

Rally Estonia – Day Three Report

- Double podium for Hyundai Motorsport in Rally Estonia, round 7 of the 2021 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC)
- Craig Breen and Paul Nagle equalled their best result for the team with second place ahead of Thierry Neuville and Martijn Wydaeghe in third – their fifth podium of the season to date
- Ott Tänak and Martin Järveoja completed the rally with 11 stage wins and maximum points from the Power Stage.

Tartu, Estonia

July 18, 2021 – Hyundai Motorsport has claimed a double podium finish in Rally Estonia, the seventh round of the 2021 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC), with Craig Breen and Thierry Neuville cementing a strong team result.

For Breen and co-driver Paul Nagle, second place matches their result from Estonia 2020 and equals their best performance for Hyundai Motorsport. Finishing just behind in third position, Neuville and co-driver Martijn Wydaeghe scored their fifth podium result of the season.

Estonians Ott Tänak and Martin Järveoja saw their hopes of a home victory dashed on Friday as they were forced to retire due to a double puncture in SS4, however there was no doubting their speed and talent on local gravel roads. The crew added a further four stage wins to their total on Sunday morning, including two tied with Neuville, to bring their total for the weekend to eleven.

The final day wasn't without drama with six tricky tests left to run. A loop of three stages, including Neeruti (7.82km), Elva (11.72km) and Tartu vald (6.51km), was tackled twice, with the latter held as the all-important Power Stage.

Neuville took four stage wins on Sunday, two of them equal with Tänak, to bring the team's total to 18 for the weekend, underscoring the pace and performance of the Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC. The Belgian also experienced late technical drama ahead of the penultimate test, which caused him to check-in late into the stage and incurred a ten-second penalty. Thankfully, he had built enough of a buffer to Sébastien Ogier to hold onto his hard-fought podium result.

Tänak and Neuville led a Hyundai 1-2 in the Power Stage to add important points for the championship, with Hyundai Motorsport holding second in the classification on 256 points, 59 points from the lead and four rallies remaining.

Crew Notes: Craig Breen/Paul Nagle (#42 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Irish pair secured their second podium result for Hyundai Motorsport
- Equalling their result from 2020, the crew excelled once again on Estonian roads

Breen said: *"I am quite happy with how the weekend has gone, and I am satisfied with our performance. We have carried good speed throughout the stages. OK, it's not been enough to match Kalle, but we were*



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able to consolidate our second place and brought it home to the end. I've enjoyed myself immensely from start to finish. All I need is a bit more time to go that extra one or two percent that I know we have within us."

Crew Notes: Thierry Neuville/Martijn Wydaeghe (#11 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Fifth podium of 2021 season for the Belgian crew after a strong weekend
- Four stage wins on Sunday (SS19/SS20 equal with Tänak) helped team to 18 in total over the three days

Neuville said: "It has been a long weekend with 24 challenging stages – and a tough event for us. Our main target coming here was to keep our closest rivals, Sébastien and Elfyn, behind and we were able to achieve that. Obviously, it has not been enough to catch back the points gap, but we have edged a bit closer. From a team perspective, getting two cars on the podium is a positive to take away, and I can now look ahead to Ypres Rally Belgium, my home rally."

Crew Notes: Ott Tänak/Martin Järveoja (#8 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Home heroes missed out on chance for victory after Friday retirement
- Demonstrated their sheer pace with impressive stage wins

Tänak said: "When you are not fighting for anything, it's difficult to have the same focus as you usually would, so we have just concentrated on getting to the end of this rally. We were lacking time in the car because of our early retirement on Friday, but gradually we have made improvements over the past two days. We have been looking to learn some things, and I think if you look at the fact that we have taken some stage wins today – early on the road – I think we have found something. All in all, not the weekend we wanted but I have to say we've had some great support from the fans and we have had some new stages which have been interesting and at times demanding. We keep fighting."

