

# **The Royal Automobile Club Motor Sports Association Ltd Competition Authorisation Office**

## ***GUIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT REGULATIONS FOR THE AUTHORISATION OF EVENTS ON THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY***

The Motor Vehicles (Competitions and Trials) Regulations 1969 (as amended) require that any motoring event which utilises the Public Highway is subject to Authorisation under the legislation. The Department for Transport has authorised The Royal Automobile Club Motor Sports Association Ltd to undertake Authorisation in England and Wales. Under this legislation, the Royal Automobile Club Motor Sports Association Ltd is the sole authorising body for competitions & trials on the public highway. This Authorisation is handled by the Competition Authorisation Office (CAO). This function in Scotland is undertaken by the Royal Scottish Automobile Club

The Authorisation requires that all events, the exception of those detailed below, are authorised by the CAO. Applications for such authorisations (except for specified major events etc.) can be received a maximum of six and a minimum of two calendar months prior to the proposed date of the event.

The type of events which are authorised automatically, and do not therefore need specific authorisation through the CAO are listed here.

- a) An event in which the total number of vehicles driven by the competitors does not exceed twelve, no part of which takes place within eight days of any other part of any other event, where either the other event has the same promoter or the promoters of both events are members of the same club in connection with which the events are promoted (see Regulation 5a for full details).
- b) An event on which no merit is attached to completing the event with the lowest mileage, and in which as respects such part of the event is held on the Public Highway, there are no performance tests and no route, and competitors are not timed or required to visit the same places, except that they may be required to finish at the same place by a specified time.
- c) An event in which, as respects such part of the event as is held on the Public Highway, merit attaches to a competitor's performance only in relation to good road behaviour and compliance with the Highway Code.
- d) An event in which all competitors are members of the armed forces of the Crown, and which is designed solely for the purpose of their service training.

Whilst the authorisation for the above events is automatic, it is recommended that organisers advise the local police of such events to ensure that the minimum inconvenience can be ensured whilst the event is in progress.

The Royal Automobile Club Motor Sports Association  
Competition Authorisation Office  
Motor Sports House, Riverside Park, Colnbrook, Slough, SL3 0HG  
Tel: 01753 765 075 Fax: 01753 682 938 Email: cao@msauk.org

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The necessary application forms for the authorisation of all other types of events are available from the CAO, and the legislation states that organisers must submit their route applications between 2 and 6 months before the scheduled start date of the event. Under the regulations, the CAO is required to permit only a certain number of events on any road in any particular time period and it may therefore be necessary to withhold permission, or suggest an alternative date or alternative sections of the route. The actual restrictions are subject to a 'tolerance' level and local conditions and can vary accordingly from area to area.

In its recommendations for the Control of Motor Rallies legislation, the advisory committee did recommend that no cost should be borne by the general taxpayers for the provision of the authorisation procedure. The government accepted this recommendation and, therefore, there has to be a charge for the Authorisation of events through the controlling agency, as follows:

- |    |                     |  |
|----|---------------------|--|
| a) | £1.60 per vehicle*  | for events the route of which on the public Highway does not exceed 10 miles.  |
| b) | £3.10 per vehicle*  | for events the route of which on the public Highway does not exceed 100 miles. |
| c) | £4.15 per vehicle*  | for events the route of which on the public Highway does not exceed 150 miles. |
| d) | £5.75 per vehicle*  | for events the route of which on the public Highway does not exceed 200 miles. |
| e) | £11.00 per vehicle* | for events the route of which on the public Highway exceeds 200 miles.         |

\*This fee is calculated on the maximum number of competing vehicles to be stated on the final Authorisation document. This number must not exceed the maximum number of vehicles stated on the original application unless prior agreement has been sought. It is not necessary to forward the fee at first application as charges are advised during the course of Authorisation.

For events in Scotland - organisers are requested to contact:

Jonathan Lord  
RSAC Motorsport Limited  
PO BOX 3333  
Glasgow  
G20 2AX

Tel: 0141 946 5045

[mail@rsacmotorsport.co.uk](mailto:mail@rsacmotorsport.co.uk)

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## Schedule 4 Specified Events

<i>Country in which event held</i>	<i>Title of Event</i>	<i>Promoter</i>
Great Britain.	British Caravan Road Rally.	Caravan Club Ltd.
	International Rally of Great Britain.	Royal Automobile Club.
	International Six Days' Trial.	Auto-Cycle Union.
	London Rally.	London Motor Club Ltd.
	International Rally	De Lacy Motor Club Ltd.
	Classic Run	RAC MSA Ltd
England (excluding Monmouthshire) and Scotland.	Scoot to Scotland and Edinburgh Run.	Motor Cycling Club Ltd.
England and Wales.	Auto-Cycle Union National Rally.	Auto-Cycle Union.
England (excluding Monmouthshire).	Auto-Cycle Union International Training Trial.	Auto-Cycle Union.
	Banbury Run.	Vintage Motor Cycle Club.
	Exeter Trial.	Motor Cycling Club Ltd.
	Land's End Trial.	Motor Cycling Club Ltd.
	Scottish Six Days' Reliability Trial.	Edinburgh & District Motor Club Ltd.
	Pioneer Run.	Sunbeam Motor Cycle Club.
	Veteran Car Run.	Royal Automobile Club.
	Scotland.	International Scottish Rally.
Wales and Monmouthshire.	International Welsh Rally.	South Wales Automobile Club Ltd.
	Welsh 2 Day Trial	Auto Cycle Union.