



First « big » day for the teams of the XVIIIth Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique. Marked by the three times winner of the event, José Lareppe's retirement, the Ranking Leg brought everyone in the department of Drôme after four regularity zones spread between Monaco and Valence.

We remind you that daily news are available everyday on *Automobile Club de Monaco's* official website ([www.acm.mc](http://www.acm.mc)) and on Twitter (@ACM\_Media).



Valence and Automobile Club de Monaco always had privileged relations. The prefecture of Drôme, its municipality and all the inhabitants of the region Drôme-Ardèche appreciate the rally and have always given a warm welcome to the monegasque event.

The “French Meridian Gate” will host the Rally during three days, starting from this evening to Thursday morning. A marquee, located in front of the Peynet kiosk, and a giant-screen have been build up on Champ de Mars for the teams, friends and followers of the rally.

Fifteen regional teams will be present including **Isabelle and Hervé Courbis** (Alpine A110), **Jean-Pierre Philibert / Joël Picoreau** (Porsche 911 Carrera 3.0) and **Aimé Reynouard / Dédé Gonzales** (Lancia Beta Coupé 1800), and last but not least **Sébastien Chol**, winner of the 2013 edition with Gérard Brianti. He will be with **Raymond Durand** this year in the Opel Kadett GT/E n°10.

Nine times World Rally Champion with his friend Sébastien Loeb, the monegasque **Daniel Elena** is still present, sided by **Olivier Campana**.

Less than a week after the end of the WRC organised by **Automobile Club de Monaco**, he swapped cars and is now driving a VW Golf GTI (number 100). The first part of the Rally is quite favourable as he is in the Top 10 after the Ranking Leg.



## Top 5 after Regularity Zone n°5

- 1 – Piero Lorenzo Zanchi/Giovanni Agnese – VW Golf GTI (2275 pts)
- 2 – Ruben Maes/Filip Deplancke – Porsche914/6 (+ 114 pts)
- 3 – Raymond Durand/Sébastien Chol – Opel Kadett GT/E (+ 188 pts)
- 4 – Laurent Bouterin/Christian Fine – Ford Escort RS2000 (+ 337 pts)
- 5 – Raymond Horgnies/Christophe Hayez – Porsche 911 (+ 390 pts)



The Peugeot 504 TI number 38 is piloted by **Carlos Tavares**. This Portuguese corporate manager had been with Renault for a long time before joining PSA group last year as Chairman of Peugeot Citroën.

Fan of motorsport, **Carlos Tavares** already enrolled in **Rallye Monte-Carlo Historique** in 2013 with the Renault Classic team, with **Jean Ragnotti**, **Jean-Claude Andruet**, **Jean Vinatier** and **Alain Serpaggi**.

To link the **Principality of Monaco** to **Valence**, the competitors and their assistance went through Digne-les-Bains, Laragne-Montéglin, Clelles and Saint-Nazaire-en-Royans where they were welcomed warmly by the locals and the spectators.

#### Time Control of Digne-les-Bains



**José Lareppe** in Laragne-Montéglin, before he retired in ZR4



**Jean-Pierre Coppola**, second in 2012 and 2013, at the Time Control of Clelles

#### Time Control of Saint-Nazaire-en-Royans

Four regularity Zones were on the schedule. The first one, completely dry, wasn't at all representative of the day! The snow and the changing road conditions, paired with a strong wind in the final test strained the teams, even obliging the organisation to impose the lowest average on the last two zones. Many cars carry the scars of this hard day and some won't even reach Valence, including the three times winner, **José Lareppe**, who went off road in ZR4 and **Bob Neyret's** Citroën DS21, who had to retire because of a mechanical issue after the time control in Saint-Nazaire-en-Royans.

#### Tomorrow's schedule, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015

##### Valence / Valence - Common Leg – 1<sup>st</sup> part

- 7.00 a.m.: Departure from Valence (Champ de Mars)
- 8.30 a.m.: ZR6 – Saint-Pierre-ville / Le Cheylard (60,55 km)
- 10.30 a.m.: ZR7 – Burzet / Saint-Martial (41,56 km)
- 12.20 p.m.: Time Control in Saint-Agrève (Place du Marché)
- 1.00 p.m.: ZR8 – Col du Faux / Labatie d'Andaure (20,85 km)
- 2.00 p.m.: ZR9 – Lamastre / Plats (36,95 km)
- 3.10 p.m. : Time Control in Tournon-sur-Rhône
- 4.00 p.m.: Time Control in Valence (Champ de Mars)

