

MIDLAND OFFROAD CLUB CHALLENGE EVENT SUMMERY 2009

The object of the event is to locate various pin punches, (usually 40), located around a sight venue, the location of which may be indicated on the day within a set time of around 6 and a half hours. Each punch will be identified by a number to verify it is the desired objective. The punch will be securely attached to a fixed point on the objective by a cable. The control card (attached by the designated scrutineer to a consistent point on all vehicles) and removed by said scrutineer must be marked with the pin punch in the correct box on the control card as proof that the objective has been visited. The vehicle must negotiate close enough to the point to collect the punch mark without detaching either the pin punch and or the control card.

There may also be special tasks, which are worth extra points. These are generally along the lines of non-driving puzzles or may include driving a short course through numbered gates in reverse gear or against the clock, details on the day. .

There may also be special stages, which are worth extra points. On these the team (see below) have to negotiate the vehicle over a set course, within a given time, without incurring penalties.

The event will usually be for individual vehicles, each of which must carry one driver and one co-driver (herein referred to as a Team) providing they are accommodated in securely fixed seats and wearing approved seatbelts or harnesses for safety. All vehicles must conform to either class (1, 2, 3, and 4) depending on traction aids and winches, score a percentage of their overall score to keep a even playing field. All drivers must have current UK driving licenses, and winch persons are to be 15 years of age or more.

Competitors may enter their vehicles with or without a partner vehicle and may be paired if required at the event by the organisers. Paired teams will incur a percentage point's penalty as deemed fit by the event by the organisers. In the event of a breakdown, repairs must be carried out on a suitable ground sheet. A blanket speed limit of 15mph covers all sites and any vehicle exceeding this may be disqualified. 5mph max speed in the pit area! Competitors are not allowed to smoke or drink (alcohol) while competing.

Equipment required.

All vehicle classes. Vehicles must have a working horn, (to be used to notify of an emergency). On hearing horns competitors should attempt to assist/ or notify marshals of a problem. 3 point Seatbelts for all seats in use. Adequate towing/recovery point's front and rear and carry a towrope. (Min 12 tonne Breaking Strain) "*Preferred*" or a strap conforming to BS EN1492-1(2000kg)

A roll bar must be fitted to all soft-top vehicles, and must meet current RAC, MSA, MOC regulations. Vehicles must carry an emergency first aid kit and fire extinguisher (Min 1.75kgs AFFF). All items must be securely stowed within or on a vehicle.

Classes 2, 3, and 4. A winch which must be securely fitted to the vehicle, the minimum recommended rating is twice vehicle weight. If electrical winch, it must be fitted with a battery isolator switch. The cable / rope must be in good condition, with loop at end of steel cable swaged. If hook is fitted must have safety catch.

A winching flag/sail (per winch), min 1kg in weight, (which must not be permanently attached to the cable or hook). Must have 2 pairs of thick appropriate gloves. A ground

anchor deemed of adequate size and strength. 1x adequate rated snatch/pulley block. 2 x shackles (safe working load of 3.25 tons). 1x tree protector strop per winch, (Minimum rated capacity 2 Tonne (Green). 1x pair of waffle board`s or bridging ladders.

Safety

The use of winch sails and gloves is compulsory when winching with all cables. There must be no damage or removal of any object within the competition area (i.e. trees, fences, gates, walls etc.) and tree strops must be used where necessary and never more than 1 meter above ground level 'Clear for winching' must be called out clearly prior to each and every winching operation.

In the event of a breakdown, repairs must be carried out on a suitable ground sheet. Competitors are not allowed to smoke or drink (alcohol) while competing. Never spill fuel or oil or drop litter. In the event of any spillage a marshal must be informed. Marshalls WARNINGS AND PENALTIES are final. In the event of an infringement of the rules, there will be one verbal warning given before an appropriate penalty is charged. Please **remember** that the **rules** are there for the **protection** of yourself and others.