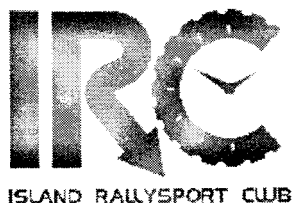


West Coast Rallying...

Island Rally Update

2005 has been a model year so far for the Island Rallysport Club in terms of participation with lots of *new blood* trying the sport and honing their skills! With a 4 event Novice Series that is attracting many newcomers, we can look forward to swelling numbers for the big events all over the Province!



And this year is just *flying* by! With 4 on-island events already done, we are in full swing with 5 left to run:

Coast 2 Coast TSD May 14/15
BCRC & Pacific Coast Challenge Series (2 day gravel)

Novice 3 TSD June 5 (3 hour paved)

Novice 4 TSD August 14 (3 hour paved)

Tsunami TSD August 27 (6 hour paved)

Midnight TSD Oct 29 *BCRC Series* (8 hour gravel)

DID YOU KNOW: In all of 2004, the IRC held 4 events. TSD Rally School, Coast 2 Coast, Tsunami, & Midnight for a TOTAL number of 43 team entries!

SO FAR IN 2005: With the 4 events so far we have had 52 team entries! (21% more than last year!). And we're less than halfway...unbelievable! Now that's impressive growth!

I am hopeful and excited to think we can accomplish the great feat of having 100 team entries for the current year. *We invite everyone* to come rally on the Island and help us reach this goal!

Brian Carriere
IRC President

The Competitor's Review:

IRC Rally School- April 9, 2005

What does that symbol mean? What time does the Reg. start? WHAT IS A REG!?!?

The Island Rallysport Club's TSD Rally School cleared up all of those questions and more! The instructors did a great job covering every topic that a novice would need to know to be competitive in the sport. The course covered history of the sport, car and crew prep, basic calculations, what to bring, what to do before and during a rally and even 4 Regularities of gravel *mayhem!* The instructors were very patient with the newbies, explaining precisely how to navigate a TSD efficiently and quickly. Everyone in the classroom (except one pair) was brand new to the sport and had never run a TSD event, let alone on gravel. The class had its moments, but the real excitement came when we got to run the Regs.

Starting in Honeymoon Bay at the fire station, the first Reg. was a small loop finishing near our classroom. Everyone made it past the first control, but at the *acute right* 2.76km into the stage, many

people got lost, taking the turn before it and following the next instructions to *bear left*, causing them to turn back onto the main road! A few managed to follow the route properly, but everyone got back safe and sound.

When everyone was **back** at the start point, the instructors took us through an actual Technical Inspection; most people did not have adequate tires for off road and one even had slick performance street tires! After a few cars were "tech'd", the group was given a route book for a second mini TSD. Many teams swapped drivers and navigators so that they could try everything out, one team even changed cars! The rally started with minor problems, a few cars leaving early, but the first Reg. was well done by all. Reg. 2 is where all hell broke loose! Almost every team missed a *SOR* causing them to run off course and missing an *acute left*. The only team that made the turn saw all the cars driving past and turned around to follow them! Eventually everyone got back on track but they were all far behind and had to make up a lot of time. Everyone drove straight through Reg. 2 trying to get to the start of Reg. 3 so that they could start on time again;

which they did. My navigator and I were able to get to the start of Reg. 3 on time but were just a few kilometers into it when my nav. said to me, "I think we have a flat! Pull over!" We pull over and sure enough we had been riding the rim for the past few km's. We hop out and start to fix the flat with the other competitors slowing to see if we need assistance but we wave them on. We end up fixing the flat, but our time is now way off and have no chance of making any good of Reg. 3.

We all meet back at the Fire Station for a debriefing and to tell stories of the great time we just had. All in all, the IRC's TSD Rally School was interesting and very helpful. The instructors were very clear on what we needed to do to be successful in TSD rallies, and were glad to answer questions. A big thanks to all the instructors that gave up their time to come help teach us newbies how to rally, as well as a thank you to the Island Rally Club for putting this event on!

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