

Bulletin #1: Red Flag Procedure



Purpose

The goal of this red flag procedure is to allow safety sweep to efficiently perform their duties and stay 1 minute behind the last active competitor for safety reasons. In addition, we'd like to keep the general ethos of allowing competitors that need **a quick tug** to get unstuck or a **small amount of time** to be able to continue provided it does not cause an issue with the safety or efficiency of running the rally.

Notes for Competitors

A red flag means:

- You have already had a bad stage (safety sweep has reached you). By rights you are DNF.
- You are no longer permitted to contest that stage.
- You shall not pass safety sweep (or other moving vehicles) on stage.
- You are not considered DNF (you are still in the rally).
- You may continue to **safely** follow the rally route.

Competition Rules

Control Closing Time

For the purposes of 2.23, controls will close after the passage of the last heavy sweep vehicle or as directed by the clerk of the course (for safety reasons).

Modification to 2.16.7.4

Strike all mention of red flags in 2.16.7.4.

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Red Flag Rule

Procedure

A red flag may be used by the clerk of the course (either directly or indirectly through other race officials) or by safety sweep (either directly or indirectly by a control that has been red flagged by safety sweep) in order to maintain the safety of the event. A competitor may be red flagged at any point during the competition (on stage, at a control, on transit, etc.).

If a crew is red flagged, they are no longer permitted to contest a stage. The competitor must immediately reduce speed (transit) on the stage. A crew may not pass any other vehicles on stage (competition, organization, civilian, etc.). An exception would be any competition vehicles that are stopped on stage (per emergency procedures 2.16.7).

For the purposes of calculating their arrival time at the next control, a crew that arrives at a finish control that has been red flagged will receive a finish time on their timecard that reflects their actual arrival at the finish control (this finish time will not affect their assigned time for the stage).¹ Any crews that physically arrive at a red flagged finish control at the same time shall be given the same finishing time.

Once a crew is red flagged, they continue to be considered red flagged until the next open (and non-red flagged) control they arrive at.

Penalties

For a stage where a crew is considered to have been red flagged, they will be assigned a stage time per 2.16.8 (Scoring of Halted Special Stage).

If a crew is red flagged by safety sweep, they will receive a penalty calculated as the difference between the start time of safety sweep² and their anticipated start time on that stage. This penalty is applied in addition to the stage time. This penalty is applied on the first stage a competitor is red flagged on and will not be applied again until a competitor arrives at a control that has not been red flagged.

¹ If a competitor does not receive a finish time (e.g. if the control is closed) the competitor will not be permitted to contest any other stages in that section.

² The start time of safety sweep is defined as 1 minute after the start of the last crew to contest the stage.