

RULES AND TIPS FOR TAKING PART IN NATIONAL RALLY COMPETITIONS

For the National Championships:

1. Days Before the Competition
 - Enter and pay online – it makes it so much easier for the organisers
 - To enter Nationals, you have to be a member of SAPFA, Aeroclub and have your FAI licence.
 - Arrange to arrive early, be organised, have everything packed and ready.
 - Make sure you have everything you need. As well as “normal” pilot stuff, you will also need a black and a red fineliner, scissors, lots of Prestick, scissors, pencil, protractor, compass, clocks
 - Read the rules!
2. The Morning of the Competition
 - Arrive early. Register as soon as you arrive. If you haven't paid online, do so now
 - Fuel and check your aircraft before the briefing
 - At the briefing, listen carefully and write notes on frequencies, no-go-areas, known points, departure and arrival instructions, etc.
 - No GPS devices may be used during the competition – it is your responsibility to block out any nav instrument that is prohibited, either by taping it up or switching it off. This may be checked by the organisers. It is also your responsibility to show the organisers that you have flown a route without such instrument.
3. Before You Leave the Briefing
 - Check the Start List for take-off times etc. Write them down
 - Collect your logger now
 - Synchronise your watches/clocks with the GPS clock which will be outside. Set your clocks to Zero Time for your Start Time
 - Leave any technological devices, including smart watches, GPS's, tablets, phone etc in your bags.
 - If you are not taking off in the first batch, you will be placed into Quarantine until you are permitted to enter your aircraft.
4. Before Take-off
 - You may take a phone, but you must make sure it is turned off, and you will hand it to the Marshall at your aeroplane, who will place it in a sealed envelope before take-off. Opening the envelope or having the phone turned on during flight, will result in disqualification
 - No maps other than the maps in the envelope are permitted in your aeroplane. However, you may keep a 1:500 000 or 1:100 000 map for safety reasons.
5. Flying the Route
 - Make note of the time you have to hand over papers after Finish Point.
 - Turn your loggers on! Make sure they are working. If not, ask for another one
 - Ensure you start and taxi to the Holding-point with plenty of time to make sure you are ready to take off at the prescribed time
 - Safety first – do not make any turns more than 90° to the track, and never fly back along the route towards the previous turnpoint, for any reason whatsoever. If you have made an error, fly towards the next turnpoint ahead of you, or make your way back to the airfield in a manner that does not endanger any other aircraft
 - Avoid making unnecessary radio calls that may distract other competitors

6. After Landing

- Hand over only your Answer Sheet and all maps to the Marshall. The Marshall will record that time, and you will be asked to sign it. Then place all other papers into the envelope and hand them over, together with the loggers, to the Marshall, and go with them immediately to the organisers for scoring, and the logger for down-load. Wait there for your results.
- If you are sharing an aircraft with another crew, and there is a time constraint, one crew member may refuel while the other goes to Debriefing.
- You are not permitted to speak to or communicate in any way whatsoever to any person other than to the officials, until after debriefing.
- If you have any Complaint regarding the flight, the plot, photos, canvas targets, timing etc, you must report this to the Organisers within 30 minutes of Debriefing. The Organisers will make a note of your Complaint, and will address it as soon as they are able to. If you are still not satisfied with their explanation you may present a Written Protest, within 30 minutes of the explanation.
- The Written Protest must be accompanied by a sum of R1000, and addressed to the The Chief Judge.

7. Special Rules Applying to Nationals

- Only crews of two people are permitted
- No practise flights, practise landings, circuits may be flown at any time during the competition
- During Debriefing you are permitted to query the organisers about the plot, timing etc. They will take note of your queries, and revert to you at a later time concerning them. If their explanations do not answer your queries, you may make a Formal Complaint, within 30 minutes of being Debriefed. Please do this in a quiet, brief, respectful manner.
- Unlike at Fun Rallies, at Nationals it is your responsibility to collect your Loggers, take note of your Take-off times, hand over your Answer Sheets, set your clocks.
- Remember that as Class 1 pilots and navigators, and potential South African representatives, your behaviour should always reflect this. Remain respectful and considerate of other crews, the organisers and marshals, and the public at all times.