



" RUSE TROPHY 4x4 " **REGULATIONS**

"RUSE TROPHY 4x4 " is an off-road race for vehicles of up to 3,5 tons of gross weight such as motorcycles, quads (ATV and QUAD) and buggies (SIDE BY SIDE). The route is divided into different Vehicle categories according to their experience and it consists of closed and marked track, speed trails, trails for advanced control, forest and rural roads, connecting and extreme natural and artificial obstacles crossing the territory of the Municipality of RUSE.

VEHICLE, DRIVER, NAVIGATOR

All vehicles participating in the competition must have an up to date police registration and license plates. All racers must possess a valid driving license for their category.

CATEGORIES AND CLASSES FOR PARTICIPATION

AUTOMOBILES CATEGORY

CLASS "TROPHY" – Any type of a 4x4 automobile with any kind of engine, fuel or transmission.

CLASS "AMATEURS" - Any type of a 4x4 automobile with any kind of engine, fuel or transmission.

REQUIRED EQUIPEMENT AND DOCUMENTATION

All participants in class TROPHY must be equipped with GPS receivers, which have the option to record the tracks. It is recommended that the receivers are GARMIN.

Otherwise, software and a connecting cable are needed to transfer the data to the GPS receivers. TheGPS receivers must be connected to the power of the machine or to have batteries, which provide a minimum of 10 hours autonomy of the device.

TECHNICAL REQUIRMENTS FOR AUTOMOBILES

CLASS "EXPERT TROPHY":

4x4 automobiles, roll cage, working winch, silencer for the winch, 2 tying belts (short and long), minimum three-point seat belts, car or moto-cross helmets, fire extinguisher of 2 kg.

CLASS “HOBBY TROPHY”:

4x4 , minimum three-point belts, fire extinguisher , car or moto-cross helmets.

CLASS “AMATEURS”:

4x4, minimum three-point seat belts and a fire extinguisher. The rest is recommended but not required. Navigation is upon choice – GPS track or road book (for those wishing to practice)

PROHIBITED EQUIPEMENT

The transportation of fuel tanks in the cabins is **PROHIBITED** for all classes.

THE ROUTE

The track consists of all kinds of pavement including asphalt (connecting stages), macadam roads, and

field and forest roads including crossing of the national road network.

The crews will follow the mandatory route described in the road book.

The announcement of the route will only occur in the following ways:

- road book – Format A5 for automobiles
- official briefing (technical conference)
- GPS track for the participants in class ATV/MOTO/BUGGY

It is also mandatory to comply with the traffic rules and regulations during the connecting stages. The track is not secured and is not in a specifically restricted/secluded area.

THE TECHNICAL CHECK

All vehicles must go thorough a detailed technical check before the start. It includes:

- testing the functionality and safety of the vehicle
- checking for the required equipment
- checking for documentation and advertising stickers

The technical check is to ensure the safety of all participants, staff members, the audience and last but not least it serves as the basis for fair play. Once the Organizer has certified the reliability of the vehicle the starting number and a special sticker will be given.

ORGANISATION

The organization team is available to all participants. The race headquarters will be at Hotel “ RIGA” in RUSE.

At the HEADQUARTERS OF THE ORGANIZER there will be a special board for publishing reports, results and schedule changes. The decisions made by the organizational team are binding and conclusive.

JUDGES/ASSOCIATES

The judges and associates will be present at the start and at the final of the race, as well as along the route and at the controlling points (CP). The judges assist in the organization process by analyzing the results and preparing the ranking, as well as dealing with matters concerning the race rules or other technical issues. The collaborators along the track are forbidden to give information regarding the route, the type of the special sections or to answer questions regarding the rules or the ranking.

MEDICAL SERVICE

The race will be accompanied by a doctor and paramedics with a specialized 4x4 vehicle along the route.

In case of a serious illness or accident, the individual will be driven to a hospital. Participants who need a constant intake of specific drugs are responsible for the supply of these drugs. It is recommended that each participant brings general medicine (in addition to the vehicle's first-aid kit) such as medicine against headaches, colds, diarrhea, toothache, allergies, etc.

Warning: Chronic diseases (allergies, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.) must be reported to the doctor before the start of the race.

