



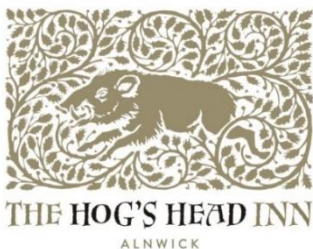
NORTHUMBERLAND BORDERS RALLY

Saturday 15th March 2025

Supplementary Regulations



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Eat, Drink, Sleep... Explore

Organised by the
Newcastle & Durham
Region

In support of
WaterAid



www.northumberlandbordersrally.co.uk

Scan to find out more



Past winners

Northumberland Borders Rally

2024 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2023 (Clubmans): Event postponed
2022 (Clubmans): Paul Crosby & Andy Pullan
2021 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2020 (Clubmans): Event cancelled
2019 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2018 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2017 (Clubmans): Steve Entwistle & Andy Pullan
2016 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2015 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2014 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2013 (Clubmans): Graeme Cornthwaite & Ali Procter
2012 (Clubmans): Steve Entwistle & Bob Hargreaves
2011 (Clubmans): Pete Tyson & Neil Harrison
2010 (Clubmans): Steve Entwistle & Bob Hargreaves
2009 (12-car): Paul Metcalfe & Stuart Wright
2008 (12-car): Paul Metcalfe & Stuart Wright



motor
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Club

Cover picture: Richard Derrick & Rob Duley on the 2024 rally in their BL Mini 1275GT.

www.northumberlandbordersrally.co.uk

Introduction

The Newcastle & Durham Region of the Mini Cooper Register (MCR) has great pleasure in inviting you to take part in the next running of the **Northumberland Borders Rally**, a truly unique navigational rally for classic Minis.

For its sixteenth running, the event will continue to follow the successful format from previous years of Special Tests on private land during the day followed by a 'half-night' navigational rally and "pub" finish. For 2025, we are again also offering "a Special Tests only" option for a discounted rate.

The rally start and finish will again be The Hog's Head Inn in Alnwick where there is ample parking for trailers in the hotel car park, fuel very close by at the BP station and other amenities. The Inn Collection Group <https://www.inncollectiongroup.com/> are very kindly offering the rally a 15% discount on their current online flexible bed and breakfast rate for the 15th of March. For those requiring a slightly longer stay, the same discount is also available for both the 14th and the 16th of March.

This year's rally will see some new test challenges for competitors to enjoy and the leg after dark take in plenty of new territory. The first car will be away from the start before midday and finish for around 9.45pm. After completing around ten Special Tests, the competitors will complete around 85 competitive miles. The exceptions are the Novices who will have a reduced road mileage on the leg after dark of just under 60 miles.

Entry fees for the full event are fractionally up on those for the 2024 rally but still represent extremely good value motorsport. Entries from members of MSUK approved member clubs continue to be very much welcomed and a RS Clubman licence, available free of charge from MSUK, is all that is required to take part.

YBracing will again be sponsoring the rally and the **WaterAid** charity continue to benefit from the proceeds of a raffle held during the event.

We look forward to seeing competitors old and new for another great day of classic Mini rallying.

The Organising Team.

NORTHUMBERLAND BORDERS RALLY 2025

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

1. ANNOUNCEMENT

The Mini Cooper Register (Newcastle & Durham Region) will organise a Clubmans status Navigation Rally on Saturday the 15th of March 2025.

2. JURISDICTION

The event will be held under the National Competition Rules of Motorsport UK (incorporating the provisions of the International Sporting Code of the FIA) and these Supplementary Regulations these Supplementary Regulations, as well as other written instructions the Mini Cooper Register (MCR), the promoting club, may issue.

3. AUTHORISATION

Motorsport UK Permit no.: TBC

Motorsport UK Route Authorisation Event Reference no.: 29158MA15

4. ELIGIBILITY

The event is only open to classic Mini Cooper and Mini saloons of road legal specification that are MOT'd where required, taxed and insured for use on the Public Highway. No other vehicles, including mini variants, BMW MINI or classic minis with a non A or A+ series engine fitted, are eligible to take part.

The Northumberland Borders Rally is open to holders of Motorsport UK (MSUK) RS Clubman Competition Licence holders as a minimum who are either members of the MCR or any of the following MSUK member clubs:

Alwick & District MC; Berwick MC; Durham AC; Hadrian MSC; Ilkley & District MC; Historic Rally Car Register; Garstang and Preston MC; Hexham & District MC; Kirkby Lonsdale MC; Malton MC; Morecambe CC; Spadeadam MC; Tynemouth & District MC, Whickham & District MC and Wigton MC.

