



SS11 : AUCELON / RECOUBEAU-JANSAC 1

Date :	25.01.2025		
Day :	3	Flash N° :	15
Weather and road conditions :	11°C, mostly damp, some portions are dry	Distance :	15,48 km

SS11: Tänak opens his account, Fourmaux 2nd!

The 11th special stage of the 93rd Rallye Monte-Carlo, shortened by 5km for safety reasons, enabled Hyundai to score a double success: Ott Tänak, the 2019 world champion, clocked his first stage win of the rally, and of 2025, while Adrien Fourmaux took 2nd place overall, which he had been chasing since yesterday, from Elfyn Evans (Toyota). As for Sébastien Ogier (Toyota), who was not at ease on this stage between Aucelon and Recoubeau-Jansac (15.48 km instead of 20.85 km), he lost a few seconds but maintained his lead.

'I'm feeling better, it was a comfortable stage,' soberly summed up Tänak, the 6th stage winner of this rally after Sébastien Ogier (4 best times), Elfyn Evans (2), Kalle Rovanperä, Adrien Fourmaux and Grégoire Munster this morning. *'I didn't like this stage at all, it was a nightmare for me: too narrow, too slow, very polluted. It didn't work for me,'* said Kalle Rovanperä, the two-time Toyota world champion, who finished 7th, 14 seconds behind Tänak, over 15km. That's one second more than his Estonian rival for every kilometre covered.

'It was very, very dirty, so we drove safely, without taking too many risks. Fortunately, the dangerous part of the stage had been removed,' said Ogier of this slightly different stage, the second of the loop in the Drôme. *'It resembled Critérium de Cévennes,'* added Alexandre Coria, Fourmaux's co-driver. The two Frenchmen from Hyundai are now in a position to threaten Ogier, as they are now 2nd in the overall standings, just 12.3 seconds behind the nine-time winner of the most legendary event in the WRC Championship.

However, nothing is over yet, as Evans is only half a second behind Fourmaux, and Tänak and Rovanperä are just behind, without having given up yet. They have never won the Monte Carlo Rally but they have a lot of talent and there are still four stages to be contested today, plus three tomorrow morning on the way back to Monaco. For Neuville, the reigning world champion, the aim now is to *'learn the new tires and take big points on Sunday morning'*, thanks to the updated WRC's points system. But that's another story...



Quotes

13. MUNSTER-LOUKA

5 Z215 WRC7 soft

"Really good [feeling], everyone was a bit gutted yesterday but I think this [his scratch time in the previous stage] is a big "Thank you" for all the team that worked really hard until late last night. Years of commitment and work that finally get a reward, it is a very nice feeling. I didn't want to do too much in this one because you need to keep your feet on the ground, but it is a tricky one."

55. MCERLEAN-TREACY

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"That has got everything, there's no grip especially coming downhill on the new tarmac. Another one to write in the diary book. Emotions are high."

1. NEUVILLE-WYDAEGHE

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"It's getting obviously a bit dirtier, but I am not pushing crazy. I am trying some stuff on the car to find a bit more confidence. It's not there yet, to be honest. There is no reason for us to push at the moment. We lost a lot of minutes this morning. We're trying to go through. [We are trying] different tyre combination, dampener clicks, etc."

5. PAJARI-SALMINEN

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"It is positive. Really okay flow on the stage, honestly, I was a bit afraid after the recce, but happy to see they cancelled the first few kilometers of it. The rest is quite fine, had quite good flow, really steady feeling so it is good. I guess there is some mud coming from quite many cuts, I don't know if there is some pollution in the middle someone is cleaning but there are many muddy places which are getting worse, so for us it is okay for us to be in the middle."

18. KATSUTA-JOHNSTON

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"It's okay, this is Monte! It is fine. Quite okay grip, but in the downhill section, it was damper in a twisty corner which is quite slippery, otherwise okay."

8. TÄNAK-JÄRVEOJA

3 Z215 WRC7 soft, 3 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"This one is not a comfortable stage, we are still very surprised, we had a good tyre [choice] for this one. It seems to work well. If you are technical in this stage, it is about not coming out the line, was quite dangerous."