THE CAMP

A camp for the participants will be constructed nearby the start/final, which will have strict access control and will be equipped with sanitary facilities (WC), lighting, catering and security. Only the participants in the race, their assistants and individuals with permission from the Organizer will have access to the camp. It is required that the participants in the race identify themselves upon entry/exit from the camp with the obtained from the Organizer passes/badges. Depending on requests for assistance, each participant will have specific place in the camp.

STAGES

The race consists of several routes depending on the experience of the participants. The first day is composed of special stages and liaisons. The stages are described in the road book or GPS track. The organizer determines the maximum time for completion for each stage (expressed in hours). This time frame is identical for all competitors and it is added to the starting time of each crew thus calculating the latest time to complete the stage. The stage is closed after the maximum time allotment of the lastly launched crew has elapsed.

TIME KEEPING

Time keeping of the various stages is described in the road book.

The largest time keeping unit is an hour and the smallest is a second.

During the special stages, the duration for completion of the route is measured for each crew individually. There is time keeping during the liaisons as well, which is in compliance with the maximum time allowed for the given stage, stated in the road book. The times are recorded in a control carnet and are processed at the camp in the evening. Each participant is obliged and responsible to deliver personally their control carnet at the final or upon arrival in the camp. The control carnet are turned in and processed for the rankings within half an hour (30 min) from closing the stage.

Time keeping and length of the stages are published in the road book or announces at the official briefing. Photocells connected to printing devices will be used for time keeping.

THE START

For first stage starting upon ranking from the last race and for non-participants in the order of registering. The starting time for each stage is stated in the road book or at announced at the official briefing. The starting intervals between the crews will also be announced. For the following stages the crews order is determined by the rankings from the previous stage. The exact starting times of all crews will be automatically determined depending on the announced starting time of these stages and the relevant intervals. Each crew is required to start at their exact given time and comply with the order determined.

The official local time valid for the race will be announced during the official briefing.

RANKING

The stage ranking will be determined by the measured time for completion of the stage route as well as any penalties the crews might have received. A criterion influencing the ranking is completion of the stage for the least amount of time. The final crew ranking is determined by the total of their measured times of the stage of the day !

The total of the recorded times for the threedays will determine the ranking for the entire race.

MEDIA

The media will accompany the entire race. They will be taking pictures of interesting places. Interviews with the participants at the camp will also be taken accompanied by reports. It is in interest of the event that the media and participants cooperate with each other. The media should not in any way impede the race.

PENALTIES

If a crew is late for the initial launch then it starts off last whereas their time starts running at the appointed initial launch time.

- If a crew is late for an interim start, the crew starts off upon the command of the judge at the interimstart and receives a penalty of 15 min. Only the judge at the interim start has the right to make a judgment about the situation and to call the crew that was late to the start. The time for lateness of the crew starts running from the initially announced starting time. A crew that is late for the interim start does not have the right to challenge the decisions of the starting judge.
- If the control carnet is lost the stage will be disregarded. If the GPS receiver and the control carnet are not given within 30 minutes after the finish – 3 hour penalty.
- Failure to pass through a control point on the route, results in a 2 hour penalty for each missed controlpoint. The control point may be virtual i.e. it may be controlled by technical means of satellite tracking.
- Passing through arable lands (fields, gardens, etc.) – 2 hours. Penalty is the same if there is movement in azimuth.
- Failure to follow the rules outlined in the road book such as moving throughout the camp with inappropriate speed, outrunning, trying to get a benefit by not sticking to the outlined route, etc. receive a 2 hour penalty.
- The stage is considered ended when the crew gives up or fails to complete the stage within the given time frame. In this case, the penalty is 2 hours plus the recorded time of the slowest crew during the same stage, plus the time of any other penalties that the crew may have received.
- It is considered that the stage has not been passed if the crew does not start or it does start but does not pass through any control points other than the START. In this case, the penalty time is 4 hours plus the recorded time of the slowest crew in the same stage, plus the time of any other penalties the crew may have received.
- If the control carnet is not turned in at the end of the stage or a crew finishes after the stage has been ended, the stage is dismissed.
- Furthermore, it is possible to hold a crew financially liable in the case of unnecessary actions for tracking. In special cases, an arbitration panel, convened by the organizer may take single decisions.
- Thetering a wire rope on a tree (not wearing a seat belt) – 60 minutes
- Balancing of the automobile as the navigator steps (climbs) from outside – 60 minutes; Balancing of the automobile happens only when the vehicle is tilted with safety belt with length over 3 metres.

