



NATIONAL RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

ARTICLE 1.

1.1. FORMAT.

The counting events in the Championship:

ROUND 1

*Midland Stages. March 5th
Region One*

ROUND 2

*Circuit of Kerry. April 2nd
Region Two*

ROUND 3

*Cavan Stages Rally.
May 28th
Region One*

ROUND 4

*Ravens Rock Rally.
June 2nd
Region Two*

ROUND 5

*Sligo Stages Rally.
July 16th
Region One*

ROUND 6

*ALMC Stages Rally.
August 13th
Region One*

ROUND 7

*Clare Stages Rally.
September 24th
Region Two*

ROUND 8

*The Fastnet Rally.
October 29th
Region Two*

1.2. Best performance in the number of events held, **less two** will count, **of which one** must take place after July 1st in the current year.

1.2.1. Junior's best performance in the number of events held, less two will count, of which one must take place after July 1st in the current year.

1.3. Events are arranged into 2 regions. To qualify for a championship award competitors must register for and start a minimum of three events, at least one of which must be in each region. A fee of €10 per crew per event will be charged and will be included in the entry fee.

1.4. The two regions are:

Region 1: Midland, Cavan, Sligo, ALMC

Region 2: Kerry, Raven's Rock, Clare, Fastnet

ARTICLE 2.

2.1. CLASSES.

Classes as per Appendix 29.1 of the current MI yearbook.

2.2. Notes on Classes.

2.2.1. These classes must be included in all Championship events but Clubs may subdivide them if they so wish and/or include additional classes subject to the overall limitation that Clubmans cars are restricted to a maximum engine capacity of 3500 cc.

See also 'Notes on Classes', Appendix 29.1.

ARTICLE 3.

3.1. AWARDS.

1st Overall

Driver: Cecil Vard Trophy (perpetual)

Co-driver: Noel Smith Trophy (perpetual)

2nd Overall

Driver: Trophy. Co-driver: Trophy.

3rd Overall

Driver: Trophy. Co-driver: Trophy.

NATIONAL TWO WHEEL DRIVE AWARD

To the driver achieving the highest overall placing in a two wheel drive car, the best 7 scores from 8 to count. Winners of the above award are eligible for overall but not for class awards.

~~MOTOR SPORT SAFETY TEAM NATIONAL GROUP R AWARD~~

~~Removed~~

~~NATIONAL GROUP N AWARD~~

~~Deleted~~

DUNLOP NATIONAL MK2 ESCORT CHAMPIONS

To the Driver achieving the highest points in a MK2 Ford Escort. **The best 6 scores from 8 to count.** Winners of the above award are ineligible for class awards.

JUNIOR CLASS

The Winner of Class 16 will be crowned the National Junior Champion. In this class, the highest place MI licence holder will qualify for



the selection process for the Billy Coleman award.

MICHAEL FARRELL MEMORIAL TROPHY

To the Class Winner with the greatest number of Class Points from his/her eight eligible rounds, excluding those classes from which 1st, 2nd & 3rd overall are derived.

NATIONAL LADIES AWARD

1. This will be awarded to the highest placed female in the overall awards, Driver or Co-driver.

2. This will be awarded to the highest placed female in the junior class, Driver or Co-driver

3.2. National Class Awards.

1st in each Class

Driver: Trophy. Co-driver: Trophy.

2nd in each Class

Driver: Trophy. Co-driver: Trophy.

3rd in each Class

Driver: Trophy. Co-driver: Trophy.

3.3. The number of awards in any class may be reduced if entries during the year are insufficient.

ARTICLE 4. GENERAL RULES.

4.1. Substitution of events, or alteration of dates will be permitted in the case of 'force majeure' at the discretion of the Motor Sport Council (MSC). (GCR 12)

4.2. The Championship will be open to the following categories of licence holders:

4.2.1. Motorsport Ireland National 'A' and International Licence holders.

4.2.2. **Holders of Stage National B licences are permitted to drive a car eligible for classes 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, and 23 as listed in Appendix 29.1 of the MI yearbook.**

4.2.3. Motorsport UK Licence holders, of a grade not lower than **RS Inter Club Stage Rally**, who may be resident in either Ireland or Britain with Medical Certificates.

