

Kananaskis Rally 2005

By Shawn Edstrom

Kananaskis Rally 2005 in Cochrane Alberta marked the sixth and final round of the West Coast Rally Championship. Saturday November 5th 2005 was the opening day of the event and that included a full day of recce and tech inspection. This way, the next day, Sunday November 6th 2005, was set fully aside for the race and banquet.

17 cars from BC and Alberta started the wintery Kananaskis Rally 2005 and not all of them were to finish. This event was also going to be the final battleground for the WCRC Novice Championship, with a close battle between BC's Aaron Neumann and Alberta's Colin Armstrong. Warren Currie

was unfortunately out of the three-way battle after his roll at the Yokohama Pacific Forest Rally 3 weeks earlier. WCRC series champion Scott Trinder was also out due to a stray boulder at PFR setting the stage for a great 2wd battle for top spot of the event.

Unfortunately for Aaron Neumann and his Honda Civic an off in the morning looked like the end of his WCRC Novice Championship if Colin Armstrong in his VW Golf was able to keep his car on the road and finish in first or second novice.

After several other offs by several competitors the day was over and when the snow dust settled North Vancouver (temporarily in Edmonton for school)

resident Chad Manley won his first ever event in his orange VW Golf. Second place went to the only AWD car to finish in the top 5, Kelowna's Mark Jennings-Bates in his Eagle talon. This meant that Colin Armstrong in third place was short of the points needed to take the WCRC Novice Championship, therefore cinching the championship for Aaron Neumann. The next two positions fourth, went to Kris Schofield and fifth to Carl Barrell. It was a great event for novices, as they held all of the top 5 positions and 6 of the ten finishing positions.

For more information on the Kananaskis Rally 2005 check out their website at <http://www.bishop.ab.ca/CSCC/kananaskis/>

Thunderbird Rally 2006

presented by the
West Coast Rally Association

Round 1 of the British Columbia TSD Rally Championship

The 35th running of T-Bird takes place February 19-20.



The Thunderbird Rally is a winter driving adventure through snow and ice covered back roads in the British Columbia interior. Following the Thunderbird route is simple, but styng out of the snow banks is not. This event is suitable for ordinary road cars. There are classes for Historic cars, Novice teams and different levels of navigational equipment. Enjoy friendly competition with teams from BC, Alaska, Alberta, Washington, Oregon and beyond. Thunderbird has been the premier winter driver's rally in BC since its inception in 1957. From the mid 60's to the early 70's it was part of the Canadian Rally Championship, until the format of that series changed from TSD to stage events. It was resurrected in its original format in 1987 by members of the UBC Sports Car Club (hence the Thunderbird mascot) and

since then, both organizers and competitors have been leaving car shaped indentations in snowbanks from Tulameen to Okanagan Falls, Christian Valley to Robbins Range, Tranquille to Green Lake to Beaver Lake...you et the picture. Paul Westwick returns as Rallymaster for the 19th time and promises new challenges to both drivers and navigators on a 2-day route that begins in Merritt. This will not be a "deceptive" rally; instead it runs on straightforward instructions and relies on careful selection of roads and timing to pprovide the excitement. There is room on the start list for 70 entries and in recent years this has quickly filled up. Specific details are available in the Thunderbird TSD Supplementary Regulations located on the www.rallybc.com website.

