

Rally Bohemia with a range of innovations

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The forty-fifth edition of Rally Bohemia will take place during the first summer holidays weekend this year again, namely from Friday 29th June to Sunday 1st July. Rally Bohemia will include four different events and the organizers are preparing a wide range of innovations.

Traditionally, the Czech Rally Championship will be the most closely watched competition while Rally Bohemia will be its fifth event of this year. The last year ended up with the jubilee fifth victory in a row of Jan Kopecký and Pavel Dresler, a crew of ŠKODA Motorsport factory team, in Škoda Fabia R5. At the same time, they prolonged the winning series of the ŠKODA team from this competition, lasting since 2009, for incredible nine years.

For the fifth time, "bohemka" will also host the Czech Historic Rally Championship. Last year's Rally Bohemia Historic ended up with the Liberec crew of Břetislav and Lucie Enge defending the victory in Škoda 130 LR. It was only after a dramatic finish when on the last stage Břetislav Enge's car even got off the track for a while. It is interesting that the Škoda 130 LR has won all four of the previous Rally Bohemia Historic, and the Mladá Boleslav event, therefore, seems to be promised to the Škoda brand not only within the modern cars.

This year, Eco Energy Rally Bohemia will be a big premiere. The competition will be part of the world cup FIA Electric and New Energies Championship. This championship in the run of regularity currently represents the highest form of competing with mostly electric vehicles outside the closed circuits in the world. So the best crews of this discipline from all over the world will arrive at Mladá Boleslav. Competing in the run of regularity consists in achieving the most possible accurate speed average over a passage given as against the one set for the passage beforehand. So it is not speed what matters in this competition, but the driving smoothness and accuracy while cars homologated for normal road traffic without special modifications are used. Eco Energy Rally Bohemia will mostly use the closed tracks of classical Rally Bohemia stages for its regularity stages, where they can be seen comfortably by spectators. The schedule, however, will also include independent tests of regularity outside the closed tracks. In addition to the world cup competition, the organizer is going to announce a national competition according to looser rules, in which hybrid cars or CNG cars will be also able to take part. The centre of Eco Energy Rally

Bohemia will be located in the attractive surroundings of the state castle Sychrov during the whole competition weekend.

Rally Bohemia Legend, which has already become a firm part of Rally Bohemia schedule, will not be missing this year either. This is an exhibition parade of racing cars from the 60s - 90s with a racing history or of their replicas. The stage times of the participants of Rally Bohemia Legend are not measured, so they have enough space for showing an attractive driving style and legend car to the spectators.

Let's go to see the new features of the track and schedule of this year. Service Park of Rally Bohemia, Rally Bohemia Historic or Legend is being moved to the airport at Hořkovice near Mnichovo Hradiště this year, thanks to which the transfer distance from the service to the stages in the area of Hodkovice and Železný Brod will be shortened. A partial change to the stage tracks every year has become typical for Rally Bohemia. However, this year, the organizers have prepared even bigger changes than usual, so we can reveal that none of the stages will be run in the same shape as last year. The change of locality has not avoid the testing stage - shakedown either. It will newly run through the village Březina close to the service park.

The shakedown will be run on Friday afternoon, and it will be there when race specials of both current starting field of Czech Rally Championship and historical of Czech Historic Rally Championship will introduce themselves to spectators. In the evening the programme will continue in Mladá Boleslav where the fans and spectators can come for top racers' autographs to the autograph session in the shopping centre Bondy. Then at 8 p.m. ceremonial starts of Rally Bohemia Historic and Eco Energy Rally Bohemia will open the event in front of the neighbouring Škoda Auto Museum, followed in both cases by the acceleration test for 200 metres in Ludvík Kalma and Volkhard Köhler avenue. While in the case of Eco Energy Rally Bohemia only an exhibition test is involved, in the case of historical cars, this will be already SS1 Prolog and the first precious stage seconds. In any case, the spectators will get a unique possibility of a direct comparison of the cars, which differ from each other by dozens of years of development as well as by types of drives and energies used.

On Saturday morning the ceremonial starts of Rally Bohemia Legend and 45th Rally Bohemia, Czech Rally Championship will take place in front of Škoda Auto Museum. A new circuit SS Bondy, which will be run in three laps, will directly follow the start. At the same time, the participants of Eco Energy Rally Bohemia will set out for their contest track, however, they will start out directly from Sychrov. The finish of the whole competition will be traditionally on Sunday



afternoon in Staroměstské square in Mladá Boleslav. Here the individual parts of Rally Bohemia will smoothly follow one after the other.

A traditional general partner of the competition will be even for this year the car company ŠKODA AUTO. The organizer of Rally Bohemia appreciate the long-year favour of the car factory, which is an obligation as well as motivation for continuing in the long tradition of the top rallysport in the region of Mladá Boleslav.

You will be continuously informed on other details concerning this year Rally Bohemia.

At social networks you can find Rally Bohemia at the following accounts:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/rallybohemia

Youtube: www.youtube.com/user/RallyBohemia

Instagram: instagram.com/rallybohemia

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