

THE CARAVAN AND MOTORHOME CLUB

NORTH LANCASHIRE CENTRE

GUIDANCE FOR RUNNING RALLIES

FOR RALLY OFFICERS

(REVISED EDITION FEBRUARY 2018)

RALLY OFFICERS

The Rally Officer must be Centre Member. However, it is permissible for the Co Rally Officer to be a member of any Caravan and Motorhome Club Centre. All rallies require one rally officer and one co-rally officer. Larger holiday rallies or weekend rallies of more than 50 vans may have an increase of one rally officer. (497/7)

THE RUNNING OF RALLIES

Caravan rallies can only be run by virtue of an exemption certificate (no 57) granted to The Caravan and Motorhome Club. At Centre level this is vested in The Chairman who, if unable to attend the rally, can delegate his authority to another Officer, Committee Member or, failing this, a senior member of The Centre. Therefore, all rallies are run under the jurisdiction of The Centre Committee on behalf of The Caravan and Motorhome Club.

The Caravan Club red flag must be flown to show that the rally is taking place under an exemption certificate (if a rally is being run on a CAMC site you are not required to fly the flag.)

CHOOSING A VENUE

When choosing a venue, it must be ascertained that there is a water point, an elsan point and that access to the venue is of sufficient width. If a venue has not been used by the previous rally officer for 2 years, it is deemed that the rally field would revert to the Centre if not run thereafter, however if a rally field is to be rested then this is permissible if the reasons are explained to committee and there are reasonable grounds. (585/14)

RALLIES OUTSIDE THE NORTH LANCASHIRE CENTRE'S AREA

Anyone wishing to organise a rally for the next season, that is outside The North Lancashire Centre boundary should inform the Rally Secretary. A 4B application will then be sent to the relevant centre for their approval.

USE OF LICENSED SITES, CL'S AND DURATION OF RALLIES

Rallies proposed at CL venues must have a separate access point to the field to that of the CL with a barrier of some sort between the two e.g. a fence or a hedge. The rally must also have water and elsan facilities separate to those of the CL. Under no circumstances should the facilities be shared nor access to the field be gained via the CL.

USE OF LICENSED SITES, CL'S AND DURATION OF RALLIES continued

The exemption certificate covers rallies up to 120 hours only (5 days) thereafter planning permission must be sought unless the rally is on a commercial site or licensed land. Please note that a five-day rally must open and close 120 hours apart i.e. if the rally opens at 2pm it must close at 2pm

SITE FEES

This should be negotiated on a per van per night basis and not by lump sum per rally basis. This ensures that the rally officer only pays for van nights attended, plus making it easier to estimate the rally fee. It is normal practice to negotiate with the landowner for the rally officers to attend free of charge, however this is not always possible, especially on Caravan and Motorhome Club sites.

APPLICATION TO RUN A RALLY

The Rally Secretary can be told verbally of a potential rally in order that the weekend is then reserved ahead of the relevant paperwork. As soon as the venue is confirmed with the landowner, the application form should be completed and sent to the Rally Secretary as soon as possible. Please note that the number of vans shown should be realistic as at the end of the year the number of used and unused pitches is calculated. If you have a field which is big enough for 60 vans, but you only expect 30 vans to attend then show the van number as 30. If the rally does fill you can always apply to the Rally Secretary to increase the numbers. This is merely a formality that must be run past committee to ensure that the rally is covered for insurance purposes.

PRICING A RALLY

Rallies should not be priced up as a full rally or you will make a loss if you do not achieve the numbers. It is better to price the rally two thirds full. Please see the Financial Information to Rally Officers and The Guide to Pricing a Rally enclosed in the Rally Officer pack. It is always advisable to write to the landowner (enclosing a SAE) confirming the items agreed, i.e. date of the rally, arrival times of Rally Officers to set up, price, whether VAT is payable and that the rally officers are sited free of charge. Send two copies of the letter, one of which has a section at the bottom requesting the landowners signature and date of signing, and request that the landowner return the signed copy to confirm the agreement. This will erase any later problems regarding price increases etc. All socials must be priced separately to the rally fee (505/6).

