



Estonian Junior Challenge 2023 guide **Confirmed 05.12.2022**

Estonian Junior Challenge (formerly Estonian R2 Challenge) is a series for young rally drivers launched by the Estonian Autosport Union (EASU) at the beginning of 2017. All the rounds of the challenge are driven within the Estonian Rally Championship (ERC). The aim of the series is to help the best young talents to step forward in their careers and to give support for stepping up to international level.

In 2023, the prize of the Estonian Junior Challenge (EJC) is a scholarship intended for participating in the European Rally Championship 2024 in ERC4 Junior category with Rally4 car runned by M-Sport Poland. The total price of the project is **110 000 €** (including car rental, event entry fees and Pirelli tyres for six events). The value of the **prize is 50 000 €** and it will be granted to the winner of the series. Should the winner not be able to join the program, the scholarship will be granted to the next driver down of the Estonian Junior Challenge classification, etc.

Estonian Junior Challenge 2023 partners are M-Sport Poland and Pirelli.

The prize consists of three parts:

- 1) A **22 500 €** scholarship (including taxes) from EASU for participating in ERC4 Junior category with car runned by M-Sport Poland. The scholarship will be paid out in six (6) equal payments after each event where the participant has taken part. EASU has right to have two 40x15cm stickers on winner's car.
- 2) M-Sport Poland will make discount for the winner of the series in sum of **22 500 €**. This sum will be reduced from the total prize of the ERC4 Junior project. Given discount will be agreed separately with M-Sport Poland and is intended to use only in ERC4 Junior events.
- 3) Pirelli will support the winner of the series with tyres and additionally with a **5000 €** scholarship towards the project. Given support will be agreed separately together with M-Sport and Pirelli and is intended to use only in ERC4 Junior events.

To qualify for the EJC in 2023 the following criteria are mandatory:

- 1) The date of birth of the 1st driver must be 1 January 1997 or later (26 years or younger). The age of the co-driver is not defined but the co-driver is never allowed to drive the special stage. All drivers holding a valid driver's license and a valid competition license issued by the EASU or another ASN may participate. Championship registration fee is **100 €**
<https://broneerimine.autosport.ee/estonian-junior-challenge/>
- 2) The competition car is a defined technical specifications of Ford Fiesta R2 or Ford Fiesta Rally4 of homologations: A-5729, A-5762 and A-5775.
- 3) Tyres used for the series are a defined specification of Pirelli tyres which OT Racing OÜ supplies to the participants of the series with the following dimensions and prices:
Snow & ice: Pirelli 185/65-15 WJ 7mm - 340,00 € (excluding VAT)
Gravel: Pirelli 185/70-15 SCORPION K6 - 210,00 € (excluding VAT)
The supplier of Pirelli tyres in Estonia is OT Racing, contact:
Ivar Tänäk, phone +372 50 77 287, e-mail tyres@otracing.ee
- 4) M-Sport Poland to have branding on Front and Rear Windshields, drivers to have M-Sport badges on the competition overalls. The branding and badges are provided by the EASU.
- 5) Pirelli to have branding on 4 x Bumper Corners, Drivers to wear Pirelli Caps for all Press Conference, TV Interviews and Podium Celebrations. Branding and caps are provided by the Pirelli.
- 6) By entering to series participants acknowledge that EASU has the right to use them with racing cars for promotional events 2 x 8 hours during the season 2023.

Classification and calendar

- 1) EJC drivers will score points according to Estonian Rally Championship Regulations art. 4.1
- 2) In EJC classifications each stage win will give one extra point. In case of retirement driver will keep the stage win points unless if he or she was NOT disqualified for the infringement of technical regulations or unsporting behaviour.
- 3) No Power Stage points will be given in the EJC classification.
- 4) Double points are rewarded in EJC classification on the last Estonian Championship event (Saaremaa rally). 1st place 60 points, 2nd place 48 points, 3rd place 42 points, 4th place 38 points, 5th place 34 points etc.
- 5) EJC 2023 winner will be driver who has scored the highest number of points. In case of a tie, the driver with most wins, most second places, most third places etc. will be winner. Should this not be enough to decide the Challenge winner, the results of events, where both drivers competed, will decide. Should this not be enough to decide the Championship, results of the last, the penultimate etc. event will decide.
- 6) Five (5) best results out of six (6) rallies will count for win.
- 7) **Estonian Junior Challenge calendar 2023:**

21. Jan	Rally Aluksne (Latvia)
04. Feb	Otepää Rally
5-6. May	Rapla Rally
20-21. Jul	Rally Estonia
25.-26. Aug	Paide Rally
6.-7. Oct	Saaremaa Rally