

BULLETIN 2021-03



Subject: Rally Cross and Rally Sprint Rule changes

Issue Date: May 10, 2021

Effective Date: Immediate

Rationale:

1. Overall re-formatting of the CARS rule book. Keeping original numbering but making more suitable for electronic transfer and printing of the various sections.
2. Treating Rally Cross and Rally Sprint as two distinct activities with rules more clearly separated from each other.
3. Rally Cross addition of UTV as a class of competition vehicle.
4. More formal requirements for producing event supplementary regulations and a safety plan as part of the permit/insurance process is intended to help compliance with these rules.

RALLY CROSS RULES



Rally Cross Rules**2021**

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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

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 an event generally held on an unpaved, flat surface, wherein the course generally consists of straight sections, connecting turns or corners via us of cones, hay bales or similar objects. Accent in course design is also placed on the general avoidance of obstacles such as trees, exposures, deep ditches, etc.~~

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 organizational or course structure.

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 a map or directions from the nearest major highway(s);
- 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. ~~The permit and event insurance certificate must be displayed at the event registration.~~
- 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:
- 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 ~~12~~16 years with a minimum weight 36 kg or (80 lbs) 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) ~~Vehicles must comply with 12.4.8 to compete.~~ 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 ~~Snap-on hubcaps, detachable fender skirts and trim rings must be removed.~~
- d) Tires must be in good condition, ~~with no cord or belts showing or cracks in the tread or sidewalls.~~
- 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. ~~Vehicles must comply with noise limits as outlined in 12.4.4 Lower noise limits may be set by an 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. ~~that are fitted with a hard top roof may be permitted to compete at the discretion of the Region Scrutineer. The Scrutineer must take into consideration the course topography, layout and conditions. Convertibles with neither hard top nor Roll Over Protection are not permitted to compete.~~

27.3.2.2 UTV's

- a) Open to mass-produced UTV's including four-wheeled utility terrain vehicles, side-by-sides, and recreational off-highway vehicles.
- 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:
 - 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.
 - 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 NRR 11.1.6 or bearing “Snell Memorial Foundation” ~~M2000 or SA2000~~ 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 NRR 11.1.6 as specified in 28.3.3 a) & d).
 - 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 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, exposures, containers, heavy equipment and buildings. 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. ~~recommended~~.
- 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 ~~route~~.
- i) A stop box or other slow-down zone ~~may~~ must be used at the end of a run. A time penalty as set forth in the supplementary regulations ~~of 10 seconds~~ 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. ~~stop within the box~~. 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.

RALLY SPRINT RULES



Rally Sprint Rules**2021**

For additional information please contact the CARS office.

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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 SPRINT

28 RALLY SPRINT

28.1 DEFINITION

A Rally Sprint is an event where participants compete on ~~generally held on private or strictly controlled (closed to all other traffic) private or~~ public roads, where short competitive stages are driven and timed against the clock, and is made up of short stages (closed to public traffic) and Transits on roads (possibly) open to public traffic, are used to move the participants from one competitive stage to the next and are driven in accordance with the applicable highway traffic regulations.

28.2 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

28.2.1 A Rally Sprint is held on closed public or private roads, organized and set up as an entry level performance rally with a focus on learning and driver/co-driver skill development.

28.2.2 A safety plan for each Rally Sprint ~~venue used~~ must be submitted ~~annually~~ to the CARS Regional Director. A revised ~~application~~ safety plan must be submitted if there are significant changes to the organizational or ~~course~~ event structure.

28.2.3 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 Sprint will be held under the General Competition Rules of the Canadian Association of Rallysport, the current CARS Rally Sprint Regulations and the Rally Sprint 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 Sprint, indicating any championship of which it is a part;
- e) The location of the event with a map or directions from the nearest major highway(s);
- 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.

28.2.4 Upon acceptance of the 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.

~~28.2.5~~ Each Rally Sprint event is to be insured separately under Rally Sprint insurance available to affiliated clubs through the CARS. ~~The event insurance certificate must be displayed at the event registration.~~

28.2.6 All persons involved in the event as participants, officials, service crews, media, etc. must sign the insurance waiver.

28.2.7 Organizers reserve the right to exclude any vehicle or participant 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 participant.

28.2.8 Performance is measured by timing procedures as defined in CARS National Rally Regulations (see 15 and 16).

28.2.9 Several vehicles are permitted on the course simultaneously. Organizers shall attempt in their planning to eliminate or minimize passing. Safe passing procedures must be presented clearly too all competitors.

