



Bulletin 2021-2

Rally Competition Rule Changes for 2021

1/13/2021

The following changes to the ARA Rally Competition Rules are effective immediately and in place in the 2021 RCR book.

Changes to 2.4.4

2.4.4 Competition Licenses Issued by Other Bodies

Competitors licensed by foreign ASNs, CARS, ~~Rally America~~ or National Auto Sport Association Rally Sport (NASA) may compete in ARA sanctioned events.

Rationale: Rally America no longer issues licenses.

Changes to 1.2.1

1.2.1 Stage Reconnaissance

- e) The maximum speed for reconnaissance ~~on the stages~~ will be lower of:
- 1) The posted legal speed limit.
 - 2) The speed specified by the organizer in the event's Supplementary Regulations or Route Book. Such organizer-specified speed may apply to all or part of a stage road.
- Speeds 1-5 mph over the applicable maximum speed will result in a warning and not be considered an infraction under RCR 1.2.1.g below.

Rationale: Recce speeds may need to be controlled and enforced on the transits in addition to stages.

Removal of 5.14.8

5.14.8 Penalties

~~Penalties for violation of the above shall be according to RCR 6.4.~~

Rationale: Wording is redundant since penalties are in RCR 6.4.



Changes to 9.3

9.3 Technical Inspection – Scrutineering

A technical inspection of all competition vehicles is to be held at the start of the rally. The technical inspection consists of ~~a self-declaration on the road worthiness of the competing vehicle~~, a check on compliance with ARA safety requirements and vehicle class eligibility.

9.3.1 Presentation at Scrutineering

Vehicles shall be clean inside and out, with all required series and event identification and advertising in place when presented for technical inspection.

9.3.2 ~~Self Declaration~~

~~For each crew, a signed, self-declaration will be submitted at the technical inspection that declares that the competing vehicle is a) road worthy and b) that the following items are operating properly:~~

- ~~a) Running lights~~
- ~~b) Horn~~
- ~~c) Wipers~~
- ~~d) Reverse light~~
- ~~e) Brakes~~
- ~~f) Exhaust~~

~~The scrutineer may choose to verify compliance with any aspect of the self-declaration.~~

9.3.3 2 Refusal of Entry

9.3.4 3 Dismantling of Vehicle

Rationale: Self Declaration is no longer used for scrutineering. Each competition vehicle must be checked at the event scrutineering.



Changing Red Cross to SOS

3.1 Route Book

- f) For all organizer supplied route books, the back cover is to be a full sized OK/~~Red Cross~~ SOS with the OK on the outside. For the small sized route book, the back cover is to be folded so that, when assembled, the cover can easily be opened to its full 8.5 x 11 in. size.

5.14.2 Display of ~~Red Cross~~ SOS

In the event of ~~injuries requiring immediate medical attention~~ an emergency, crews are expected to display the ~~red cross~~ SOS symbol (inside back cover of the route book) and following crews are required to stop and render aid. An emergency includes, but is not limited to, injuries requiring immediate medical attention, uncontrolled fire, breach of stage security, or total and complete road blockage. One crew will proceed past the incident to the next Radio Point in order to report the incident to the event organizer.

5.14.4 Display of OK

If a crew is stopped in a stage, unable to continue, but do not need medical attention, they must display the "OK" sign found on the reverse of the ~~red cross~~ SOS, to following competing vehicles. The display must be visible to allow sufficient time to safely slow down or avoid the stopped car.

5.14.6 Stage Cancellation

Display of a ~~Red Cross~~ SOS symbol on a stage may result in cancellation of the stage by the Clerk of the Course with the concurrence of the Steward(s). Crews that do not complete a cancelled stage will be scored as per RCR 5.13.

Rationale: Update the displayed symbols to be consistent with FIA. Expand the situations in which an SOS can be used within the rules.



Novice Definition Changes and License Testing

2.1.3 Novice Restricted Driver

~~A Novice Driver is defined as one who has completed four or fewer special stage rallies as a Driver and has not yet been signed off by the relevant ARA series manager.~~

~~For the purposes of determining Novice Driver status, a rally must meet the following criteria:~~

- ~~a) It must be sanctioned by ARA, Rally America, NASA Rally Sport, CARS, or any other sanction body deemed acceptable by the relevant ARA series manager.~~
- ~~b) It must be at least 30 stage miles.~~
- ~~c) When a national rally has multiple supporting regional rallies, only the national rally or the regional rallies count, not both.~~

~~Novice Restricted Drivers must use a vehicle conforming to the Novice Restricted Driver Vehicle Requirements as detailed in RTR 3.7.~~

2.4.2 Endorsements

Each competition license issued by ARA can be subject to endorsements. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Restricted Driver: One who has completed fewer than four special stage rallies as a Driver and has not yet been signed off by the ARA Competition Director. For the purposes of determining Restricted Driver status, a rally must meet the following criteria:

- a) It must be sanctioned by ARA, NASA Rally Sport, CARS, or any other sanction body deemed acceptable by the ARA Competition Director.
- b) It must have a scheduled length of least 30 stage miles.
- c) When a national rally has multiple supporting regional rallies, only the national rally or the regional rallies count, not both.

- Novice: One who has completed fewer than two ARA sanctioned rallies. The rallies that count for this are the same as the Restricted Driver endorsement.

- Minor

2.4.3 ARA Safety Protocol Test

- a) A knowledge-based test of the ARA safety procedures covered in the Novice Briefing must be passed by a Novice Competitor after completing two ARA sanctioned rallies to remove the Novice license endorsement.
- b) All ARA Rally Competition license holders are required to complete the ARA Safety Protocol test before renewing their license each year.

Details of the test procedures will be released in a yearly bulletin.