69. ROVANPERÄ-HALTTUNEN

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"This kind of slow and narrow is always bad for me, I never really enjoy that. The downhill was very slippery, lots of pollution, lot more than I was expecting. A difficult stage. It's not fun, it doesn't work [with him]."

16. FOURMAUX-CORIA

3 Z215 WRC7 soft, 3 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"We get a lot of dirt from the cuts on the road and the cars ahead, it's very difficult, I lost a little bit of time. I did stall in a square right, so I lost two seconds. I had a clean stage; it just gets dirty."

33. EVANS-MARTIN

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"Not good for me at all, a lot more cutting than I expected and what I had in my notes. Lots more pollution again, but that is how it is, it's the same for all these guys in the back so we need to try and be better in the next one."

17. OGIER-LANDAIS

4 Z215 WRC7 soft, 2 Z215 WRC9 supersoft

"A very dirty stage, was a little bit on the safe side. The information we got [from the gravel crew] was good but maybe we didn't expect so much pollution coming."



Classifications SS11

POS	DRIVER	STAGE TIME	DIFF PREV	DIFF 1st	CAR No.	CO-DRIVER	TEAM/CAR
1	Ott TÄNAK	10:36.9	-	-	#8	Martin JÄRVEOJA	i20 N Rally1
2	Adrien FOURMAUX	10:43.8	+6.9	+6.9	#16	Alexandre CORIA	i20 N Rally1
3	Elfyn EVANS	10:45.9	+2.1	+9.0	#33	Scott MARTIN	GR Yaris Rally1
4	Takamoto KATSUTA	10:47.6	+1.7	+10.7	#18	Aaron JOHNSTON	GR Yaris Rally1
5	Sébastien OGIER	10:49.9	+2.3	+13.0	#17	Vincent LANDAIS	GR Yaris Rally1
6	Sami PAJARI	10:50.1	+0.2	+13.2	#5	Marko SALMINEN	GR Yaris Rally1
7	Kalle ROVANPERÄ	10:51.1	+1.0	+14.2	#69	Jonne HALTUNEN	GR Yaris Rally1
8	Grégoire MUNSTER	10:53.1	+2.0	+16.2	#13	Louis LOUKA	Puma Rally1
9	Thierry NEUVILLE	10:58.1	+5.0	+21.2	#1	Martijn WYDAEGHE	i20 N Rally1
10	Joshua MCERLEAN	11:18.4	+20.3	+41.5	#55	Eoin TREACY	Puma Rally1

After SS11

POS	DRIVER	TOTAL TIME	DIFF PREV	DIFF 1st	CAR No.	CO-DRIVER	TEAM/CAR
1	Sébastien OGIER	1:54:19.9	-	-	#17	Vincent LANDAIS	GR Yaris Rally1
2	Adrien FOURMAUX	1:54:32.2	+12.3	+12.3	#16	Alexandre CORIA	i20 N Rally1
3	Elfyn EVANS	1:54:32.7	+0.5	+12.8	#33	Scott MARTIN	GR Yaris Rally1
4	Kalle ROVANPERÄ	1:55:00.6	+27.9	+40.7	#69	Jonne HALTUNEN	GR Yaris Rally1
5	Ott TÄNAK	1:55:03.5	+2.9	+43.6	#8	Martin JÄRVEOJA	i20 N Rally1
6	Takamoto KATSUTA	1:55:57.5	+54.0	+1:37.6	#18	Aaron JOHNSTON	GR Yaris Rally1
7	Sami PAJARI	1:58:03.1	+2:05.6	+3:43.2	#5	Marko SALMINEN	GR Yaris Rally1
8	Thierry NEUVILLE	1:59:27.2	+1:24.1	+5:07.3	#1	Martijn WYDAEGHE	i20 N Rally1
9	Joshua MCERLEAN	2:01:06.9	+1:39.7	+6:47.0	#55	Eoin TREACY	Puma Rally1
10	Grégoire MUNSTER	2:05:37.4	+4:30.5	+11:17.5	#13	Louis LOUKA	Puma Rally1