

## INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

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The WA Car Club has established a remarkable legacy through its long standing tradition of organising the Forest Rally, having first hosted the Australian Rally Championship (ARC) in 1974. Since the inaugural Forest Rally in 1983 and its designation as the WA round of the ARC in 1985 with the exception of the COVID affected years in 2020 and 2021 the club has consistently run the event for 45 years, marking 40 of those as part of the ARC. This year also commemorates an impressive 51 years of the ARC in Western Australia, solidifying its unique position as the only state with such a proud history in rallying.

The Forest Rally continues to evolve, with significant changes implemented this year. Participants and fans can look forward to a Rally Show and Ceremonial Start on the picturesque Busselton foreshore, adjacent to the iconic Busselton Jetty, mirroring the plans from 2025. The upcoming 2026 rally will once again be hosted at the Nannup Recreation Centre, with the removal Milward stages from 2025, in 2026 we are introducing two new and improved Ellis stages, with an updated Ferndale, Brumby and Helium stages making a comeback in different variations than their 2025 counterparts. The Sunday schedule features a new stage introduced in 2025, now slightly adjusted Brumby. Each day concludes with a Power Stage being on the unique roads of Ellis and Ferndale plantations, each stage will provide a spectacular and challenging end to each day, ensuring crews fight to the end for available points.

It's essential to have the collaboration and support of key organisations such as the Dept of Parks & Wildlife, Forest Products Commission, Shire of Nannup, City of Busselton, and local police, along with our officials, to ensure a successful rallying event. Their involvement helps maintain safety, compliance, and smooth operations throughout the event.

Our Officials sponsor are shown in our logo strips and we couldn't run the event without them.

Competitors interested in supporting our officials with fuel and meals can select this option during the entry process in the entry system. We appreciate the dedication of our officials who contribute to the success of the rally, and this initiative offers a meaningful way for competitors to express their gratitude.

Thank you for joining us at the 2026 Forest Rally and we look forward to another notch in the history of the event.

Ross Tapper

**Clerk of the Course**

