

Victorian rally driver, Brendan Reeves, has finished Rally Victoria, the final round of the ECB Australian Rally Championship (ARC) second overall after pushing rally winner and Championship winner, Eli Evans, all the way.

Reeves and co-driver, Glenn Macneall, started Heat 2 of the event full of confidence after finishing the opening Heat in second place just 3.2 seconds behind Evans' Honda. The pair, in their RallySchool.com.au Mazda2 put in a strong performance on the day's morning stages, winning one of the three tests and finishing the other two less than nine seconds in arrears of Evans.

After the mid-day service, the Gippsland forest roads, which had received heavy rain throughout the week, dried out, and Reeves was determined to pull back time on the rally leader. Another stage win put Reeves less than 18 seconds behind Evans with just two stages to run.

On the final forest stage of the day, a flat tyre, 8 kilometres before the end of the 33 km test, resulted in Reeves losing 45 seconds, but such was the gap to third placed Tom Wilde (Renault Clio), that he held onto second place overall.

The event's final test was a 2.28 kilometre Super Special Stage around Warragul's Lardner Park. A clean run was all Reeves needed to wrap up another podium place and he finished the weekend with second in both Heat 1 and Heat 2 and second overall.

"I'm rapt with our result this weekend," Reeves said. "I really want to thank the whole team and all our sponsors and supporters, and a big thanks to Glenn for stepping into the co-driver's seat this weekend.

"We came home really strongly in the last few rounds of the ARC and I can't wait to see what we do next year."