

The Totem Navigational Rally

New date: December 5-6, 2020

Social Distancing Edition

Presented by West Coast Rally Association



The latest order from the Provincial Health Officer instructs all people in the Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health regions to socialize only with their immediate household, and to have no gatherings of any size from November 7 until November 23. While this does not affect the territory where this rally takes place, it does affect most of the organizing group and many of the competitors. As a result, we are postponing the rally by 2 weeks to December 5-6. Teams that have already registered will be given a full refund if they cannot (or don't wish to) participate on the new date. If you have made hotel bookings, please contact the hotel directly to cancel or re-book.

Due to Covid-19, this event will run a little differently than in past years. Entries will be limited in order to keep the total size of the event (participants plus officials) under the 50-person mass gathering limit mandated by the BC government. There will be no in-person novice training session. We are aiming to do an on-line novice training during the week before the rally. In place of technical inspection, teams will be asked to sign a self-declaration that they have all of the mandatory equipment. That declaration, plus the official waiver, can be signed in advance and brought to the start of the rally, and exchanged for door numbers and your route book. At the end of each day, rather than physically checking in at MTC, we will ask you to text the organizer to confirm that you have arrived.

Provincial regulations require that restaurants restrict seating to groups of 6 or fewer people. We are asking teams to pick their dining partners by the start of the rally, and then maintain that group (or dine alone) for each of the subsequent stops and the finish of the rally.

Mask use: All participants shall wear masks when in common areas of the start, overnight and finish hotels, except while seated at their dining table. On route, if you get out of your vehicle while stopped (e.g. at the start of a regularity), please wear your mask if there are any other people around, or if you need assistance from sweep. In the event that you need to get a ride from sweep or another rally official, everyone in the vehicle shall be masked.

The Totem Rally is a navigational, time-speed-distance rally, part of the BC Rally Championship. The rally follows the current BC Rally Regulations, which are posted on 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 800km long, entirely within the province of BC, and will start with an odometer check section of about 15km. Roads are expected to be about 50% clear pavement and 50% gravel, much of it snow-covered, however, conditions are extremely variable at this time of year. Instructions are provided in both km and miles, but the official measurements and calculations are based on the km figures.

Required equipment: 4 snow tires, 1 self-supporting, reflective warning triangle (30cm per side), first aid kit, 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, shovel, tow rope, ice scraper. Some helpful hints: Handbrakes can freeze if left on overnight. Roads are often ploughed off their summer routes, so beware of snow-filled ditches. Maximum distance between gas stops is 250km (150mi) but remember that many cars get worse mileage in winter conditions. BC Highway regulations sometimes require vehicles without 4-wheel drive to carry chains. The sweep truck will have 4-wheel drive and a winch, but 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 meal stop or overnight 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 within 200m of a stop sign, busy intersection, or a pause or caution instruction. 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.

In addition to staffed checkpoint locations, we will be testing the phone-based Richta timing app. This requires one dedicated smart-phone (iPhone or Android) in each vehicle, and uses the phone's GPS to log the time at which you pass each checkpoint location. Your times will be uploaded when you connect to Wi-Fi at the end of each day, or if you enable data, when you reach coverage. Further details will be posted closer to the event.

Time Declarations: The principles behind time declarations are as follows:

- Competitors should be able to stop and render first aid at an accident without penalty.
- Competitors should be able to stop and deal with a public situation (concerned local, grader blocking road, law enforcement etc.) without penalty.
- Competitors' own errors should earn them penalties.
- Competitors should not be able to engineer a lower score post-facto through a time declaration.
- Competitors requiring outside assistance (e.g. to extract them from a snowbank) should be penalized.

There will therefore be 2 categories of time declaration: For situations involving public safety (stopped for a red cross incident, stopped to determine if there is injury, stopped by a member of the public, heavy traffic making it impossible to pass, etc.) the time dec will not incur any penalty. For competitor's fault situations (missed a turn, couldn't make the average, blew a tire, mis-calculated the time, etc.) the time dec will cost you 20 points.

Teams will be given a Time Declaration sheet for each regularity. If you are delayed in a regularity, (e.g. if you have to stop for an accident, or if you are stopped by someone not connected with the rally) do not race to catch up your time. The time declaration sheet includes a field for the distance, a check box for fault/no-fault, a field for recording the reason if it is a no-fault, and the delay requested, which must be in whole minutes, or whole minutes plus 30 seconds (0:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00 etc.), up to 9:30 late. In each case, you must fill in the time dec form at the time when the delay occurs. At the end of the day, when you check in to the main time control in the restaurant, take a photo of the sheet and text or email it to the organizer.

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.

Officials of the Event:

Route Master: **Paul Westwick (paul@rallybc.com)** Steward: **Alex Schubel (alex@rallybc.com)**
Registrar: **Paul Westwick (paul@rallybc.com)**

Awards and Classes: Trophies will be awarded, for overall position and according to the classes laid out for the BC region 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 is unlimited.
Historic: Vehicles manufactured more than 25 years prior to Dec 31 of the year preceding the current competition season. Navigational equipment to conform to calculator class.

Schedule:

Sunday November 29 Close of early entries at midnight, after which preliminary start order is assigned.

Friday December 4

19:00h – 21:00h

Registration at Rally HQ (Bear's Claw Inn) in Cache Creek.

21:30h

Final start order posted, based on current paid entries.

Saturday December 5

07:30h – 09:00h

Late Registration and Breakfast at Rally HQ.

09:30h

Drivers' Meeting – outdoors

10:01h

First Car Out

20:00h

End of Day 1, Wells Gray Inn, Clearwater

Sunday December 6

08:30h

Day 2, First Car Out, Wells Gray Inn, Clearwater

15:00h

End of Day 2 at Bear's Claw Inn, Cache Creek.

16:00h

Dinner & Awards presentation (start making up your stories)

Directions to the rally HQ: The Bear's Claw Inn is on the east side of Highway 97, about 800m north of the junction with Highway 1, just north of the small bridge.

Fees and Costs

Entry Fee: \$200 for entries received before midnight November 29. \$230 for late entries. Members of WCRA are eligible for a \$15 discount each (i.e. \$15 for driver, \$15 for navigator). To pay by Paypal or Interac, email to the organizer, paul@rallybc.com. If you want to pay by credit card, we will invoice via Square. If paying by cheque (early entries only), please make cheques payable to West Coast Rally Association and mail to: 1169 Nelson Street #408, Vancouver BC, V6E 1J3

If you wish to join WCRA or renew your membership for next year, the form and fee can be included with your entry. Membership form link: http://www.rallybc.com/wcra/wcra_mem_app.pdf

Maximum entries accepted: 20. Any entries received above the maximum will be notified by phone and held on a waiting list. If entering late, please confirm by phone. Entry fee cheques may be post dated up to the close of early entries (November 29), or current dated, for the entry to be accepted.

Entry form link: <https://tinyurl.com/y6hq7w2>

Accommodation

Competitors are responsible for their own accommodations; however, we have arranged group rates at the following hotels – to get the rate, be sure to mention the Totem Rally when booking:

Friday: Bear's Claw Inn 1-888-552-2529 - \$79 + taxes (double)

Saturday: Wells Gray Inn, Clearwater 1-800-567-4088 - \$89 + taxes (double) or \$69 for one bed