

BC Rally Scene

Rallying began in Europe almost 90 years ago and quickly attracted automobile manufacturers as a means of demonstrating their product. Rallying has always been about Real Cars on Real Roads going Real Fast! Beginning with navigational style road rallies that tested a team's endurance, timing skills and driving ability, rallying grew towards the form we see today. Over the past thirty years, rallying has continued to evolve and maintain its traditions, while introducing more high-speed performance events. Today rallying is enjoyed globally as one of the most challenging forms of motor racing in the World.

Canadian rallying encompasses many levels of competition, from entry level navigational, to high-performance rallycross and stage rallies.

Navigational Rallying is an inexpensive form of competition that requires minimal preparation. Events use the Time-Speed-Distance formula to detail a route that teams must drive at a particular average speed. Surfaces are usually gravel or snow and Check-points in unknown locations record a team's ability to stay as close as possible to the set speed without being early or late. Scoring is to the second. TSD rallies are fun, challenging adventures and you can even use your everyday car to compete in the BC TSD Rally Championship.

Rallycross events are held on a closed access venue free from hazards to driver or vehicle. Common sites include frozen lakes or gravel lots. A challenging short course is laid out with an emphasis on tight corners and one at a time, competitors must drive as quickly as possible with the lowest elapsed time winning. As the actual speed of the cars is limited by the design of the course this offers an excellent opportunity to drive flat out with maximum safety. Safety precautions permit the inclusion of everyday cars and the action rewards good drivers rather than fast vehicles.

Performance or Stage Rally is a favorite form of motorsport in many parts of the world. Unlike conventional racing, rallies are held on closed-access forest roads. The road conditions may vary from loose gravel to mud or snow and ice. Also, unlike racing, the route remains un-practiced until the team has to drive it as fast as possible while listening to directions given by the co-driver. Speeds and action are high, so cars are built to international standards of safety and modification. Regional competitors compete on the six round Western Canadian Rally Championship with two rounds taking place in Merritt BC. Of these, the Pacific Forest Rally also ranks as a round of the Canadian National Championship and regularly attracts TV coverage and manufacturer backed teams.

The West Coast Rally Association is a registered society founded to organize and promote rallying sport on the British Columbia mainland. It is complimented by the Island Rallysport Club pursuing similar objectives on

Vancouver Island. Through a variety of events and activities we bring together the organizers, volunteers, experts and novices who support rallying in BC. The clubs host many events throughout the year and welcome new members. Check out the www.rallybc.com website for upcoming events and tips on how to get started.



RallyBC

West Coast Rally Association

Western Canada

What's coming in 2005...

January

29 Storm the Island TSD Rally Tarmac IRC

February

19/20 Thunderbird TSD Rally Merritt WCRA

26/27 Rallycross on Ice Cache Creek WCRA

March

12 Cochrane Stage Rally Alberta WCRC

20 Novice TSD Rally #1 Van. Island IRC

April

2 Novice TSD Rally #1 Lower Mainland WCRA

9 TSD Rally School Van. Island IRC

10 Novice TSD Rally #2 Van. Island IRC

30 Heart of Darkness TSD Rally Hope WCRA

May

14/15 Coast to Coast TSD Rally Van. Island IRC

28/29 Rocky Mountain Stage Rally Alberta WCRC

June

4 Novice TSD Rally #2 Kamloops WCRA

18 Mountain Trials Stage Rally Merritt WCRC

July

23 Golddigger TSD rally TBC WCRA

August

6 Novice TSD Rally #3 Hope WCRA

14 Novice TSD Rally #3 Van Island IRC

27 Tsunami TSD Rally Van Island IRC

Sept.

11 Loop TSD rally Alberta RallyWest

24 Bighorn Stage Rally Alberta WCRC

October

15/16 Pacific Forest Rally Merritt WCRC

29 Midnight TSD Rally Van. Island IRC

Nov.

5 Kananaskis Stage Rally Alberta WCRC

19/20 Totem TSD Rally Cache Creek WCRA

www.RallyBC.com

Additional Web Links

www.carsrally.ca

(Canadian Assoc. of Rally Sport)

www.specialstage.com

(Discussion in the Canada-West Forum)