

## 4 x 4 CHAMPIONSHIP AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

### 1. FORMAT

1.1. The Championship will be run over a minimum of 8 rounds with the best 6 scores to count. If for any reason rounds are cancelled the following will apply:

1.2. One round cancelled, two scores may be dropped.

1.3. Two or more rounds cancelled, only one score to be dropped.

However if more than 8 rounds are run then 3 scores may be dropped.

### 2. POINTS SYSTEM.

Overall Position- Non registered competitors will be eliminated before points are awarded as follows- 1st Overall 30 points; 2nd Overall 29 points down to 1 point for 30th Overall.

Non registered competitors will be eliminated before class points are awarded as follows - 15 points for 1st in each class, down to 1 point for 15th in class.

In case of dispute refer to GCRs Chapter 14.

### 3. CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd overall and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each class. No competitor may win more than one award. If there are less than 6 competitors in any given class, there will only be a 1st and 2nd prize awarded.

#### Event Awards

1st, 2nd, and 3rd overall and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each class. No competitor may win more than one award.

### 4. TIES.

#### 4.1. Overall.

The resolution of ties in the overall championship will be decided as follows:

4.1.1. Novice driver shall take precedence (Class 4 over Class 5, 2 and 1).

4.1.2. Class 1, 2, shall take precedence over Class 5.

4.1.3. Smaller engine size - Diesel engine = 1.5 times petrol and turbo diesel engines.

4.1.4. All leaf sprung over non all leaf sprung vehicles.

4.1.5. Long wheel base over short wheel base.

4.1.6. The greater number of wins in the current Championship.

4.1.7. The greater number of 2nd, 3rd, etc. placings in the current Championship.

4.1.8. The number of competitors beaten on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc. event in the current Championship.

#### 4.2. Event.

The resolution of ties for championship points and class places in an individual event will be decided as follows:

4.2.1. Novice driver shall take precedence (Class 4 over Class 2 and 1).

4.2.2. Class 1, 2, shall take precedence over Class 5.

4.2.3. Smaller engine size - Diesel engine = 1.5 times petrol and turbo diesel engines.

4.2.4. All leaf sprung over non all leaf sprung vehicles.

4.2.5. The number of 0's, 1's, 2's, etc. scored on the event

4.2.6. Long wheel base over short wheel base.

### 5. REGISTRATION FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP

In order to score points in the Championship all competitors - excluding Class 4 - must fill in, sign and return the Registration Form to the Event Secretary of the first qualifying round in which they compete. Points will not be awarded retrospectively.

### 6. DATES.

TBA

### 7. ELIGIBLE VEHICLES

7.1. Any production 4 wheel drive vehicle with 4x4 off road capabilities excluding those with LSD and/or lockable diffs. Vehicles with engine conversions (as decided by the Scrutineer / Organising Committee) are also eligible.

7.2. In the interest of economy, bumpers may be removed and air intakes may be altered.

7.3. Suspension modifications are not allowed. Hafingers, Steyrpuch, Unimogs and forward control landrovers are not allowed. 4 wheel steer and A.T.V.'s (quad/tricycle type) are also not allowed.

7.4. A roll-cage of minimum of 50 mm steel bar with wall thickness of tube to be minimum 2 mm with all 6 points properly secured to the vehicle structure generally to the shape of FIA drawing number 253.7 are mandatory for all vehicles.

7.5. Helmets and Full Harness type belts are mandatory for drivers and passengers. Helmets must comply with RTA regulations - S.I. No. 322 of 1993.

7.6. Passenger grab handles and a 2nd return spring on all throttles are mandatory for all vehicles.



7.7. If no windscreen present crews must wear full face protection helmet or goggles.

7.8. An isolation switch capable of being operated from both inside and outside the vehicle is strongly recommended.

7.9. Battery terminals must be fully insulated. All batteries must be enclosed in a solid container.

7.10. Side impact bars are mandatory for all open sided vehicles to a minimum height of 12" from the floor. Quick Release Window webbing / mesh is required in all vehicles, where the window is non existent or to remain open. If no windscreen present on vehicle a minimum 2" mesh is required.

7.11. No loose equipment may be carried in the vehicle.

7.12. All exhausts must be protected to ensure no hot pipes are exposed.

7.13. A working horn is required on all vehicles.

7.14. A firewall must exist between driver and fuel tank.

7.15. An effective parking brake is obligatory. It must simultaneously control the two wheels of the same axle. No wheel spacers allowed.

7.16. Competitors must carry the Championship sponsors decals and door plates displaying competitor number(s), as stipulated, on all counting rounds. No points will be allocated to any competitor who fails to comply with this regulation.

