



Sunday, April 18, 2010, 4:00 PM:

Rally New York USA 2010, the only tarmac National Championship rally in the US, is now in the history books. The overall winners as well as the winners in the all-wheel-drive category are the Irishmen Donnelly and McNamara, another Irish crew of Kearney and McAlister and a new and up-and-coming team of Petrow and Neyhart. The performance of note was by another new team of Osterman and Sinkevich, who placed sixth but would have ended up in the second place if it were not for the three-minute penalty for checking early into a time control.

In the two-wheel-drive category, the winners are Greer and DellaRocco, and two new teams of Mathias and Oliver and Detota and Smith.

A number of cash and contingency awards were presented to the teams at the Awards Ceremony last night. Donnelly and McNamara, Kearney and McAlister, and Petrow and Neyhart are the recipients of Adrian Mic Driving School cash award for the overall winners. These teams together with Gottlieb and Gager, and Greer and DellaRocco received the Moore Sport contingency award certificates. All the preceding teams plus the team of Osterman and Sinkevich were awarded prize money.

Moore Sport cash award for the most improved entry went to the team of Osterman and Sinkevich.

The cash prize from Toyo Tires presented by the competition tires dealer TreadZone belongs to the regional competitors Levesque and McKelvie.

Saturday, April 17, 2010, 4:20 PM:

15 special stages have now been completed and the rally is running to the minute stated in the event Itinerary. Charlie Donnelly retains the lead. Cyril Kearney moved into the second place. He is followed by the "young guns" Petrow, Osterman and Gottlieb. There are three special stages remaining this afternoon.

The weather has deteriorated with showers and snow showers.

Saturday, April 17, 2010, 12:45 PM:

The cars started out of Parc Ferme at 7 PM under cloudy skies. The brave and dedicated stage crews were on the stages at 5:30 in the morning, when the daylight was barely starting to show up. Twelve special stages have been completed up to now, with five stages so far run today on schedule.

The early leader Tom Lawless is off on stage eleven about 1,500 feet before the Dunk Hill Spectator Area. The crew is OK. Charlie Donnelly, who incurred a 10 second penalty yesterday for checking one minute late into a time control, is now in the lead. The crew of Bridwell / Katinger in a Ford Focus rolled earlier in the day on the Steve Bogart stage. The crew is OK. There were no injuries or other property damage and the car has been already transported out of the stage.

Friday, April 16, 2010, 11:30 PM:

23 National cars (Regional cars are not subject to Parc Ferme) are in Parc Ferme in Walton after an afternoon and evening of racing at Concord Resort in Monticello, most of it on wet roads. There were no accidents and very few retirements.

Reilly / Benthien will restart tomorrow under Super Rally regulations after suffering a clutch failure today. The actual status of Brosnan / McCann and Kearney / Nee is DNS.

The overnight leaders are Lawless / Przybysz with Donnelly / McNamara and Donnelly / Fitzgerald only a few seconds back.

The rally will restart tomorrow morning at 7 AM for twelve hours of racing with Ceremonial Finish in Walton at 7 PM.

Friday, April 16, 2010, 10:30 AM:

As usual at these events, the reconnaissance of the rally route in Walton, New York went smoothly and without any incident yesterday. The reconnaissance was marshaled with fully operational event radio net.

The cars are now heading for Monticello, New York for noontime reconnaissance of special stages in Monticello. The Ceremonial Start will take place at the Sullivan County Government Center at 3 PM. Six special stages at Concord Resort and Golf Club will follow. The cars will return to Walton in the evening for overnight Parc Ferme.

Preview: Rally New York USA 2010

Revised Route and Strong Field Highlight This Unique Event

Author: Rally New York Media

Contact: Thomas Barker, Press Officer (203-229-0718)

Forestburgh, New York (April 15, 2010) Auto rally competitors and fans are now on the way (or will soon be on the way) to the Catskill Mountains of New York State for Rally New York USA, on April 16-17. When they arrive, they will find a revised route, a strong field of entries, and some question marks in the weather forecast.

