

Rally Deland is based on the following three principles, in ranked order:

1. Safety
2. Fun
3. Competition

Any issues that arise at a lower level are trumped by higher levels. Thus the competitive elements serve the purpose of having fun. Safety, which includes obeying the law, is primary above all else.

Safety

Keep the following in mind throughout the event in terms of safety:

1. The entire event takes place on public roads (and from public parks) that will have other users while we are out there. *There will be children/joggers/cyclists on some of these streets.* It is imperative that you obey all speed limits and traffic rules and generally drive in a safe, aware manner at all times. Be especially careful if you get off course and feel the need to make up time. If you get pulled over for breaking the law we cannot help you.
2. There is no reason to blast in or out of the start/finish or the check point. It won't help your time, it is very unsafe, and quite uncool. It may get us thrown out of the park. Just make the "vroom vroom" noise to yourself as you depart. Think stealth, not sound and fury.
3. You will not be asked to drive on unpaved or private roads so you should not use them. Private roads are marked at their entrance by street signs with green lettering on a white background if not also with obvious signs like "private," "no trespassing," and "release the hounds!" Assume any other paved streets (excluding obvious driveways) are public.
4. There will be a check point midway through the course where the clock will be stopped, and you will turn in your first set of instructions. You will receive a second set of instructions with a restart of the clock as you depart. If you need a short break to relax and regroup at the check point, take it. If you arrive looking too frazzled you will be asked to take one anyway. Unfortunately, there are no restrooms or relationship counseling services available at the check point.
5. If you get lost and cannot get yourself back on course you may call for help at: 609 647 2792 or 609 712 4350. A call for help will cost you 5 points, but the deduction is better than getting too desperate and doing something foolish or giving up and going home (we will all talk about you at the picnic if you do the latter).
6. For safety reasons we will receive texts or calls for help with the instructions from the navigator's cell phone only (provide that number at scrutineering). We will not talk to or text with the driver (unless they have been left by the side of the road).

--continued on reverse--

Rally Procedure

1. Your team will be scheduled to start at one of a series of two minute intervals. You will be assigned a team number, a rally decal, and a time out slot at scrutineering. Two minutes prior to your time out slot you need to be in line at the start box behind the car being flagged out. You will receive your course instructions starting two minutes prior to departure. You will complete the instructions and turn in the first set at the check point. You will receive a final set of instructions to complete as you are timed out of the check point. Turn these in when you arrive at the stop box at the finish.
2. Your instructions will give you navigation directions and ask you to find and write down or text back to us information from the course. We will identify your texts by the navigator's cell phone number that you give us at scrutineering. You will not be asked to leave your car at any time that you are on the course.
3. You will receive point deductions for early or late texts or arrivals, for excess miles driven, or for incorrect information recorded. The point weightings are as follows:
 - a. For each minute early or late on texts or check ins, or incorrect texts: 2 points
 - b. For each full mile over or under at the check point or finish: 2 points
 - c. For each incorrect other item of information asked for in the instructions: 1 point
 - d. For each call for help with the route: 5 points.

One-tenth mile increments will be used as tie breakers only.

It is very important that you be aware that the correct time for all legs on the course represents an average of test runs at legal speeds with normal acceleration and braking. Also waiting at stop signs, lights, and other cross traffic has been averaged in but introduces an element of randomness into your time. Thus there is no reason that you should ever drive at excessive speed or protest that the correct time is wrong. We are only (well, mostly) human and have invested enough time in this already to give everyone a fair shot (see principle 2 here).

4. We will do our best to score results as they come in, but our general inability to multitask will introduce a variable delay. We will work much slower each time we are asked when we will be ready to announce winners. We will determine 1st through 3rd based on the scoring of the results and a judge's choice award based on our arbitrary whim. Bill Ball and Deborah Branton will be responsible for the scoring. All appeals are to be submitted to Michael Branton in writing on the approved device. Michael's decision will be final and he doesn't take bribes (although does have an abnormal fascination with small, shiny objects and prime numbers). Refer to principle 2. We will not publicly share the results past 3rd place but of course individual teams can learn of their score and ranking privately if they wish. A map of the route with all information will be posted at the conclusion of the rally.