



SS2 : LA CABANETTE / COL DE CASTILLON

Date:	19.01.2023		
Day:	1	Flash N°:	4
Special Stage:	2	Distance :	24,90 km
Weather:	-2°C – night stage		
Road conditions:	Dry and damp portions		

SS2: Ogier widens the gap and returns to the harbour

He did not come as a tourist, Sébastien Ogier, to the 91st Monte-Carlo Rally: two stage wins to start without any hesitation in the process, and without leaving crumbs for his well-armed rivals. In SS2, between La Cabanette and Col de Castillon (24.90km), the eight-time World Champion upped the pace and relegated Elfyn Evans, his Toyota Gazoo Racing teammate, 4.7 seconds back, instead of 1.3 second in SS1, over 15 km.

Starting in sixth position on the road, by virtue of the 2022 WRC classification, the luxury freelancer of the Japanese brand was not surprised in the very slippery left corner, with numerous spectators, located at km 10.5 of this SS2. A few minutes after another one of his teammates, 2022 World Champion Kalle Rovanperä, made a mistake, as did Belgian Thierry Neuville (Hyundai), exactly in the same turn. He lost around ten seconds in the incident, just like Rovanperä. This is two seconds more than 2019 champion Ott Tänak (M-Sport Ford), still faced with power cuts when he changed gears in his hybrid Ford Puma.

Friday will be even more challenging with six special stages on the card (SS3 to SS8), i.e. 105 km of pure rallying around Puget-Théniers and Entrevaux (Alpes de Haute-Provence). At the start tomorrow morning, Ogier will hold a six-second advantage on Evans (2nd), and he will also benefit from a 15.4 margin over Tänak (3rd) and 15.5 over Neuville (4th), the former teammates at Hyundai. He stands 17.1 ahead of Rovanperä (5th), the “new generation” Finn, 32.1 over Dani Sordo (6th) in another Hyundai, and 40.3 over Pierre-Louis Loubet (7th) in the other works Puma of the M-Sport Ford team. Bring on Day 2!



Quotes

69. ROVANPERÄ-HALTTUNEN

« Yeah I think it was bit better, at least I managed the tyre better in the beginning of the stage, on previous one they got way too hot. Tricky conditions, there was already some ice patches on that one so let's see how others come. »

8. TÄNAK-JÄRVEOJA

« It's the same. We will go back to service now to fix it properly. It's been a big challenge. »

11. NEUVILLE-WYDAEGHE

« I don't know what happened to be honest. There was zero grip and I was not the first one to go wide there for sure. I could see the lines but I was already too late. I lost probably seven or eight seconds because the car stalled. »

33. EVANS-MARTIN

« It's been pretty okay. In here it could have been better but it's so difficult. I didn't go as well as I'd have liked but it was all okay. »

18. KATSUTA-JOHNSTON

« We couldn't do any hairpins. » [Handbrake issue error showing on dashboard]

17. OGIER-LANDAIS

« It's a good start. Not easy - there was almost nothing apart one corner with some black ice. At least for once we are not first on the road and we can use it to our advantage. »

6. SORDO-CARRERA

« The middle part was very tricky. We had information it was slippery at one point and we slowed down a lot. We will see tomorrow. »

4. LAPPI-FERM

« There was some ice and I didn't know where it was. I was driving at walking speed throughout this section. I am not really happy at the moment but when the grip is fine I can push, it's not a problem. »

7. LOUBET-GILSOUL

« I think I was too careful in the difficult part. It's like that. We keep our minds on what we have to do and let's continue. It's not too bad, after two stages in the dark, to be at the end tonight. »

9. SERDERIDIS-MICLOTTE

« I went straight on the black ice. I could not reverse so I lost around one-minute there. But we are still here! »



Classifications SS2

1	#17	S. OGIER	V. LANDAIS		M	16:10.8		16:10.8
2	#33	E. EVANS	S. MARTIN		M	16:15.5	+4.7	+4.7
3	#8	O. TÁNAK	M. JÄRVEOJA		M	16:17.6	+2.1	+6.8
4	#11	T. NEUVILLE	M. WYDAEGHE		M	16:20.3	+2.7	+9.5
5	#69	K. ROVANPERÄ	J. HALTUNEN		M	16:20.5	+0.2	+9.7
6	#6	D. SORDO	C. CARRERA		M	16:30.5	+10.0	+19.7
7	#7	P. LOUBET	N. GILSOUL		M	16:40.2	+9.7	+29.4
8	#4	E. LAPPI	J. FERM		M	16:40.6	+0.4	+29.8
9	#24	ANA N. GRYZIN	ANA K. ALEKSANDROV		WRC2 (T/DC/CC)	16:53.4	+12.8	+42.6
10	#18	T. KATSUTA	A. JOHNSTON			17:00.9	+7.5	+50.1
11	#21	Y. ROSSEL	A. DUNAND		WRC2 (D/C)	17:02.0	+1.1	+51.2
12	#22	S. LEFEBVRE	A. MALFOY		WRC2 (D/C)	17:02.2	+0.2	+51.4
13	#20	A. FOURMAUX	A. CORIA		WRC2 (T/D/C)	17:15.2	+13.0	+1:04.4
14	#23	O. SOLBERG	E. EDMONDSON			18:43.4	+1:28.2	+2:32.6
15	#9	J. SERDERIDIS	F. MICLOTTE			19:45.1	+1:01.7	+3:34.3

After SS2

1	#17	S. OGIER	V. LANDAIS	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	26:33.7		
2	#33	E. EVANS	S. MARTIN	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	26:39.7	+6.0	+6.0
3	#8	O. TÁNAK	M. JÄRVEOJA	Puma Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	26:49.1	+9.4	+15.4
4	#11	T. NEUVILLE	M. WYDAEGHE	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	26:49.2	+0.1	+15.5
5	#69	K. ROVANPERÄ	J. HALTUNEN	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	26:50.8	+1.6	+17.1
6	#6	D. SORDO	C. CARRERA	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	27:05.8	+15.0	+32.1
7	#7	P. LOUBET	N. GILSOUL	Puma Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	27:14.0	+8.2	+40.3
8	#4	E. LAPPI	J. FERM	i20 N Rally1 HYBRID	M	RC1	27:15.1	+1.1	+41.4
9	#18	T. KATSUTA	A. JOHNSTON	GR Yaris Rally1 HYBRID		RC1	27:30.7	+15.6	+57.0
10	#24	ANA N. GRYZIN	ANA K. ALEKSANDROV	Fabia RS	WRC2 (T/DC/CC)	RC2	27:40.3	+9.6	+1:06.6
11	#22	S. LEFEBVRE	A. MALFOY	C3	WRC2 (D/C)	RC2	27:57.0	+16.7	+1:23.3
12	#21	Y. ROSSEL	A. DUNAND	C3	WRC2 (D/C)	RC2	27:58.6	+1.6	+1:24.9
13	#20	A. FOURMAUX	A. CORIA	Fiesta MkII	WRC2 (T/D/C)	RC2	28:14.5	+15.9	+1:40.8
14	#23	O. SOLBERG	E. EDMONDSON	Fabia RS		RC2	29:40.1	+1:25.6	+3:06.4
15	#9	J. SERDERIDIS	F. MICLOTTE	Puma Rally1 HYBRID		RC1	31:45.9	+2:05.8	+5:12.2