



WORDS  
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PICTURES  
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A minimum of four events must be completed in order to qualify for an award. The new championship schedule is as follows:

2009 National Junior Rally Championship

1. 8 Feb - Tipperary Forest Rally
2. 1 March - Carrick-on-Suir Forest Rally
3. 12 April - Munster Forest Rally
4. 24 May - Cavan Stages Rally
5. 31 May - Circuit Of Munster Junior Rally
6. 14 June - North East Mini Stage
7. 28 June - Ravens Rock Junior Rally
8. 19 July - ALMC Rally Junior Rally
9. 15 August - Cork Forest Rally
10. 6 Sept - Castle Mini Stages Rally
11. 20 Sept - Clare Stages Junior Rally
12. 4 Oct - Munster Cork 20 Junior Rally
13. 10 Oct - Donegal Harvest Junior Rally
14. 11 Oct - Birr Forest Rally



Rd 3 Winner: Vincent McAree

## Junior Restructuring...

Round four of the 2009 National Junior Rally Championship sees a change in surface, from gravel to tarmac, for the next five rallies. There is also major restructuring in terms of the regulations for the remainder of the season.

The harsh economic climate has dictated that budgets must be scrutinised. Motorsport Ireland has taken the bold step of introducing major changes for the remainder of the season. The needs for this action are two fold: firstly the NJRC was formed to hone the skills of young talent and secondly the NJRC is the only route to the qualification process for the Billy Coleman Award. Every effort needs to be made to attract as many suitable candidates as possible.

The major changes in the regulations are that the season now consists of fourteen events and the best performance from any five events will count towards the Championship.

In turn with the revisions to the calendar MI are announcing a major shake up of the PR for the championship. For the remainder of the 2009 season MI is going to give a key overhaul to the Junior Championship homepage on the MI website. John Quill as registrar and Trevor McGrath as press officer will work with all forms of the Motorsport media to highlight the championship and bring the series to a new platform for the future.

The 2009 season started with a blanket of snow for the opening round in Mitchelstown and it was Kilkenny driver Craig Breen

up his success by taking top honours on round two on his home event in Carrick on Suir. For round three the championship moved the Lismore, County Waterford for the Moonraker Forestry Rally. This time out it was the turn of Vincent McAree to take victory and move into second place in the championship.

Now as we enter the next phase of the championship all the registered drivers are getting

schedule.

Now as the Championship enters the summer period of the season and with two rounds in quick succession in May and two more events over the month of June there will be major developments in each class and the championship leader board. It is also hoped that with the restructured regulations and the revamped approach to the media that the championship will attract more drivers to register.



Championship leader: Craig Breen

prepared for the tarmac action and they are all encouraged with the changes and the news that MI are committed to the series.

Championship leader Craig Breen has reported that he will not be competing in Cavan and looking at the revised calendar, the Ravens Rock should be his next outing,

**The Championship contacts are:**  
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