

Juha Laaksonen 2nd overall in Savonlinna

Seurahuone Juhlarally was the first event on 2015 Historic Rally Trophy serie



Last Saturday there was a historic rally event near Savonlinna. Rally included 5 special stages. Juha Laaksonen and Esa Ekola started the event with number 55. It was the first rally for the new car.

Laaksonen drove the first stage with careful speed. He just tried to learn the new car and there was a minor problem with the gearbox too. Laaksonen was 4th quickest on the first stage, he loses 22,3 seconds to Jarno Kinnunen who was fastest with his Audi Coupe Quattro.

- The gearbox was jammed on fifth gear, luckily we managed to get to the service and fix the problem, Laaksonen said.

On second stage Juha raised the speed. He was 2nd quickest on stage, 9 seconds slower than Kinnunen. After SS2 Juha was on third place overall with 1,3 second gap to Janne Kanerva who was in second place overall.

Third stage was really good for Laaksonen. Juha managed to drive it through faster than anyone else. With fwd-car he was 2,1 seconds faster than 4wd Audi driven by Jarno Kinnunen. This drive raised Juha to second place overall.

Fifth stage was the longest one on the whole rally. Laaksonen was fastest again with 0,1 second gap to Kinnunen. Finally Juha and Esa were 2nd overall in the rally. Nice drive with the new car.

- We have problems with the gearbox, but despite everything the car is good. Car is full of potential, we just need to fix all the little things first, Laaksonen said after the rally.

Seurahuone Juhlarally final results:

1. Jarno Kinnunen – Erno Kinnunen, Audi Coupe Quattro (h24)	43:38,5
2. Juha Laaksonen – Esa Ekola, VW Golf 16 S (h19)	44:08,2
3. Kimmo Juhannusvuori – Janne Juhannusvuori, Ford Escort RS 2000 (h17)	44:20,0
4. Janne Kanerva – Harri Kanerva, Volvo 142 S (h17)	44:30,9
5. Sami Tuominen – Juha Karpiola, Ford Escort RS 2000 (h17)	45:17,0
6. Tomi Vanhatalo – Raimo Vanhatalo, Opel Ascona B (h20)	45:49,4
7. Vesa Kahelin – Jussi Perälä, Volvo 242 (h20)	45:51,8
8. Osmo Polojärvi – Antero Pyykkönen, Volvo 242 (h20)	45:52,0
9. Heikki Westerlund – Hanna Valonen, Opel Manta 2.0 E (h23)	45:58,6
10. Jussi Lappalainen – Rauno Hurskainen, Ford Escort 1300 GT (h9)	45:58,8

Next Historic Rally Trophy event is driven at 13.-14.2. Legendary Mänttä 200-rally is two day-event.



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