

Wales Rally GB

From John Fife on Facebook 19th May 2015

Reivers prize ... On the basis that you have to be in it to win it, one of the surprising things to come out of the entries received so far for the Jim Clark Reivers Rally is that only four young drivers have actually ticked the box to enter the 'FREE entry' competition for this year's Wales Rally GB in November.

That is what is on offer for the top Scottish Championship registered Junior (Under 25) Rally Driver on the 2015 Jim Clark Reivers Rally which is scheduled to run on Sunday 31st May.

The entry fee alone for the three day National event, which runs over some of the same stages as the International event (so you can compare your own time against Kris Meeke's for instance), will be around 700 quid!

On top of that the Scottish Championship is working on a package to support the winner which will include a tyre deal and a contribution to costs. What this could mean is a three day rally on the world stage for the price of a one day rally in Scotland – well nearly, I might be exaggerating a wee bit here, but what a prize.

Scott MacBeth was first to enter the competition with Andy Struthers, Caroline Carslaw and Greg McKnight entering more recently. And since I saw Scott at the weekend's McRae Rally Challenge, I asked him what it would mean to win such a prize.

There was a sharp intake of breath before he answered: "No question, I would try my utmost to have a go. I went down there for the first time two years ago to help Ross MacDonald and Matthew Johnstone in their Honda Civic and they finished 9th overall in the National event. That was some set-up with good stages. We spectated at Dyfi and the stage conditions even after all the cars had been through were good."

"Rally Wales GB is one of my two favourite rallies (the other is Mull) so to have a chance of doing it would be great. It's just the cost that would put me off, but a prize like this is worth going for."

So if any of you out there fancy a (relatively!) cheap three day package touring holiday (in a rally car) in North Wales in bracing November weather - and don't want Scott to run away with the prize, then why not have a crack at the Reivers. Entries are still available:

www.jimclarkrally.org