

## Dowel well placed in Rally Tasmania

Justin Dowel and Matt Lee have put their Activ RallySport Mitsubishi Lancer Evo IX in fifth place at the end of day one of Rally Tasmania, the first round of the Australian Rally Championship.

Only two stages counted towards the results on the first of the three-day event, with Dowel finishing in the top five on both tests

After a successful pre-event test session and a trouble-free shakedown stage this morning, Dowel settled into a rhythm that saw him finish the day still well in contention for a podium finish on Sunday afternoon.

He trails the newer Lancer Evo X of Glen Raymond by just five seconds, and holds a strong 11 second advantage over the Toyota Corolla of Ryan Smart.

"It was a good first day," Dowel said. "We weren't out to set any records today. Our goal is to finish the rally well in the points and it's been a good start."

Day two of Rally Tasmania sees crews tackle a further eight stages, with another eight stages concluding the event on Sunday afternoon.

Rally Tasmania results (after 2 of 18 stages)

Australian Rally Championship(

1. Scott Pedder / Jonathon Mortimer, Mitsubishi Lancer Evo IX, 12m08.9s
2. Eli Evans / Glen Weston, Honda Civic Type R, +0.3s
3. Simon Evans / Sue Evans, Subaru Impreza WRX, +5.7s
4. Glen Raymond / Matt Raymond, Mitsubishi Lancer Evo X, +22.3s
5. Justin Dowel / Matt Lee, Mitsubishi Lancer Evo IX, +28.5s