

2006 HELLA INTERNATIONAL RALLY OF ROTORUA

QUOTE SHEET, LEG 2, SERVICE F

1 Cody Crocker-Ben Atkinson

I was surprised by Richard Mason pulling it out of the hat. I had a few moments with braking today. Overall though the Motu stage was an amazing experience – it was tight and twisty while the rain made it tough. We had 50 pages of notes for the Motu stage alone. It was the longest and most challenging stage I've done in a long time. It is a very different rally that in Australia. This has lots more corners and is much harder on the body, and harder to keep the concentration up. Overall I am thrilled to be in the lead in the Asia Pacific Championship and looking forward to the next rally in Japan.

2 Eli Evans-Matt McAdam

It was a lot better today. The road conditions got worse this afternoon but we picked it up. Overall the rally is tough because there are so many corners. SS8 today was super fast and we really liked it. I'd like to come back next year.

4. Rifat Sungkar-Herkusuna Mohamad

This is an amazing rally. It is the best rally ever for me. My favourite stage was the Motu. SS10 was really rough with lots of rocks and we got a puncture and had to change it. SS11 was really smooth just like this morning and we had a good time. SS12 we took easy but still had the wrong notes.

9. Mark Tapper – Jeff Cress

My right rear wheel was close to falling off. We finished and that was the important thing. We just need to get to service and across the ramp without the wheel falling off. I guess the Grandma's Fiesta was not made to go this fast. I really liked the car. The harder you drive the better it got. It is better in the corners than the straights but overall a lot of fun. We spent a bit of time on two wheels but nothing I couldn't handle.

12. Sam Murray-Rob Ryan

After all the problems early yesterday it's fantastic to be third. Before the rally we had hoped to be in the top-10. Today was a chasing day and we had no problems.

11. Richard Mason – Sara Randall

It went better than I expected. The approach was to try hard but not dangerously hard. It was strange to go from attacking to defending. But I am very happy to win against Crocker. He is one of the best drivers in the world, up with the Europeans. I think it was a big home advantage for me. The reason we are quicker than the other New Zealand drivers is that we do our own pace notes. That means we can be more committed and go faster. Sarah is tremendous. She gives me the call at the perfect moment. I think that's because she is a driver and understands.

14. Todd Bawden – Damon McLachlan

I didn't really expect to be here today and definitely didn't expect to be on the podium in Rotorua. I am very happy overall. We have to work on more speed and keeping up with Sam (Murray). It will be a good championship. We've hung in for a good result. In SS12 we had a lead, and so it was a bit difficult to drive defensively. Richard Mason Motorsport first and third will surprise a few people. They are a good team, all volunteers, and work so hard.

16. Emma Gilmour – Chris Cobham

It was certainly challenging. We had a differential problem. I thought it was sorted after service. It was probably the rear diff but it affected the centre diff. When it was locked it wasn't locked. We could not drive fast as it would sometimes step out. We have learned a lot. It showed good speed when it was working. Just got to fix it for the next rally.

23. Lee-Anne Barns – Erin Kyle

I am happy to be home. Other than a little incident in SS12 where I had to make a choice between blackberry busy or power pole. We chose the blackberry bush. It was the fourth corner in where all the spectators were watching. The car is good and I am happy.