

RALLY SUMMARY

In this second day of the 48th Rally Príncipe de Asturias the weather has been good and a great number of fans have attended all the stages. All the cars were gathered in the car park of the service area at 8:30 in the morning.

The first section began in Gijón and then continued with the stages at Villaviciosa-Colunga and Comarca de la Sidra. After the first running of the three sections there was a regrouping at Roxu, and the cars then went to the service park.

In this first leg of stages Alberto Hevia continued in the lead of the European Championship classification followed by Jonathan Perez, Xevi Pons and the Italian Luca Betti, there were no changes in this classification from the end of the previous day.

Miguel Fuster also remained as leader in the Spanish Championship classification and setting good times, although he was behind Alberto Hevia on the first run of Comarca de la Sidra.

After the regrouping in Roxu and the 30 minutes in the service park, the competition was started again at 14:10 with the second run through the Gijón stage. In this section Miguel Fuster returned to set the fastest time, still leading the overall classification. Nevertheless, on the second run on Comarca de la Sidra, it was Alberto Hevia who surpassed the Benidorm driver by 7 seconds.

In the four remaining stages there were no changes to the leaders in the Championships of Europe and Spain. In the European contest, Alberto Hevia stayed ahead until the finish at Oviedo and in the National series Miguel Fuster conserved his advantage to take the victory.

However, the lower podium positions did change when Xevi Pons passed Jonathan Perez, allowing the Catalan to take second place in the

European classification in front of the Asturian who now occupied third position.

With regards the different Cups and Trophies in the Spanish Championship; in the Mitsubishi Evo Asphalt Cup, Daniel Marbán was the winner, Miguel Aryan won in the Renault Twingo R2 Challenge, and Pablo Rey, after an intense fight with Joan Carchat, who retired with mechanical failure in the last section, was the winner of the Suzuki Swift Cup by a margin of 10.4 seconds.

As far as the Hankook Spain Challenge, Joan Vinyes prevailed over Pablo Rey by an advantage of 13m 35seconds.

The participants in the Trofeo Deporte Asturiano, who joined the Rally today, saw victory go to the Subaru Impreza WRC of Jesus Fernandez. In the competition for the Asturian drivers in the Challenge Hankook Asturias, Vidal Aramburu prevailed, and in the Tonel Cup Rodrigo Beteta was the winner.

The good weather saw a lot of spectators attending the stages to see the drivers close at hand; nevertheless, the high temperatures caused a problem for some of the drivers on the Villaviciosa-Colunga stage that, due to its length (30 km), was exhausting for many of them.

Once again the organisation congratulates the good behaviour of the fans who were sited in the zones designated, helped by the work of the safety caravan.

At 7:10 the prize giving ceremony began with the presentation of the trophies with the help of the bagpipe band of the City of Oviedo that put the perfect finishing touch to a rally full of emotion and spectacle.

ACPA Press Department
48th Rally Príncipe de Asturias