

Star Breen lands young rally award

CRAIG Breen has won the Billy Coleman Award for the Young Rally Driver of the Year.

Breen (19), from Kilmurry, Co Waterford, won four separate championships in 2009, including the National Junior Rally Championship and the International Fiesta ST Trophy.

He also finished third overall in the Birr Forestry Stages Rally.

The Motorsport Ireland award consists of a support package for rally competition next year to the value of €50,000.

Breen, whose father Ray is a former national rally champion, made his rallying debut in August 2007, after graduating from a successful career in kart racing.

He will compete for the British Rally Championship next year, and will also take in a number of World Rally Championship events as a precursor to perhaps switching full-time to the World Championship in the next few years.

The other finalists in the category were Jonathan Cunningham from Claregalway and Kevin O'Connor from Askeaton.

The formal presentation of awards to the Champions of Irish Motorsport will take place on Tuesday, December 8.

