**12. Kärcher Rally Kumrovec 2023**

 **PRESS RELEASE 1**

 **September 5, 2023.**

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A total of 82 crews from 8 countries have entered 12. Kärcher Rally Kumrovec. The starting no. 1 is allocated to the defending champions Rok Turk and Blanka Kacin from Slovenia in Hyundai i20 Rally2. A few more big names are coming to Hrvatsko Zagorje. Certainly the biggest among them is that of three-time Hungarian champion Andras Hadik, with co-driver Krisztian Kertesz in Ford Fiesta R5 MkII. Hadik is currently holding the second place in the Mitropa Rally Cup standings, with third-placed Simon Rončel (Peugeot 208 Rally4) and fourth-placed Mark Škulj (Opel Corsa Rally4) also coming to Kumrovec.

Domestic crews will be led by Juraj Šebalj and Marijan Stublić in Toyota GR Yaris, and after a short absence from Croatian Stages, Viliam Prodan will return, with new co-driver Marko Stiperski in Ford Fiesta Rally3. This season they have already driven two rallies in nearby Slovenia with Renault Clio Rally4, so they will probably aim for a high finishing place in a stronger car at Kumrovec. The Croatian Championship leader, Janos Szilagyi and Robert Balai will compete in the Peugeot 208 Rally4, and there is a whole bunch of experienced AKK Sveta Nedelja drivers such as Nenad Lončarić in Subaru Impreza STI, Daniel Vojvodić in Mitsubishi Lancer Evo III and Krešimir Ravenščak in Ford Fiesta Rally3.

Statistically speaking, as many as 14 cars are the strongest, Class 1 cars, one more than Class 2 vehicles are on the Entry List. We are looking forward to an interesting fight in all championships for which 12. Kärcher Rally Kumrovec scores. Unfortunately, three drivers from the Top 10 of the Croatian Championship are missing at the moment – Martin Ravenščak, Jan Pokos and Nino Bogović

Shakedown will take place on Friday, September 8 from 14:00 till 15:45 hours, followed by the first Special Stage Tuhelj at 17:34. It will be driven on the Kumrovec – Prosenik section. Afterwards, the crews will start arriving at Terme Tuhelj around 17:45, where visitors will be able to see them, and receive autographs from the drivers and co-drivers. The night Stage Tuhelj will start at 19:57. Saturday's programme starts with the Ceremonial Start at the Staro Selo Museum in Kumrovec at 9:15. Nine more Special Stages will follow, Desinić, Zagorska Sela and Kumrovec, which will be driven three times each. The Finish ceremony is scheduled for 17:45 at the Staro Selo Museum.

 Press team

 12. Kärcher Rally Kumrovec

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