

02.07.16
News release

Osian dominates day two in Poland

Osian Pryce enjoyed a near-perfect second day of Rally Poland, winning all-but one of the day's long gravel stages in his Ford Fiesta R2T.

After an exceptional turn of speed from the Welshman, he leads the DDFT field into the third and final day of action around Mikolajki in Poland's lake district.

Osian and co-driver Dale Furniss were out of the blocks brilliantly this morning, posting fastest time on a stage which ran along Poland's borders with Russia and Lithuania. Second quickest on the next test, the pair wouldn't be headed for the rest of the day and only missed out on fastest time at this evening's spectator-pleasing superspecial by two-tenths of a second.

Osian said: "If I'm honest, I wasn't completely happy with how yesterday went, so I was out of bed earlier than normal this morning and watching the DVD of our recce again.

"Dale and I watch the DVDs every night, but I felt like I wanted to double-check everything this morning. There are so many places in these stages that look innocuous enough, but they can catch you out.

"When I left service, I was feeling upbeat and pretty confident – Wales' win over Belgium in the football last night might have helped as well! Fastest time on the first one was a brilliant start to our Saturday, it really set the tone for us.

"Having said that, I did lose a bit of time on the second stage, the longest of the day. I'd decided to leave a bit too much pressure in the tyres, I didn't really appreciate quite how quickly the ambient temperature was rising and the front tyres started to overheat a little bit. Then I made a bit of a mess of a junction and that cost me a couple of seconds.

"After that, everything was perfect. We had a damaged rim in the final long stage, but that's no surprise, the second run through the stages was really quite rough and rutted in places. I was especially happy with the second run through the long stage – I tidied everything up and we were quickest in there.

"It would have been nice to have been fastest at the superspecial, but you can't have everything. And I'm more than happy with what we got from today!

"It looks like there's some rain forecast overnight, so that could make things really slippery and tricky for the final day. We'll have a look in the morning and make a plan when we see what the conditions are like. But another day like today would be perfect for Dale and I!"

Today was...

Osian's day in detail. His times against his DDFT rivals.

SS11: fastest (2nd in DDFT) *Osian's moves up to second in DDFT*

SS12: 2nd fastest (2nd in DDFT) *tyre pressures too high, overheats the fronts*

SS13: fastest (2nd in DDFT) *cuts the gap to leader to just 7.3s*

SS14: fastest (1st in DDFT) *Osian leads in Poland*

SS15: fastest (1st in DDFT) *consolidates lead with another top time*

SS16: fastest (1st in DDFT) *the perfect afternoon – quickest again*

SS17: 3rd fastest (1st in DDFT) *misses another fastest time by two-tenths*

Weather:

Today: Hot and hotter. Temperatures: 20-34 Celsius.

Tomorrow: potential for heavy and prolonged overnight rain into tomorrow.

Tomorrow is...

Sunday July 3

Osian's day starts: 0900

Osian's day finishes: 1500

Number of stages: four

Competitive distance: 37.03 miles (59.60km)

Total distance: 74.66 miles (120.15km)

Longest stage: SS18/20 Baranowo 13.20 miles (21.25km)

Shortest stage: SS19/21 Fafe 5.31 miles (8.55km)

Meet Osian...

Date of birth: 24.02.93

Lives: Machynlleth

Co-driver: Dale Furniss

First rally: Rally Kurzeme (Latvia) August 2009 – 37th overall, eighth 2WD

Rally starts: 57

British Rally Championship event wins: 5*

British Rally Championship results: 2nd (2013/14), 3rd (2012)

World Rally Championship starts: 6

World Rally Championship class wins: 2

Website: osianpryce.com

* Including Osian's dominant National Rally Cup victory on this year's Mid Wales Stages

About Rally Poland

June 30-July 3

Based: Mikolajki

Surface: gravel

Stages: 21

Competitive distance: 190.21 miles (306.10km)

Total distance: 778.79 miles (1253.29km)

Website: www.rajdpolski.pl

Rally Poland itinerary

Thursday June 30

Start Mikolajki main square 1600

SS1 Mikolajki Arena 1 2.50km (1.55 miles) 1908

Friday July 1

SS2 Chmielewo 1 6.52km (4.05 miles) 0715

SS3 Wieliczki 1 17.30km (10.75 miles) 0900

SS4 Swietajno 1 21.14km (13.13 miles) 1010

SS5 Stare Juchy 1 13.50km (8.38 miles) 1055

Service Mikolajki 1240

SS6 Chmielewo 2 6.52km (4.05 miles) 1355

SS7 Wieliczki 2 17.30km (10.75 miles) 1540

SS8 Swietajno 2 21.14km (13.13 miles) 1650

SS9 Stare Juchy 2 13.50km (8.38 miles) 1735

SS10 Mikolajki Arena 2 2.50km (1.55 miles) 1928

Service Mikolajki 1948

Saturday July 2

SS11 Goldap 1 14.75km (9.16 miles) 0955

SS12 Stanczyki 1 25.27km (15.70 miles) 1125

SS13 Babki 1 21.02km (13.06 miles) 1215

Remote tyre zone Goldap 1315

SS14 Stanczyki 2 25.27km (15.70 miles) 1450

SS15 Babki 2 21.02km (13.06 miles) 1540

SS16 Goldap 2 14.75km (9.16 miles) 1650

SS17 Mikolajki Arena 3 2.50km (1.55 miles) 1908

Service Mikolajki 1928

Sunday July 3

SS18 Baranowo 1 21.25km (13.20 miles) 0820

SS19 Sady 1 8.55km (5.31 miles) 0908

Service Mikolajki 0935

SS20 Baranowo 2 21.25km (13.20 miles) 1050

SS21 Sady 2 8.55km (5.31 miles) 1208

Finish Mikolajki main square 1400

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Now say hello to the Ford Fiesta R2T

Engine: 999cc turbo, 12-valve, three cylinders

Max power: 180bhp @ 6,200rpm

Max torque: 250Nm @ 4,000rpm

Transmission: Sadev five-speed sequential gearbox, plated limited-slip differential and uprated driveshafts

Suspension: Adjustable Reiger dampers, Eibach springs

Brakes: 285mm discs four-piston calipers (front gravel); 310mm discs four-piston calipers (front asphalt); 280mm discs two-piston calipers (rear); hydraulic handbrake

Wheels: OZ Racing 6x15-inch (gravel); 6.5x15-inch (asphalt)

Dimensions: length 3982mm; width 1695mm; height 1481mm; wheelbase 2490mm

Weight: 1030kg

About the Drive DMACK Fiesta Trophy

The brainchild of M-Sport World Rally Team principal Malcolm Wilson and DMACK managing director Dick Cormack, the DDFT takes the best young drivers from around the world and pitches them into a five-round fight for the biggest prize south of the World Rally Championship itself.

There's a season in a Ford Fiesta R5 car at rallying's second tier – WRC2 – on offer to the winner after five rounds. The structure of DDFT has changed slightly this season, with rallies being paired (Portugal and Poland; Poland and Finland; Germany and Spain) and the crew gathering the most points from each of those two rallies will win two rallies in the R5 car next season.

Winning a full WRC2 season of 2017 competition in an M-Sport Fiesta R5 will require consistent speed from Osian and Dale this year.

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