



AMERICAN RALLY®
ASSOCIATION

ARA-RALLY.COM



RALLY GUIDE

the OVERMOUNTAIN RALLY TENNESSEE
18 - 19 SEPTEMBER, 2026

OVERMOUNTAIN-RALLY.COM



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1 INTRODUCTION AND EVENT DESCRIPTION

This document has no regulatory power – for information only.

This Rally Guide has been created to aid competitors in pre-event planning. We hope that you find this early information useful in planning your trip to the Overmountain Rally Tennessee. All contents are subject to correction in the Supplementary Regulations.

Clerk of the Course
Andrew D. Frick

1.1 FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome!

We're glad that you're interested in the 2026 Team O'Neil Overmountain Rally Tennessee! This event is a test of skill and endurance as you attack the gnarly gravel stages of Southern Appalachia. The rally will again be based in Newport, TN with a single service area at Newport Speedway, but there are some changes to the format and stages.

We have added about ~13 miles of previously unused roads including one brand new stage and an extension to the Middle Road stage (which is now over 14 miles long!). We have also changed the event schedule to a more traditional Friday/ Saturday format with the head-to-head **Monster Energy Super Special Stage** on Saturday night at Newport Speedway. Stick around after the podiums for a racetrack infield party with the fans!

If you're a social media type, please tag [@ara_rally](#) and [@9lakeeasttn](#) in your posts, and remember to use the hashtags [#ARArally](#), [#OVRMTN26](#) and [#OvermountainRally](#) so we can all follow along!

We hope you enjoy the changes to the event for this year and the new stages! See you this fall!

Chairman
Dave Matheson



1.2 COMPETITION REGULATIONS

This event will be held under the current General Competition Rules, Rally Technical Rules, and Rally Competition Rules of the American Rally Association (ARA). The 2026 American Rally Association Rules and Regulations can be found at <https://www.americanrallyassociation.org/rulesandbulletins>.

1.3 INTRODUCTION

Name of the event: Overmountain Rally Tennessee
Place of the event: Newport, TN \ Cherokee National Forest
Date of the event: September 18th – September 19th 2026
Time Zone of the event: Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-4)

1.4 TITLE FOR WHICH THE RALLY COUNTS

ARA National Championship
ARA East Regional Championship

1.5 ROAD SURFACE

Packed Gravel 75% / Dirt 20% / Tarmac 5%

1.6 ROUTE OVERVIEW

	National Entry	Regional Entry
Total Distance of Course	366* miles	329* miles
Number of Special Stages	12	11
Total Distance of Special Stages	104* miles (28%)	89* miles (26%)

* Mileage is estimated; final route mileages will be released in the Supplementary Regulations



MEDIA

X



OFFICIAL RALLY MEDIA SPONSOR



PHOTO & VIDEO PACKAGES

pre-sale now available

media@meledesignfirm.com

2 ORGANIZATION

2.1 ORGANIZING GROUPS

Name of the organizing body: **Appalachian Rallysport LLC**

2.2 ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFO

Appalachian Rallysport LLC	
Mail	179 Frank Hilbert Rd. Jonesborough, TN 37659
Phone	423.747.3040
Email	Chairman@Overmountain-Rally.com

2.3 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Director/ Chairman	David Matheson	Chairman@Overmountain-Rally.com 423.747.3040
Clerk of the Course	Andrew Frick	Andrew.d.frick@gmail.com 864.735.5301
Rally Manager/ Volunteer Coordinator	Kim Creek	volunteer4rally@gmail.com 423.503.9697

2.4 STEWARDS OF THE MEETING

ARA Steward	Mark Williams	mark@americanrallyassociation.org 301.793.4672
Event Steward	Rob Bohn	robbohn@outlook.com 317.877.0303

