



SS12 : LE FUGERET / THORAME-HAUTE 2

Date:	21.01.2023		
Day:	3	Flash N°:	18
Special Stage:	12	Distance :	16,80 km
Weather:	5°C – Clear weather		
Road conditions:	Dry conditions		

SS12: Neuville and Hyundai open their counter!

Belgian Thierry Neuville (Hyundai Motorsport) won his first stage of the 91st Rally Monte-Carlo, and of the 2023 WRC season, during the second pass between Le Fugeret and Thorame-Haute (SS12, 16.8 km). The first stage win not scored by a Toyota Gazoo Racing driver since the start on Thursday evening.

The Belgian completed his 323rd stage win in WRC (143 starts, 55 podiums, 17 wins). A great performance against dominating Toyota Yaris and a great reward for his now legendary ability to resist, his patience and his undisputable talent behind the wheel.

After this SS12, Neuville is still 3rd overall, 39 seconds behind Sébastien Ogier and only 9.5 seconds behind Kalle Rovanperä, and still holds a good margin (19.5 seconds) over Elfyn Evans, Toyota's third top driver. Enough to consider the rest of the operations with serenity, especially if a puncture, always possible with increasingly worn out Soft and Super Soft Pirelli tires, disrupts the general classification, at one time or another.

In WRC2, the situation is stable, as Russian Nikolay Gryazin (Skoda Fabia) is still in control against his two main French rivals, Yohan Rossel and Stéphane Lefebvre (Citroën C3). They will also have to be wary of the stones and all those traps making up the timeless charm of Rally Monte-Carlo, sometimes causing twists and turns.



Quotes

9. SERDERIDIS-MICLOTTE

« A little bit more pollution but I think it's enjoyable. We changed the set-up a little bit and it's improving. All good fun! »

7. LOUBET-GILSOUL

Retired for the day after SS9.

4. LAPPI-FERM

[Right-rear puncture] « For sure, there are some sharp rocks in the cuts. It must have been there, otherwise I have no idea. »

18. KATSUTA-JOHNSTON

« I am just focusing on my own things. This morning I had no pace, so I need to improve some stuff. In this stage my driving was so bad - I'm really not happy. »

6. SORDO-CARRERA

« Sometimes the hybrid unit is working, sometimes it's not working. It's something really weird. Anyway, we need to get through the day and try to do something tomorrow because today obviously we are not on the pace. »

33. EVANS-MARTIN

« Just keep going really. It was very tricky in here with quite a lot of gravel. There was a section in the middle that seemed really low grip and I sort of lost my confidence in the grip for a while. »

8. TÄNAK-JÄRVEOJA

« [The power steering issue] seems also a bit temperature-related. When it gets twisty and in the last kilometres it's hard. But in the fast parts and straights it's not so bad. »

11. NEUVILLE-WYDAEGHE

« It was okay. We had a good rhythm to be honest but in the fast corners I have no lateral grip and I am just sliding. In the narrow sections we are fine. »

69. ROVANPERÄ-HALTTUNEN

« I had a small slide in one place. Couldn't really trust my notes so much on that middle section - it was bit tricky. »

17. OGIER-LANDAIS

« The strategy doesn't change for me at the moment. I try to be as clean as I can. »



Classifications SS12

1	#11	T. NEUVILLE	M. WYDAEGHE		M	9:01.8		9:01.8
2	#33	E. EVANS	S. MARTIN		M	9:02.9	+1.1	+1.1
3	#69	K. ROVANPERÄ	J. HALTTUNEN		M	9:04.7	+1.8	+2.9
4	#17	S. OGIER	V. LANDAIS		M	9:05.2	+0.5	+3.4
5	#18	T. KATSUTA	A. JOHNSTON			9:07.6	+2.4	+5.8
6	#8	O. TÄNAK	M. JÄRVEOJA		M	9:08.0	+0.4	+6.2
7	#6	D. SORDO	C. CARRERA		M	9:15.0	+7.0	+13.2
8	#23	O. SOLBERG	E. EDMONDSON			9:26.8	+11.8	+25.0
9	#27	E. CAIS	P. TEŠÍNSKÝ		WRC2 (DC/CC)	9:32.8	+6.0	+31.0
10	#21	Y. ROSSEL	A. DUNAND		WRC2 (D/C)	9:33.5	+0.7	+31.7
11	#24	ANA N. GRYAZIN	ANA K. ALEKSANDROV		WRC2 (T/DC/CC)	9:33.9	+0.4	+32.1
12	#22	S. LEFEBVRE	A. MALFOY		WRC2 (D/C)	9:35.3	+1.4	+33.5
13	#4	E. LAPPI	J. FERM		M	9:37.2	+1.9	+35.4
14	#34	P. LÓPEZ	B. ROZADA		WRC2 (DC/CC)	9:39.5	+2.3	+37.7
15	#20	A. FOURMAUX	A. CORIA		WRC2 (T/D/C)	9:41.1	+1.6	+39.3

After SS12

1	#17	S. OGIER	V. LANDAIS	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	2:06:00.0		
2	#69	K. ROVANPERÄ	J. HALTTUNEN	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	2:06:29.5	+29.5	+29.5
3	#11	T. NEUVILLE	M. WYDAEGHE	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	2:06:39.0	+9.5	+39.0
4	#33	E. EVANS	S. MARTIN	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	2:06:58.5	+19.5	+58.5
5	#8	O. TÄNAK	M. JÄRVEOJA	Puma Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	2:07:15.0	+16.5	+1:15.0
6	#18	T. KATSUTA	A. JOHNSTON	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID		RC1	2:08:01.9	+46.9	+2:01.9
7	#6	D. SORDO	C. CARRERA	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	2:08:29.7	+27.8	+2:29.7
8	#4	E. LAPPI	J. FERM	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	2:08:56.4	+26.7	+2:56.4
9	#24	ANA N. GRYAZIN	ANA K. ALEKSANDROV	Fabia R5	WRC2 (T/DC/CC)	RC2	2:12:12.8	+3:16.4	+6:12.8
10	#21	Y. ROSSEL	A. DUNAND	C3	WRC2 (D/C)	RC2	2:12:55.9	+43.1	+6:55.9
11	#22	S. LEFEBVRE	A. MALFOY	C3	WRC2 (D/C)	RC2	2:13:30.8	+34.9	+7:30.8
12	#34	P. LÓPEZ	B. ROZADA	i20 N	WRC2 (DC/CC)	RC2	2:13:34.3	+3.5	+7:34.3
13	#27	E. CAIS	P. TEŠÍNSKÝ	Fabia R5	WRC2 (DC/CC)	RC2	2:14:10.9	+36.6	+8:10.9
14	#20	A. FOURMAUX	A. CORIA	Fiesta MkII	WRC2 (T/D/C)	RC2	2:14:11.0	+0.1	+8:11.0
15	#26	M. BULACIA	A. CORONADO	Fabia R5	WRC2 (T/DC/CC)	RC2	2:14:25.5	+14.5	+8:25.5