

MRC

Merritt Rally Challenge

SPECTATOR GUIDE

Merritt, BC

April 27, 2002



West Coast Rally Association (WCRA) has been organizing rallies throughout the province for several years – most recently, the Thunderbird Rally was based in Merritt this February. The next stage of the sport, performance rallying, is growing in popularity. At the most advanced level, this type of rally attracts participants from across North America, and receives national TV coverage on TSN and RDS (the French-language sports channel.)

WCRA has received provisional acceptance for one of our performance events to be included in the national championship in June 2003 and are interested in hosting the national event in the City of Merritt. As part of the planning for national status in 2003, we will be holding two events in Merritt over the next 2 months. **The first, being a smaller event, is on April 27th and it is an introduction for competitors and organizers to Merritt and an introduction of Rallysport to the City of Merritt.** On June 8th, 2002, a full dress rehearsal of the performance event will be conducted and information will be distributed as the date nears. Spectators are encouraged to attend and show support of the events.

The Merritt Rally Challenge will be a rallycross event. This is an opportunity for the City and spectators to learn what rallying is about. Rallycross is done in an un-modified closed-bodied road vehicle, with three-point seatbelts and helmets. It is run in an enclosed venue through a temporary course, which is on loose surface and /or gravel, where competitors are challenged to navigate the course against the clock.

Venues

Rally HQ – for info

Best Western Nicola Inn, Walters Street, Merritt

Registration and Tech

Aspen Planers Lot / Nicola Valley Custom Log Lot, Merritt BC

Rallycross Event

Aspen Planers Lot / Nicola Valley Custom Log Lot, Merritt BC

Wrap up and Dinner

Niki's Restaurant (at Best Western Nicola Inn)

Tentative Schedule - Saturday April 27

10:00 – 12:00	Registration and Tech of Competitors Cars
12:30	Tech closes
12:30 – 12:45	Driver's Meeting and Introduction of Officials
13:00 – 15:00	Part 1: Competitive Vehicles on course
15:00 – 16:00	Service and Break
16:00 – 19:00	Part 2: Competitive Vehicles on course
19:00	End of Rallycross
20:00	Awards Presentation and Dinner at Niki's Restaurant

Note: This schedule may be subject changes, depending on the exact number of competitors, spectators and non-rally traffic. Final schedule will be available at Rally Headquarters during registration time.

Sponsored by:



Spectating at the Merritt Rally Challenge

All portions of the event will be attended by control marshals and crowd control to provide instructions for safe parking and viewing areas of this event.

RALLY OFFICIALS WILL BE WEARING ORANGE OR GREEN VESTS.

The Rally Cross will be held at the Aspen Planers Lot located on **SOUTH END OF HOUSTON STREET (CORNER OF HOUSTON AND PRIEST)**. The main spectator area will be limited to the outside of the chain-link fence where you will have a complete view of the competitive section of the event. Access to the lot will be limited to competitors, organizers and authorized personnel. If you wish access into this lot during the event, please see official at registration desk during registration hours to make arrangements.



Tips for safe viewing:

- Bring sunscreen, bug spray, water and food.
- Bring camera for cool pictures.
- Follow the Marshals instructions. They are there for your safety, as well as for the safety of the competitors.
- Keep out of restricted areas – stay in assigned spectator areas
- Please keep control of all children and pets.
- Take all your garbage with you
- No open fires. Please extinguish your cigarettes safely. Don't disturb any rally signs or banner tape, it's there for a reason. Don't block the drivers' view of any signs.

For more information check out the BC Region Web Site at:
<http://www.rallybc.com>

