



## Malley looking to take title at Nelson.

As the New Zealand Rally Championship heads to its final round in Nelson, Patrick Malley is in a prime position to wrap up two national championships.

A season of exciting racing has left Malley 22 points ahead of Group N 2wd and Fiesta Sporting Trophy rival Ben Jagger. This effectively means Malley needs only to finish the final round to take out both series. This would certainly be a just reward for Malley's pace and consistency throughout the season.

"We are just going to run our own race at Nelson and will focus on wrapping up the group N two-wheel drive title." Says Malley

However Malley must remain ready to pounce should Kiwi 2 series leader Aaron Cook strike trouble. Being 16 points behind Cook, he is the only contender who can take the title from him however it will take problems for Cook to give Malley the title.

As soon as Nelson is finished however, Malley must look towards the Rally of Malaysia as he heads overseas in the Citizen Watches backed Mitsubishi Evo 9 to compete in the Pirelli Star Driver Championship. With the opportunity to compete in the Production World Championship in 2009, this is another opportunity for this young driver to compete on the world stage.

So far this season Malley took a dominant group N 2wd win at Wairarapa, followed up by an unfortunate double DNF at Otago. Whangarei started slowly for Malley after getting stuck behind multiple overseas drivers on the early stages but fought back to take another victory that he followed up in Hawke's Bay with a crushing victory in overall 2wd. The potential at Hawke's Bay to extend his advantage disappeared when slips caused the day to be called off. A few niggling problems at Rally New Zealand stopped Malley getting the most out of his little Fiesta, however he stayed in touch and when others struck trouble pounced to claim second. Barring disaster at Nelson, this will be enough to become a national champion.

*Press Release by Blair Bartels*

