

## JUNIOR 1000 ECOSSE CHALLENGE

## Rallying for 14-17 year olds



We are now just over halfway through our championship with 5 of the 8 rounds having taken place.

As always the battle for top honours is close with a good mix of drivers and cars at the top of the leaderboard. Due to some mechanical failures it is interesting to see 3 of the oldest but reliable Nissan Micras up with the others at the top.

We have 14 registered drivers in the championship with 10 of them competing regularly. Unfortunately, we have a couple of competitors that will not be continuing for the rest of the season but we hope to see them out in the future either back with the championship or in other forms of the sport.

We have had 2 events this year where we have had a novice driver on their first event get a podium place. Justin Gunning at Granite stages and Owen Paterson at Kames so keep an eye on those names in the future.

At the start of the year the Irish J1000 Championship decided to take a year out. As a result, we decide to create a miniseries in an Irish Cup. We have had 3 drivers come over to take part in the 2 events so far in this part of the championship as well as other select rounds.

We lost 2 events in our championship due to a date clash with Mull and the loss of the Solway Coast. However, we have managed to add The Heroes Stages at Weeton into the calendar and with the last round at Anglesey being a 2-day event each day with count as points to give us our full 8 rounds back. We will be joined by the F1000 junior championship at both these events.

We have held 2 training events so far this year. The first was at a very misty Knockhill where the instructors had them out on the track followed by a session on the hillside Everyone then took part in an Autotest run by Glenrothes. The second training day was held at Kames. Again, time was spent on track with instructors and a in the classroom with a couple of topics, The Motorsport UK program "Race and Respect" as well as a session on sponsorship.

As always wherever possible we are trying to promote the championship and the talent that our young drivers have. We have been attending several shows and other race/rally events where we ask the competitors to come along and help by talking to anyone showing interest. Better to hear about the championship direct from them.

We would encourage everyone to follow us on Facebook at our page Junior Rally Scotland if you don't already do so. It is constantly being updated with all the news on current and past competitors both when on events and anything else they may be doing.

Regards Stuart Sheridan Co-ordinator J1000 Ecosse Challenge

## **OUR MISSION:**

"To educate and prepare young people for a future in rallying through training and participation"