Revised Course

Rally New York USA is unique among national-level rallies in North America because the route is entirely on paved roads. Most nationals on this continent are primarily on dirt and gravel roads, although paved courses are popular for national events in Ireland and southern Europe. RNYUSA is also one of the few North American rallies which allows "two-pass reconnaissance" (that is, competitors are allowed to drive the route before the rally at legal speeds, and are allowed to drive each road twice to prepare and check route notes).

This year's route has many sections which the drivers have enjoyed before in the areas around Thompson, Monticello and Walton, New York. Two special stages (speed tests) are new, however, and will be run for the first time on Saturday:

John Meredith – This stage is named for the former Supervisor of the Town of Walton, who died prematurely after a short illness last Fall. Meredith is being remembered for his belief that Rally New York events were beneficial for the local community. The John Meredith special stage includes roads north of Walton which have been seen previously, but run in the opposite direction (which, as any rally driver will tell you, makes them almost completely new). This stage **will** feature a spectator area.

Mountain Drive – This section, south of Walton, features roads used previously, but with the direction reversed. Event chairman Ivan Orisek promises that this stage will have a little bit of everything – hills, tight turns, and fast sections. Mountain Drive will be open to viewing only by local residents and their guests.

The rally begins at the Sullivan County Government Center in Monticello at 3 p.m. Friday, following a display of the competing cars, and ends at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in Walton at 7-8 p.m. Saturday. Admission to the start and finish are free. The route includes the popular runs through the Concord Resort and Golf Club on Friday evening and in the Walton area on Saturday, both of which charge a small entry fee. See the event web site, www.rallynewyork.com, for spectator maps, directions, and schedules. Spectators are asked to park only in the designated areas.

Strong Field

Fans who attend this year's edition will find a strong field, including U.S. Rally Championship (USRC) winners, previous Rally New York winners, and some promising newcomers. Some of the noteworthy entries are (in alphabetical order by driver's name):

Hampton Bridwell/Josh Katinger (Ford Focus SVT) – frequent class winners in the national series, and runners-up in the 2WD section of the U.S. Rally Championship in 2008.

Dan Brosnan/Shane McCann (Open Manta 400) – reigning USRC two-wheel-drive (2WD) national champions and defending Rally New York USA 2WD winners; have traded their successful Nissan for the potentially faster Opel.

Justin Carven/Aaron Crescenti (Volkswagen Rabbit diesel) – novel for running the car on vegetable oil, but don't sell them short. Carven drove the car to fifth overall and second two-wheel-drive on the recent New York Winter Rally.

Erika Detota/Jason Smith (Subaru Impreza) – novice team who placed eighth in New York Winter Rally 2010 in their first rally.

Celsus "Charlie" Donnelly/(co-driver to be announced) (Mitsubishi Lancer Evo) – Donnelly won this event in 2007, and is looking for a repeat.

Matt Gottlieb/Austin Gager (Subaru Impreza WRX) – a young team who won the 4WD Production Cup in the regional New York Rally Championship last year; looking for their break-out national finish.

Wojtek "Al" Kulpa/Adam Pelc (Volkswagen Golf GTI) – two Polish rally veterans now living in the New York City metro area, who won the 2WD category of last Fall's International Rally New York.

Thomas Lawless/Kristin Przybysz (Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 9) – Irishman Lawless is a former USRC champ in the four-wheel-drive (4WD) category, who is coming here after winning the recent New York Winter Rally. He has also won both Rally New York USA and International Rally New York. Przybysz (pronounced PRI-bish) is a veteran co-driver from the U.S. who most often rallies with her husband Maciej.

Enda McCormack/Tommy Doyle (Mitsubishi Lancer Evo 9) – Runners-up in New York Winter Rally 2010, hoping to do even better this time.

Timothy Osterman/Joseph Sinkenvich (Subaru Impreza WRX STi) – placed fourth in New York Winter Rally 2010, their first-ever rally.

Michael Reilly/Josh Benthien (Ford Focus ZX3) – winners of the USRC 2-wheel-drive Production Cup in 2009.

Weather

Weather forecasters are predicting highs in the low 50s on Friday and Saturday, with a low of 40 degrees on Friday night. The chance of rain is 70% on Friday, but 40% on Saturday. This means some

uncertainty as to the types of tires to mount and what conditions to expect on the roads. But that, as they say, is rallying.