Team Principal Andrea Adamo said: "It starts to be a bit boring to keep saying the same thing, but at least this time we have two cars on the podium and good Power Stage points. We don't lose anything more in the manufacturers' championship, but we have to keep going ahead like this, improving in all areas. My thanks to Craig and Paul for a fantastic second place. Due to an electrical problem this morning, Thierry has not been in the position to make any further progress, but he has shown once again what kind of a fighter he is. Ott, too, has demonstrated his amazing speed, but that only makes his punctures on Friday even more regrettable. We look ahead to Ypres Rally Belgium and vow to keep up our hard work."

Next rally

- Round 8 of the 2021 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC), Ypres Rally Belgium, takes place over the weekend of August 13-15

Final Overall Classification – Rally Estonia

1	K. Rovannerä	J. Halttunen	Toyota Yaris WRC	2:51:29.1
2	C. Breen	P. Nagle	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+59.9
3	T. Neuville	M. Wydaeghe	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+1:12.4
4	S. Ogier	J. Ingrassia	Toyota Yaris WRC	+1:24.0
5	E. Evans	S. Martin	Toyota Yaris WRC	+2:07.1
6	T. Suninen	M. Markkula	Ford Fiesta WRC	+7:07.3
7	P.L Loubet	F. Haut-Labourdette	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+8:48.3
8	A. Lukyanuk	Y. Fedorov	Škoda Fabia Evo	+10:16.1
9	A. Mikkelsen	O. Fløene	Škoda Fabia Evo	+10:29.9
10	M. Østberg	T. Eriksen	Citroën C3 R5	+10:46.6

2021 FIA World Rally Championship for Manufacturers' Standings

After round 7

1	Toyota Gazoo Racing World Rally Team	315
2	Hyundai Shell Mobis World Rally Team	256
3	M-Sport Ford World Rally Team	125
4	Hyundai 2C Competition	36

2021 FIA World Rally Championship for Drivers' Standings

After round 7

1	S. Ogier	148
2	E. Evans	111
3	T. Neuville	96
4	K. Rovannerä	82
5	O. Tänak	74
6	T. Katsuta	66
7	C. Breen	42
8	G. Greensmith	34
9	D. Sordo	31
10	A. Fourmaux	30
11	T. Suninen	17

All results remain subject to official FIA confirmation.

About Hyundai Motorsport GmbH

Established on 19 December 2012, Hyundai Motorsport GmbH is responsible for Hyundai's global motorsport activities, including the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC), Customer Racing and electric racing projects. In WRC, Hyundai Motorsport quickly established a strong reputation taking victory in its debut season in 2014. The team finished as runners-up in the manufacturers' championship on three consecutive occasions between 2016 and 2018 before claiming its first title in 2019 and repeating the feat in 2020. Since the establishment of its Customer Racing activities in September 2015, Hyundai Motorsport has become a trusted partner for teams and drivers looking for success on the rally stages or on racetracks around the world. From its competitive i20 R5 rally car to the competitive i30 N TCR, Hyundai Motorsport-built cars have claimed victory in several championships, including national rally series in France and Spain, as well as consecutive titles in the FIA World Touring Car Cup (WTCR) in 2018 and 2019. Designed and built at its Alzenau headquarters, the Veloster N ETCR was unveiled in September 2019 and heralds an exciting new era, in which electric racing is set to become one of the company's pillars. Unified under Hyundai Motorsport, WRC, Customer Racing and electric racing are together playing instrumental roles in driving Hyundai's global high-performance N brand and are supporting an important perception shift for the Hyundai brand around the world.

Further information about Hyundai Motorsport is available at: <http://motorsport.hyundai.com>

About Hyundai Motor Company

Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Company is present in over 200 countries with more than 120,000 employees dedicated to tackling real-world mobility challenges around the globe. Based on the brand vision 'Progress for Humanity,' Hyundai Motor is accelerating its transformation into a Smart Mobility Solution Provider. The company invests in advanced technologies such as robotics and Urban Air Mobility (UAM) to bring about revolutionary mobility solutions, while pursuing open innovation to introduce future mobility services. In pursuit of sustainable future for the world, Hyundai will continue its efforts to introduce zero emission vehicles equipped with industry-leading hydrogen fuel cell and EV technologies.

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