2.5 SENIOR OFFICIALS

Clerk of the Course	Andrew Frick	Andrew.d.frick@gmail.com 864.735.5301
Rally Manager/ Volunteer Coordinator	Kim Creek	volunteer4rally@gmail.com 423.503.9697
Net Control	Mary Hunt	mhuntBC@gmail.com 704.236.4476
Chief Scrutineer	Walter Clark	WalterClark171@gmail.com 781.540.9134
Registrar	Brandon Templeton	Btempleton157@gmail.com 423.440.9963

Chief Safety Officer	Isaac Robinette	isaacrobinette3@gmail.com 423.557.2122
Rescue Team Coordinator	Chief Cody Keys	Ckeys606@gmail.com 423.415.6656
Chief Medical Officer	TBD	TBD
Chief of Controls	Maegan Burkart	littlepatchalpacas@gmail.com 513.708.6848
Media Officer	Natalia Kelly	natalia@seitzer.com 540.848.1756

2.6 ARA OFFICIALS

Competition Director	JB Niday	JBniday@ara-rally.com
Series Manager	Preston Osborn	preston@ara-rally.com
Business/ Registrar	Marni Nagy	ara@ara-rally.com
Marketing Director	Scott McKee	scott@ara-rally.com
Technical Director	Doug Nagy	doug@ara-rally.com
Safety Delegate	Lee Sorenson	lsn6sti@gmail.com
Safety Delegate	Liam O'Donnell	lee@usacnation.com
Series Media Info	https://www.americanrallyassociation.org/media	

2.7 LOCATION OF RALLY HEADQUARTERS

[See Supplementary Regulations]

2.8 OFFICIAL NOTICE BOARD

There will be no physical notice board. All official documents, bulletins, start orders, provisional results, inquiries, and responses will use the Sportity App.

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP](#)

ENTER PASSWORD: **OVRMTN2026**

Links to desktop versions of the notice board:

<https://overmountain-rally.com/competitors>

<https://webapp.sportity.com/channel/OVRMTN2026>

3 SCHEDULE

3.1 SCHEDULE BEFORE RALLY WEEK

All times and dates in the schedule below are estimated and subject to change.

All times are Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-4)

MONDAY AUGUST 3			
12:00		Regular Entry Opens	www.enterrally.com
MONDAY AUGUST 31			
00:00		Late Entry Opens/ Regular Entry Closes	www.enterrally.com
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2			
Advance Information available on or before this date			Sportity
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9			
00:00		Entry Closes	www.enterrally.com

3.2 SCHEDULE DURING RALLY WEEK

All times are Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-4)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13			
Provisional Leg 1 Start List Published			Sportity
19:00	21:00	Novice Competitor Virtual Meeting	Online Teams Meeting
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16			
10:00	11:00	Competitor Check-in (Testing participants only)	Best Western Newport Inn – Newport TN - Or - Contact Registrar to check-in at test stage location
14:00	18:00	Open Test Session	Test Location – Bluff City, TN
16:00	21:00	Competitor & Crew Check-in	Best Western Newport Inn – Newport TN
21:00		Late check-in	Contact Registrar

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17

7:00	19:00	Reconnaissance	Special Stages (Leg 1+2)
8:00		Service Park Opens/ Service Park load-in begins	Service Park – Newport Speedway
10:00	18:00	Scrutineering (by appt)	Service Park – Newport Speedway
19:00		Cars present in Parc Exposé	TBD
19:30		Crews present in Parc Exposé	TBD
19:35		Seeded Draw & driver roundtable interviews	ARA Podium Trailer
21:00		Parc Exposé concludes	
23:30*		Start Order Finalized for Leg 1	Sportity

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18

7:00	10:30	Reconnaissance	Special Stages (Leg 2 only)
11:25		Cars must be present in Parc Exposé	Service Park – Newport Speedway
11:30*		Driver's Safety Meeting <i>Delivered by ARA Steward</i>	MTC1/ TC0
12:00		FCO – Start Leg 1	Service Park – Newport Speedway
19:00*		FCI – End Leg 1	Service Park – Newport Speedway
21:30*		Start Order Finalized for Leg 2	Sportity

