



## Big numbers on the wheel of Rallye Sanremo and of the Leggenda

*71 are the entrants in the 66<sup>th</sup> Rallye Sanremo and 74 entrants in the 11<sup>th</sup> Sanremo Leggenda (for a total of 145 participants in the two modern rallies). These are the crews that answered the call of the race on the Liguria West Coast. All major drivers of the Italian rallying to these we add the Irish Craig Breen, who used to drive in the World Rally Championship and this year decided to race in Italy, furthermore there are drivers and co-drivers coming from: France, Latvia, Switzerland, United States, Romania and Bulgaria to compete in the Italian Rally Championship and also in FIA Alpine Rally Trophy and in the FIA GT-R.*

**SANREMO (IM), 10 April – 66<sup>th</sup> Rallye Sanremo** yesterday made official the Entry List that provides 71 drivers coming from Italy and six different countries. The majority are the protagonists of the **Italian Rally Championship**. The number one goes on the doors of Giandomenico **Basso**, co-driven by Lorenzo **Granai**, winner of five continental titles and two Italian titles and now leader of the National Championship thanks to the victory obtained in his **Škoda Fabia R5** at Rally Il Ciocco. The driver from Veneto won three times this race in 2008, 2012 and 2013, at the wheel of three different cars. **Basso**, is a veteran here in Sanremo, he took part in this race 14 times, the last one in 2016, starting in 1998 with the Seicento Trofeo. Immediately after him there is the **Ford Fiesta R5** of Simone **Campedelli** co-driven by the Swiss Tania **Canton** he has been the closest rival in the classification of the race in Tuscany (Rally Il Ciocco). The driver from Cesena is now at his eighth participation in Sanremo and last year he finished second overall, always with Tania Canton. Luca **Rossetti**-Eleonora **Mori** will have number three on the doors of their **Citroën C3 R5** who they drove for the first time at Rally Il Ciocco where they finished third overall. The driver from Friuli now living in Valtellina won several titles (three continental titles, three Italian titles and the Turkish Championship) he also won in **Sanremo** in 2007 and took part in this race nine times the last one was in 2015 when he won all classes he entered in a small Renault Clio R3. Is the new man in the **Italian Championship** but he drove 59 races in the World Rally Championship, two finished on the podium, we are talking about the Irish driver 29 years old Craig **Breen**, who will be at the start in a **Škoda Fabia** co-driven by Irish fellow Paul Nagle. Breen has been fast to adapt to the Bohemian car that he drove for the first time at Rally Il Ciocco where he finished fourth overall. **Breen** has disputed twice **Sanremo** in 2012 (sixth overall) and 2013 (seventh).

After the four musketeers of the **Italian Rally Championship** will start the eight crews of the **Italian Tarmac Rally Championship** led at the start by the drivers from Brescia Stefano **Albertini**-Danilo **Fappani**, winner of their category in a **Škoda Fabia R5** at Rally Il Ciocco. Important is also the presence among these participants of Andrea **Crugnola**, with Pietro **Ometto** at the pace notes in the new **Volkswagen Polo R5**, he has been able to keep the lead for quite a while at Rally Il Ciocco contending the success to **Basso** and **Campedelli**. In this category at Rally Il Ciocco stood out Rudy **Michellini**-Michele **Perna** (**Škoda Fabia R5**), Antonio **Rusce**-Sauro **Farnocchia** (**Volkswagen Polo**), and Kevin **Gilardoni**-Corrado **Bonato** (**Hyundai i20**), they all arrived within the first ten overall. At the wheel of a **Škoda Fabia R5** there is the fast 23 years old French driver Jean-Baptiste **Franceschi**, who took part also at the Ronde della Val Merula where he





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finished fourth overall. He took part also in ten rounds of the World Rally Championship and he is also the winner of the French Rally Roches Brunes.

To follow also the **FIA R-GT** that propose cars with rear traction. The Piedmont driver **Enrico Brazzoli**, co-driven by **Manuel Fenoli**, he will have a **124 Abarth rally**. He obtained a double success in Montecarlo and in Corsica, but he will have to watch the attack of the **Porsche 911** of the Americans **Ian Crerar-Aaron Crescenti**. Important also the challenge for the **2WD** title re-proposing the challenge between the two protagonists seen at Rally Il Ciocco, **Tommaso Ciuffi-Nicolò Gonella**, in an official **Peugeot 208 R2B** of Peugeot Italia, and the **Ford Fiesta R2** of **Luca Panzani-Francesco Pinelli**. With the **66<sup>th</sup> Rallye Sanremo** starts the new edition of the **Italian Junior Rally Championship** that will be disputed with the **Ford Fiesta MK8** all run by **Motorsport Italia**. At **Sanremo** there will be also the **Clio R3 Top Trophy**, with two crews at the start, the **Peugeot 208 Rally Cup** with nine competitors, and the **Suzuki Rally Cup** with 11 competitors. Obviously there will be the challenge of the ladies who are **Rachele Somaschini-Chiara Lombardi** in a **Citroën DS3 R3** and **Patrizia Perosino-Veronica Verzoletto** (mother and daughter) in a **Peugeot 208 R2B**.

**The Swiss lead the assault of the Leggenda.** There are **74 crews** that Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> will tackle the Special Stages of the 11<sup>th</sup> **Sanremo Leggenda** on the roads of the hinterland of Andora and Imperia. To lead the dance will be two Swiss drivers: "**Il Valli**" co-driven by the Turin **Stefano Cirillo** and **Alessandro Proh** with the expert co-driver from Asti **Maurizio Imerito**, both in the **Škoda Fabia R5**. The two Swiss will open the road to other nine competitors on board of **Class R5** cars, the great favorites of the race, with the drivers from Imperia **Alberto Orengo** and **Bruno Banaudi** to lead the chase. But we cannot exclude hand strokes of the **S2000** Class cars, slightly older, (four entrants), especially if in the hands of promising youngsters like the driver from Savona **Fabrizio Andolfi Jr**, co-driven by **Stefano Savoia**, in a **Peugeot 207**. In case of bad weather they will surely we will have to watch the two **Mitsubishi Lancer** of Class **N4**, while the **Renault Clio S1600** will use agility and power to climb high in the standings, however having to contend with the **Renault Clio R3**, one of which brought to the race by **Kim Daldini**, a very young driver but already capable of obtaining an overall success in a rally.

Following the three competitors of the **R2B** Class, all on the **Peugeot 208 VTI**, among which also the only female crew in the race formed by **Monica Caramellino** and **Giulia Patrone**, then five competitors of **A7** among which "**the Condor**" stands out **Albino Condrò** with **Lyz Fournier Greco**, expected on the top of the overall standings with his **Peugeot 205 GTI**. Following two **Honda Civic Type-Rs** from the **Racing Start Plus** category, ten **Renault Clio N3**, four very fast **A6**, one **Clio Racing Start 2.0**, three **Class A5**, sixteen **Class N2** cars, the most numerous, five **Racing Start 1.6**, two **Seicento Sporting A0**, and finally three **Peugeot 106 Rallye** Class **N1**. At **Sanremo Leggenda** twelve **Under-25** and fourteen **Over 55** riders are entered. The **11th Sanremo Leggenda** is valid for the **Zone Rally Cup** (zone 2), **Michelin Rally Zone Cup**, **Renault Run With Clio Open** and **Renault Clio R3 Open**.



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