- Pushing, kicking, holding or other dealing with the winch when it is stretched and under pressure – 60 minutes.

PENALTIES FOR EXCEEDING THE SPEED LIMIT

If the crew fails to comply with the speed limits described in the road book, it will receive penalty of 2 minutes per each exceeded km/h for the first 10 km/h and 5 minutes for every km/h above the exceeded 10 km/h. Speed limits will be controlled by the GPS receivers of the participants and the speed will be reported according to the determined maximum speed for the given region.

RULES/ VIOLAITONS

The participants are required to follow the instructions of the organizers, the judges on the route and the assistants throughout the entire race. The organizers have the right to impose time penalty in the event of a breach of the guidelines, to disqualify participants in the case of extreme violations of the regulations or to remove them from the event. If a crew decides to no longer participate in the race, they are obliged to inform the organizers.

DISQUALIFICATION

The disqualification penalty is imposed for irresponsible (reckless) driving in the camp, inhabited areas (Kardzhalli) or during the connecting stages.

Competitors are responsible for the actions of those who accompany or assist them.

Competitors may be disqualified in the event that one of these individuals exhibits irresponsible, violent behavior, trespasses the route or drives at speed above 10 km/h in the camp.

The competitor may be disqualified or may receive time penalty of 3 hour upon:

- manipulation of the control carnet
- manipulation of the vehicle after the technical check i.e. changes, which do not comply with the original equipment
- negligent or intentional endangerment of others.
- refusing to assist in the need of first-aid
- driving without the required safety equipment (helmet, safety belt)
- Cutting of trees
- Movement of the race vehicle on the track, crew inside with unlocked belts and without helmets
- Assistance from the audience. This is only allowed in an accident and after permission of the judge.
- Entering on the track during the race of an assistance vehicle of any crew for assistance or evacuation.
- Replacing of a vehicle or member of crew after the beginning of the race.
- Correction, addition or replacement of control carnet.
- Presence of prohibited equipment during the race.

Appeals

Appeals against the decision of the organizer of the event cannot be submitted. Only the officially registered participants of the competition (competitors and members of the assisting teams) have the right to appeal. Appeals shall be submitted to the headquarters after the end of the current stage but no later than 1 hour after the announcement of the final ranking for the same stage. If the organizer does not announce the final rankings for the stage but only the current ranking, the deadline for submitting the protest for the current stage is extended automatically until the announcement of the final rankings for the given stage but no later

than 1 hour after that. The fee for submitting an appeal is 200 BGN (100euro) and it is submitted in cash with the appeal. If the appeal is justified, the fee is refunded. The Organizers take decision on the appeal after hearing both the accused and the accusing party. Appealing the decision is not possible !
Appeals submitted late or without fee will not be reviewed.

ADVERTISING AND MARKING

All participants agree to place the sponsors' advertisement on specified places on their vehicles upon submitting their participation registration form.

The participant may be exempted from the advertisement obligation by paying a double starting fee.

Each crew member is given starting number plates. These stickers are placed on both sides of the vehicle and the small sticker is placed on the right side of the windshield.

All plates with numbers from previous races must be removed or covered.

All participants have to ensure the good appearance and legibility of their starting numbers until the last stage of the race.

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE

All vehicles of the personal assistance and their team, regardless of participation in the ranking, are subject to the common regulations.

Repair and/or repatriation of defective vehicles from the personal assistance is done in the Special Stage after the stage has been closed or with special permission from ORGA TEAM. Technical help or logistic help on the stage from non-participants in the special stage will be with penalty 2 (two) hours.

REGISTRATION AND FEES

Participation fee 120 BGN

The registration fee includes:

- Racing rights
- Road book format A5 or GPS track
- Health insurance on the track with 4x4 vehicle
- Shirt with the logo of the race
- Security for the vehicles in the center of the race
- Tracking devices (live tracking)
- Time-keeping with transponders and printing devices with a photocell.
- Prize fund and cups for the winners.

BRIEFING AND NEWSLETTERS

All schedule changes of the race are announced during special briefing or with a newsletter published at the headquarters of the race!