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19

9:00		Cars must be present in Parc Exposé	Service Park – Newport Speedway
9:30		FCO – Start Leg 2	Service Park – Newport Speedway
20:30*		Regional Scores Posted/ Podium	Sportity
21:00*		National Scores Posted/ Podium	Sportity
20:00*	22:00*	After Party and BBQ!	Service Park – Newport Speedway

*Denotes approximate time

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

10:00		Service Park Gates Close	Service Park – Newport Speedway
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Pirelli Tire Service Program Powered By

RALLY.BUILD

On-event tire service and sales available at all 2026 ARA National Championship events! Event-specific schedules will be confirmed by ARA via Sportity. Open to all competitors. Pre-Event Test support available on a case by case basis.

Pre-Order Program

- \$10/tire reservation fee. Additional charges waived for event after \$200
- Free delivery to requested event
- Free mount/dismount of reserved tires
- Reservations close 10 days prior to the start of competitor registration

On-Site Sales

- Compounds, sizes, quantities confirmed prior to end of reservation period
- First come, first served while supplies last

Mounting Services:

- Reserved: Free mount, free dismount (proof of reservation at prior events accepted)
- Pirelli Walk-In: \$10/tire mount, \$15/tire dismount (on-site purchase or customer-supplied)
- Non-Pirelli Walk-In: \$15/tire mount, \$20/tire dismount

Misc Services:

- Disposal: \$5/tire all brands, 15" only
- Groover rental: \$35/hr, min \$50
- Recce Tire Flat Repair: \$20 (Patch Plug)

Information/Ordering: <https://rally.build/collections/pirelli-gravel-rally-tires>



4 ENTRIES

4.1 TITLES FOR WHICH THE RALLY COUNTS

ARA National Championship

or

ARA East Regional Championship

4.2 ENTRY PROCEDURE

Entry and payment must be made online at www.enterrally.com. ARA will send an email blast to ARA license holders announcing the opening of entry. For assistance with online event registration, contact ara@ara-rally.com or the event registrar. Entry payments cannot be accepted at the event.

4.3 NUMBER OF ENTRANTS ACCEPTED

Due to the nature of the event and limited space, the number of **entrants will be capped at 60**. Entries after the cap can be placed on a first-paid-first-in waitlist. Waitlisted competitors who are not allowed entry will receive a full refund.

4.4 DATES AND FEES

Including Optional Organizer's Advertising		
	Regular	Late
Regional Championship Entry	\$1200	\$1300
National Championship Entry	\$1700	\$1800
Not Including Optional Organizer's Advertising		
	Regular	Late
Regional Championship Entry	\$2200*	\$2300*
National Championship Entry	\$2700*	\$2800*
Recce Participation Only		
	Regular	Late
Includes all printed materials	\$300	\$300

Early and Late dates are in the [Schedule](#)

*See Section 9

All entries include recce participation, tulip route book, printed Supplementary Regulations, printed Service Crew Packet elements as defined by RCR 7.1.5, and use of a single, standard service site.

National Championship entries also include sponsor activation space at Newport Speedway Saturday night Fan Zones. See Section 9.2 for more information.

4.5 EVENT CANCELLATION

The organizer reserves the right to cancel the event for any reason up to the end of the Late Entry period or up to the day of the rally due to force majeure. Registered competitors will be given a full refund.

The organizer reserves the right to raise the number of entries accepted.

4.6 WITHDRAWAL POLICY AND REFUNDS

Entrants may revise or withdraw their entry prior to the closing date by completing the Entry Update/Withdrawal form available on the Sportity app in the Registrar folder. Withdrawal policy and refunds per ARA GCR Section 4.9.

