

Buckby ŠKODA Rally Launceston - Radios

A guide to the radios we will use to stay in touch with you and assist with safe operations.

1. Radio Network

Buckby ŠKODA Rally Launceston will utilise a UHF radio networks to cover the areas used by the Rally. Network repeaters are used to relay the communications between the users and Rally Command.

The Rally will utilise 4 Networks

- Safety
- Back-Up and SOS
- Medical
- ARC Operations (Simplex)

2. Radio Operations

The repeater equipment is located on Mt Arthur (GPS 41° 16.485'S, 147° 17.154'E) and this installation is solar powered. Battery capacity, with solar panels offline or not charging, is expected to be approximately 30hrs at 30% transmitter duty cycle.

A second portable repeater will be utilised on Sunday and will be located at the start of the Sideling Range stage (GPS 41° 15.534'S, 147° 25.632'E).

The Mt Arthur repeater is a permanent installation, the system is always available throughout the event although Rally Command will only be contactable on Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th, Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th March from 0600hrs to 1900hrs.

Base radios will be in Rally Command at Peppers Silo Hotel. All communication on the Safety and Back-Up networks will be via Rally Command and the Medical network will be through the CMO.

Rally Command will also have at least one hand held radio for use in the event of an evacuation.

3. Radio Channels

Safety Channel

The Safety Channel is used for control of the Rally with respect to the safe running of the competitive stages. Radios in use will include Hand Held, In Car Mobiles & a Base Station.


This is a 'controlled channel'. Unless otherwise authorised, all user transmissions must be directed to, or through, Rally Base in the Command Centre. This is essential as there are around 80 radios in use on the Safety Channel.

Safety Back-Up / Safety On Stage (SOS) Channel

The manual SOS tracking system will be the primary back-up to the GPS based RallySafe system. It will be operated by officials in the field and Rally Command.

This system operates as a radio-based system (Rally Launceston Safety Backup/SOS Channel) with officials at the Start, Stop and within each Special Stage between approx. 4km & 7km intervals. In addition to recording the passage of vehicles, these officials can provide additional information if required: car travelling slowly, damaged etc, and provide a location where an incident can be reported.

These officials can be contacted by Rally Command to provide additional information. Crews are instructed, in the case of a severe accident, that a car following the accident should proceed to the next

SOS, shown on the route with  signs and relay information to Rally Command via the SOS radio operator.

The requirements for the SOS are further described in the Event Safety, Risk and Medical Response Plan

Medical Channel

The Medical Channel is used for control of the MIV's, ICV and Ambulance's at the Rally.

This is a 'controlled channel'. Unless otherwise authorised, all user transmissions must be directed to, or through, the Chief Medical Officer (or Delegate) who will be travelling in ICV1. Radios in use will include Hand Held and In Car Mobiles.

Tips:

- Think through/ plan the message you are to deliver before pressing the Push to Talk button.
- Be brief, succinct, and specific.
- Always contact Rally Base, never direct to another person unless approved by Rally Base.
- Before you make a call, listen to make sure no conversation is in train.
- Commence your transmission with "Rally Base, this is xxx (eg South Retreat Closure 2)", then wait to be acknowledged.
- Use the words "Over" (you are expecting a reply) or "Out" (you are finished and clear of the channel). Do not use both Over and Out at the same time.

4. Radio Call Signs

Position	Call Sign	Position	Call Sign
Clerk of the Course	CLERK OF THE COURSE	Competitor Relations Officer	CRO
Deputy Clerk of the Course	COMMAND	Stage Commander	STAGE Commander X (X=number)
Emergency Services Manager	SAFETY 1	Stage Finish	STAGE X Finish (X=number)
Communication Car	COMMS CAR	SOS	Stage (X) SOS X (X=Letter)
Triple 0	TRIPLE ZERO	Road Closure	Stage (X) RC X (X=number)
Double 0	DOUBLE ZERO	Stage Start	STAGE X Start (X=number)
Zero	ZERO	Stage Finish	STAGE X Finish (X=number)
Sweep	SWEEP		
Recovery	RECOVERY	Regroup	REGROUP 1
ICV1	ICV1	Remote Regroup	REMOTE REGROUP
MIV X	MIV X (X=number)		
Officials Coordinator	OFFICIALS COORDINATOR		
Chief Spectator Marshall	SPECTATOR 1		
Service Park/Parc Ferme	SERVICE 1		
Remote Refuel	REFUEL		
Scrutineer	SCRUTINEY		