OPENING TIMES OF RALLIES

The time stated on the booking form is the time the rally should open thereby ensuring insurance cover. **DO NOT** allow friends to arrive early. Only rally officers (or someone standing in for a rally officer who can be there at the start) are covered prior to the opening of the rally. If you have anyone arriving early and you have the room (without affecting the landowner or roads leading up to the venue), put them in a holding area and only site them when the rally opens. If a holding area is not available, then you have the right

OPENING TIME OF RALLIES continued

to turn them away or you probably have no option but to let them onto the field and their pitch. However, they **MUST NOT** unhitch their van or put their legs down until the rally is officially open. You should make it clear to them that they have arrived too early and you should then advise the Chairman or his representative of this fact so that they may see if the rallier has done this before. Habitual early arrivals can then be approached by the Chairman to draw attention to this.

BOOKING FORMS

Booking forms should include the following wording: "If you require confirmation of your booking, please enclose a S.A.E or provide your email address" (if you have this facility to reply). The form should also include the words: "Is this your 1st rally?", "Is this your 100th, 200th etc. CAMC rally? And Membership number?"

Booking forms should be emailed or posted to **THE CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY, TREASURER AND THE RALLY SECRETARY**. No less than two weeks before they are due for release for committee approval (505/6). This extra time allows for the form to be checked and for the web editor to re-format it before going onto the website. Upon approval, the Rally Secretary (or another officer in his/her absence) will forward the form to the web editor requesting that it be posted on the website. The web editor will not display any booking forms on the website that have not been approved by the committee. You must provide the Chairman and Vice Chairman with sufficient copies of your forms for them to be put into the rally field books which are put out on rallies. If you do not supply the copies, your rally may not achieve the bookings you want.

Following committee approval, booking forms may be released **no less** than 16 weeks prior to the event. (586/7). Pre- printed rally envelopes will be provided by the Rally Secretary and any unused envelopes should be returned. Ralliers can send stamped -addressed envelopes requesting that booking forms be sent to them when available. An envelope does not guarantee a pitch and pitches should not be held whilst awaiting return of a booking form (505/7). Pitches should be taken on a first come (completed form with fee) first served basis (get a place on the rally) basis.

POST DATED CHEQUES

In an effort to ease the financial burden of members, rather than taking full payment for holiday rallies at the beginning of the year, especially for those rallies in the latter half of the year, it is sometimes advisable to take a non-refundable deposit and ask for the balance in the form of a cheque post dated to a date no earlier than three weeks before the rally. Under no circumstances will these cheques be presented to the bank before the agreed date on the booking form. (509/17)

BOOKINGS RECEIVED

Booking forms should be accompanied by the required payment. Reservations should not be accepted without payment and telephone bookings should only be accepted for bona fide reasons. Please report any infringements to the Secretary.

CANCELLATION OF RALLIES

Rallies can only be cancelled with prior permission of the Centre Committee. If any rally officer is unable to run a rally because of last minute emergency the co rally officer should be able to take over the rally and the Committee would endeavour to find, them a co rally officer to assist them. The Rally Secretary should be advised if anyone wishes to cancel a rally and it can then be taken to the Committee.

FULL RALLIES

If your rally is fully booked you must inform firstly the Rally Secretary and then the Centre Secretary as soon as possible. The web editor will then be advised by the Rally Secretary or the Secretary. If you can take more vans than you initially proposed, then you must apply to the Committee (via the Rally Secretary) to increase the numbers hereby gaining insurance cover for the extra vans. Please note that a space does not have to be kept for the Chairman, but a telephone call to the Chairman when the venue is nearly full would be appreciated in case the lack of booking has been an oversight. (506/7).

FIRST RALLY PLAQUES

These will be presented by the Chairman (or his representative) at "flag". Please give the Chairman advanced notice as if he is not booked onto the rally, as he will need to ensure that a plaque is given to his representative on time.

PATHFINDER PLAQUES

These are given for finding a new venue and will be awarded to the rally officer by the Chairman or his representative. New venues are either venues which have never been used before or have not been used for 10 years, i.e. a plaque would be given in the 11th year since it was last used (496/7)

RALLY PLAQUES

Plaques must be ordered using the standard order form (available on website) 14 days prior to the event. All additional motifs are at extra cost and postage is payable. The triangular plaque is for weekend rallies, but larger plaques may be ordered for holidays (rallies of 5 days plus) but only if the extra cost is covered by the rally fee. In addition, up to 3 Rally officer's bars/plaques may be ordered, please note there is a small additional cost for Rally Officer plaques but not bars, the number required is to be entered onto the order form. The plaque company will only accept orders on their official order form, either by post or by completing the downloaded form from their website.