Refunds Policy:

Withdrawal before the end of Early Entry Period: Full

Withdrawal after the end of Early Entry Period: Entry fee less \$500

No refunds will be made after entry closes. See [Schedule](#).

Withdrawing during the event can be actioned by completing the online NCE/RAR/Withdraw form that will be in the Sportity inquiry folder.

5 SERVICE PARK

5.1 LOCATION

Newport Speedway

GPS Location: [36.017782, -83.207620](#)

5.2 ACCESS TIMES

Gates Open: 08:00, Thursday, September 17th

Gates Close: 10:00, Sunday, September 20th

5.3 FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS

- General security
- Restrooms with running water
- Waste containers
- Concession stands
- Camping; see Section 11.3

5.4 SURFACE AND SIZE

All service area assignments will be on packed gravel or pavement. Standard service areas are 20 feet by 40 feet per race vehicle. An additional, connected area can be reserved during the online registration process for \$200. Teams servicing from a rig longer than 40' or with special requirements will need to fill out the Service Park Special Requests pre-event form which will be available on Sportity in the "Pre-Event Forms" folder.

5.5 SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

[See Supplementary Regulations]

6 TWO-WAY RADIOS

6.1 REGISTRATION AND PROCEDURE

The use of Amateur Radio frequencies is governed by the FCC. For details, see [FCC.gov](https://www.fcc.gov).

7 FUEL AND TIRES

[See Supplementary Regulations]

8 PARC EXPOSÉ

There will be a long (2 hour) Parc Exposé on Thursday evening at a TBD location. Crews must be present at the time specified in the schedule.

Each leg will start with a short (30 minute) Parc Exposé in the service area. The purpose of these short Parc Exposés is simply to line up for an orderly start to the day. Cars are required to be in place by the time in the schedule, but crews need only arrive in time to leave on their assigned minute and attend the driver's meeting. Coffee and breakfast will be available at both short Parc Exposés.

9 ADVERTISING

9.1 ORGANIZER SUPPLIED

The Overmountain Rally Tennessee will use the optional organizer's advertising space allowed by the current ARA rules. Teams may refuse the optional organizer's advertising at any point before TC0 by contacting the event Chairman and paying a \$1000 fee. This can be completed during online registration by choosing the "Not Including Optional Organizer's Advertising" entry. A list of event sponsors included in the organizer's advertising will be available in the Supplementary Regulations.

The event will also be providing a hood decal (rally plate) similar to those used in the World Rally Championship as part of the organizer supplier advertising package. The decal placement must be

on the hood (bonnet) area of the competition vehicle, but exact placement is at the discretion of the competitor. All ARA series advertising must be properly displayed on competition cars.



- 1 Door Placards: 24" w x 10" h
- 2 Event Sponsor: 24" w x 10" h
- 3 Rear Window Decals



Example of Organizer Supplied Advertising including rally plate from Overmountain Rally 2025

9.2 COMPETITOR'S SPONSOR ACTIVATION SPACE

National entrants will be provided with sponsor activation space in the Fan Zone at Newport Speedway on Saturday night. Space is limited, so please fill out the information form on the event Sportity. Reach out to the event Chairman with any questions. Further information will be provided for participating teams.

10 COMPETITOR CHECK-IN

[See Supplementary Regulations]

11 HOTELS AND CAMPING

11.1 OFFICIAL RALLY HOTEL

The event has partnered with the **Best Western Newport Inn** to offer exclusive discounted rates: **\$89/night on weekdays and \$99/night on weekends.**

To book, call 423-623-8713 and mention you're with The Overmountain Rally Tennessee.

11.2 OTHER HOTELS

Other hotel options are available within Newport. Please be sure to tell them you are with The Overmountain Rally TN when you book.

[CLICK HERE TO EXPLORE MORE PLACES TO STAY](#)

ROAD RALLY READY?

