



CHAMPIONSHIP NEWSLETTER No. 1 – 2023

Welcome to the 2023 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series and Motorsport UK English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK – we're looking forward to some 'Serious Fun' with a full calendar of events spread across the year.

The purpose of this Newsletter is to explain a few bits and pieces in advance of your first event. We hope you find it helpful but, if you have any questions about the BTRDA Rally Series, please contact us.

You should have received your BTRDA membership card, or if you have recently registered, it will be with you shortly. Don't worry if it hasn't arrived in time for the Malcolm Wilson Rally (11th March) as we will have access to the Membership database to confirm your membership.

For those competitors who have not yet registered for 2023, then you should do so via the on-line BTRDA membership registration system www.btrdamembership.com or print off a Registration form from the championship website and send it to Paul Price, the Membership Secretary.

The membership card carries your BTRDA Club membership number and your BTRDA Championship registration number (drivers start with a 7 and co-drivers with a 2). Your registration also includes eligibility for the Motorsport UK 2023 English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK.

The 2023 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series calendar includes 8 very popular one-day forest events. Your final championship results will be based on your **best 6 scores**.

1	Malcolm Wilson Rally*	11 th March	Cockermouth/Lake District
2	Rallynuts Stages	15 th April	Royal Welsh Showground / Mid Wales
3	Border Counties Rally	6 th May	Jedburgh/Tweed Valley
4	Kielder Forest Rally	17 th June	Hexham/Northumberland
5	Nicky Grist Stages	8 th July	Builth Wells/Mid Wales
6	Woodpecker Stages	9 th September	Ludlow/Shropshire
7	Trackrod Forest Stages*	23 rd September	Filey/Yorkshire Forests
8	Cambrian Rally*	28 th October	Llandudno/North Wales

* The BTRDA reserve the right to include competitor stage times / results from other categories in these events.

CHAMPIONSHIP SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

We are pleased to confirm our 2022 sponsors are continuing with us in 2023. **JORDAN ROAD SURFACING** are supporting the Historic Cup, and **Fuchs Lubricants (UK)** will be supporting the Bronze Star for up to 1400 cars whilst **Mintex, Kielder, Carless Racing Fuels** and **Shepherd Compello** will again be providing invaluable support.

Our headline sponsor, **MRF TYRES**, have some exclusive deals for our championship contenders and they have recently launched the **MRF Motorsport Tyres Trophy**

The 2023 **MRF Motorsport Tyres Trophy** is open to all BTRDA Rally Series drivers and will be contested on all rounds of the 2023 MRF TYRES BTRDA Rally Series.

To be eligible to score points in the **MRF Motorsport Tyres Trophy** the rally car must be fitted with MRF branded tyres throughout the event, but the tread pattern and profile are free. Cars must carry the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally

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Series decals. Checks will be made to ensure compliance with the Tyre and Decal requirements. Failure to comply will automatically result in zero points being scored.

CLASSES

For scoring purposes, the MRF Trophy will be split into 7 competition classes: -

Class 7	Current and former World Rally cars with a sequential gearbox, current and former R5, S2000 and FIA Rally2 specification cars and any derivatives therefrom.
Class 6	Over 2000cc 4-WD cars not eligible for class 7
Class 5	Over 2000cc 2-WD cars including all FIA R3T cars and Category 4b cars which comply with R49,1.5.
Class 4	Over 1600cc up to 2000cc or with forced induction engines up to 1300cc, plus any FIA Rally4 cars. Historic Category 3 cars with multi cam engines and Category 4a cars over 1600cc.
Class 3	Cars over 1400cc up to 1600cc plus current & former FIA Group N3 and ST Trophy cars and all FIA R2 cars.
Class 2	Cars up to 1400cc not eligible for Class 1, plus Historic Category 1 & 2, Category 3 with single cam engines and category 4a up to 1600cc
Class 1	All BTRDA Rally First cars.

All forced induction engines are subject to an additional capacity coefficient of 1.7:1 except as set out in Class E1 and Class E4 or where FIA Appendix J, Art 260 applies.

The MRF TROPHY organisers reserve the right to reclassify any vehicle if they consider it appropriate to do so.

SCORING

The allocation of points for the MRF TROPHY will be based on the final results of each of the 2023 BTRDA Rally Series events. The points will be published on the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series website www.btrdarally.com as soon as possible after each event.

Points queries should be addressed to the MRF Trophy organisers. Subject to no appeals being received, these points will become final 7 days after publication, unless otherwise stated. Similarly, at the end of the year, the MRF Trophy points will become final 7 days after the provisional points are published on the website, unless otherwise stated.