4.2.4. Co-drivers must hold Driver or Navigators Licences.

4.3. All cars complying with the classes as per Article 2 of these regulations are eligible for the Championship. Commercial vehicles are not eligible.

4.4. Responsibilities of the Promoting Clubs:

4.4.1. Accommodation on night prior to event in Rally Headquarters for Championship **Officials. For three rooms**, plus evening meal.

4.4.2. The club must provide a suitable location, to be agreed with **the manager**, for registration and information which will take place during the times specified in the event regulations for documentation on the evening before the event.

4.4.3. The club will provide the **manager** with a class-based list of entries and reserves prior to the publication of the entry list.

4.4.3.1. Note: This will allow the **manager** to assist clubs in determining which drivers are entitled to priority. In so doing, clubs must afford the

manager a reasonable period within which to revert to them with comments. Minimum 48 hours.

4.4.4. **Motorsport Ireland will directly pay the travel expenses.**

4.4.5. The Club must also provide enough copies of the up to date Championship Results for distribution on the event.

4.4.6. Once the results have been declared final the organisers must provide to the **manager** the following information:

1. Full list of starters.
2. Full list of Overall Results.
3. Full list of Class Results.

4.5. The interpretation of these rules in case of doubt, shall rest with the **manager** in consultation where necessary with the Motorsport Ireland National Championship Sub-**Commission**. This decision will be subject to the approval of the Motor Sport **Council**, subject to the overriding right of appeal under the GCRs of MI.

4.6. The Championship manager is:

Laura McMenamin
c/o Motorsport Ireland
34 Dawson St, Dublin 2.
Telephone: 087 6646002
e-mail: nationalrallychampionship@gmail.com

The National Championship chairperson is:

Declan Tumilty
Castletown Grove
Celbridge
087-2597599
declantumilty@gmail.com

4.7. Scrutiny Requirements.

See Appendix 2 of the MI yearbook.

4.8 Championship Bulletins.

The Promoters may issue Competitor Bulletins by email to all registered competitors. The information contained shall be included in the MI Monthly Bulletin. Such notices will form an integral part of the Championship Regulations from date of publication.

4.9 Power Stage.

This stage shall:

- Be the **last timed** stage of the rally.
- Be run as a stage of the event for all classified competitors.
- Attribution of 'Power Stage' points: Points will be awarded according to the scale as described in Art. 5.1.4. For the purpose of allocating points, the Power Stage Classification shall be calculated using the stage time plus any other time penalty accrued on this stage, including any false start penalty. To score points, a crew must be classified in the Final Official Classification of the rally and must be registered for the championship. If the Power Stage is definitively stopped before the Top 20 Crews have had the opportunity



to complete the stage, the Championship **manager** may decide that no points are awarded for the Power Stage. The top championship registered crew classified on the Power Stage will be awarded 1 point.

Should the Bogey Time be beaten on the Power Stage, Power Stage Points will be awarded by reference to the Actual time recorded on the Stage.

ARTICLE 5. POINTS SCORING.

5.1. Points will be awarded as follows on the basis of results from each round. In addition, each class will be marked separately as per 5.1.2.

5.1.1. Overall Points:

20/18/16/14/13/12/11/10/9/8/7/6/5/4/3

5.1.2. Class Points:

10/8/7/6/5/4/3/2/1

5.1.3. Dunlop Mk2 Escort Championship Point Scoring :

20/18/16/14/13/12/11/10/9/8/7/6/5/4/3

5.1.4 Power Stage

1 Point

5.1.5. **Bonus for finishing the second last round is 1 point. Bonus for finishing the last round of the year is 2 points.** Competitors availing of Super rally will get 50% of the normal points given for finishing the event. In order to be eligible for championship points Super rally finishers must comply with Appendix 29 Article 13 of the current MI Yearbook.

5.2. In addition one point will be awarded to each registered finisher not receiving points from 5.1.1 or 5.1.2 above.

5.3. Championship points will be awarded on the basis of the finishing order of Registered Competitors (i.e. 1st placed registered competitor 20 pts, 2nd placed registered competitor 18pts and so on. Class points will be awarded on the same basis).

