

Tour de Corse – Day Three Report

- Hyundai Motorsport has secured a podium finish in Tour de Corse, the fourth round of the 2018 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC)
- Thierry Neuville salvaged third place from a difficult weekend, with Dani Sordo in fourth and Andreas Mikkelsen seventh overall
- The result allows Hyundai Motorsport to retain its lead in the Manufacturers' Championship with a four-point advantage over M-Sport Ford.

Bastia, Corsica

April 8, 2018 – Hyundai Motorsport has completed a challenging weekend on the tarmac terrain of Tour de Corse, the fourth round of the 2018 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) season, with a podium finish as Thierry Neuville secured third place.

The team saw all three of its Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC cars inside the top-seven with Dani Sordo in fourth and Andreas Mikkelsen in seventh overall after a demanding event.

Sunday's itinerary included the monster 55.17km Vero – Sarrola – Carcopino stage, followed by the 16.25km Power Stage around the former prison at Coti-Chiavari. It was another tough day on the Corsican tarmac for the three crews who have struggled for pace and performance on the tight and twisty stages this weekend.

Neuville and co-driver Nicolas Gilsoul were focused on securing third place on the final morning but ran into difficulty on the long opening stage, damaging their rear-left wheel. An undiagnosed engine-related issue prevented them from pushing in the Power Stage, but the Belgians were still able to confirm their third consecutive Corsican podium.

With manufacturer points awarded for the two highest placed crews in a team, Hyundai Motorsport continues to lead the championship with a reduced four-point advantage over the M-Sport Ford World Rally Team.

WRC Crew Notes: Neuville/Gilsoul (#5 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Belgians claim second podium finish of 2018
- Neuville retains second in drivers' championship with 17-point gap to Ogier

Neuville said: *"It's good to finish on the podium but there has been a bit of frustration over the weekend. We haven't been able to match the times of the front-runners, even if we tried really hard. We have to be content with the results we have achieved, securing a podium and important points for the manufacturers' championship. In general, I am pleased with the final result but in terms of outright performance we were just not on the pace this weekend."*

WRC Crew Notes: Sordo/Del Barrio (#6 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Fourth place for the Spaniards moves Sordo to eighth in drivers' table
- 12 points scored for the manufacturers' championship

Sordo said: *"Our end result is not too bad considering the disappointing weekend we have had in Corsica. We have just not been able to find the speed and performance needed to tackle these roads. It was a similar story today; we have pushed as hard as we can but the times have not been there. Still, fourth place gives us important points for the championship so that's something positive we can take away. Now we need to work together as a team to get more speed on tarmac for later in the season."*

WRC Crew Notes: Mikkelsen/Jæger (#4 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Mikkelsen battles to seventh overall and holds fourth in drivers' championship
- Norwegians will seek to find more tarmac experience with Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC

Mikkelsen said: *"Absolutely not the result we wanted and a very difficult weekend overall. We made some more set-up changes for this morning's two stages but unfortunately we couldn't find the breakthrough that we needed. It has been a challenging rally but we know that we have to do to gain more experience with this car on tarmac. We need more mileage to understand where we can find more performance from ourselves and from the car. We have some time before the next asphalt event in Germany, so we have to put in lots of effort to make the improvements we need. That's the homework we are taking from this weekend."*

Tough at the top

Team Principal Michel Nandan commented: *"Starting with the positives, we have registered our fourth individual podium result of the season with Thierry in third place. With Dani able to finish one place behind, we have added some important championship points, helping us to retain our lead. It's still incredibly close, as I think it will continue to be all season. We can't afford to have difficult weekends like this too often, so we will have to regroup and work harder to improve our performance on tarmac. It wasn't a trouble-free final morning, unfortunately, with Thierry experiencing issues on the Power Stage with only three cylinders. We have to investigate this to understand what caused it. There are lots of lessons for us to learn from this rally."*

