

# **RSO VP Performance**

## **2025**

### **Annual Report**

#### **Ontario Performance Rally Championship (OPRC)**

The 2025 Ontario Performance Rally Championship delivered another strong season of stage rally competition. Five events made up the calendar, with three held in Ontario and two in Quebec — a familiar and well-regarded mix that brought together competitors from across the region and beyond.

2025 marked a significant change to the championship calendar with the introduction of the Rally of the Voyageurs, organized by KWRC. Held on May 10th in near Catcacoma, the new event replaced Shannonville Stages and made for an excellent debut, drawing 14 starters for its inaugural running. The transition to a gravel forest stage event was well-received by competitors and organizers alike, and it is a welcome addition to the OPRC schedule.

It is important to note that 2025 saw the OPRC operate without a cash prize fund for the first time in several years. The Novus Auto Group, our generous sponsor in 2024, shifted their focus in 2025 toward being a single event sponsor, becoming the title sponsor of Rally of the Tall Pines. Taking a different approach to growth initiatives, the increased volunteer and financial support of filming. We saw media coverage of three events; Rally of the Voyageurs, Black Bear Rally, and Rally of the Tall Pines. While the absence of the prize fund was certainly felt, the continued investment in media content for our sport is something to be genuinely excited about, and we hope this coverage helps grow the profile of performance rally in Ontario.

#### **Event Summary**

The 2025 OPRC kicked off in traditional fashion with Rallye Perce-Neige de Maniwaki on February 1st, organized by Club Rallye Maniwaki(CRM). The roads in and around Maniwaki, QC welcomed a strong field of 22 starters for the winter-condition opener, consistent with the event's reputation as one of the most atmospheric rallies on the calendar.

The Rally of the Voyageurs followed on May 10th, the new OPRC round organized by KWRC. For a first-year event, 14 starters represented a solid debut and set a promising foundation for future editions. The spring forest stages provided a great backdrop for the second round of competition.

Black Bear Rally, organized by MLRC, took place on August 9th and attracted 17 starters. The event continues to be one of the most popular on the Ontario calendar, with competitors from both provinces enjoying its challenging and well-prepared stage roads.

Rallye Défi Petite Nation, organized by CASLL, was held on September 6th and drew entries from both Ontario and Quebec, with 10 starters making the trip to compete. While a smaller field than some events on the calendar, the quality of competition at Défi never disappoints.

The season concluded with the Rally of the Tall Pines in Bancroft, ON on November 22nd, organized by MLRC and run alongside the national event. Tall Pines once again proved to be the marquee event of the OPRC season, drawing 24 starters — the largest field of any event in 2025 — and delivering a fitting finale to the championship year.

## **2025 OPRC Champions**

After five competitive rounds, the 2025 OPRC crowns its champions across all categories. Congratulations to the following drivers and co-drivers:

### **Overall**

- Trevor Pougnet / Ryan Rouleau — Overall Champion (1st)
- Simon Vincent / Hubert Gaudreau — Overall, 2nd
- Sebastien Clark / Ian Lantz — Overall, 3rd

### **Two Wheel Drive**

- Mathieu Royer / Alyssa Voyzelle-Montminy — 2WD Champion (1st)
- Mark Toufanov / David Bell — 2WD, 2nd
- Eric Vanderwal / Elisha Papanicolaou — 2WD, 3rd

### **Novice**

- Jeremie Thibeault — Novice Champion (1st)
- Dan Galipeau — Novice, 2nd
- Michael Dimkovski — Novice, 3rd

### **Prepared 4WD**

- Trevor Pougnet / Ryan Rouleau — Prepared 4WD Champion

### **Prepared 2WD**

- Mathieu Royer / Alyssa Voyzelle-Montminy — Prepared 2WD Champion

### **Marque**

- Subaru — Marque Champion (dominant throughout the season, finishing first at every round)

Trevor Pougnet put together an exceptional and remarkably consistent season, scoring at least 1 point at all five rounds and taking victories at both the Rally of the Voyageurs and Black Bear Rally. His pairing with co-driver Ryan Rouleau proved equally effective on winter roads, spring forest stages, and the notoriously demanding Tall Pines stages. A well-deserved Overall Championship title.