5.4. If the number of counting rounds is reduced, for any reason, the **manager** of the championship will in consultation with the Motorsport Ireland National Championship Sub-Commission, make a recommendation to the Motorsport Ireland Motor Sport **Council** as to what amendments should be made to the regulations for the championship. This will take into account at what point during the championship the number of counting rounds is reduced. All registered competitors will be notified in writing within 14 days of the MSC reaching a decision. Ties in either the overall or class placing will be decided in favour of the competitor with the greatest number of wins, and failing this, the greatest number of second places etc, until the tie is resolved. If further ties remain they will ultimately be decided on the basis of performance in the sequential order of events, i.e. the first event will count first, and so on. (See Appendix 15 No.

6.10. of the MI yearbook.

5.5. Registration for the championship will close immediately after it no longer becomes possible for a competitor to comply with the regulations in accordance with Art. 1.3. Competitors who have registered prior to this but cannot comply with Art. 1.3 will not be awarded any further points.

5.6. The following rules will apply to handling of entries for each championship round.

5.6.1. Entry forms to be available 10 days before the official opening date. Official entry forms should be made available to all registered drivers.

Labels are available on request from the championship **manager**. The onus will be on the competitor to ensure that they are in receipt of the regulations prior to the relevant priority dates.

5.6.2. Regulations for National Championship events must not open earlier than a date calculated as Monday, five weeks prior to the last Monday before the event. e.g. (Sunday event 42 Days).

5.6.3. There will be a common date for the closing of entries, including priority entries as per Art 7.1. In the event of the closing date being extended priority entries must be secured by the original closing date.

5.6.4. **Payment** must not be lodged before closing date for all entrants who are awarded an entry. A reasonable number of reserve entries may also have their **payments** lodged at closing date. Clubs are encouraged to state on regulations that cash should not be sent with entry.

5.6.5. Where a club starts a maximum entry, no money can be withheld from the non-starters.

5.6.6. Where a club does not start a maximum entry due to the withdrawal of entries, the club may impose financial penalties to the last cars that withdraw from the starters' list.

5.6.7. All non-starters are to be refunded their cheques not later than fourteen days after the event.

5.6.8. **National championship events will be allowed to start 150, regardless of format, including juniors, provided there are sixty priority places afforded to national championship registered competitors as per Art 7.1.**

5.6.9. Historic Competitors must compete as part of the main field on **all** stages on each event.

5.6.10. All National Rally Championship events will be timed to the nearest tenth of a second from a standing start to a flying finish.

5.6.11. **Juniors must compete on all stages and be seeded as part of the main field in a block where possible. 12 of the main field entries are to be held for class 16, normal priority applies.**

ARTICLE 6. REGISTRATION.

6.1. Competitors are required to register for the championship at documentation of the first qualifying round that they enter.



Once registered it is not a requirement that you sign on at subsequent rounds, Drivers and Co Drivers register and score points on an individual basis. On registering competitors agree to be bound by these regulations and any amendments subsequently issued. Competitors who wish to change class during the championship must re-register in the class they are moving to.

6.2. The nominated driver must drive all competitive sections of each event.

6.3. **To be eligible as a counting round, each event's route must comprise not less than 90 stage kilometres and no more than 110 stage kilometres as defined in the published roadbook.**

ARTICLE 7. ENTRY PRIORITY FOR CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTERED COMPETITORS

Entry Priority for Championship registered competitors is the Wednesday of the week prior to event start date, i.e. 10 days.

7.1.

The first two registered drivers in Classes 4,7,9,10,15,18/19

The first three registered drivers in Classes 1 & 3

The first five registered drivers in Classes 11F, 11R, 12, 14, 16 & 20.

The first seven registered drivers in Classes 2, 5 & 13

Will be entitled to priority provided that their entries are in order on the closing date. In the event of the registered drivers entitled to priority in each of the classes above not having a valid entry in by the closing date, the priority will pass to the next registered driver in that class who has a valid entry submitted. This will facilitate a maximum of 72 Registered Drivers receiving priority entries for the events.