Points will be allocated in each class as follows: -

20 points to the highest placed registered driver/co-driver in each MRF Trophy class, 18 points to the second placed registered driver in each MRF Trophy class, 17 points to the third and so on down to two points for the 18th placed driver and every subsequent driver in the class that finishes the event. One point will be awarded to every non-finisher.

Then for the overall MRF TROPHY an additional point will be awarded for each MRF TROPHY competitor beaten in the class, up to a maximum of 5 points.

EG: If Class 5 has 4 registered competitors and Class 2 has 8 registered competitors

The winner of Class 5 would score $20 + 3 = 23$

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The winner of Class 2 would score $20 + 5 = 25$

Any ties will be decided in favour of the competitor with the greatest number of maximum scores within their best six scores. In the event of a further tie the greatest number of second highest scores shall decide and so on.

The scoring system will reflect achievement against other registered competitors in the same vehicle class and the level of competition in that class, with the final points tables based on a competitor's best 6 scores.

If through 'force majeure' any of the qualifying rounds cannot take place the MRF Trophy organisers reserve the right to either include another event and / or to alter the number of scores to count.

AWARDS

The winner of the 2023 MRF Trophy will receive.

- Engraved MRF Trophy
- 4 Free entries* on BTRDA Rally Series events in 2024
- 3 free sets of 4 MRF Tyres on BTRDA Rally Series events in 2024

These awards will be allocated as follows:

Malcolm Wilson Rally	4 free tyres	Rallynuts Stages	Free entry
Border Counties	4 free tyres	Kielder Stages	Free entry
Nicky Grist Stages	4 free tyres	Woodpecker Stages	Free entry
Trackrod Forest Rally	Free entry	Cambrian Rally	

If you are unable to do an event then that prize will not be awarded.

2nd Overall

- Engraved award
- 4 Free Tyres at the beginning of the Season
- 1 free entry* on an event of your choice

*free entry value £750 (£700 for Rally First), competitors are responsible for paying any balance

The MRF TROPHY will be presented to the winning competitor at the BTRDA Rally Series awards presentation.

For more info about MRF Motorsport Tyres at www.serviceandsport.com

Contact: Jerry@Serviceandsport.com Tel 07789 392080.

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Kielder will be offering a great prize to a driver on each round of the championship and an end of season award to a lucky marshal

Malcolm Wilson Rally	B10	Rallynuts Stages	1400S
Border Counties	1400C	Kielder Stages	B11
Nicky Grist Stages	B12	Woodpecker Stages	B13
Trackrod Forest Rally	Rally First	Cambrian Rally	H1/H2

Jordan Road Surfacing BTRDA Historic Cup

The overall BTRDA Historic Champion will be presented with the prestigious AC de Monaco Trophy at the end-of-year BTRDA awards ceremony.

BTRDA Junior R2 HQ Cup

Running within the **2023 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series**, the BTRDA is delighted to continue the initiative for Junior drivers, i.e. those under 25 years old on 1st January 2023.

The top three drivers in normally-aspirated R2 1600s will benefit from **cash awards on each round – 1st £150, 2nd £125 and 3rd £75**

Vital Equipment Fuel Prize

Premier competition fuel suppliers Vital Equipment Ltd and Carless Racing Fuels are continuing their initiative to support Britain’s most popular national rally series. On every round of the 2023 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series two competitors each receive **25 litres of Carless Racing Fuel** plus the overall Junior Champion will receive a fuel package for 2024 if they compete in the BTRDA Rally Series.

One award will go to the highest placed BTRDA Bronze Star Junior Driver, the other award will go to the following classes

Malcolm Wilson Rally	H1/H2	Rallynuts Stages	1400C
Border Counties	B10	Kielder Stages	1400S
Nicky Grist Stages	R2	Woodpecker Stages	B11
Trackrod Forest Rally	B12	Cambrian Rally	B13

Mintex / Questmead Bonus Scheme

In addition to the end of season cash award for the leading Junior Driver, Questmead and Mintex will support a bonus scheme on all rounds of the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series.

The ‘Best Improvement on ‘start position’ in the BTRDA Bronze Star Championship.

The ‘Best Improvement on ‘start position’ in the BTRDA Gold Star and Silver Star Championships.

Each driver will receive a voucher for a free set of competition brake pads from Questmead Ltd.

Steve or Alan Brown from Questmead can be found in the Service Area at most events but to **claim your reward, please contact them in advance on 01706 363939.**

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We are grateful to all our sponsors and we look forward to working with them during the forthcoming year.

