



SS14: COL DE BRAUS / LA CABANETTE 1

Date:	25.01.2026		
Day:	4	Flash N°:	20
Special Stage:	14	Distance:	12,50 km
Weather:	0°C – Clear weather		
Road conditions:	Snow, slush and ice.		

SS14: Fontana makes history!

In a Rally3 car (2-wheel drive), Matteo Fontana (Ford Fiesta) was flying this Sunday morning between col de Braus and la Cabanette. Italian driver clocked first ever WRC stage win for a Rally3 car. Behind him, 3 Rally2 cars: Yohan Rossel (Lancia Ypsilon HF Rally2), Cédric Cherain (Skoda Fabia RS) and Romet Jürgenson (Ford Fiesta).

Elfyn Evans (Toyota) finished in fifth position, 22.7 seconds behind Fontana. It took a few hundredths of a second to separate him from Adrien Fourmaux (Hyundai), who was also very efficient on this completely snow-covered and icy road that opened the final morning of the rally.

Oliver Solberg limited the damage, 8.5 seconds behind Evans.

'I'm very happy to be in this position (as leader), so I just want to keep it going,' said Solberg at the stop point, relieved to have fulfilled the first part of his mission on Sunday: to maintain the lead in the rally, if possible until the end, without going for points of the Super Sunday or the final Power Stage. He still has a 50-second lead over Evans with three stages to go. And Sébastien Ogier has lost more ground: another 15 seconds lost to Evans and a cumulative deficit of one and a half minute to Solberg.

Quotes

55. MCERLEAN-TREACY

4 studs, 2 non-studs

"It is very tedious especially going uphill. Through the hairpins with the road full of ice, you're sitting there and just waiting. It is good fun but it is just not going anywhere."



20. PADDON-KENNARD

6 studs

"We'll just have fun today, the weight is off our shoulders now. Obviously, pretty slippery. I think a lot of parts will clean up. It's not very often that you need 14.5 minutes for 12 kilometers. I think we were faster in recce."

18. KATSUTA-JOHNSTON

5 studs, 1 non-stud

"I don't know, it was very tricky. In the beginning, it's melting a lot, you never know what's coming. I completely backed off because I want to finish this rally. I didn't want to push on this one."

13. MUNSTER-LOUKA

4 studs, 2 non-studs

Retirement due to a technical issue on the road section before the stage.

95. ARMSTRONG-BYRNE

4 studs, 2 non-studs

"Honestly, it felt like I was stopped everywhere. I was just being quite careful, trying to focus on getting a bit of traction in the rear. I never did such a slow stage in my life, especially with the hairpins at the end, but looking at the times, it seems like we did a good job."

11. NEUVILLE-WYDAEGHE

4 studs, 2 non-studs

"[About his last split] It was probably the cleaning effect. The first part is definitely cleaning. I tried to have a clean stage, but when there is slush, I have no confidence."

16. FOURMAUX-CORIA

4 studs, 2 non-studs

"To be honest, there was a lot of difference between our notes and when we went through. There was much less slush and snow at the beginning. I lost a bit of time there. After that, it was full of snow. I tried to be efficient, but we have no grip in the hairpins. We were just stopped in each one. It was not easy."

1. OGIER-LANDAIS

6 studs

"I cannot go up [the hill]."

33. EVANS-MARTIN

6 studs

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“Very difficult, the grip at the top is simply non-existent. Impossible.”

99. SOLBERG-EDMONDSON

6 studs

“Right now, in this position, I don't care about Sunday points. It's a unique, an incredible position to be in. Something I could have never dreamed of. I'll just try to continue like this and see what's possible. It was very tricky. I had a few bad hairpins. It's supposed to have a clean line, but there is so much snow from the cars in front that it's too risky to do anything. [About his damaged windshield] I was driving on the road section and suddenly, it cracked.”

Classifications

SS14

POS	DRIVER	TEAM	STAGE TIME	DIFF PREV	DIFF 1st
1	GBR E. EVANS	TOYOTA	13:55.3	-	-
2	FRA A. FOURMAUX	TOYOTA	13:55.3	-	-
3	BEL T. NEUVILLE	TOYOTA	14:02.5	+ 07.2	+ 07.2
4	SWE O. SOLBERG	TOYOTA	14:03.8	+ 01.3	+ 08.5
5	IRL J. ARMSTRONG	FORD	14:09.7	+ 05.9	+ 14.4
6	FRA S. OGIER	TOYOTA	14:11.2	+ 01.5	+ 15.9
7	JPN T. KATSUTA	TOYOTA	14:20.4	+ 09.2	+ 25.1
8	AUS H. PADDON	TOYOTA	14:23.6	+ 03.2	+ 28.3
9	IRL J. MCERLEAN	FORD	14:26.1	+ 02.5	+ 30.8
	IRL G. MUNSTER	FORD	-	+ -	+ -

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After SS14

POS	DRIVER	TEAM	TOTAL TIME	DIFF PREV	DIFF 1st
1	🇸🇪 O. SOLBERG	toyota	03:30:37.9	-	-
2	🇬🇧 E. EVANS	toyota	03:31:28.7	+ 50.8	+ 50.8
3	🇫🇷 S. OGIER	toyota	03:32:10.6	+ 41.9	+ 01:32.7
4	🇫🇷 A. FOURMAUX	hyundai	03:36:32.3	+ 04:21.7	+ 05:54.4
5	🇧🇪 T. NEUVILLE	hyundai	03:37:59.6	+ 01:27.3	+ 07:21.7
6	🇮🇪 J. ARMSTRONG	ford	03:40:47.7	+ 02:48.1	+ 10:09.8
7	🇯🇵 T. KATSUTA	toyota	03:42:31.4	+ 01:43.7	+ 11:53.5
8	🇦🇺 H. PADDON	hyundai	03:46:46.1	+ 04:14.7	+ 16:08.2
9	🇮🇪 J. MCERLEAN	ford	04:10:09.3	+ 23:23.2	+ 39:31.4

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