## 8. TYRES.

8.1. Any type of production tyre may be used but must not be fitted with studs or chains.

8.2. Tyres manufactured specifically for agricultural use or marked for use at limited speeds are not permitted. No Dumper pattern or low ground pressure "balloon" type tyres allowed. Hand cut tyres are not allowed.

8.3. Tyres with open centres or over aggressive thread patterns (as decided by the Scrutineer / organising committee) are not permitted.

## 9. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.

All vehicles must carry a minimum of 2kg fire extinguisher with gauge or valid date on it, must be properly secured, cable ties not accepted.

## 10. TOWING EYES.

Closed towing points must be provided front and rear of the vehicle with the position of the towing

eyes marked by an obvious (red or yellow) arrow situated on the bonnet and rear of the vehicle above the water / mud line. All vehicles must carry a towing strap minimum of 2 metres long with 2 shackles in a suitable place above the water / mud line, coiled and ready for use. Wire ropes must NOT be used. Snatch Rescues may not be used.

## 11. CLASSES.

11.1. All Suzuki 4 wheel drive vehicles including Vitara with Suzuki SJ and Samurai front axle fitted in the original design i.e. axle over spring.

11.2. All remaining 4 wheel drive vehicles excluding Class 5.

11.3. Novices - the definition of a novice shall be any competitor who has not competed in any 4x4 event previously, or who has not won any prize at any previous Championship event. Status to remain until end of season in which first award is won. Novice class is only open to Drivers of Class 1 and 2 vehicles.

11.4. Modified Class - This class is open to any eligible vehicle which may be modified subject to the following restrictions:

11.4.1. Rigid chassis only.

11.4.2. Minimum wheel base length of 2000 mm.

11.4.3. One steering axle only.

And

11.4.4. Diff locks allowed.

11.4.5. Two independent braking systems required.

11.4.6. A three point full harness and helmet for both driver and passenger is compulsory.

11.4.7. A hand operated fiddle brake system is allowed on rear axle only and must not interfere with main hydraulic system.

Competitors in this class can only compete in one class per event.

## 12. STARTING ORDER.

Starting Order will be announced at drivers briefing.

## 13. THE COURSE.

13.1. The course will be of a sporting nature and will include observed sections only. The route will be marked and the onus will be on the competitor to follow the correct course.

13.2. At least 50% of all sections must be attempted or completed. The penalty for breach of this rule is automatic exclusion.

13.3. Any tests not attempted will carry an automatic penalty of 10 points.



**13.4.** All gates from number 10 to 6 will be a minimum of 3.5 metres wide with the remainder a minimum of 3 metres wide.

**13.5.** Where tapes is erected to define the course, competitors will be penalised for breaking it. The penalty will be that of the previous gate.

**13.6.** A Drivers Course Liaison Officer will be appointed for each event by the Organising Committee. He shall inspect the course in conjunction with the Assistant Clerk of the Course on the evening before the event. The role of Drivers Liaison Officer ceases once the drivers briefing is concluded.

**13.7.** The course may not be altered by the Drivers Liaison Officer (or any competitor) without the prior consent of the Clerk of the Course. No driver will be allowed to be Course Liaison Officer for more than two events in this Championship.

**13.8.** All competitors are required to sign on as marshals in the event of their vehicle not being capable of finishing the event.

#### 14. PRACTICE AREA.

A practice area will be designated to all novice competitors only, after they have signed on and passed scrutiny. This practice area will be closed upon commencement of Drivers Briefing.

#### 15. SHUNTING.

**15.1.** All vehicles without fiddle brakes and a wheel base length in excess of 2185mm are allowed a maximum of one shunt per test.

**15.2.** All vehicles entitled to a shunt will be so labelled by Scrutineer.

**15.3.** If the shunt is not nominated to the starting marshal (or if the shunt takes place other than between the gates nominated) the shunt will not be allowed and normal penalties will be incurred for the cessation of forward motion.

**15.4.** Competitors must nominate to the start marshal of each test the specific gates of the test between which the shunt will be executed. If the gates are not nominated the shunt will not be allowed and normal penalties will be incurred for cessation of forward motion.

**15.5.** After arriving at the nominated shunting area the vehicle must be brought to a complete stop and thereafter the vehicle will be allowed to reverse one vehicle length only. Any movement in excess of this will incur the penalty of the previous gate.

**15.6.** While the shunt is being executed the vehicle may cross its tracks but may not touch a marker pole or break the tape.

