

Rally México – Day Three Report

- Hyundai Motorsport has concluded Rally México with Thierry Neuville in fourth overall, Dani Sordo in ninth and Andreas Mikkelsen in 11th place
- Sordo scored important manufacturer points for a top-ten finish, having fought for the rally lead earlier in the weekend
- Neuville and Sordo both added extra points to their respective drivers' championship totals with solid runs to third and fourth in the Power Stage.

León, Mexico

March 10, 2019 – Hyundai Motorsport has added important points to its FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) manufacturers' total with Thierry Neuville and Dani Sordo scoring for their respective fourth and ninth place finishes in Rally México.

Sunday's itinerary included the 21km Alfaro test, the 25.07km Mesa Cuata stage (including large sections of the El Chocolate route), as well as the rally-ending 10.72km Las Minas Power Stage.

There was little drama on the final day with all crews focused on bringing home as many points as possible after a learning weekend for the team.

Neuville used the final three stages to cement a hard-fought fourth position. The result concluded a tough event for the Belgian, which was dictated by a slow puncture on Friday morning, and an unfavourable road position throughout the event.

Neuville and Sordo both added extra points to their individual championship totals for finishing third and fourth in the Power Stage.

Crew Notes: Thierry Neuville/Nicolas Gilsoul (#11 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Two wins in the V-Power Shell Stage in the Belgians' 100th WRC event
- Fourth place and three Power Stage points added to their championship tally

Neuville said: *"That was not the weekend we wanted. From the puncture early on Friday morning, and with our road position, it has been a really challenging event from start to finish. We have been missing some speed at times and generally struggling. I felt I was driving on a good rhythm but we weren't on our usual pace. Today, I tried to keep a good rhythm in case something happened to the guys in front but that meant we didn't have enough tyre performance left for the Power Stage, unlike some of our rivals. We have to put this rally to one side and re-group ready for Corsica."*

Crew Notes: Dani Sordo/Carlos del Barrio (#6 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Spaniards' first WRC event of 2019 hampered by Friday retirement
- Fought for rally lead and showed front-running potential, including two Power Stage points

Sordo said: *"Our aim for today was to drive within our limits and to pick up some manufacturers' points, which are so important for the team. At the start of the Power Stage, I was enjoying the car so we gave it a bit of a push but nothing too crazy. I have had fun driving the stages this weekend, and the support*

from the crowds has been amazing, even if the end result was not what we could have achieved. We were fighting at the front on Friday until our problems so the potential is definitely there. We'll be back stronger at the next rally in Corsica."

Crew Notes: Andreas Mikkelsen/Anders Jæger-Amland (#89 Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC)

- Three stage wins over the weekend proved Norwegians potential in Mexico
- Rally leaders on Friday frustrated to forfeit front-running position

Mikkelsen said: "It's easy to dwell on the missed opportunities this weekend, but it is important that we look at the many positives. The i20 Coupe WRC performed much more to my liking on these gravel stages, and that was reflected in our competitive stage times on Friday. Obviously, we weren't able to fight for the sort of result we were capable of scoring but that's rallying sometimes. The final day was clean and we had a decent run through the Power Stage. It was my first attempt at Las Minas as I missed out on Friday afternoon. It wasn't perfect but another useful lesson."

Team Director Andrea Adamo: "These are not the results we come to WRC events to achieve, but we cannot be frustrated or disappointed. The situation is what it is. We must take the lessons home and work as hard as we always do to make improvements. At the top level of international rallying, we simply cannot afford to any faults that compromise the end results. Our Rally México was affected from the opening day, and it has been damage limitation ever since. We will remain focused and pursue diligence in our work ahead of Corsica."

Next Rally

- The first complete tarmac rally of the 2019 season, Tour de Corse, will take place March 28-31
- Hyundai Motorsport will field a three-crew line-up with Thierry Neuville/Nicolas Gilsoul, Dani Sordo/Carlos del Barrio and Sébastien Loeb/Daniel Elena.

Final Overall Classification – Rally México

1	S. Ogier	J. Ingrassia	Citroën C3 WRC	3:37:08.0
2	O. Tänak	M. Järveoja	Toyota Yaris WRC	+30.2
3	E. Evans	S. Martin	Ford Fiesta WRC	+49.9
4	T. Neuville	N. Gilsoul	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+1:27.0
5	K. Meeke	S. Marshall	Toyota Yaris WRC	+6:06.2
6	B. Guerra	J. Zapata	Škoda Fabia R5	+15:35.5
7	M. Bulacia	F. Cretu	Škoda Fabia R5	+18:51.5
8	J.M Latvala	M. Anttila	Toyota Yaris WRC	+18:55.9
9	D. Sordo	C. del Barrio	Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC	+22:44.1
10	R. Triviño	M. Martí	Škoda Fabia R5	+26:21.7

2019 FIA World Rally Championship for Drivers' Standings

After round 3

1	O. Tanak	65
2	S. Ogier	61
3	T. Neuville	55
4	K. Meeke	35
5	E. Evans	28
6	E. Lappi	20
7	S.Loeb	18
8	J.M Latvala	14
9	A. Mikkelsen	12

2019 FIA World Rally Championship for Manufacturers' Standings

After round 3

1	Toyota Gazoo Racing World Rally Team	86
2	Citroën Total World Rally Team	78
3	Hyundai Shell Mobis World Rally Team	77
4	M-Sport Ford World Rally Team	45

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, including the FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) and Customer Racing projects. In WRC, Hyundai Motorsport quickly established a strong reputation taking victory in its debut season in 2014. The team amassed ten wins up to the end of the 2018 season and finished as runners-up in the manufacturers' championship on three consecutive occasions. Since the establishment of its Customer Racing activities in September 2015, Hyundai Motorsport has become a trusted partner for teams and drivers looking for success on the rally stages or on racetracks around the world. From its competitive i20 R5 rally car to the competitive i30 N TCR, Hyundai Motorsport-built cars have claimed victory in several championships, including national rally series in France and Spain, as well as the teams' and drivers' titles in the inaugural FIA World Touring Car Cup (WTCR) season. Unified under Hyundai Motorsport, WRC and Customer Racing are together playing instrumental roles in driving Hyundai's global high-performance N brand, and are supporting an important perception shift for the Hyundai brand around the world.

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 with its range of world-class vehicles and mobility services offered available in more than 200 countries. Employing more than 110,000 employees worldwide, Hyundai sold more than 4.5 million vehicles globally. Hyundai Motor continues to enhance its product line-up with vehicles that are helping to build solutions for a more sustainable future, such as NEXO – the world's first dedicated hydrogen-powered SUV.

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:

<http://press.motorsport.hyundai.com/home>

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