7.2. Priority for Championship Registered Drivers for Rounds 1 and 2 will be the Award Winners from the previous Championship. On Round 2, should the award winners from the previous **Championship** not make up the 60 places provided for the national championship the shortfall will be taken from the class positions after Round 1. (For example if 40 places on Round 2 are taken by the previous **Championship** awards winners, the remaining 20 places will be made up from the final results after round 1.) These remaining places will be decided by class winners from Round 1 first, followed by 2nd and 3rd in class.

Priority for the remaining rounds will be based on a Registered Driver's Championship position at the closing date for entries for that event, provided that their entry is in order and subject to the following:

7.3. Drivers who cannot improve their awards position by competing in additional rounds will not be granted priority for those rounds. Priority will then pass to the next registered driver in that class and so on. A listing showing competitors entitled to priority will be supplied to the Clerk of the Course of the events by the **manager**.

7.4. Where a registered driver / class is not entitled to priority but is in contention for the Michael Farrell Memorial Trophy, they will also be entitled to priority, provided that their entry is in order on the closing date as defined above.

ARTICLE 8.

8.1. All events must be run in accordance with the General Competition Rules and Appendix 25, 29 and 31 of this Yearbook.

8.2. Competitors should also provide an area on both sides of the car for any advertising proposed by championship event organisers. Event door stickers must be printed as per championship template.

8.3. *Each Club must appoint a Public Relations Officer to promote the interests of their rally. They should work in close liaison with the appointed Championship PRO and furnish them with event information as soon as it is available. Full seeded entry list and 'Time and Distance' schedule must be issued to the Championship committee no later than the Thursday week prior to the event and they should be kept advised of any withdrawals.*

Media manager contact:

e-mail: nationalrallychampionship@gmail.com

8.4. The championship logos must be included on the front of all event regulations. Each club must ensure that the sponsor is given advertising space in the event programme, as follows: full colour page and Championship logo on the front cover (artwork to be supplied by the championship **manager**).

the MI website, motorsportireland.com and the Championship results will be available on **irishnationalrallychamp.com** following each round. They will also be available via email. Competitors wishing to avail of this service should furnish the **manager** with their email address when they register.

9.2. Provisional and final results will also be posted on the Motorsport Ireland website and the Championship website. Competitors will receive them by email.



9.3. Queries will only be dealt with up to 14 days after publication of provisional results.

Queries: Complaints and queries in relation to the championship shall be made in writing or e-mail to the championship manager who shall publish a decision on the matter/s within seven days.

Protests: Protests may be made in relation to matters which have been the subject of a decision by the national championship sub- committee. Such protests shall be subject to a time limit of 14 days after the publication of the decision and shall be addressed to the championship stewards c/o Motorsport Ireland and must be in writing and accompanied by the appropriate fee.

ARTICLE 10.

10.1. Two Championship decals will be provided by the **manager** to each registered competitor. These must be fixed to the competing car in a position approved by the **manager**. Championship decals must remain affixed to the competing car for the duration of each counting round. Breach of this regulation will result in no points being awarded to the relevant competitors.

10.2. The Top 3 overall in the final classification of the event (driver and navigator), along with the driver and navigator winning Group N and the 2 wheel drive category, the Mk2 Champions Cup, the Junior Class, and historic categories shall wear the caps provided by the championship organisers for any interviews, photographs, video recording, or any other publicity or promotional purpose required by the sponsor. The winner's caps will be provided by the sponsor. Failure to do so may result in a fine of €500 being imposed by the **manager**, and/or the loss of Championship points for that event. Before deducting championship points from any competitor the **manager** of the championship will consult with the Motorsport Ireland National Championship Sub-Commission.

10.3. Regional Championships consisting of rounds of the National Championship and Events forming part of the National Championship shall not have a conflicting Title Sponsor to that of the National Championship Sponsor. **Priority must be given to official national championship media crews for livestream and media television throughout the event and at start and finish ramps.**

10.4. Deleted

10.5. Deleted

10.6. If an Event must cancel due to Force Majeure, Championship Points will only be awarded if 50% of the Stage mileage has been completed.