



New for 2011, the FIA WRC Academy will showcase young drivers with raw talent on a global stage. Built on the foundation of the FIA Junior World Rally Championship which jumpstarted the careers of current WRC stars like Sébastien Loeb, Dani Sordo and Sébastien Ogier, the FIA WRC Academy will become the first step on the WRC ladder, giving the stars of tomorrow an unparalleled opportunity to take part in a fuller, more cost-effective programme than ever before. This one-make series using the Ford Fiesta R2 and Pirelli tyres will take place over six rounds of the 2011 WRC, offering drivers training and tuition in and out of their cars and equipping them for every aspect of competing in an FIA global championship.

Targeted at ambitious drivers of 24 or younger with a valid international competition licence who are ready to graduate from their national championships to compete on a global playing field, the FIA WRC Academy is set up with 24 places, six of which have been allocated to the 2011 Pirelli Star Drivers.



WRC.com

The Package

The most accessible and affordable rallying series ever to be pioneered on a global scale, the basic participation cost for a whole season in the FIA WRC Academy is £118,000 (approx €135,000), cutting the average JWRC budget by up to 50%. This fee includes the rental and transportation of a centrally supplied, maintained and prepared Ford Fiesta R2, as well as mechanics, rebuild costs, Pirelli control tyres, entry fees, pre-event tests and the full tuition programme. Accident repair costs and a recce car are not included, nor are personal expenses for travel, accommodation, clothing or equipment.*

The Programme

The FIA WRC Academy Cup rounds will take place over two full days of the WRC event – generally Friday and Saturday. Training and tuition will be in the classroom and on the stages and like any real academy, there will be lecturers, mentors, grades and homework. Each FIA WRC Academy driver will arrive at events with their helmet, overalls and sponsors' stickers ready to put on their car. Recce will be followed by tuition sessions and a test for every driver. Tuition will cover driving and co-driving performance as well as related topics including technical, health, lifestyle and media skills. Before returning home, the drivers will participate in a debrief and receive assignments for the next rally.

The Prize

For the first time, there will also be a prize fund awarded to the FIA WRC Academy winner. A scholarship worth €500,000 will be presented to the victor to put towards their 2012 WRC programme.*



The Car

Each competitor will drive a Ford Fiesta R2. This car will be prepared and supplied by M-Sport who will also supervise an experienced team of mechanics on event. Based on the Ford Fiesta Sport model, the Fiesta R2 was M-Sport's first global rally car. Having proved its mettle since its launch in 2009 in the JWRC and various national Fiesta Sport Trophy series, it is the ideal car for young drivers as they gain experience on stages around the world and make their WRC debut.

Technical Specifications

Ford Fiesta R2

Bore x Stroke	79.0 mm x 81.4mm
Capacity	1598cc
Engine Format	Four cylinders in line
Engine Position	Transversal, front position
Power	170 PS @ 7,500 rpm from 97 octane fuel
Torque	182 Nm @ 5,700 rpm
Gearbox	Five speed sequential
Differential	Plated limited slip differential
Overall length	3953mm
Overall width	1722mm
Overall Weight	1030kg
Wheelbase	2490mm



*The offer of the Package and the Prize are subject to a contract which explains the details and is available to successful applicants before they have to make their final commitment.

TV & Internet

Highlights and driver profiles of the FIA WRC Academy will be broadcast within WRC TV. Details of the programming will be confirmed soon. The FIA WRC Academy will also receive targeted coverage on wrc.com, the free-to-view official WRC website, published in four different languages: English, French, Spanish and Japanese. The coverage includes news stories, video highlights, split times and driver profiles. The WRC also runs a number of official WRC social networking sites which feature the FIA WRC Academy on Facebook, Twitter and the WRC YouTube channel.



