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NEW ERC JUNIOR EXPERIENCE TO BEGIN ON YPRES RALLY

- *Training to take place alongside three ERC Junior Championship rounds
- *Pacenote, engineering and media workshops planned for Belgium
- *Limited places remain on exclusive programme

The ERC Junior Experience, the brand new training programme for young drivers to be held in the context of the FIA European Rally Championship, will begin at the Kenotek Ypres Rally later this month.

Building upon the success of the ERC Junior Championship that was first run in 2014, the ERC Junior Experience has been created by Eurosport Events (the promoter of the ERC) to further the discovery and training of rallying's future star drivers.

In collaboration with the Future Stars Rally Academy based in Belgium, the training programme will take place alongside three rounds of this year's ERC Junior Championship: Kenotek Ypres Rally (23-25 June), Rally Estonia (15-17 July) and Barum Czech Rally Zlín (26-28 August).

The ERC Junior Experience is open to a maximum of 10 drivers who are currently competing at national level (aged under 26, so they will be eligible for the ERC Junior Championship in 2017) and to 10 current ERC Junior drivers (with a reduced entry fee). A number of drivers have already signed up for this exclusive programme, but some places are still available.

The programme for Ypres will begin on the Tuesday prior to the rally with a workshop on pacenotes with coaching from a co-driver with expertise of the local stages. The young drivers will recce part of an old Ypres stage, then have their pacenotes analysed individually and adapted where required. The young drivers will later take part in the rally recce and receive further feedback on their pacenotes, helping them to gain knowledge and understanding of one of the most famous and challenging rallies in Europe.

There will also be a session on car techniques with a top rally engineer, who will cover a number of topics including set-up, fault diagnosis and tyre performance. The final workshop in Ypres will cover media training with the assistance of Eurosport TV and ERC Radio crews. A number of other subjects will be focussed on over the subsequent two events on the programme.

ERC Coordinator Jean-Baptiste Ley said: "The ERC Junior Experience has been created to further our commitment to developing young talent. The expert advice that will be provided to the young drivers on the programme over the three events will give them knowledge and experience they can use to have a great 2017 season and really kick-start their careers."

ENDS

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 **ERIOUS COMPETITION AHEAD**



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