2.4.3 2.4.4 Timeliness of License Application

2.4.4 2.4.5 Competition Licenses Issued by Other Bodies

9.4 Novice Drivers Briefing

~~Stewards shall hold a special briefing for all drivers designated as Novices (and their codrivers) and novice co-drivers (and their drivers) before the start of the event. The time and location shall be detailed in the event supplementary regulations. A Novice is defined in RCR 2.4.2.~~

~~A novice driver is as described in RCR 2.1.3. For the purpose of this section, a novice co-driver is a competitor who has completed four or fewer rallies as a Co-Driver. The rallies that count for this are the same as in RCR 2.1.3~~

Rationale: Created a distinction between one who must attend the Novice Briefing and a competitor following the Restricted (previously Novice) Driver Vehicle Requirements. Not every driver needs to start in a Restricted Vehicle, but all new ARA competitors must attend the Novice Briefing for procedures. Also, it has been determined that ongoing testing is necessary to ensure competitors understand the emergency procedures.

Changes to Registration Process

2.2 Documentation

2.2.1 Self-Declaration Required Documentation

~~For each crew, a signed, self-declaration will be submitted at registration that declares that the crew has the following~~ The following is required for event entry. The documentation will be verified by the registrar if mandated by the event supplementary regulations. Failure to provide the documentation may result in refusal of entry or exclusion:

- a) ~~State, or equivalent, driver's license for any crew member listed as a driver;~~ A valid motor vehicle operator license for any member of the competing crew who will be driving the competition vehicle on the public road sections of the event. Probationary licenses with special restrictions are not acceptable;
- b) For each crew member, an ARA Rally Competition License;
- c) Vehicle registration for the competition vehicle and any service vehicle;
- d) Third party liability insurance covering both the competition vehicle and any service vehicles at the minimum levels of \$100,000/\$200,000/\$50,000; -If proof is



~~unable to be provided when requested or the minimum requirements are not met that vehicle(s) will not be allowed to be used during the event.~~

~~The event registrar may choose to verify compliance with any aspect of documentation self-declaration.~~

~~2.2.2 Documents Shown at Registration~~

~~The following documents must be shown at registration:~~

- ~~e) Written permission from a parent or guardian for participation in the rally for persons under 18 years of age the legal age of majority for the state(s) in which the event takes place. If the signatory is not present, the permission must be notarized.~~
- ~~f) For regional championship rallies, for each crew member, an ARA Rally Competition license or, for those entering under RCR 2.4.4, a competition license and a single event ARA "Permit to Compete".~~
- ~~g) For national rally championship events, for each crew member, a minimum of a ARA Rally Competition license, an FIA international rally license or, for those entering under RCR 2.4.4, a competition license and a single event ARA "Permit to Compete".~~
- ~~h) A valid operator license for any member of the competing crew who will be driving the competition vehicle on the public road sections of the event. Probationary licenses with special restrictions are not acceptable.~~

~~2.2.3 2.2.2 Documents Signed at Registration~~

~~Each member of the crew as well as the service crew must sign the sanction body insurance waiver. Under most circumstances, a band will be issued as proof that the waiver was signed. When a wristband is issued, it must be worn (around one's wrist) by the person who it was issued to.~~

Rationale: Updated registration practices and wording clarifications.



Series Equipment Addition

9.3.5 Series Equipment Installation and Return

Required series equipment including, but not limited to, boost monitors and timing and tracking devices may be installed and verified at Scrutineering. All such equipment is the responsibility of the driver registered to the vehicle and must be returned to ARA no later than the finish of the event. Missing or destroyed equipment will be charged to the responsible driver, equal to the value of the equipment.

Rationale: Explain the procedure for series equipment.

Changes to 8.8

8.8 Provisional Results

Previously issued provisional results may be declared final without change if:

- a) A protest meeting was held as described under GCR 9.5 and no protests were considered.
- b) An appeal meeting was held and the results were not modified by the decisions of the appeal board.
- c) The time limit of submission of appeals (see GCR 10.3) has expired and no appeals remain to be heard.

In this instance the Organizer should send by email or first class mail to the persons described in notice stating that the provisional results as previously mailed are final as of a specific date and containing (in the case of (a) or (b) above) the decisions of the protest or appeal board. Such a notice should be mailed within fifteen (15) days of the date when results were declared final.

Rationale: Update the options for official communication.



Changes to 8.1

8.1.1 Informational Scores

Section totals for any or all competitors may be posted at any time for public relations purposes and general information of competitors. Partial scores so posted should be considered ~~unofficial~~ informational. ~~Grievances may not be entered concerning unofficial scores.~~

8.1.3 Delayed Posting of Scores

Failure to post complete scores before the latter time means that provisional results are to be mailed.

Complete scores may be posted at a later time for public relations purposes and general information of competitors, but they should be considered ~~unofficial~~ informational. ~~Grievances may not be entered concerning unofficial results.~~

Rationale: Inquiries may be filed based on partial and informational scores.



False Start Changes

5.11.6 False/Jumped Start

A false start, ~~particularly one made before the marshal has given the signal, shall be penalized by 2 minutes.~~ is defined as the wheels moving before the start signal has been given.

The penalty does not exclude heavier penalties being inflicted by the Steward(s), especially if the offense is repeated or is particularly egregious. For time calculation, the time the vehicle began moving will be used, as reported by the start marshal.

6.2 Penalties

Making a false start to a special stage –

1st offence: 10 seconds.

2nd offence: 1 minute.

3rd offence: 3 minutes.

Rationale: Define false start and bring penalties in line with FIA regulations.

Preston Osborn

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Osborn', written in a cursive style.

ARA Competition Director