28.3 ELIGIBILITY OF COMPETITORS AND VEHICLES

28.3.1 Competitors

The following documents, valid on the day(s) of the event, must be presented at registration:

- a) driver's licence for the crew member listed as driver
- b) vehicle registration (if any portion of the event runs on public roads)
- c) liability insurance for the entered vehicle (if any portion of the event runs on public roads)
- d) when the owner of the vehicle is not entered as the driver or co-driver, a written authorization from the owner of the vehicle
- e) for any participant (driver or co-driver) under the age of majority of the province, a written permission signed by a parent or guardian
- f) rally sprint competition licences, issued by the CARS region, for both driver and co-driver are required (regional or national CARS licences also accepted)

28.3.2 Vehicles

- a) ~~Vehicles must be based on a production, closed body and chassis to compete.~~ 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) Vehicles with forced induction engines must meet the requirements of [CARS Technical Rule 12.6.3](#). Turbocharger/Supercharger restrictions.
- c) All competing vehicles must be roadworthy and the following items, in particular, must be adequate and functioning properly: all brakes, horn, windshield wipers, all legally required exterior lights, tires and exhaust system.
- d) Fuel, fuel tanks & lines must comply with [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.11](#).
- e) All competing vehicles must have towing eyes as per [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.13](#).
- f) Vehicles must comply with noise limits as outlined in [CARS Technical Rule 12.4.4](#).
- g) All loose items in the vehicle must be fastened securely during the event (including items in the trunk).
- h) Mechanical condition and safety of the vehicle is the responsibility of the competitor.

28.3.3 Mandatory and recommended equipment

- a) Helmets meeting [CARS NRR 11.1.6](#) or meeting the Snell SA ~~2005~~ 2000 standard must be worn by all drivers and co-drivers. Helmets must be in good condition, with no visible defects or damage.
- b) Each competitor must wear a frontal head restraint system (FHR), as outlined in [CARS NRR 11.1.7](#).
- c) Competitors must carry:
 - Fire extinguishers conforming to [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.4](#).
 - First Aid kit conforming to [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.5](#).
 - Warning devices/Safety Triangles conforming with [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.6](#). (note placement within vehicle)
 - Towrope conforming to [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.16](#) (note all parts of tow rope must be within the competition vehicle at all times while not in use.)
- d) A minimum of five-point safety harnesses for driver and co-driver are required. There will be no expiry date restriction. Harnesses must be in good condition with no visible defects.
- e) Roll over protection

All vehicles must be fitted with a roll cage. All cages must be of a minimum six-point mounting design, must include two door bars per side and two diagonal members within the main hoop.

It is recommended that rollover protection meet [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.2](#).

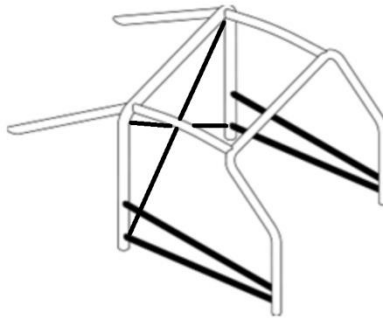
However;

- Cages currently approved by CARS or used in vehicles with CARS logbooks issued since 2000 are acceptable.
- Cages used in vehicles with CARS logbooks issued pre-2000 may be acceptable if the cages are 6 point, have two door bars and a minimum of two diagonals in the main hoop.

- Cages in race vehicles with logbooks issued by one of the Canadian Motorsport territories or other race sanctioning body may be accepted after being approved by a CARS National Scrutineer and/or the CARS Technical Director.
- Other cages, if approved by the National Scrutineer and/or the CARS Technical Director, may be accepted

Roll cage padding must comply with [CARS Technical Rule 12.3.2.6](#).

Cages and roll bars may be bolted to the floor. The mounting plate requirements are the same as a welded cage



a) Seats

Seats must be fixed back, one-piece FIA approved racing seats. There will be no expiry date restriction. Seats must be in good condition with no visible defects. [Seats must be solidly mounted.](#)

b) Driving suits conforming to [CARS NRR 11.1.8](#). are recommended.

28.4 EVENT ORGANIZATION

28.4.1 Authorizations and Permits

- Proper authority for use of the ~~venue~~ [roads](#) must be obtained and such permissions must be available for scrutiny at registration.
- The ~~CARS event must have a~~ [event](#) permit [and event insurance certificate](#) ~~issued by a CARS Regional Director. The event permit must be displayed at registration.~~
- A technical inspection of all competing vehicles must be held at the start of the event as outlined in [CARS NRR's 21.6.1. and 21.6.2.](#)

28.4.2 Security Measures

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

28.4.3 Course Design

- a) The special stages of the event will be run on short (maximum 5 km) segments of road, public or private, closed to all traffic. Total stage distance is limited to 40 km.
- b) The roads used as special stages should be carefully chosen to reflect the overall intention of rally sprint events to be an entry level performance rally, focused on driver and co-driver development.
- c) The roads used as special stages should be chosen so that the average speed for the median competitor does not exceed 85 km/h.
- d) In addition to (c) above, any stage in which the median competitor exceeds an average speed of 85 km/h plus 10% must be modified to achieve lower speeds for future events.

28.4.4 Event Officials

- a) Marshals shall be placed along the stage to ensure security, timing and the proper management of the event.
- b) Radio communications will be used in such a way that, in case of emergency, competing vehicles can be stopped.
- c) Event officials will act as judges of fact for the whole duration of the event.

28.4.5 Documents

- a) Supplementary regulations shall be made available before the event.
- b) Necessary documents such as a detailed route book check shall be supplied to all participating teams as per CARS NRR 13.3.