
2023 RALLY CROSS RULES - 27



Rally Cross Rules**2023**

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These regulations are intended to assist in the conduct of competitions and to further general safety. They are a guide and in no way guarantee against injury or death to participants, spectators or others. No express or implied warranties of safety or fitness for a particular purpose shall be intended or result from publication or compliance with these regulations.

By participating in these events, all participants are deemed to have agreed to be bound by the CARS GCRs and these Regulations.

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RALLY CROSS

(For Performance Events Only)

The CARS Board reserves the right, upon written application, to grant specific, limited exemptions to these regulations where it can be shown that the exemption is in the best interests of the sport or in the interest of safe conduct of the sport. Granted exemptions shall be communicated in writing by the CARS President or, in the case of a Canadian Rally Championship event, the CARS president or the National Series Manager and be included in the event's Supplementary Regulations or posted on the event's Official Notice Board.

27 RALLY CROSS

27.1 DEFINITION

Rally Cross is an event where participants compete on a closed course, against the clock and total time taken over the competitive sections of the event determines placing. Rally Cross can be a competitive level, but must, first and foremost, be a training forum designed to accent the development of vehicle handling skills while limiting both top and average speeds attainable by competitors.

27.2 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 27.2.1 A Rally Cross is generally held on an unpaved, flat surface, wherein the course consists of straight sections, connecting turns or corners via the use of cones, hay bales or similar objects.
- 27.2.2 A safety plan as per GCR 4.2.2.5 for each venue used must be submitted annually to the CARS Regional Rally Director. A revised application must be submitted if there are changes to the structure of the event.
- 27.2.3 Each event is to have a set of supplementary regulations that outline the following items:
- a) Name of proposed event;
 - b) Name and contact information for key officials;
 - c) A statement of jurisdiction, including the wording "The Rally Cross will be held under the General Competition Rules of the Canadian Association of Rallysport, the current CARS Rally Cross Regulations and the Rally Cross regulations of _____ Region. These publications are available from _____ (e.g.: CARS Region Director of the host region, region office or other mailing address and telephone number) and will be available for scrutiny at the start.";
 - d) The status of the Rally Cross, indicating any championship of which it is a part;

- e) The location of the event with GPS coordinates
 - f) The schedule of dates and times;
 - g) Closing date for entries;
 - h) Maximum number of entries;
 - i) Cost of entry;
 - j) An entry form;
 - k) Any other regulations that the organizers wish to apply.
- 27.2.4 Upon acceptance of the venue safety plan and the supplementary regulations for the specific event, the CARS Region Rally Director will issue a permit for that event. With the permit in hand, the organizer can submit an event insurance application to the CARS office.
- 27.2.5 Rally Cross events are to be insured under Rally Cross insurance, available to affiliated clubs through CARS.
- 27.2.6 All persons, involved in the event as participants, officials, workers, crew, media, etc. must sign the insurance waiver.
- 27.2.7 Organizers reserve the right to exclude any vehicle or person from further participation in the event at any time for reasons of perceived safety concerns involving either the condition of the vehicle or the conduct of the person.
- 27.2.8 Two or more vehicles are permitted on the course simultaneously. Organizers must take measures to ensure that there will be no wheel to wheel racing or passing. Organizers may grant a re-run or issue a time allowance to compensate the affected competitor who slows or stops to avoid passing.

27.3 ELIGIBILITY OF COMPETITORS AND VEHICLES

27.3.1 Competitors

- a) The following documents, valid on the day(s) of the event, must be presented at registration or attested to be valid by the competitor via a self-declaration form:
 - driver's licence for the crew member listed as driver
 - vehicle registration (if road licenced vehicle)
 - when the owner of the vehicle is not entered as the driver or passenger, a written authorization from the owner of the vehicle
 - for any participant (driver or passenger) under the age of majority of the province, a written permission signed by a parent or guardian

- b) Passengers (minimum age ~~16~~ 14 years with a minimum weight 36 kg or (80lbs) and minimum height 145 cm or (4'9") are permitted.
- c) If the Rally Cross is being presented as a stage and transit format event, then a co-driver must be carried. NOTE: Passengers are not permitted under this format of Rally Cross.
- d) If the Rally Cross is being presented as a stage and transit format event with any part of the route on public roads, the vehicle must be a street licenced and insured vehicle.

27.3.2 Vehicles

27.3.2.1 Passenger Cars or Light Trucks

- a) All vehicles must be based on production passenger cars or light trucks. Eligibility is restricted to vehicles based on street-licensable, closed-bodied passenger cars and light trucks. Non-production-based vehicles that are of tube or box frame construction are explicitly forbidden.
- b) All loose items in the vehicle must be removed during the event (including from the trunk).
- c) Items such as hub caps, that may become detached from the car during competition must be removed.
- d) Tires must be in good condition.
- e) Mechanical condition and safety of the vehicle is the responsibility of the competitor.
- f) Noise limits may be set by the organizer to satisfy local requirements.
- g) Open top (convertible) vehicles must have a fitted hard top and /or roll over protection approved by the regional scrutineer. If open top vehicles are not permitted at individual events that must be specified in the event's supplementary regulations.