Members of other MSUK member clubs may also be eligible to enter, depending on uptake from the above organisations – please contact the Organisers for more information.

A RS Clubman licence is free of charge and can be applied for online here: <https://www.motorsportuk.org/competitors/rs-clubman-licence/>

5. OFFICIALS

Secretary of the Meeting: Niall Cook, 6 Edwin Terrace, Greenside, Ryton, Tyne & Wear, NE40 4SB. Mobile 07881 302577 or email: niallcook@hotmail.com

Clerk of the Course: David Ross, 188 Wingrove Road, Fenham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE4 9DB. Tel.: 0191 2735803, mobile 07730 982302 or email: darsmr188@gmail.com

Entries Secretary: Dave Ross, contact details as above.

Tests Co-ordinator: Jon Richardson, 12 High Green, Catterick, North Yorkshire, DL10 7LN. Mobile 07831 436131 or email: jonrichardson01@googlemail.com

Chief Marshal: Gordon Reid, 4 Cotswold Road, North Shields, Tyne & Wear, NE29 9QJ. Mobile 07861 643303 or email: gordon.i.reid@gmail.com

Assistant Chief Marshal & Chief Timekeeper: Kevin Rich, 26 Moor Drive, Wallsend, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE28 9FE, mobile 07889 712514 or email: richkev@gmail.com

Motorsport UK Scrutineer: Colin Salkeld. Mobile 07860 960489 or email: colinsalkeld@btinternet.com

Steward: TBC.

6. START & FINISH VENUE

Both the start and the finish of the event will be at The Hog's Head Inn, Hawfinch Drive, Alnwick, NE66 2BF (OS map 81, NGR NU19473 11606). [The Hog's Head Inn, Alnwick | The Inn Collection Group](#)

Scrutineering will take place in the car park for The Hog's Head Inn. Food and refreshments can be purchased both at the start and the rest halt, part-way through the event. A buffet will also be provided to competitors at the finish, as part of the rally entry fee (see Section 18).

7. PROGRAMME

Scrutineering: 09:00 to 10:30hrs

Rally pack collection: 09:00 to 11:00hrs

Competitors' briefing: 11:00hrs

Car 0 departs from MTC1: 11:30hrs

Approximate due finishing time for first crew: 21:40hrs

8. ROUTE

Ordnance Survey Landranger sheet numbers 81 (Alnwick & Morpeth) and 75 (Berwick-upon-Tweed) (latest editions) will be required. Areas of adjoining maps may also be utilised, however, there is no requirement to bring these as competitors will be supplied with handouts, as required.

Competitors will cover approximately 85 competitive miles, excluding mileages on the Special Tests or Transports/Neutrals on the Public Highway. Certain sections of the Public Highway will be used more than once during the day to and from the test venues, rest halt and the start / finish venue. The Special Tests will take place on private land where there will be a mixture of surfaces but mainly tarmac, concrete and gravel. The second leg of the event on the Public Highway will be on yellow or higher grade roads except for around a mile of unsurfaced white roads. Although deemed suitable for standard cars, sump guards and other equipment (e.g. roll cages and harnesses) may be useful for those with a particularly flamboyant driving style.

9. FUEL

Fuel will be available both near to the start and finish venue, as well as en route to the start of the second leg – the navigational rally. Competitors will not be permitted to carry fuel in their cars. However, those with particularly thirsty vehicles, unable to complete around 90 miles without refuelling, will be able to make arrangements with the Chief Marshal for fuel to be made available to them at an appropriate point along the route [*Note: several cars were running on fumes in previous years so, if there are any doubts, competitors ought to use this opportunity*].

10. FORMAT & TIMING

The route for the event will be defined by plot and bash handouts provided in sealed route envelopes to be opened at specified controls along the route. Instructions for Expert and Semi Expert classes will involve a mix of navigation styles, while the Novice class will have easier navigation including marked maps & tulip diagrams. Examples of the types of navigation used in previous running's of the event can be found on the rally website.

The Special Tests will involve competitors following predetermined routes set out with traffic cones/course markers marked with letters of the alphabet. These will be defined by a comprehensive set of diagrams issued at the start. Some of the tests will not be completely visible from the test start. Competitors will however not be permitted to walk the tests beforehand.

