



### SS9 : LE FUGERET / THORAME-HAUTE 1

<b>Date:</b>	<b>21.01.2023</b>		
<b>Day:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Flash N°:</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Special Stage:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Distance :</b>	<b>16,80 km</b>
<b>Weather:</b>	<b>-1°C – Clear weather</b>		
<b>Road conditions:</b>	<b>Dry conditions</b>		

#### **SS9: Rovannerä in the 100 Club!**

It is only a step in the career of Kalle Rovannerä, 22, but it is significant: his 100th stage win in WRC, this morning between Le Fugeret and Thorame-Haute (SS9, 16.8km), to start off on a positive note Day 3 of the 91st Rally Monte-Carlo. This remains far from the 935 stage wins collected by the grand master of world rallies, Sébastien Loeb, but it is also the 1950th stage win for the Japanese brand in WRC.

Toyota Gazoo Racing therefore continued its raid on this “Monte”, with a 9th stage win out of 9 contested since Thursday night, and another 1-2-3 on the scoreboard: Rovannerä ahead of Sébastien Ogier and Elfyn Evans. This infernal trio drove faster than Thierry Neuville (Hyundai Motorsport), 4th at 2.7 seconds. It may be a happy omen for the Frenchman, aiming this year for a record 9th success in the Principality. The M-Sport Ford drivers are not in the game, even if Ott Tänak saves appearances and remains in the Top 5. The 2019 World Champion is still a minute behind Ogier in the general standings (57.5 seconds exactly) while the competitors have just passed, in the famous Colle Saint-Michel, the mid-rally point (9 stages out of 18).

This SS9 claimed a victim in the French ranks: Pierre-Louis Loubet, the other M-Sport Ford driver, had left well rested after a whole Friday afternoon driving without power steering. His Puma slipped in the last left corner, just before the timing cell, and its right rear axle got damaged: “We need to rest and try to aim for a few points during the Power Stage on Sunday”, the young Corsican driver reacted on Twitter.



## Quotes

### 9. SERDERIDIS-MICLOTTE

« It's totally dry, no pollution. Maximum attack... for the people behind me! It was a good run, no problem. »

### 7. LOUBET-GILSOUL

[Hit barrier on final corner. Heavy damage to right rear of the car including bent wheel] « It was icy... »

His Saturday comes to an untimely end.

### 4. LAPPI-FERM

« It's definitely feeling better than yesterday. I still don't believe the time is fast enough but we are going in the right direction. For sure the car feels the best it has done so far this weekend. »

### 18. KATSUTA-JOHNSTON

« I am just trying to do my best today but this one is very cold temperature. My gravel crew did a really good job but the end of the stage is definitely quite slippery, maybe the salt or something. All okay. »

### 6. SORDO-CARRERA

[10.2 seconds slower than Katsuta. Drops a position to seventh overall] « I am not on the pace. I felt like I was not doing good in the stage so I expected this time. »

### 33. EVANS-MARTIN

« Pretty okay but a pretty tricky stage. The grip is changing a bit, especially here at the end. All okay. »

### 8. TÄNAK-JÄRVEOJA

[Now only 2.9sec ahead of Evans in the overall standings] « Let's see we are moving with the car and trying to find a bit more. Hopefully it's coming today a bit more. »

### 11. NEUVILLE-WYDAEGHE

« It was a bit dirty and I was less quick than I expected to be. I had a couple of small sides. We did some set-up changes overnight and it takes time to get used to it. I lost some time but at the end it was feeling better. »

### 69. ROVANPERÄ-HALTTUNEN

« It was not a good stage for me, I could have done better. It was clean but it was not the driving that I want to do. »

### 17. OGIER-LANDAIS

« We tried to drive safely. It was definitely not full speed for us at the moment but we want to stay safe. »



## Classifications SS9

1	#17	S. OGIER	V. LANDAIS	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	1:35:47.4		
2	#69	K. ROVANPERÄ	J. HALTTUNEN	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	1:36:20.9	+33.5	+33.5
3	#11	T. NEUVILLE	M. WYDAEGHE	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	1:36:25.5	+4.6	+38.1
4	#8	O. TÁNAK	M. JÄRVEOJA	Puma Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	1:36:44.9	+19.4	+57.5
5	#33	E. EVANS	S. MARTIN	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	1:36:47.8	+2.9	+1:00.4
6	#18	T. KATSUTA	A. JOHNSTON	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID		RC1	1:37:27.8	+40.0	+1:40.4
7	#6	D. SORDO	C. CARRERA	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	1:37:35.1	+7.3	+1:47.7
8	#4	E. LAPPI	J. FERM	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	1:37:56.8	+21.7	+2:09.4
9	#24	ANA N. GRYAZIN	ANA K. ALEKSANDROV	Fabia RS		WRC2 (T/DC/CC)	1:40:22.6	+2:25.8	+4:35.2
10	#21	Y. ROSSEL	A. DUNAND	C3		WRC2 (D/C)	1:41:01.5	+38.9	+5:14.1
11	#22	S. LEFEBVRE	A. MALFOY	C3		WRC2 (D/C)	1:41:22.2	+20.7	+5:34.8
12	#34	P. LÓPEZ	B. ROZADA	i20 N		WRC2 (DC/CC)	1:41:34.3	+12.1	+5:46.9
13	#20	A. FOURMAUX	A. CORIA	Fiesta MkII		WRC2 (T/D/C)	1:42:06.2	+31.9	+6:18.8
14	#23	O. SOLBERG	E. EDMONDSON	Fabia RS		RC2	1:42:10.0	+3.8	+6:22.6
15	#28	C. INGRAM	C. DREW	Fabia Evo		WRC2 (DC/CC)	1:42:20.4	+10.4	+6:33.0

## After SS9

1	#69	K. ROVANPERÄ	J. HALTTUNEN		M		9:05.5		9:05.5
2	#33	E. EVANS	S. MARTIN		M		9:06.1	+0.6	+0.6
3	#17	S. OGIER	V. LANDAIS		M		9:08.0	+1.9	+2.5
4	#11	T. NEUVILLE	M. WYDAEGHE		M		9:08.2	+0.2	+2.7
5	#8	O. TÁNAK	M. JÄRVEOJA		M		9:11.3	+3.1	+5.8
6	#18	T. KATSUTA	A. JOHNSTON				9:15.3	+4.0	+9.8
7	#4	E. LAPPI	J. FERM		M		9:19.7	+4.4	+14.2
8	#7	P. LOUBET	N. GILSOUL		M		9:25.2	+5.5	+19.7
9	#6	D. SORDO	C. CARRERA		M		9:25.5	+0.3	+20.0
10	#24	ANA N. GRYAZIN	ANA K. ALEKSANDROV			WRC2 (T/DC/CC)	9:30.4	+4.9	+24.9
11	#23	O. SOLBERG	E. EDMONDSON				9:35.0	+4.6	+29.5
12	#21	Y. ROSSEL	A. DUNAND			WRC2 (D/C)	9:39.6	+4.6	+34.1
13	#34	P. LÓPEZ	B. ROZADA			WRC2 (DC/CC)	9:39.6		+34.1
14	#22	S. LEFEBVRE	A. MALFOY			WRC2 (D/C)	9:43.3	+3.7	+37.8
15	#28	C. INGRAM	C. DREW			WRC2 (DC/CC)	9:48.5	+5.2	+43.0