DRIVERS, CREWS, AND THRILL-SEEKERS
It's time to lock in your stay on the Adventure Side of the Smokies



Newport, TN
is your closest
launchpad to the action...
mountain views,
small-town charm,
and rally-day convenience
ALL IN ONE SPOT.

Rooms fill fast. Don't get left in the dust—book your lodging now!

Overmountain Road Rally • September 18-19, 2026 Cherokee National Forest/ Newport TN Speedway, Newport TN

■ WHERE TO STAY ■

6.8

Miles from
Speedway

Hampton Inn

(888) 446-6677
1020 Cosby Hwy.
Newport, TN 37821

6.8

Miles from
Speedway

Holiday Inn

(888) 465-4329
1022 Cosby Hwy.
Newport, TN 37821

6.8

Miles from
Speedway

Best Western

(423) 623-8713
1015 Cosby Hwy.
Newport, TN 37821

13

Miles from
Speedway

Whisperwood Lodge/ Creekwalk Inn - B&B

423-487-4000
166 Middle Creek Rd.
Cosby, TN 37722

18.9

Miles from
Speedway

French Broad Outpost B&B

800-995-7678
461 Old River Rd.
Del Rio, TN 37727

Campgrounds/RV

4.8

Miles from
Speedway

KOA Newport

423-608-6042
240 KOA Lane.
Newport, TN 37821

19

Miles from
Speedway

Hidden Stills

423-353-8450
224 Stonebrook /way
Cosby, TN 37722

22

Miles from
Speedway

Roamstead

423-487-5534
4946 Hooper Highway
Cosby, TN 37722

22

Miles from
Speedway

Shoestring Creek

423-237-7764
6035 Shoestring Way
Cosby, TN 37722

13

Miles from
Speedway

Triple Creek

423-465-3060
141 Lower Bogard Rd.,
Cosby, TN 37722

Cabins

17

Miles from
Speedway

Cocke County Cosby Creek Cabins

(423) 487-3333
4376 Cosby Hwy.
Cosby, TN 37722

17

Miles from
Speedway

Moore's Cabins

423-487-5615
4406 Liberty Rd.
Cosby, TN 37722

19.9

Miles from
Speedway

Smoky Mountain Skycamp

828-712-8956
2302 S. Highway 32
Cosby, TN 37722

22

Miles from
Speedway

Wildwood Mountain Cabins

800-423-2030
4410 Wildwood Dr
Cosby, TN 37722

■ WHERE TO EAT ■

Big Boys/Country Cooking • Open 7 am-9 pm

708 Cosby Highway, Newport, TN 37821 • 423-532-8132

China One -Chinese • Open 11-9

133 Western Plaza Way, Newport, TN • 423-237-6865

Fox and Hound/American Cuisine • Open 11-9

127 Fox and Hound Way Newport, TN 37821 • 423-623-9161

Grill 73 • Open Thur- Sun

616 Highway 73 Newport, Tennessee 37821 • 423-623-0970

Itako/Japanese Grill • Open 11-9

132 Newport Towne Centre, Newport, Tn 37821 • 423-532-7157

La Caretta/Mexican • Open 11-10

119 Western Plaza Way, Newport, TN 37821 • 423-623-0485

Milanos/Italian • Open 11-9

465 W. Broadway, Newport, TN 37821 • 423-625-3472

Neighborhood Beer House/Breakfast, Burgers & More • Open 8AM - 9

237 E. Broadway, Newport TN • 423-237-6067

Monterrey/Mexican • Open 11-10

130 Newport Towne Centre, Newport TN 37821 • 423-623-0104

Old 15th General Store and Restaurant • Fri 12-8, Sat 9-8, Sun 9-11

1575 Old 15th Rd, Del Rio, TN 37727 • 423-525-7640

Portofinos/Italian • Open 11- 9:30

115 Epley Dr., Newport, TN 37821 • 423-720-9011

Ruby Tuesday/New American • Open 11-9

1005 Cosby Highway, Newport, TN 37821 • 423-613-0769

Snowbird/Coffee House • Open 8am-5

237 E. Main St., Newport TN 37821 • 423-415-5688

For more resources log on to yallvisittthesmokies.com

CAMPING AT NEWPORT SPEEDWAY

Primitive camping (no electricity or water hookups) will be available on-site at Newport Speedway. The campground is within walking distance of the service area, and motorhomes/ travel trailers are allowed. Campsites are limited; costs and details on how to reserve campsites will be available in the Supplementary Regulations.