The rally will run to Scheduled Time in accordance with Chapter 13 (RALLY) App.5 Art. 10 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules 2025: [Motorsport-UK NCR-2025 Book v6 CH11 PH.pdf](#)

Standard Sections will be set at an average speed of 30mph and Transport/Neutral Sections, either 30mph or 20mph. Timing will be by the marshals' digital clocks and a sample of rally time will be made available at the start. Sections will be timed to the minute, with timing at all Time Controls to the previous whole minute. The exception will be the Special Tests, which will be timed to an accuracy of less than one minute.

The maximum permitted lateness at all Time Controls will be 30 minutes. Lateness may however be reduced in specific Standard Sections only without penalty, as per Chapter 13 App.5 Arts. 10.16 to 10.18 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules, and lateness reduction may be mandatory at some Main Time Controls. These sections and the maximum time recovery permissible on each will be indicated on the timecards issued to competitors at the start, an example of which can also be found on the rally website.

The Special Tests will be designed in accordance with Chapter 13 App.4 Art.8 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules.

11. CONTROLS

The event will feature the following types of controls and checks on competitors' progress:

Main Time Control (MTC) - located at the start, the finish and at major points along the route

Standard Time Control (STC) - at the finish of each 30mph Standard Section

Transport Time Control (TTC) - at the finish of each Transport Section timed at 30mph or less

Neutral Time Control (NTC) - at the finish of each Neutral (i.e. PR sensitive) Section timed at 30mph or less

Route Check (RC) – numbered and/or lettered code boards / car registration plates placed at intervals along the route or within tests, examples of which will again be shown at the competitor briefing. Where there is a requirement to manoeuvre the vehicle around a feature, these will be highlighted on the Not as Map diagrams.

Passage Control (PC) - manned controls sited at intervals along the route or within Special Tests.

Secret Check (SC) - manned controls sited at intervals along the route or within Special Tests.

Time Controls will open 15 minutes before the due time of the first car and close after the maximum lateness of the last car has elapsed. Note also that 'Not as Map' information may be issued to enable competitors to locate some of the above controls.

12. DRIVING STANDARDS

Strict checks will be made on driving standards and competitors will be excluded if found guilty of driving in a manner that may cause danger to other road users or members of the public. Marshals will act as Judges of Fact and Driving Standards Observers will be appointed to ensure compliance with Chapter 13 App.2 Art.3 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules, in particular:

- Excessive vehicle sound
- Excessive speed
- Driving in a manner likely to bring motor sport into disrepute
- Failure to stop at Stop or Give Way signs
- Quiet zone restrictions, including use of auxiliary lights
- Violation of out of bounds areas

13. VEHICLE ELIGIBILITY

Vehicles must comply with the Technical Regulations set out in Chapter 13 App.15 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules. In particular, vehicles must have a maximum of four forward facing operational beams, i.e. including the headlights, and are not permitted to have any racing style numbers or advertising displayed (Arts. 4.1 & 6.1, respectively). Vehicles must also carry a small spill kit (Art. 6.7), which is available from the Organisers for a nominal fee (see Section 18 of these SR's).

As per Chapter 8 App. 4 Art. 3.1 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules, tyre choice is free subject to the following;

- a. Tyres on the current FIA List of Asphalt Eligible Tyres including sizes not homologated are not permitted unless on List R;
- b. Tyres on List 1B and List 1C are not permitted other than those on List R;
- c. Tyres marked for "Competition use" are not permitted with the exception of tyres on List 6 and 3.2a.

Vehicles/competitors must not use GPS or any other type of positional devices including mobile phones and tablet computers. Any contravention will result in exclusion. As per App.3 Art.12.1(i), the use of in car cameras is also forbidden.

14. PENALTIES

Penalties will be applied using the 'fails system', as per "*Summary of Penalties to be Applied on Scheduled Timed Events*" as set out in Chapter 13 App.7 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules:

<i>Sections on the public highway:</i>	
Not reporting or reporting OTL at a Main Time Control	Retired
Not reporting or reporting OTL at any other Time Control	1 fail
Not complying with the route card including visiting a control more than once	1 fail
Not reporting at a Passage Control or providing proof of visiting a Route Check (codeboard)	1 fail
Arrival before scheduled time at the end of a Standard Section	2 minutes per minute
Arrival after due time at the end of a Standard Section	1 minute per minute
Arrival before due time at the end of a Neutral Section	1 fail
Entering a Time Control from the wrong direction	1 fail
Not providing proof of visiting a Secret Check	1 Fail
Excessive vehicle noise, speed or driving likely to bring motorsport in disrepute	Exclusion
Entering an out of bounds area	Exclusion
Failure to bring the vehicle to a complete halt at a Stop or Give Way sign	Exclusion

