



## RalliSport Challenge 2 For XBOX

With over a month to go before the action at Cochrane, you're pretty much relying on daydreams for stage rally at this point. If you're jonesing for some competitive rally action, look no further than RalliSport Challenge2 out now on XBOX.

In single player mode you can challenge four different circuits: Amateur, Pro, Champion, and Superrally, each level packed with events, and herein lies the difference from other rally games. The best part of RSC2 is that it has five different rally styles. There's regular Stage Rally, Rallycross, Ice Racing, Hill Climb, and Crossover.

In Rally mode you race flat out for the win on up to five different special stages. Your co-driver barks out simple pace notes that are familiar, but really quite basic. Pace notes can be changed to "advanced" in the options menu, but it's almost too confusing.

Rallycross is very similar to motocross on dirt bikes. Four cars are pitted against each other in head to head fight for the win on a short track. Ice Racing is totally fun. The car slips and spins and reacts with the ice just like a car would in real life. Hill Climb is flat out against one other car point-to-point on a short regularity and has a whole host of different cars to choose from, including some of the most high-performance racing vehicles pulled right from real life. Crossover pits two cars against one another in separate lanes that eventually cross over into the next, both racers using the whole track.

As you advance through the ranks and start winning your licenses, you unlock new cars, old cars, and way faster cars. Also, the more mileage you put on a car, the more colour schemes you unlock for it. A cool feature is the ability to fully customize your chosen rally car. You can alter everything from the tire choice right up to brake stiffness and toe-in and toe-out.

The two-player mode is really the best feature of this game. The competition gets pretty intense and the hours fly by like nothing. Changing tracks, changing cars and rematches are all you will see for about three hours minimum.

The only horrible thing about this game is the soundtrack, but that is the beauty of the XBOX; you can rip your own driving mix right on to the hard drive and play it while you race.

RSC2 is also Online Enabled by XBOX Live, but as a warning, the competition from players all over the world is really tough.

Rating \*\*\*\*/5

By Geoff Gauthier



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