



Fiesta Finale at Nelson.

After a topsy turvy series that has seen the series lead change hands several times and generally not knowing what to expect, the New Zealand Fiesta Sporting Trophy for 2008 will be wrapped up at the final round, the 0800 Boxman Rally of Nelson.

In the prime position to win the title and the trip to the 2008 Fiesta Sporting Trophy international shootout in England that goes with it is Aucklander Patrick Malley. Malley holds a twenty two point lead in the series after taking wins at three of the five rounds to date. As well as the series winner, the series co-ordinator may send a wildcard if they wish.

However as we have seen, just finishing is easier said than done, meaning that young Northlander Ben Jagger is still well and truly in with a shot at the title. Jagger has shown great pace throughout the season, however a few small mistakes at crucial times have seen him drop behind Malley in the points race.

Certainly one who can't be discounted is Invercargill's Chris Lange. Lange has missed the last three rounds due to birth of his first child, but will have a point to prove at the series finale. Lange showed an impressive turn of speed at the two opening rounds, however a couple of off road excursions cost him dearly. A good finish will secure Lange third in the grueling series for the second consecutive season.

Last year the Nelson event was taken out by Mark Tapper by a mere 3.4 seconds, and with that victory took the championship by 1 point from Kayne Barrie who had held the lead since the second round.

When New Zealand's top driver goes to England at the end of the year for the international shootout, he will be tested not only on his driving skills, but also on his mental and physical ability. After some of the best in the world go head to head for two days, a winner will be decided. The winner will receive a 12 month employment contract the BP Abu Dhabi Ford World Rally team performing various duties.