Mathieu Royer's campaign in the 2WD class was equally impressive, with victories at Black Bear and Tall Pines. Co-driver Alyssa Voyzelle-Montminy was equally recognized with the co-driver championship in both 2WD and Prepared 2WD. Simon Vincent's run to second overall, achieved by competing at only three of five events. Speaks to the strength of his performances at each round, winning all three he entered.

Full standings for the 2025 OPRC can be found at <https://rallysport.on.ca/fastrally/oprc-standings-archive/oprc-standings-2025/>

## **Ontario RallyCross Championship (ORXC)**

The Ontario RallyCross Championship had another busy season in 2025. Three clubs participated — KWRC, PMSC, and MCO — combining for a total of 9 championship events across the year. KWRC ended up running three events, PMSC also contributed three, and MCO as well, providing competitors with plenty of opportunities to earn points and sharpen their skills on the autocross-style dirt courses.

It was great to see MCO join the championship in 2025, further expanding the geographic reach of the ORXC and bringing new competitors into the fold. Thirteen drivers registered for the championship across the four classes: Overall, 4WD Forced Induction, 4WD Naturally Aspirated, and 2WD.

The 2025 season also saw no Side-by-Side (SxS) class competitors, though the class remains available for 2026. In future seasons there should be considerations for it to be dropped.

### **2025 ORXC Champions**

Congratulations to the 2025 Ontario RallyCross Championship class winners:

#### **Overall**

- Darin Mayes — Overall Champion (1st)
- Mats Kraft — Overall, 2nd
- Tyler Stewart — Overall, 3rd

#### **4WD Forced Induction**

- Darin Mayes — 4WD Forced Induction Champion
- Evan Mayes — 4WD Forced Induction, 2nd
- Dan Demers — 4WD Forced Induction, 3rd

#### **4WD Naturally Aspirated**

- Mats Kraft — 4WD Naturally Aspirated Champion
- Jeff Cowen — 4WD Naturally Aspirated, 2nd
- Matt Tregunno — 4WD Naturally Aspirated, 3rd

## **Two Wheel Drive**

- Tyler Stewart — 2WD Champion
- Ian Gagnon — 2WD, 2nd
- Storme Wroblewski — 2WD, 3rd

Darin Mayes claimed a dominant championship title in 4WD Forced Induction and the Overall championship. Mats Kraft and Tyler Stewart were his closest rivals in the overall standings, with Kraft 8 points behind and Stewart a further 22 points back. Showcasing competitive championship battles throughout the year.

Full ORXC standings can be found at  
<https://rallysport.on.ca/rally-cross/orxc-standings-archive/orxc-standings-2025/>

## **Rally Sprint (ORSC)**

Unfortunately, there were no Rally Sprint events held under the ORSC banner in 2025. MLRC did hold a solo rally sprint event leading up to Tall Pines that was well received and attracted both seasoned and new performance rallyist. We remain hopeful that interest in this entry-level format will grow, and we encourage any clubs interested in organizing a rally sprint to reach out. It is one of the most accessible on-ramps into performance rallies and has become only a small part of the Ontario scene in past years.

2025 was a year of transition for the performance side of RSO — a new event on the OPRC calendar, a new club in the ORXC, and a change in how our key sponsor chose to support the sport. Through all of it, the competitors, organizers, and volunteers showed up and delivered a season to be proud of. The dedication of the clubs — MLRC, KWRC, PMSC, MCO, and the Quebec organizers who host RPNM and Défi — continues to be the backbone of everything we do.

Thank you as always to the organizers, workers, volunteers, and competitors who make these events happen year after year. None of it is possible without you.

## **Brandon Pace**

*VP Performance, RallySport Ontario*