Competitors and crews will also be allowed to camp in their assigned service area Wednesday through Sunday during the access times in noted in Section 5.2. Motorhomes and campers are not allowed in the service area. Any additional costs for camping in the service area will be available in the Supplementary Regulations.

12 RECONNAISSANCE

Open reconnaissance will be available on the dates and times specified in the [Schedule](#).

[See Supplementary Regulations]

12.1 DESCRIPTIVE STAGE NOTES (JEMBA NOTES)

Descriptive stage notes (commonly called JEMBA Notes) may be offered. Details will be provided in the Supplementary Regulations if notes are available for purchase.

13 SCRUTINEERING

Scrutineering will take place in the infield at Newport Speedway. This location is adjacent to the service area. Scrutineering will be by appointment only.

[See Supplementary Regulations]

14 SHAKEDOWN AND TESTING

14.1 TESTING

Pre-event testing will be provided for an additional \$300 entry fee payable during online event registration. Reference [Schedule](#).

[See Supplementary Regulations]

14.2 TESTING LOCATION

The test stage is located in Sullivan County, TN. The road is representative of the competition stages and has been used in previous rallies.

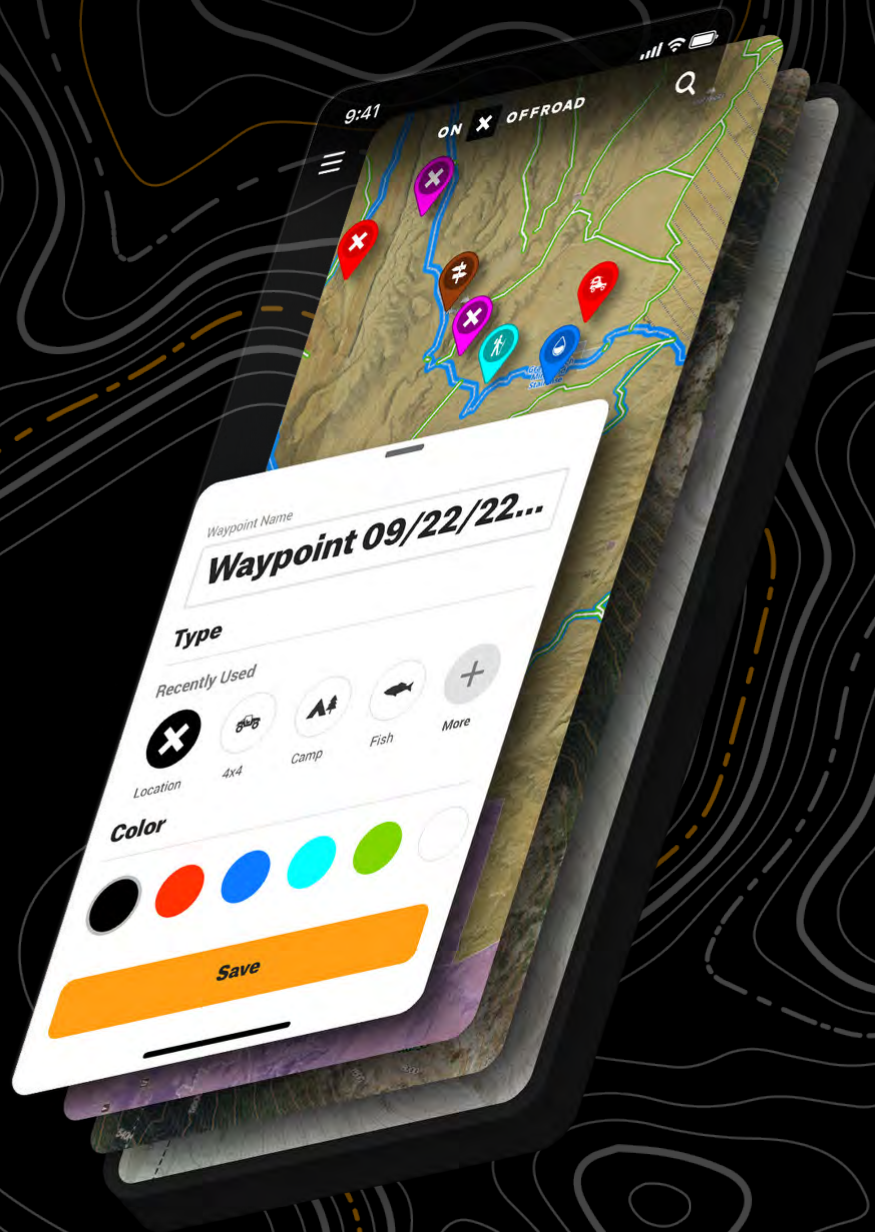
ON OFFROAD

Finding your way around a rally as a spectator, marshal, or competitor can be challenging. Using features found within the On X Offroad app, we can help you cross that navigational barrier and get you out there to see more.

The rally will be sharing spectator, volunteer, and competitor maps via the folder share feature within the app for an enhanced rally experience.

Learn about the app ahead of time at onxoffroad.com.

Official Mapping Partner of *the* **OVERMOUNTAIN RALLY TENNESSEE**



15 START PROCEDURE

[See Supplementary Regulations]

16 FINISH PROCEDURE

[See Supplementary Regulations]

17 PR ACTIVITIES

