



## Press Release 3

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### The Lion has landed

On Friday morning there was a lot of activity in the showroom of Emmeloord Peugeot dealer Hylkema. In front of the showroom was a large truck from Romo Motorsport delivering a Peugeot. Not an ordinary car but the Peugeot 208 16T R5 rally car with start number 2 on its sides. Christian Riedemann will make this lion roar in the Zuiderzeerally, on the tricky polder roads near Emmeloord in his attempt to first make it to the finish and then to finish first. The car will be on display on Friday only as it has to start the rally on Saturday just after noon.

#### Stiff competition

The German runner up in his home championship will meet with some stiff competition however. He has a very potent car but so have some of his opponents. Competition will come from Jasper van den Heuvel who has won the rally several times before. He drives a Lancer EVO X that should be considered less powerful but his wealth of local knowledge is invaluable. His younger brother Jim driving a similar car, is a serious threat in this family feud. More competition comes from his fellow countryman Hermen Kobus in a Skoda Fabia R5. Kobus has quite some experience in the car in international rallying, but this year chooses to do the Dutch championship and the FIA Benelux Challenge. The third Dutch driver in a top car is Bob de Jong, he is also driving an R5, but he acquired a Citroën DS3. The final R5 car comes from Sweden. This morning we noticed Joakim Grahn's Fiesta R5 parked in the still quite empty service area. Another roaring lion is the Peugeot 306 Maxi of Brian Madsen from Denmark. He is fast and has some prior knowledge of the event. Add to the fact that he has quite a few local fans, that appreciate the pure noise and aggressive driving style and you have another serious contender. Unfortunately his car is not eligible to score points in the FIA Benelux Trophy. This concludes the summary of people that are going to fight for the overall win. However there are more interesting cars among them a host of Lancers EVO X. Steen Andersen from Denmark has one and so has Tibor Erdl Junior from Hungary. Another foreign Lancer entry comes from the UK in the hands of Johnny Ellis. The foreign competitors also include the Norwegian Lars Berntsen in an Opel Kadett and Guido Imhof from Germany in a Golf 3 Kitcar.

#### Smaller cars

In the smaller cars category we find two cars that both expressed their intention to fight for FIA Benelux Rally Trophy honours. From Denmark comes Carsten Jensen in a Renault Clio R3T, from Holland we see Gert Jan Kobus in a Peugeot 208 R2.

### **International**

Looking at the entrylist we notice that cars from seven different countries (including the Netherlands), will compete in Emmeloord making it a truly international event.