



SS17: LA BOLLÈNE-VÉSUBIE / COL DE TURINI

Date :	28.01.2024		
Day :	4	Flash N° :	28
Special Stage :	17 - POWERSTAGE	Distance :	14,80 km
Weather :	13°C – Sunny		
Road conditions :	Dry road		

SS17: Neuville beats Ogier, Hyundai stronger than Toyota

Thierry Neuville (Hyundai) won the 92nd Monte-Carlo Rally on Sunday after an impressive display of driving that makes him the logical favourite for the 2024 World Rally Championship (WRC).

The Belgian had to beat Sébastien Ogier (Toyota), the absolute benchmark in WRC (9 Monte-Carlo wins, 99 podiums), to take the laurels for the second time in the Principality, after his victory in 2020. He takes the maximum number of points available under the new championship scale (30), since he also won the Power Stage in Col de Turini.

The podium, behind Neuville and Ogier, the untouchables, was completed by Elfyn Evans (Toyota), the reigning vice-world champion, who leads the race from Thursday night to Saturday morning. The places of honour, in the Top 5, were taken by Ott Tänak (Hyundai), the 2019 World Champion, and Adrien Fourmaux (M-Sport Ford).

The colours of French rallying were also well defended by Yohan Rossel (Citroën), the 2021 WRC3 champion: he won the WRC2 category thanks to a fastest time, fair and square, in Col de Turini, although he was only third in the standings on Sunday morning when he left the service park in Gap.



Quotes

13. MUNSTER-LOUKA

« I think it's positive to finish [the rally]. Thank you to the team, the car was perfect all weekend, thanks to the gravel crew, they did an amazing job. I couldn't make it to the end without small mistakes, but it's ok. I think it's experience and looking forward to Sweden. »

18. KATSUTA-JOHNSTON

« Obviously, there is good stages and bad stages, I lost the opportunity to fight for anything on Friday morning, so it's a huge disappointment, next one will be a flat-out rally [Sweden] and one of my favorite. I will just try to be flat-out everywhere in Sweden. In this rallye, I have to look back at it to see what I have to improve. »

9. MIKKELSEN-ERIKSEN

« It was more difficult to get used [to the car] to than what I expected. Anyway, we had nice progression yesterday. Here, we tried to push a bit but the first narrow section is new for me and we were struggling there a bit I guess. These cars are awesome. Some more seat time and we should be good to go. »

16. FOURMAUX-CORIA

« We are really happy to be at the end of this rally at the top of the Col de Turini. We still have to improve on some points but for a start of a season I think it's really good, so I am positive. »

8. TÄNAK-JÄRVEOJA

« We need to take it [fourth position in overall classification]. It was not an easy event and there was a lot to learn. I was not in a great shape. It's done now, so let's see what comes next »

33. EVANS-MARTIN

« We weren't fast enough to win this weekend. The potential was there but we didn't quite get it right on Saturday afternoon, really. In here it was okay but the tyres started screaming enough half way up [towards the Col de Turini]. That's how it is. »

17. OGIER-LANDAIS

« It's been a nice battle with Thierry [Neuville]. Well done to him, he has been really fast this weekend. For me, it's been a tough week. A big rollercoaster of emotions. I struggled a lot on Friday especially. It was hard to say goodbye on Monday to a person who was very important to me, who basically launched my career in motorsport and who is never a good time for these things but it was so sudden. »



11. NEUVILLE-WYDAEGHE

[After winning the 92nd Monte-Carlo Rally] « I don't have the words to be honest. It was just so great this weekend, I felt so comfortable in the car. The whole team was doing an amazing job and I think the whole package was working really well. We need to continue working, but we are very happy to win this rally. »



Classifications SS17

POS	DRIVER	STAGE TIME	DIFF 1st	DIFF PREV	CAR No.
1	<u>Thierry NEUVILLE</u>	9:50.4	-	-	#11
2	<u>Sébastien OGIER</u>	9:53.0	+2.5	+2.5	#17
3	<u>Takamoto KATSUTA</u>	9:53.2	+2.7	+0.1	#18
4	<u>Elfyn EVANS</u>	9:53.6	+3.1	+0.4	#33
5	<u>Ott TÄNAK</u>	9:55.5	+5.0	+1.8	#8
6	<u>Andreas MIKKELSEN</u>	9:56.0	+5.5	+0.4	#9
7	<u>Adrien FOURMAUX</u>	9:59.7	+9.2	+3.7	#16
8	<u>Grégoire MUNSTER</u>	10:09.8	+19.3	+10.0	#13

After SS17

POS	DRIVER	TOTAL TIME	DIFF 1st	DIFF PREV	CAR No.
1	<u>Thierry NEUVILLE</u>	3:09:30.9	-	-	#11
2	<u>Sébastien OGIER</u>	3:09:47.0	+16.1	+16.1	#17
3	<u>Elfyn EVANS</u>	3:10:16.1	+45.2	+29.1	#33
4	<u>Ott TÄNAK</u>	3:11:30.7	+1:59.8	+1:14.6	#8
5	<u>Adrien FOURMAUX</u>	3:13:07.8	+3:36.9	+1:37.1	#16
6	<u>Andreas MIKKELSEN</u>	3:15:05.5	+5:34.6	+1:57.7	#9
7	<u>Takamoto KATSUTA</u>	3:17:59.4	+8:28.5	+2:53.9	#18
8	<u>Grégoire MUNSTER</u>	3:44:10.9	+34:40.0	+26:11.5	#13