



## SQUARE LEFT

NEWS

### Rally2WD format to be adopted on Scottish Rally



The new Rally2WD initiative that was adopted for the first time last week on Rally North Wales will be used on the RSAC Scottish Rally on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

Rally2WD allows two-wheel-drive competitors to run first on the road where traditionally due to their lack of performance, they would run behind four-wheel-drive cars and thus face worse stage conditions.

As cars race through the forests, they churn up the gravel surface and pull out loose rocks which are harder on two-wheel-drive cars than their four-wheel-drive equivalents, which has forced several former competitors out of the sport.

The initiative proved hugely successful on the second round of the Pirelli Welsh Rally Championship last week, which has convinced organisers of the third round of the ARR Craib Scottish Rally Championship to follow suit.

This year's Scottish Rally will see the event split into two, with the Rally2WD runners tackling the stages in the morning and the four-wheel-drive drivers completing the same route in the afternoon.

After losing its place on the British Rally Championship calendar, it was important for the organisers to do something different, and this is a challenge the whole team is looking forward to.

"We have listened to feedback from competitors and spectators and are pleased to be running in this exciting new split format that has been devised by the Rally2WD group to rekindle the sometimes falling numbers in the two-wheel drive fraternity," said Clerk of the Course Jonathan Lord.

"As far as we are aware, we are the only Scottish Championship event to be running this way but a similar theme has been seen on selected events before and has worked very well.

“It is logistically challenging, but the organisers are meeting it head on and we believe it will offer competitors a truly excellent day of rallying across some great stages.”

The route of the rally has seen a small shake-up too.

Due to larch infection, the rally will not run through Ae forest, instead heading to Twiglees, Castle O’er, Rivox and Gill Knowe.

The rally HQ will remain at Lockerbie Lorry Park, but the finish for all competitors will now be held in the town centre of Moffat, with only the BRC runners spraying the champagne there last year.