

What is a Rallye?

Many of you may have never participated in a rallye nor do you know much about them. Here is some background information about rallying to increase your interest in participating in our rallye. A rallye is defined as a form of auto competition that takes place on public or private roads with production or specially built road-legal cars. This type of competition is distinguished by running not on a track, but instead in a point-to-point format in which participants and their co-drivers drive between set check points, leaving at regular intervals from one or more start points. Rallyes maybe won by pure speed within the stages, by driving to a predetermined ideal journey time or route within the stages or by scoring highest on a set of tasks defined by the rallye master. A rallye using this third type of scoring is called a “gimmick” rallye. Gimick rallyes usually include a set up instructions created by the rallye master and given to the driving team as they start the rallye. Because there are instructions that must be followed while driving, a driver and a navigator are both usually required.

One of the first known rallyes is the Monte Carlo Rallye of 1911. These events led directly to a period of city-to-city road races in France and other European countries. These competitions introduced many of the features found in later rallyes. These include individual start times with cars running against the clock rather than head to head; time controls at the entry and exit points along the way; road books and route notes; and driving over long distances on ordinary, mainly gravel, roads, facing hazards such as dust, traffic, pedestrians and farm animals. Rallyes have evolved over time to be pure racing competitions as well as fun events for automobile and motorcycle clubs. There are many variations of rallyes held today. Some of these types are the pure overall time runs (the fastest time wins); set time runs where the time closest to the exact time wins; poker runs where playing cards are given out at specific check points and the best hand wins; and picture map runs where pictures are put in order of their occurrence during the run. All rallyes held by Texas All British Car Days are intended to be safe and friendly competition between drivers and to be fun for all of the participants. Obeying all laws and driving at all times in a safe manner is required for participation in our rallyes. We want you back next year!