We are always looking for additional supporters, so if anyone wishes to be associated with us in 2023 and beyond please contact Neil Cross, Rally Committee Chair trec1.nec@btinternet.com

Decals – First Issue & Replacement

Championship decals will be posted out to all drivers who are registered for 2023, up to the 3rd March so you should receive them in time to put them on before the first event. These decals (1 x screen strip and 2 x sponsor panels - 375mm x 265mm; one for each side of the car) must be displayed on the rally car to qualify for Championship points. Those not registered by 5th March can collect them from the BTRDA gazebo at the Malcolm Wilson Rally. Replacement decals are available, but a small charge may be made to cover admin. costs.

Championship Eligibility Pre and Post Event Scrutineering

It is an important part of any Championship to ensure competing cars meet their eligibility requirements as set down in the Championship regulations and the Motorsport UK Yearbook (Blue Book). At the end of every event cars will be selected for post-event Scrutineering by the Championship Eligibility Scrutineers. You should not be concerned if you are asked to attend such checks as we would much prefer to confirm your car is correct than find a problem. If you have any doubts about eligibility, please contact the Championship Eligibility Scrutineers. For any FIA homologated cars, especially class R2, please remember to carry an original set (not a copy) of the relevant homologation forms in the car at all times. By not carrying them or having incorrect ones, you risk not scoring any championship points on that event. Simple, but often forgotten.

On Event Fuel / Re-Fuel

Vital Equipment will be the recommended fuel supplier to the BTRDA Rally Series and will be at all the events. We strongly emphasise the convenience, safety and organisational benefits that using the Vital Equipment re-fuel facility brings to all competitors. **To order your fuel please use the on-line order facility listed in the Competitor Section of the BTRDA Rally Series website.** www.vitalequipment.co.uk/btrda-fuel-order-form-30-w.asp Tel: 01981 241169.

Special Stage Review

Once again Special Stage Review will be out on the stages and in the Service Parks on every event again this year bringing all the action to our screens across several media platforms, for more details follow them on Twitter or check out their Facebook page

Championship Team

Ian Arden continues as the Championship Co-ordinator and will be out on each round of the MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series, supported by other members of the BTRDA Rally Committee.

Ian Arden: Email: ian@btrdarally.com Mob: 07917 355169

Championship Eligibility Scrutineer

Geoff Doe will be our Championship Eligibility Scrutineer
Email: geoff@doemotorsport.com

Andrew Farrington and John Cooper will be supporting Geoff on nominated rounds.

Email: andrew.farrington@hotmail.co.uk

Email: jccmstech@gmail.com

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Motorsport UK 2023 ENGLISH RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP, in association with Seacon UK

For the **Motorsport UK 2023 English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK** we have reverted back to an all-gravel surface format which is open to **all** cars that comply with the Motorsport UK Safety and Technical Regulations. The 2023 Championship will include a selection of the best one day 'English' forest events. A total of seven events make up the Championship with the final round being the Grizedale Stages in the Lake District in December. The best five scores will count.

Motorsport UK 2023 English Rally Championship - Calendar

1	Malcolm Wilson Rally*	11 th March	Cockermouth / Lake District
2	Border Counties Rally	6 th May	Jedburgh / Tweed Valley
3	Kielder Forest Rally	17 th June	Hexham / Northumberland
4	Woodpecker Stages	9 th September	Ludlow / Shropshire
5	Trackrod Forest Rally*	23 rd September	Filey / North Yorkshire
6	Wyedean Stages Rally	18 th November	Mitcheldean / Forest of Dean
7	Grizedale Stages	1 st / 2 nd December	Ambleside / Lake District

* The BTRDA reserve the right to include competitor stage times / results from other categories in these events.

The Championship will be split into 7 championship classes with the scoring system reflecting achievement against other competitors in the same class as in previous years. The class structure has changed as follows:

Classes

Class E7	All WRC with a sequential gearbox, RRC, R5 and S2000 cars & all derivatives
Class E6	Over 2000cc 4WD cars not eligible for class E7
Class E5	Over 2000cc 2WD cars including all FIA R3T cars
Class E4	Over 1600cc up to 2000cc plus Historic category 3 cars with multi cam engines over 1600cc, category 4a cars over 1600cc and 4b cars up to 1600cc and FIA Rally4 specification cars.
Class E3	Cars over 1400cc up to 1600cc plus current & former FIA Group N3 cars and all FIA R2 cars.
Class E2	Cars up to 1400cc not eligible for Class E1, plus Historic category 1 & 2, category 3 with single cam engines and category 4a up to 1600cc
Class E1	All BTRDA Rally First cars.

All forced induction engines (except Diesel engines) are subject to an additional capacity coefficient of 1.7:1 (except when FIA Appendix J, Art 260 applies).

Remember: **The Motorsport UK 2023 English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK registration is all part of the 2023 MRF Tyres BTRDA Rally Series and BTRDA membership package.**

More information about the Motorsport UK 2023 English Rally Championship, in association with Seacon UK can be found at www.englishrally.co.uk

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