<i>Special Tests on private ground</i>	
Not completing a timed test	Test maximum

Not performing a timed test correctly, other than in the circumstances below	Test maximum
Striking a cone or failing to stop astride a finish line	20 seconds per offence
Making a jump start on a timed test	10 seconds per second
For every second taken to complete a timed test	1 second
Failing to stop astride a line mid test or failing to stop within the defined area.	30 seconds per offence
Not providing proof of visiting a Route Check (codeboard)	30 seconds per offence

Note that the following will also apply:

1. Competitors may arrive at a Time Control on a Standard Section within the minute prior to their Due time and ask for that Due time. However, they may not leave the control before their Due time.
2. Competitors completing a test in less than the Target Time will be credited with Target Time.
3. Competitors taking the wrong route on a test will be permitted to rectify their error and revert to the correct route without penalty unless they have passed 2 or more consecutive course markers before rectifying their error.
4. Competitors exceeding the test maximum will be credited with the test maximum.
5. To be classified as finishers, competitors must visit all appropriate Main Time Controls and at least two-thirds of the Time Controls.

15. CLASSES

The ***Northumberland Borders Rally*** will consist of three classes:

Expert: which any crew can enter but is mandatory for any navigator who has finished in the first 5 places overall of a Clubmans or higher status event, other than the Northumberland Borders Rally, in the last 5 years.

Semi Expert: crews for which the above does not apply

Novice: genuine novice and first-time crews.

The Organisers reserve the right to reclassify crews where they deem it appropriate. For example, whilst we would generally expect previous winners of the Novice or Semi Expert (formerly known as Newcomer) classes to move up a level and continue their rallying education, there may be instances where a crew's results and experience do not warrant such a move. The running order will be based on seeding information provided by crews but will also be at the Organisers' discretion. No swapping of driver/navigator will be allowed.

16.AWARDS

The awards will be as follows:

- 1st Overall crew Expert class..... engraved awards for both driver & navigator plus the Northumberland Borders Rally trophy engraved with names of former winners to keep until the next event
- 1st Semi Expert crew..... engraved awards for both driver & navigator
- 1st Novice crew..... engraved awards for both driver & navigator

In addition to the above awards, a special YBRACING sponsor's prize will be awarded to the highest placed crew from the MCR not qualifying the above.

17.RESULTS

Provisional results will be announced at the finish and published on the rally's website and Facebook page. In the case of a tie on either event, the winning crew will be decided by using the "furthest cleanest" principle and then, if necessary, engine capacity. Any subsequent protests should be made in accordance with Chapter 2 App. 9 of the Motorsport UK National Competition Rules. Final results will be published on the rally website and Facebook page, in the MCR's 'Cooperworld' magazine.

18.ENTRIES

The entry list for the event opens on the publication of these Supplementary Regulations and closes at midnight on Sunday the 9th of March 2025. The entry fees are as follows:

Expert/Semi Expert classes ⇒ £130

Novice class ⇒ £110

Special Tests only ⇒ flat rate of £80

Entry fees include a buffet meal for both crew members at the finish but exclude rally insurance (see Section 20). Note also that spill kits required for Special Tests are available from the Organisers at £5 each.

Entries should be made using the online web entry system for the event provided by rallies.info:

<https://www.rallies.info/webentry/2025/northumbborder/index.php>

The rally will use the Motorsport UK electronic Signing-On documentation, which must be completed before the event, via the web entry system, to compete. There will be no opportunity to Sign-On at the start of the event.

Payment for entries can be made in one of three ways:

1) **Bank transfer** - to the following account:

Bank	NATWEST
Sort code	60-01-17
Account no.	81118333
Account name	Niall Cook
Reference	Car Registration

2) **PayPal** – using your debit, credit card or PayPal account to send funds to the PayPal account of 'niallcook@tiscali.co.uk'

3) **Cheque** - made payable to 'Niall Cook' and sent to the Entries Secretary - Dave Ross, 188 Wingrove Road, Fenham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE4 9DB.

Entries will be accepted in order of receipt of completed applications and the appropriate entry fees. Entries paid for by cheque will be held until these clear.

The maximum number of entries for the event is 30 and the minimum is 15. In the case of the minimum number not being reached, the Organisers reserve the right to cancel the event and refund entry fees.

