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Bishopscourt Win for William in Junior 1000 Rally Challenge!

The second round of the 2014 McGrady Insurance Junior 1000 Rally Challenge Ireland, took place on the Bishopscourt Stages Rally. Run by the Ballynahinch Motor Club, six Junior crews tackled the same fourteen special stages that the main field ran, with all six once again finishing with-out major dramas. The 14-17 year olds in their 1000cc machines once again proved their skill over this demanding event.

Leading the field away was round one winner William Creighton. The 16 year old took an early lead that was never to lose, taking thirteen out of the fourteen stage wins in his Citroen C1, in a day were he had no problems to report. "I really enjoyed the day. It was a good rally, a lot of miles and plenty of driving in the stages" commented William. William's big rival from the first round at Kirkistown was Michael McGarrity in a similar C1. The 15 year old Belfast driver had an up and down day, to eventually claim a hard fought second place. "We started ok" explained Michael. "However we had two over-shoots on different stages, just braking too late, and it wasn't flowing as well as it could have been." A charging Philip White in is Micra had nipped ahead of Michael, and the 15 year old Crumlin driver was having a good run, no doubt aided by having Micra rally driver Matthew Mason in the co-driver's seat for the first time. They would take an excellent third place and first of the Nissan runners home.

Moira's James Partridge started off strongly in the Peugeot 107, joint third fastest on the first stage, and second fastest on stage two. On stage three he dropped a few seconds, but was having a good battle with Eoghan Bogue, until a front wheel puncture cost him over twenty seconds on stage eight, and he had to settle for fifth. Newry's Eoghan Bogue was on his second event in his left hand drive Micra. After a small gear change problem on the first test, he had a clean run to finish a fine fourth.

Contesting her first rally was 15 year Alex Harper in her Superdrive Micra. The Hillsborough girl had an excellent debut making no mistakes, and was surprisingly close to the rest of the field, who all have at least a season's Junior rallying behind them. MSA coaches James Wozencroft and Adam Gould were on hand to watch the Junior's and were impressed with what they saw. "Fundamentally they all had a good technique, and made very few mistakes "commented Adam. "The drivers are keen to learn and interacted very well with us, and hopefully they can learn a little more from our coaching session at Superdrive."

To keep up to date please check out our new Facebook page-Junior 1000 Rally Challenge Ireland. http://www.facebook.com/pages/Junior-1000-Rally-Challenge-Ireland/588151257878544

McGrady Insurance Junior 1000 Rally Challenge- Rnd 2 Positions

1	William Creighton/Liam Regan	Citroen C1	48m08.6s
2	Michael McGarrity/ Stephen Massey	Citroen C1	+54.0s
3	Philip White/ Matthew Mason	Nissan Micra	+1m 11.9s
4	Eoghan Bogue/Aidan O'Connor	Nissan Micra	+1m 42.3s
5	James Partridge/Billy Regan	Peugeot 107	+2m06.3s
6	Alex Harper/Andrew Bushe	Nissan Micra	+3m42.8s

Championship Points after Round 2

1 William Creighton 24pts
2 Michael McGarrity 20pts
3 Eoghan Bogue 15 pts
4 James Partridge 14pts
- Philip White 14pts

= Philip White 14pts6 Alex Harper 5pts

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The Junior 1000 Rally Challenge is affiliated with the Association of Northern Ireland Car Clubs and the MSA.