SPECIAL RALLY PLAQUES

Special rally plaques can only be ordered if authorised by the Centre Committee at least 10 weeks prior to the event. Special rally plaques for 100th/200th rally etc. for North Lancashire Centre members are only obtainable from the Plaque Coordinator with at least 14 days' notice. It would be of assistance if you could give advice regarding whether the ralliers want just their Christian names or Christian and Surname on the plaque and ask them to write down the exact wording required on the plaque. **The Chairman should also be advised** that there will be an anniversary celebration on the rally in order that he may gather some information about the ralliers for his or the Chairman's representative's presentation speech.

EQUIPMENT

Please ensure that the relevant equipment form (available on the website) is sent to the Rally Equipment Officer at least 10 weeks prior to the event. Most rallies will only need Kit One which consists of flagpole, urns, teapots, signs and pegs. One urn should be sufficient for approx. 40 vans. If you need another one or extra teapots, please state on the form. Music equipment and CD's are also available plus other extra equipment (see list).

SIGNPOSTING

This should only be necessary near to the venue and only the official Centre signs must be used. Please give as many directions as possible including postcode for satellite navigation if appropriate, on the rally booking form, to avoid unnecessary signage.

CENTRE FLAGS

The red flag must be flown on rallies to show that the rally is taking place under the exemption certificate of the Caravan and Motorhome Club. The Centre flag maybe flown beneath it if safe to do so. (if a rally is being run on a CAMC site you are not required to fly the flag.) All flags must be **taken down and stored away safely each night**.

A yellow flag that restricts **ALL** vehicle movement can be raised at the discretion of the Rally Officer after making the Chairman or his representative aware of this decision.

SITING OF CARAVANS AND TOWING VEHICLES

Please site as per the drawing in the Centre handbook. Please ensure that the Rally Officers caravans are set away from the entrance, to avoid any queues of vans back onto the roadway.

THE CHAIRMAN OR REPRESENTATIVE

To be sited near to the rally office. If the Chairman is not on the rally, people should be made aware of who his representative is. The Chairman or the Chairman's representative will assist the rally officer on matters of, discipline, rules conduct or behaviour of ralliers.

MOTOR CARAVANS

When the towing vehicle is a motorised caravan it must be booked in as a separate outfit if it is to be used for living or sleeping purposes on the rally.

SOCIALS

Accommodation should be suitable for the members attending. Socials must be self-supporting financially and should be priced separately from the rally fee on the booking form.

RAFFLES AND FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Anyone wishing to organise a raffle / bonus ball etc. for the nominated Centre Charity, must approach the Rally Officer to request permission to do so. Any other raffles etc. require the prior permission of the Committee.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

East Grinstead has advised that we do not need to do these unless a landowner specifically asks for one. If one is requested, please contact the Rally Secretary as the Caravan and Motorhome Club official forms need to be completed. Please do not offer the landowner risk assessments as these are lengthy things to do and involve a site visit.

WALKS ON RALLIES

When organising a walk, people must be informed prior to the walk that participants take part at their own risk. People should be advised regarding the length and scale of difficulty of the walk and whether it is suitable for prams, wheelchairs and young children. Advice should be given regarding suitable clothing and footwear required and if food and drink is necessary.

COMPETITIVE MOTORING EVENTS

Any event of this kind should have prior approval of the committee. **CAR TREASURE HUNTS** have been prohibited by The Caravan and Motorhome Club Headquarters.

GENERATORS

Generators may only be used between the hours laid down in General notes no27 (AGM 2009)

CHEMICAL TOILET DISPOSAL POINT

This should be established in a position away from the vans and with approval of the landowner. Chemical toilets and waste containers **MUST NOT** be cleaned or filled from the fresh water tap.

RUBBISH DISPOSAL

This is to be taken home by the individual rallier unless other arrangements have been made with the landowner.

CANCELLATION AND NO SHOWS

The rally fee less £3.00 administration charge will be refunded on cancellations more than 10 days prior to the event. If less than 10 days, then the £3.00 again will be deducted in addition to any expenses incurred e.g the price of the plaque etc. If a rallier fails to show up on the rally, then the whole of the rally fee may be forfeited. The minimum refund should be the cost of the site fees paid.

YELLOW FORM

Please do not confuse the “Amount due to Treasurer” with the amount of rally surplus. The rally surplus is only reached when the VAT has been deducted from the “amount due”.

PROBLEMS

Please note that if you have any problems of any kind there is always someone to help you:

On the rally – The Chairman or his Representative are there to help resolve any problems or disputes.

Financial – The Treasurer will assist with any financial matters

Rally – If you need any help or advice with any aspect of running a rally please contact The Rally Secretary.

RALLY SECRETARY

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH LANCASHIRE CENTRE.