Next Rally

- Rally Argentina takes place from April 26-29, returning to the scene of a memorable Hyundai Motorsport win from 2017
- The 18-stage gravel event will be the fifth rally of the 13-round WRC season

Final Overall Classification - Tour de Corse

1	S. Ogier	J. Ingrassia	Ford Fiesta WRC	3:26:52.7
2	O. Tänak	M. Järveoja	Toyota Yaris WRC	+36.1
3	T. Neuville	N. Gilsoul	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+1:07.5
4	D. Sordo	C. del Barrio	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+2:02.6
5	E. Evans	P. Mills	Ford Fiesta WRC	+2:06.1
6	E. Lappi	J. Ferm	Toyota Yaris WRC	+2:33.5
7	A. Mikkelsen	A. Jæger	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+2:43.4
8	J. Kopecky	P. Dresler	Škoda Fabia R5	+10:34.8
9	K. Meeke	P. Nagle	Citroën C3 WRC	+10:40.5
10	Y. Bonato	B. Boulloud	Citroën C3 R5	+12:26.0

2018 FIA World Rally Championship for Drivers' Standings

After round 4

1	S. Ogier	84
2	T. Neuville	67
3	O. Tanak	45
4	A. Mikkelsen	41
5	K. Meeke	36
6	E. Lappi	36
7	J.M Latvala	31
8	D. Sordo	30
9	C. Breen	20
10	E. Evans	18
11	S. Loeb	15
12	H. Paddon	10

2018 FIA World Rally Championship for Manufacturers' Standings

After round 4

1	Hyundai Shell Mobis World Rally Team	111
2	M-Sport Ford World Rally Team	107
3	Toyota Gazoo Racing World Rally Team	93
4	Citroën Total Abu Dhabi World Rally Team	81

All results remain subject to official FIA confirmation.

About Hyundai Motorsport GmbH

Established on 19 December 2012, Hyundai Motorsport GmbH is responsible for Hyundai's global motorsport activities and primarily for its World Rally Championship programme. Based in Alzenau on the outskirts of Frankfurt in Germany, the company embarked on its debut season in the FIA World Rally Championship in 2014 with a bespoke team of skilled staff and a brand new car, the Hyundai i20 WRC. The team made a strong impression in its first year claiming podium results in Mexico and Poland, as well as a memorable 1-2 in Germany. In its second season, the team was involved in a closely fought battle for second place in the Manufacturers' Championship, adding more podiums and stage wins to its tally. For its third year in WRC, Hyundai Motorsport developed a brand new car, the New Generation i20 WRC. The team enjoyed its most successful season to date in 2016 with two victories (Argentina and Sardinia) and a total of 12 individual podium results, finishing second in the Manufacturers' Championship. With a number of key technical regulation changes introduced for the 2017 season, Hyundai Motorsport developed a brand new car, the Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC, with which it has contested its fourth season. The team registered its first win of 2017 at Tour de Corse before following that up with victories in Argentina, Poland and the season finale in Australia. 2018 represents Hyundai Motorsport's fifth season in the WRC.

Further information about Hyundai Motorsport is available at: <http://motorsport.hyundai.com>

About Hyundai Motor

Established in 1967, Hyundai Motor Company is committed to becoming a lifetime partner in automobiles and beyond. The company leads the Hyundai Motor Group, an innovative business structure capable of circulating resources from molten iron to finished cars. Hyundai Motor has eight manufacturing bases and seven design and technical centers worldwide and in 2017 sold about 4.5 million vehicles globally. With more than 110,000 employees worldwide, Hyundai Motor continues to enhance its product lineup with localized models and strives to strengthen its leadership in clean technology, starting with the world's first mass-produced fuel cell electric vehicle ix35 Fuel cell and IONIQ, the world's first model with three electrified powertrains in a single body type.

More information about Hyundai Motor and its products can be found at:
<http://worldwide.hyundai.com> or <http://globalpr.hyundai.com/>

To download high-resolution photos for editorial use, full drivers' profiles, as well as other useful press information about the team please refer to:

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