17.1 SEEDED DRAW AND ROUNDTABLE INTERVIEW

The seeded draw will take place during Parc Exposé (Rally Fest) on Thursday night, and will be immediately followed by a roundtable interview of the drivers who were included in the seeded draw. Both the seeded draw and interview will take place on the ARA main stage with PA sound. Drivers can expect event focused questions about recce, stage conditions, event strategy, vehicle prep, etc.

Local East Tennessee media will be on site and may ask for interviews.

17.2 GROUP ANTIQUE SUBCATEGORY

The rally has teamed up with Hoosier Racing Tire to provide a full set of gravel tires to the highest finishing 2WD and 4WD limited class crews (combined reg and nat entries). To be eligible, the vehicle chassis code (i.e. "GD" Subaru Impreza) must have begun production as a 2006 model year or older.

Competitors must claim eligibility at check-in and will receive two "Group A" decals to place on the competition vehicle if approved. These decals should go on the sides or the front/back of the car in "cool" locations. Be creative. Pre-approved cool locations include forward facing on rearview mirrors, in a bumper sticker collection, on rear side windows, or covering an unsightly dent.

Winners will also receive sweet trophies with their new Hoosier tires!

18 MEDIA

18.1 MEDIA CONTACTS

Series Media	Marni Nagy	ara@ara-rally.com
Series Marketing	Scott McKee	scott@ara-rally.com
Event Media Officer	Natalia Kelly	natalia@seitzer.com 540.848.1756

18.2 ACCREDITATION PROCEDURE / CRITERIA AND DEADLINE

All media accreditation is completed through ARA. Media applications will open on July 1st and CLOSE on September 9th. The media application and procedure for applying is available on the Media page of the ARA Website. Please make sure to read the ARA policies and procedures for the event.

<https://www.americanrallyassociation.org/media>



ON  OFFROAD




TEAM O'NEIL
RALLY SCHOOL




ENTERPRISES

