



Media Information

Subaru Of America, Inc.
One Subaru Drive
Camden, NJ 08103
Main Number: 856-488-8500

CONTACT: James Tate
(856) 488-3468
jtate@subaru.com

Dominick Infante
(856) 488-8615
dinfante@subaru.com

PASTRANA EARNS CLASS WIN, OVERALL PODIUM FINISH AT SOUTHERN OHIO FOREST RALLY

Chillicothe, OH, Jun 16, 2025 - Subaru Motorsports USA driver Travis Pastrana and co-driver Rhianon Gelsomino placed first in the Limited 4-Wheel Drive (L4WD) class and took third place overall at this year's Southern Ohio Forest Rally (SOFR). Defending American Rally Association (ARA) champion Brandon Semenuk and co-driver Keaton Williams had an off during the rally's second day but came back strong with a Powerstage win to close the weekend with valuable championship points.

The 2025 SOFR kicked off with Thursday evening's tarmac stages in downtown Chillicothe, ending with a jump that saw some competitors landing interesting angles -- in one case crossing the finish line *backwards*. Friday's forest stages proved challenging for many drivers -- conditions shifted from dry, where gravel was loose and marble-like, to wet with periodic rain -- sometimes from one end of a stage to the other. Semenuk and Williams found themselves off-course during Friday's SS5, ending their efforts for the day. The team was able to get their WRX ARA25 back out for Saturday's final stages. **"Obviously, yesterday wasn't a great day for us but we came back today,"** said Semenuk early Saturday. **"The boys got the car back together and it was awesome."**

Pastrana and Gelsomino's new WRX ARA25L, affectionally known as "Stitch", had its own challenges to face. **"Started off the day really well,"** said Pastrana on Friday, **"super excited by how the car is handling -- unfortunately we had a little bit of a mechanical issue,"** Pastrana noted as the hot, humid Ohio June tested the ARA25L. These teething problems are to be expected when developing through the season -- despite them, the car is proving to be everything expected and then some, competing with many of the much faster Rally 2 cars even before all the kinks are worked through.

The skill and experience of the pair allowed them to push the ARA25L to a first-place finish in class (L4WD) and third place overall. In a nice throwback, Pastrana's fellow Marylander and once Subaru Rally Team USA driver Bucky Lasek finished second in L4WD. **"A lot of stuff happened to a lot of people,"** said Pastrana afterwards, **"but at the end of the day we're super excited. Learned a lot, had a lot of fun."**

Semenuk and Williams' Saturday was a vast improvement over Friday: **"Really enjoyed the driving, really enjoyed the stages,"** said the three-time ARA champ, who remains focused on winning his fourth in a row. "The Powerstage, it rained but we managed to win that and get the points. We'll look forward to Ojibwe."

The Ojibwe Forests Rally takes place August 21-23, after a short summer break for ARA National events. Pastrana, Gelsomino, and Stitch will be back in L4WD action at the ARA Super Regional Rally Colorado event, July 19-20. The

summer is just starting to heat up: don't miss out on the latest news and updates by following Subaru Motorsports USA on [Facebook](#), on Instagram [@subarumotorsportsusa](#), and TikTok [@subarumotorsportsusa](#).

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