In the event of an entry being pulled, the following criteria will be used for refunds:

- Before midnight on Friday the 28th of February - 75% of the entry fee refunded.
- Before midnight on Friday the 7th of March – 50% refunded.
- After this time – no refund.

19. MINI COOPER REGISTER MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the MCR can be obtained by visiting the site on the link below. Single membership costs £39 and family members can be added for a fee of £2 per person. This is an annual subscription that will run from the first day of the month of joining and includes 12 editions of the excellent 'CooperWorld' magazine.

<https://crossmember.co.uk/add-member/?club=mcr>

<https://www.minicooper.org/>

20. INSURANCE

Vehicles must have insurance in place which provides Third Party Liability cover that complies with the Road Traffic Act (RTA). This can be either, by extending an existing motor policy to cover the event, or, by purchasing additional cover as an adjunct to an existing motor policy.

If a competitor uses an extension to an existing policy, they will be required to sign a declaration that the cover complies with the requirements of the Road Traffic Act. Any responsibility for a fraudulent or misleading declaration about existing cover lies with the competitor. If a competitor wishes to purchase additional cover provided by REIS Motorsport Insurance via the Organisers they can do so prior to the event. All drivers must comply with the following:

- a) aged 19 years or over
- b) held a full driving licence for a minimum of six months
- c) no more than 6 points on their licence
- d) no more than 1 fault claim in the last three years
- e) does not have Third Party extension cover on their existing motor policy
- f) drive a vehicle with a valid MOT and Tax for the road, unless exempt for doing so.

The basic rate for the event will be £34.

Competitors not meeting the eligibility criteria must obtain a Letter of Acceptance prior to the event and present evidence of such at the signing on process by sending an email requesting approval via your Broker and provide the following information:

- a) Drivers full name and their date of birth
- b) Date the driver has passed their driving test

- c) Details of any motoring convictions and/or claims

For the insurance cover to apply, each driver must:

- a) have a valid UK driving licence
- b) have a valid MSUK or appropriate club membership licence
- c) have a valid motor insurance policy for the vehicle they are driving
- d) have officially signed on, met the eligibility criteria of the insurance scheme and paid their premium to the policy holder.

21. DAMAGE DECLARATION

Competitors will be required to complete and sign a report declaring that they have not been involved in any incident resulting in damage to third party or private property, or injury to persons or animals, or alternatively give details of any such incident. Any information given will incur no penalty, but failure to provide a correctly completed damage declaration form within 72 hours of the completion of the event or falsifying a declaration will result in exclusion of the competitors from the event and their details being reported to the MSUK. In the event of an accident, the Organisers must be notified as soon as possible. Non-finishers should forward their completed forms to the Secretary of the Meeting.

In the event of damage caused to third party property by a Competitor, the Organisers of the event reserve the right to pass the cost of repairs up to a maximum of the insurance excess under the MSUK Master Policies to the competitor involved.

22. ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is available at the event start and finish venue - The Hog's Head Inn in Alnwick. For the best rates, rooms at the hotel are best booked via the Inn Collection Group website: <https://www.inncollectiongroup.com/>

There are double, twin rooms and family rooms, all of which come with a continental type breakfast or the option of a cooked one for additional cost. Prices for rooms vary according to demand so early booking is recommended.

For alternative accommodation options and other local information visit: <https://www.visitalnwick.org.uk/>

23. TRAILER PARKING

Trailers can be parked in the car park at The Hog's Head Inn. However, this is entirely at the owner's risk and neither The Inn Collection Group nor the event takes responsibility for them.

24. PHOTOS

A photographer will be in attendance and pictures taken made available to crews after the event including on the rally website and Facebook page.



Picture: Darell & Nicky Staniforth on the 2024 rally in their Mk1 Morris Cooper 'S'.

25. MARSHALLING

With lots of tests and controls to man, plenty of marshals and helpers are required for the event to run. If you are able to help out in any way, and no previous experience is required, please contact Gordon Reid, our Chief Marshal: gordon.i.reid@gmail.com

To sign up to marshal, please follow this link <https://www.rallies.info/.../northumbborder/officials.php> and enter your details.

Thank you everyone, your support is very much appreciated.



Picture: 'Orangebox' mini of Andy Harrison and Henry Carr check in at Joanne Dickinson's control on the 2024 rally.

26. SPECTATING

Please note that **this is not a spectator event** and no information will be given to spectators.

In support of
WaterAid

www.northumberlandbordersrally.co.uk