



Llovera: New special stages, but just as difficult.

Albert Llovera-Diego Vallejo will face, starting next Thursday 28th, the Neste Oil Rally Finland 2011. The event has undergone many changes to its route this year and is once again very difficult, since the organization has decided to keep last-year's structure of only two racing days. However, this race remains one of the most charismatic of the championship.

Already in Jyväskylä and just before the reconnaissance, Llovera described the so-called Thousand Lake Rally as an extremely difficult event: ***It's a rally with two really compact stages. I will stay in my car for more than 16 hours each day and some sections have up to 5 special stages without going through the service park, which doesn't allow for much recovery time, especially for my hands and arms. Despite the difficulties, we are going to prepare for the rally the best we can and see how everything goes.***

The Fiat driver has driven all the way to Finland in the reconnaissance car. Here are the reasons behind such an approach to the event: ***This year the reason is always the same; our budget is really tight, I would even say minimal, and we have to cut expenses wherever we can. In addition to driving up here, we have also decided, together with PCR, to reduce the number of mechanics in the service park. In other words those who will come will have twice as much work to do in the same amount of time. At the moment, there's no other option.*** As for the special stages of the Finland 2011 Rally, it is important to point out that it is going to be one of the most difficult rallies of the championship: ***As I've said before, the organization, probably to save some cash, has decided to compact the event a lot. Furthermore, this year, they have brought some special stages back from the 90's and, most of all, Friday's stage is really long and has more than 500km of liaisons. Despite all the difficulties, in my opinion, this rally has an incredible environment and it's a real pleasure to be part of it.***

As Albert has already mentioned, this year's rally includes some special stages in the area of Tampere that haven't been raced for a very long time. The total distance of the rally is close to 1500km including 314km of special stages, 22 in total, half of which will be raced on Saturday 30th, the last racing day.

The Neste Oil Rally Finland 2011 will start on 28th July at 4 p.m. at the podium in the Paviljonki service park in Jyväskylä. The novelty this year is that instead of just one short special stage for everyone's enjoyment, the rally will start with 39.74km spread across three special stages, including the all-demanding Lankamaa (23.76km) as the very first.

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