



Meeke & Wilks hanging in there

Britons Kris Meeke and Guy Wilks can mathematically still win this year's Intercontinental Rally Challenge title after the series' most recent round in the Czech Republic this weekend just gone.

Northern Irishman Meeke, the 2009 IRC Champion, and co-driver Paul Nagle finished fourth in their Peugeot 207 S2000 but that could have been third had their car not cruelly suffered a differential glitch on the event's very last stage.

North Yorkshireman Wilks, making his return to IRC action after a lengthy injury-induced lay-off, and co-driver Phil Pugh took seventh. Like Meeke, this should have been higher but Wilks was heavily delayed shortly after the start of the event when a deer ran in to Skoda Fabia S2000 which then went on to experience differential problems.

Just a point separates them in the drivers' standings, with Meeke in fifth and Wilks in sixth. Mathematically, they can still win the title but it is near-impossible – each would need to win all three final rounds in San Remo, Scotland and Greece with all their rivals effectively failing to score at all.

Whether things go in their favour or not in San Remo, both will have only one option come our very own RACMSA Rally of Scotland (15-17 October) and that is to go all out for victory, Wilks of course having won last year's event.

Elsewhere in the Czech Republic, Irishmen Keith Cronin and co-driver Barry McNulty had turned heads with their pace on several stages on their debut in Proton's Satria Neo – they were up to 14th before crashing out late on Saturday.

British team-mates Niall McShea and co-driver Marshall Clarke went out on the very next stage with a mechanical failure having been just a few places behind in 19th.

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The Royal Automobile Club Motor Sports Association Rally of Scotland

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