#### 16. SECURITY.

No vehicles may be on the course outside competition times unless with explicit permission of the Clerk of the Course. All vehicles must go to Parc Ferme when not competing.

#### 17. MARKS AND PENALTIES.

**17.1.** Penalty marks from 10 to 0 will be awarded to where the vehicle ceases forward motion or touches a marker pole or breaks the tape. The complete vehicle must pass cleanly through all marker gates.

**17.2.** A clean non-stop passage through an observed section will gain 0 penalties.

**17.3.** A vehicle may not cross its track at any stage in a test.

**17.4.** Looping around the Start and Finish areas is strictly forbidden. Smoking is not permitted by either driver or passenger while competing on a test and seat belts must be worn by crews while competing on tests. Breach of the above rules will automatically carry the maximum penalty of 10.

**17.5.** The driver who starts a test must finish the test. The penalty for breach of these rules is 10 points.

**17.6.** The penalty for breaches of Articles 18.8., 18.9. or 18.10 is 10 marks.

**17.6.1.** Competitors found to be carrying an unauthorised passenger will be excluded from result and be subject to any other penalty as the Clerk of the Course may decide.

**17.6.2.** Competition vehicles being driven during the event by other than registered competitors may result in both competitors being excluded at the discretion of the Clerk of the Course.

**17.6.3.** Competitors found to be driving from test to test at excessive speed will be immediately excluded from the event.

**17.6.4.** Outside Assistance is prohibited while the vehicle is in the Trial Zone and the penalty shall be 10 marks for a competitor receiving such assistance.

**17.7.** In deciding Overall/Event results modified cars competitors only will be scored as follows:

The higher of:

**17.7.1.** 1.25 times actual penalties accrued OR

**17.7.2.** 1.25 penalties per test in event.

(i.e. 8 tests = 10 or 16 tests = 20).

#### 18. CREWS.

**18.1.** All competitors must be in possession of a current licence which must be produced at sign-on.

**18.2.** All competitors must have completed and signed an entry form, which is validated at sign-on. Competitors under 18 years of age must have



the entry form countersigned by a Parent or Guardian.

**18.3.** Competitors holding a Clubman National B licence are eligible to compete in all classes.

**18.4.** Competitors holding a Clubman Junior Licence or a One Day Licence and is under 17 years of age are only eligible to compete in Suzuki 4 wheel drive vehicles as laid down in Article 11.1.

**18.5.** Any competitor holding a Clubman Junior Licence or a One Day Licence who is under 17 years of age must be accompanied at all times by a competitor of 18 years of age or over with a current Clubman National B Licence.

**18.6.** A maximum of 2 drivers per vehicle is allowed.

**18.7.** Passengers are not required to hold a Competition Licence. Passengers must be 14 years of age or over and register and have signed an indemnity at sign-on. The organisers of each individual event have the discretion to waive the 72 hour entry requirement in the case of passengers only.

**18.8.** Only one passenger may be carried and must be using safety equipment in accordance with Article 7.

**18.9.** Crews must remain within passenger compartment of the vehicle. Neither member of the crew may leave the vehicle while it is on the Observed Section. See Article 17.6 for penalty.

**18.10.** Competitors may only drive or be a passenger in the vehicle in which they are entered. See Article 17.6. for penalty.

## 19. SCRUTINY.

**19.1.** Scrutiny will take place in a designated place and all competitors must proceed to that place and await their turn. Competitors are obliged to present their vehicles for scrutiny at least one hour before the due start time.

**19.2.** If any vehicle rolls onto its roof the driver must immediately present the vehicle to Scrutineer for inspection before proceeding to next test. Penalty for failure to do so is automatic exclusion.

## 20. BRIEFING.

**20.1.** Drivers briefing will take place at least 15 minutes before the due Start Time of each event.

**20.2.** The Championship Registrar (or his nominee) may address the drivers at every driver's briefing.

**20.3.** The organisers of any event may limit the number of competitors and entries will be accepted on a "first come first served" basis. Entry fee will be €50.00 (inclusive of Personal Accident Insurance) for all those who enter at least 3 days before Official Closing Date and will be €60.00 (inclusive of Personal Accident Insurance) thereafter. For competitors from other ASN's the entry fee is €30.00 (inclusive of Personal Accident Insurance).

**20.4.** No entries may be taken on the day.

**20.5.** All clubs reserve the right to refuse an entry without assigning a reason.

**Registrar:** The registrar of the Championship is  
Mr. Pat Ryan  
Hillcrest  
Gurtnakisteen  
Pallasgreen.  
Co. Limerick  
Tel :086 2711280 before 10pm  
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