The Tyres

Pirelli has enjoyed a long and successful association with the FIA World Rally Championship since 1973, winning 179 rallies to date. For the past three years, Pirelli has provided the WRC and JWRC control tyres on an exclusive basis. The Italian company will continue its commitment to rallying and the nurturing of new talent by supporting the FIA WRC Academy. Pirelli will supply asphalt and gravel specification tyres to the FIA WRC Academy, the six rounds of which will be contested on these two surfaces. The tyre quantities will be restricted before each event as outlined in the FIA WRC Academy rules, found at: wrc.com/wrcacademy

Pirelli Star Driver

In its third year, the Pirelli Star Driver programme will be incorporated in the FIA WRC Academy. A global shootout at the 2010 RACC Rally de España whittled 16 talented young drivers from around the globe down to six winners - including the youngest ever female driver to contest a full season in the WRC support championships. The Pirelli Star drivers will compete on all six rounds on the 2011 FIA WRC Academy Cup calendar and will undertake the FIA WRC Academy training and tuition programme, receiving an exceptional insight into what it takes to get to the top of the sport.

To request application forms please visit:
www.wrc.com/wrcacademy



Sporting Regulations

- The FIA WRC Academy is a Cup for drivers and co-drivers taking part in selected qualifying WRC rallies using a Ford Fiesta R2 prepared and supplied by M-Sport.
- A scholarship worth €500,000 will be awarded to the winner of the FIA WRC Academy, which must be used to develop their career in the 2012 WRC.
- To be eligible for the FIA WRC Academy, a driver must be born on or after 1 January 1986. In addition, they must not have participated in more than seven WRC rallies as part of JWRC, PWRC or SWRC.
- There is no age limit for co-drivers. However, only the registered driver and not the co-driver may drive on the special stages of the rally.
- Drivers must register with the WRC Championship promoter before 31 March 2011. It is not necessary for the co-driver to register.
- Applications to enter the FIA WRC Academy can be made using the FIA WRC Academy Application Form. Successful applicants will be awarded a place.
- There are 24 places available in the 2011 FIA WRC Academy. Six places have been awarded to the participants of the Pirelli Star Driver programme.
- The FIA WRC Academy calendar will consist of six events. Once a driver has accepted his/her place in the FIA WRC Academy he/she must compete in all six events – except in cases of Force Majeure. A driver who does not take part in one rally will lose 25 points. A driver who misses two rallies will be excluded.
- All FIA WRC Academy drivers must use the Pirelli control tyres.
- The WRC Sporting Regulations are available from www.fia.com
- The FIA WRC Academy Rules, application forms and information are available from www.wrc.com/wrcacademy



"The FIA WRC Academy provides a unique opportunity for young drivers to experience the WRC on an equal footing – with the same car, tyres and tests. 'Arrive and drive' is a great formula, giving young people from the four corners of the globe the possibility to compete against each other. The WRC Academy is a big opportunity, making the WRC accessible to a wider cross-section of young drivers – female drivers also having the chance to show what they are made of. For the first time, the winner is even offered a scholarship of €500,000 to drive at the highest level in the WRC the following season!"

Michèle Mouton, former WRC driver and FIA Women in Motorsport Commission President



"The WRC Academy is a really good project. When I started out in the JWRC this kind of programme, which offers training and tuition as well as the opportunity for young drivers to compete in world rallies, was exactly what was missing. I think the WRC Academy could lead to more well-prepared, talented young drivers coming through the WRC in future."

Patrik Sandell
2006 JWRC Champion



"The WRC Academy offers young, talented drivers the chance to show their speed while driving the same cars. The budget is small in comparison with the JWRC and it is great that there is a prize waiting for the winner. This should give the drivers extra motivation to focus one hundred percent and work towards their ultimate aim – winning the Cup! On top of all this, the project is supported by M-Sport, a top team with a lot of experience in rallying."

Martin Prokop
2009 JWRC Champion

2011 FIA WRC Academy Calendar*

*Subject to confirmation by the FIA

24 - 27 March	Vodafone Rally de Portugal
5 - 8 May	Rally d'Italia Sardegna
28 - 31 July	Neste Oil Rally Finland
18 - 21 August	ADAC Rally Deutschland
29 September - 2 October	Rallye de France
10 - 13 November	Wales Rally GB

The FIA WRC Academy is organised by the FIA in conjunction with WRC Promoter NorthOneSport. An entry in the FIA WRC Academy is conditional on the drivers signing a contract regarding the supply of the car and services for the events in the FIA WRC Academy calendar. Full terms and conditions will be made available to all successful applicants prior to registration.

For more information please visit:
www.wrc.com/wrcacademy

