



Newsletter - Lohéac Legend Festival  
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## **More than 80 Legends and 25 Groupe B are coming to Lohéac!**

The Rallycross Legend Show, initiated by Philippe and Nathalie Tollemer in September 2016, gathers old cars and Rallycross drivers during 5-6 events organized in the framework of the French Rallycross Championship. These are demonstration events, without time trials, with cars, two and four wheel drive, prior to 1994. For a few months, Philippe Tollemer wanted to organize an independent event... An agreement was quickly found with the circuit of Lohéac to organize the first Lohéac Legend Festival on May 20th and 21st. Two months before the event, we take stock of the situation with the co-organizers, Philippe Tollemer and Patrick Germain...

Philippe Tollemer's father, Pierre Tollemer, was the creator with Michel Hommell of the first Rallycross of Lohéac on September 5th 1976. It was therefore logical that this first Lohéac Legend Festival should take place on the very spot where the French Rallycross was created! With two months to go before the event, Philippe Tollemer and Patrick Germain took the time to answer our questions.

### ***Philippe Tollemer, how did you come up with the idea of an additional event to the traditional Rallycross Legend Show?***

For a while I wanted to create a weekend exclusively reserved for "our" old cars. Of course, I talked about it to Patrick Germain, the president of the Rallycross de Lohéac. The idea quickly caught on and we quickly found an agreement and a date. Of course, we couldn't be satisfied with the 15-16 cars we usually have at the Rallycross Legend Show. We contacted a lot of drivers who race in demonstration events in Europe, with of course a big contingent of British drivers who race in Retro Rallycross. So there will be an exceptional line-up at one of the largest Group B gatherings in Europe. The cars will be on display for the public to get up close and personal and the owners will show their cars in a friendly atmosphere.

### ***I suppose that there will be other cars than those of the Rallycross?***

Of course there will be. There will be two categories: old Rallycross cars with an "opening" to cars until the early 2000s (Renault Mégane T3F, Citroën Saxo kit-car, Citroën Xsara "WRC" etc), plus old Rally cars (Renault 5 Turbo, Peugeot 205 T16, etc). The Rallycross cars will start five abreast in the qualifying heats, plus 2 by 2 grids in the finals, while the Rally cars will start one by one every five seconds. All events will take place on the usual Rallycross track, which will be specially prepared for them (no dust, etc.).

***How many cars do you expect to have?***

To date, we already have 82 cars (Rallycross and Rally) entered, including 25 Group B. Every day we receive new entries and we expect to have a total of 90 cars (Rallycross and Rallye), half of them driven by European drivers. This is perfect for a first event that will take place over two days, Saturday May 20 and Sunday May 21, 2023.

***Patrick Germain, since 1993 you have been the President of the Rallycross of Lohéac, an association which includes Ecurie Bretagne (which you also chair) and the Comité des Fêtes de Lohéac (chaired by Didier Justal). Lohéac has organized more than 40 events in the French Rallycross Championship since 1977, six in the European Championship (1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 2001, 2013) and seven in the World Championship (2014 to 2021). For the first time, in 2023, you will organize a second rallycross event in the same year: the Lohéac Legend Festival (May 20 and 21) and the Rallycross de Lohéac (September 2 and 3).***

First of all I would like to salute the initiative of Philippe Tollemer to have launched the Rallycross Legend Show in 2016. During long discussions, Philippe had put forward the idea of organizing an exclusive sporting event with old Rallycross cars. The idea quickly caught on, as the vintage racing car movement is gaining momentum, especially rallying with the Eifel Rally Festival in Germany and the Vosges Rally Festival in Alsace. In order to have a "consistent" line-up, it was obvious to gather Rallycross and Rally cars. Little by little, the line-up is getting bigger as the weeks go by. And indeed, we will have for the first time two events in the same year on the Rallycross track!

***How will this first Lohéac Legend Festival be organized?***

It will take place only on two days, Saturday May 20th and Sunday May 21st 2023. On Saturday, the parade will take place in the streets of Lohéac starting at 6 pm. There will be a big tent-restaurant not far from the circuit for a big party on Saturday evening with a dance party, and many other animations. As Philippe said, there will be a mix of Rally and Rallycross series. As there will be a lot of Europeans in both categories, half and half.

***Is it an event that will be renewed?***

Of course it is. We are gathering our efforts for this first organization and with Philippe Tollemer, we plan to organize it every 2 years.

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