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## **Creighton Wins Junior 1000 Round Four as Others Close the Gap!**

The fourth round of the 2014 McGrady Insurance Junior 1000 Rally Challenge Ireland, took place at St. Angelo airfield, Enniskillen on May Bank Holiday Monday. The Enniskillen Motor Club, celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, set up six superb special stages, as seven Junior crews lined up for the start. The series also supported by rally classified ad site [www.rallysales.eu](http://www.rallysales.eu) is now in its third season, as the 14-17 year olds in their 1000cc machines hone their rallying skills. Leading the field away was Moira's William Creighton. Winner of the first three rounds, there was no doubt he started as favourite, but there was a rude awakening for the Moira teenager, on the first stage, which was greasy after a heavy shower of rain. The C1 ran wide on the first corner, clipping the bank and it un-settled him for the rest of the stage, and it cost any chance of a fastest time.

Fastest on stage one was Michael McGarrity in his similar C1, but his challenge for victory was to end on the following stage, when he over-shot the second corner dropping ten seconds as Creighton took fastest time and swept into the lead. Philip White too had a scare on stage one, but the battle of the Micra's was to resume in earnest as he powered to a very fast time on stage two, to move into second place.

Eoghan Bogue had a change of co-driver for this event, as local man Leroy Mills stepped in. With plenty of front wheel drive rallying experience, Leroy was helping Eoghan pick his way through the slippery sections, and their times improved as the partnership clicked as the day progressed. James Partridge once again had the vastly experienced Billy Regan alongside, and the 15 year old started off steadily in fifth, with no major problems to report. In sixth was the only female driver in the series, Alex Harper with her Micra, after two good opening stages in her first experience of the wet. She was sixth on both tests, and now a lot closer to the front runners pace. Broughshane's Bailie McClinton in his Nissan Micra was also on his first drive in the wet, and a second corner spin on stage one was to prove costly. He dropped a few seconds on stage two, but started to chip away at Alex Harper's advantage as the day wore on. When Alex spun at the same corner on stage four, Bailie was through and they finished in that order. Behind them however would be James Partridge. The slippery first corner was to claim another victim, as the 107 snapped side-ways, James valiantly correcting it twice, but on the third slew the car spun right through a fence! With all the wheels pointing the right way, he got it back on the track but the time lost relegated him to seventh.

Up front William Creighton gained a few seconds on stages three and four, but it was only a couple of seconds as Philip White recorded a time just two seconds slower on stage four. He was having a great run and took a superb second place. The race for third between Michael McGarrity and Eoghan Bogue raged until the final stage, with Michael commanding a 0.8 second advantage. It was to be Michael's day taking third and making the championship positions now very interesting with three drivers now tied for second place!

Round five of the McGrady Insurance Junior 1000 Rally Challenge Ireland is the Summer Stages Rally which takes place at Bishopscourt Race Circuit on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July. *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 4 Positions**

1	William Creighton/Liam Regan	Citroen C1	17m 23.8s
2	Philip White/ Matthew Mason	Nissan Micra	+20.0s
3	Michael McGarrity/ Stephen Massey	Citroen C1	+23.9s
4	Eoghan Bogue/ Leroy Mills	Nissan Micra	+26.4s
5	Bailie McClinton/Niall Burns	Nissan Micra	+1m53.2 s
6	Alex Harper/Andrew Bushe	Nissan Micra	+2m10.2s
7	James Partridge/Billy Regan	Peugeot 107	+2m14.3s

**Championship Points after Round 4**

<b>1</b> William Creighton	48 pts
<b>2</b> Eoghan Bogue	32
= Michael McGarrity	32
= Philip White	32
<b>5</b> James Partridge	25
<b>6</b> Alex Harper	15
<b>7</b> Bailie McClinton	11

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

