical cars has been moved up to the year 1990 according to the FIA orders. This means that also fast cars of modern conception with turbocharged engine and four-wheel drive, such as Lancia Delta HF Integrale, the first generation Toyota Celica GT-4, Mitsubishi Galant VR4, or some of cars with classical arrangement as are BMW M3 or Ford Sierra Cosworth, can appear on the track.

Like last year the historical cars and their crews within the Rally Bohemia Historic will also compete within the Czech Historic Rally Championship. Last year, even in the historicals the Škoda car dominance at Rally Bohemia was emphasized by Jan Krejča and Pavel Šárka when they became absolute winners in historical cars with model Škoda 130 LR. On the contrary, the clear leader of the Czech Republic Championship of historical cars



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of two previous years Jiří Kalista and his Subaru Legacy failed to finish the last Rally Bohemia Historic. We will see if he will find an equal rival among historical cars this year. Within the Czech Historic Championship events, category Klasik for cars made in 1991-1996 has also been announced this year. This enables the cars that dominated not only Czech rallysport in the 90s of last century to take a stand at the start in a separate classification. For all, we can mention then widely used Ford Escort RS Cosworth, Mazda 323 GT-R or successful Škoda Felicia Kit Car.

Other new will also be including Rally Bohemia into the newly founded Polish-German-Czech serial Regional Rally Cup. Mladá Boleslav contest will close this three-part rally series when preceded by Rallye Erzgebirge in Germany and Rajd Karkonoski in Poland, which take place always near the Czech border.

The cars that cannot or whose crews do not want to participate in some of the above mentioned race will introduce themselves in the demonstration parade of historical racing rally cars Rally Bohemia Legend. The stage times of these cars, which wrote the history of the world or Czechoslovakian rally sport, are not measured, but their pilots are provided with enough space to show attractive driving style, which could be seen in the past years. This exhibition parade of Legends is also open to the strongest cars of the legendary group B, otherwise forbidden, such as Audi Sport Quattro S1, Lancia Delta S4, Ford RS 200 or MG Metro 6r4.

This is, so far, a preliminary tasting of what we can look forward to at this year's 42<sup>nd</sup> Rally Bohemia. Although yet quite a lot of time will pass before its start, the organizational preparations are getting busy already now. In the following months we will inform you about further news and interesting matters step by step.

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