

Heart of Darkness

July 18-19, 2015



Presented by West Coast Rally Association



Rally Masters for 2015 will be Tom Burgess and Jim Bowie. The rally will start and finish in Merritt and all gas stops are in Merritt. Chevron is open 24 hours a day. It is our intention to run on the smoothest roads available and avoid suspension bottoming bumps. We may be using roads in both directions and we may be using turn arounds.

Event Details

Heart of Darkness is round 3 of 4 in the BC Rally Championship. The rally follows the current BC Rally Regulations, which are posted on <http://www.rallybc.com>. The rally runs on straight-forward instructions. In addition to the route instructions, maps will be provided. The rally will be about 600 km long, entirely within the province of BC, and will start with an odometer check section of approximately 50 km. Roads will be about 20 % clear pavement, 80 % gravel. Instructions are provided in both km and miles, but the official measurements and calculations are based on the km figures.

Required equipment: 1 self-supporting, reflective warning triangle (30cm per side), first aid kit (minimum contents defined by the BC rally regulations), 5BC fire extinguisher, open cars require a roll bar. Additional lights on the front should meet legal requirements as to type and mounting height; and must be wired to the high beam lights such that the additional lights turn off when switching to low beam. Fog lights may be wired independently.

Recommended equipment: map light, driving lights, warm clothing, tow rope, snacks, water and caffeinated/energy beverages. Some helpful hints: Make sure not to mount anything (e.g. rally odometers) in front of an air-bag cover. Maximum distance between gas stops is 250km (150mi) but remember that many cars get worse mileage on gravel roads. There will be a sweep vehicle, but it may not always be able to extract wayward cars from the BC scenery. Drivers are asked always to drive with their headlights on and to be particularly courteous to traffic not connected with the rally.

The rally will be divided into a number of legs, each leg ending with a gas and food stop. Each leg is divided into Transit stages and Regularity stages. Transit stages give a stage time that is adequate for completing the stage well within speed limits. Your time will not be recorded in these stages. Regularity stages list specific average speeds, which are below the posted speed limits, which you must maintain in each part of the stage. Your timing in these stages determines your score.

Timing controls will be in regularity stages only, at various unannounced locations, and will not be placed near stop signs or busy intersections. Cars may not slow down excessively within sight of a timing control. At the control official's discretion the time may be recorded early when that happens. Procedure when approaching a control is simply to drive straight past without stopping. The control official will record your time. For double checking the results, you may wish to note the time and mileage at each control, but this is not required.

Timing & Scoring: Timing will be to 0.1 second, but scoring is one point per whole second early or late. This means that there is effectively a 0.9 second grace period either side of perfect time, to allow for inaccuracies in checkpoint position and timing accuracy. The maximum penalty at a single control is 300 points (5 minutes) and the maximum penalty for a regularity stage is 600 points (10 minutes). Control officials will remain in place at least until all remaining cars are beyond 10 minutes later than absolute rally time. Ties will be broken by the most zero scores, then the most 1 second penalties, etc.

Exceptions to Scoring: A competitor coming upon an accident is required to stop and render aid if necessary (e.g. in case of injury.) After rendering aid, the competitor should record the mileage in the section, and the time when they stopped as well as the time they restarted, and give a written declaration of this to a rally official or the event steward. Scoring adjustments will be made in such cases, and the crew should not try to regain the lost time until they reach a sufficiently long break (e.g. gas stop.) Declarations of time lost will also be considered for organizers' errors which make official time unattainable and other discretionary safety concerns. In the case where a competitor is stuck, but not injured or in any danger, they should wave rally traffic past and await the assistance of the sweep vehicle.

Other Notes: The rally will be passing through "quiet zones". These zones require that all accessory lighting is turned off, and all excess vehicle noise must be stopped until you have cleared the "quiet zone". These areas might include ranches or residential areas, and since the rally will be passing through in the middle of the night, we need to respect the surrounding areas.

Given the event will be running in the dry, arid conditions of the summer season, time intervals between vehicles will be either 1 or 2 minutes to account for dust trails. This will be subject to discretion of the organizers on event

Postponement: Given that the event date is mid-July, forest fire closures are a real possibility. Should that happen we will postpone to Sept 12/13. Should the event be postponed, entrants will have the option of withdrawal with full refund

Classes: Classes are as defined for the BC region TSD rally championship:

Paper: No calculators, rally tables or accessory odometers.

Calculator: Accessory odometers, non-programmable calculating devices that are not driven by a wheel.

Unlimited: Unlimited equipment.

Novice: Neither team member having entered more than 3 TSD rallies prior to the start of the competition year and navigation equipment to conform to calculator class.

Historic: Vehicles manufactured more than 25 years prior to Dec 31 of the year preceding the current competition season. Navigational equipment is unlimited.

Officials of the Event

Rally Masters:	Jim Bowie	250 546 6001	(jim.bowie57@gmail.com)
	Tom Burgess	250 248 5799	(tomburgess@shaw.ca)
Registrar:	Paul Westwick	604 617 4132	(paul@rallybc.com)
Steward:	TBA		

Schedule

Sunday July 12: Close of early entries. Preliminary start order assigned.

Saturday July 18:

16:00 Final start order posted, based on current paid entries. Any entries received after this time, or without payment yet confirmed, will start at the end of the field.

16:00-18:30 Registration & Technical inspection, at rally HQ in Merritt. Route instructions will be handed out when you complete registration and tech inspection.

16:30-19:00 Optional novice training session at rally HQ. This will be a classroom session, based on the WCRA novice rally course. If you wish to attend, please contact Jim Bowie (jim.bowie57@gmail.com) to confirm a spot.

19:00 Novice Drivers' meeting
19:30 Drivers' meeting
20:01 First car out

Sunday July 19:

7:30 End of rally, at rally HQ. Scoring & Awards to follow as soon as possible

Rally HQ: Golden Chopstick restaurant, adjacent to the Quality Inn on Walters St, near the north end of Merritt. From the south, take the second Merritt exit, and turn left at the T junction onto Voght. From the north, take the first Merritt exit and proceed south along Voght. Turn right on Walters St, about 800m from the exit, then the Golden Chopstick and Quality Inn are on your left.

Entry Fees: \$100 (\$85 US for US competitors) for entries received before midnight July 12, 2015. \$110 (\$95 US) for late entries. Members of BC rally clubs are eligible for a \$10 discount each (i.e. \$20 off if both are members). Please make cheques payable to West Coast Rally Association.

If you wish to pay by PayPal or Interac, send it to paul@rallybc.com with the category service, then complete the online entry form. If you wish to join WCRA or renew your membership, the form and fee can be included with your entry.

Maximum entries accepted: 30. Any entries received above the maximum will be notified by email and held on a waiting list. Entry fee cheques may be post dated up to the close of early entries (July 12), or current dated, for the entry to be accepted.

Entry form link: <http://goo.gl/forms/QU3wnTH7SV>

If mailing a cheque, please send to:

West Coast Rally Association
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Vancouver BC
Canada, V6E 1J3