27.3.2.2 ROV's ~~UTV's~~

- a) ~~Open to mass-produced UTV's including four-wheeled utility terrain vehicles, side-by-sides, and recreational off-highway vehicles.~~ ROV's (Recreational off-highway vehicles) also referred to as UTV's (Utility Terrain Vehicles), RUV's (Recreational Utility Vehicles) and SxS's (Side by Sides)
- b) Chassis:
 - All vehicles must utilize the stock chassis and maintain a stock appearance.
 - The stock chassis (frame) is defined as the main lower rails running along the inner sides of the vehicle and the front and rear tubes that connect them.
 - The chassis may be modified to improve durability and strength, but must retain the stock width, length, and configuration.
- c) Roll Cage:
 - As a minimum the OEM upper tubular passenger compartment structure or roll cage shall be retained.

- In all cases, the top of the roll structure must not be below the top of the driver's helmet when in the normal driving position.
 - No vehicle with structural damage to the roll cage or frame members is allowed to compete.
- d) Drivetrain:
- Drivetrains are to be stock.
- e) Doors:
- Doors Fixed or Hinged are required.
 - If Hinged, they must Lock positively and not be able to come open in event of a roll or impact. Supplementary straps maybe used to prevent accidental opening.
 - Doors shall be constructed of a rigid material and be "half doors", at a minimum.
- f) Roof:
- Roof panels constructed of a rigid material are required.
- g) Window Nets:
- The vehicle must be equipped with side window nets.
 - Window nets must meet FIA and/or SFI Certification.
- h) Wheels and Tires:
- Any mass-produced tire marketed for ~~UTV or~~ automotive use is allowed.
 - ROV tires are not allowed ROV Tires are permitted with venue approval CARS Rule Change
 - If the Organizer determines that a vehicle's tires are excessively detrimental to the course surface, the tires may be excluded.
 - Wheel spacers, wheels with lower offsets and commercially available wide-track suspension kits are allowed.
- i) Windshield and Windows:
- A front windshield or wind deflector, side, and rear windows are allowed.
 - If equipped with a windshield or wind deflector, it must be made of automotive safety glass, polycarbonate/Lexan or metal rock screen and securely mounted to the vehicle.
 - Polycarbonate windshields, wind deflectors and windows must be a minimum of 6 mm in thickness.
 - Drilling of holes in the roll cage to attach the windshield, wind deflector or windows is prohibited.
- j) Miscellaneous:

- Spare wheels and cargo must be removed.
- Factory seats may be replaced with a racing seat securely mounted to the chassis.

27.3.3 Mandatory Safety Equipment

27.3.3.1 Passenger Cars or light Trucks

- a) Helmets meeting CARS NRR 11.1.6 or bearing "Snell Memorial Foundation" M2005 or SA 2005 (or more recent) labels must be worn by all drivers, co-drivers and passengers. Helmets must be in good visible condition, with no visible defects or damage.
- b) Minimum three-point seat harnesses must be worn by drivers and passengers.
- c) For vehicles equipped with roll over protection:
 - Occupants must wear a helmet that meet the requirements of CARS NRR 11.1.6.
 - A minimum of five-point safety harnesses for all occupants is required. There will be no expiry date restriction and harnesses must be in good condition with no visible defects.

27.3.3.2 UTV's

- a) Occupants must wear full face helmets with face shields or goggles that meet the requirements of CARS NRR 11.1.6 or bearing "Snell Memorial Foundation" M2010 (or more recent).
- b) A minimum of four-point safety harnesses for all occupants is required. There will be no expiry date restriction and harnesses must be in good condition with no visible defects.

27.4 EVENT ORGANIZATION

27.4.1 Authorizations and Permits

- a) Proper authority for use of the venue(s) must be obtained and such permissions must be available for scrutiny at registration.
- b) The CARS event permit and event insurance certificate must be displayed at registration.

27.4.2 Security Measures

Security measures will be in force to ensure the safety of competitors, officials and spectators (closing of the course, start and finish locations, communications, recovery, etc.)

27.4.3 Course Design

- a) Each course shall not exceed 3 km long. Several courses may be run simultaneously.

- b) The course shall be arranged such that the maximum average speed for the median competitor shall not exceed 70 km/h and the maximum speed shall not exceed 100 km/h. Course designs that allow maximum speeds to be exceeded should be changed for any future events.
- c) The course shall be arranged such that it is clear of all heavy stationary objects, trees, deep ditches and exposures. If this is not possible, tires, hay bales or another compressible barrier shall be used to minimise vehicle damage should contact occur.
- d) The course should be configured in such a way as to minimize the possibility of rollover.
- e) The use of chicanes (consisting of hay bales, pylons or similar soft materials) on straights of greater than 100 m is required.
- f) The use of jumps is not permitted.
- g) Organizers reserve the right to change the course configuration at any time during the competition should a portion of the course deteriorate or if it is proving too fast as per these rules.
- h) Marshals shall be placed such that all competing vehicles will be visible at all times while on the course.
- i) A stop box or other slow-down zone must be used at the end of a run. A time penalty, as set forth in the supplementary regulations must be assessed if a vehicle does not comply with the rules of the stop box or slow down zone as defined in the supplementary regulations. It is intent that, whichever approach is used, the result is that competitors continue into the pit or gathering area at walking speed.
- j) Each driver will be provided an opportunity to walk or drive through the course, or to have a parade lap, prior to the first run.
- k) It is recommended that UTV vehicles run with ample time separation from other Rally Cross vehicles.