



Mini Rally Challenge Regulations 2026





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FOREWORD & VALUES

Welcome to the 2026 season of the Mini Rally Challenge Championship, and the sixth year of our growing one make championship. For 2026, we remain dedicated to bringing a fun and cost efficient form of rallying to the masses, and hope with some small improvements on 2025, we have something for everyone within the championship irrespective of your budget.

Designed to provide a level playing field, where cars are built and run to an exact set of rules. Regardless of your age or bank balance, the winners will be the team with the best skill set, the most reliable car, and as always in rallying, a bit of luck!

Our values are the bedrock of the Championship and are referred to in all we do. They can be summarised as –

1. **Accessibility** – rallying made possible. We believe motorsport should be for everyone. The Mini Rally Challenge is affordable, beginner-friendly and welcoming – no barriers, just opportunities.
2. **Competitive Spirit** – driven by talent, not budgets. We champion close, hard-fought rallying where skill, strategy and teamwork come first. Everyone has a real shot at the podium.
3. **Community** – more than a rally – it's a family. From newcomers to rally regulars, we look out for each other. Our service parks are places of support, encouragement and shared passion.
4. **Fairness** – same rules, same chances. With clear regulation, controlled costs and consistent scrutiny, we keep things fair. Close competition starts with a level playing field.

If you want to understand why something is the way it is, it is most likely aligned with the values.

Within these regulations, if it doesn't say you CAN do it, then you CANNOT.

These Regulations state what parts you may, or must fit, and if only those parts will be accepted. Everything else must be as per Original Equipment (OE) Mini factory build.

We would like to thank all our supporters, sponsors, Motorsport UK, ANWCC, Scrutineers, marshals and the numerous other people without whom motorsport and our Championship could not take place. Thank you!



TITLE & JURISDICTION

The Mini Rally Challenge is a championship organised by the Making Rallying Cheaper Club (MRCC) and run under ANWCC. It is administered in accordance with the General Regulations of the Motorsport UK (incorporating the provisions of the International Sporting Code of the FIA) and these Championship Regulations.

The Organisers reserve the right to issue additional statements clarifying items in the rules and regulations, and all such statements will be issued to all registered Drivers by either post / email / other communication, or by means of a Technical Bulletin to all registered competitors.

Any protest must be referred in writing, and provided to the Mini Rally Challenge Committee either in person or via email, within the time limits in accordance with the Motorsport UK NCR Chapter 2 together with the appropriate fee. (Chapter 1 Appendix 2).

Championship Permit No - CH2026/RALLY044

Race Status - INTERCLUB

Motorsport UK Championship Grade - INTERCLUB

MEMBERSHIP & INCENTIVES

Clubman Motorsport - Contact Rob Directly on 07598 294750

On the Pacenotes - order heavily discounted notes and FREE digital download via our designated WhatsApp Group

Rallying is Life – MRC Merchandise available on the Rallying is Life Etsy store

Mini Rally Challenge Updates & Reminders – Via the MRC **WhatsApp Group**

OR **Sporty Channel** - MRC

ELIGIBILITY

The Championship is open to crews with the appropriate valid Motorsport UK Stage Rally License, who are paid up registered Mini Rally Challenge contenders for 2026 and as such members of Making Rallying Cheaper Club, an ANWCC associated Club. These prerequisites will be checked and are mandatory for either of the team members to score points.

By making payment for your membership to the Mini Rally Challenge Championship, you confirm that you agree to abide by the rules of the Championship Regulations.

Acceptance of a championship entry is at the **discretion** of the Championship Committee. Please see Race with Respect guidelines at the back of these regs for reference.



2026 EVENTS

Asphalt Rounds

Bovington Stages	Wareham	Sat/ Sun	28 th February - 1 st March
SMC Stages	Anglesey	Sun	12 th April
Pendragon Stage	Warcop	Sun	2 nd August
Gareth Hall	Bala	Sun	9 th August
Donington Rally	Donington	Sun	6 th December

Gravel Rounds

Rounds will be bespoke Mini Challenge events, with a reduced mileage / entry fee, and running at the front of the field, with the exception of Greystoke, that being a full mileage event.

Riponian Rally	Thrisk	Sun	8 th February
Plains Rally	Bala	Sat	13 th June
Greystoke Stages Rally	Penrith	Sun	5 th July
Trackrod Rally Yorkshire	Filey	Fri & Sat	25-26 th September
Anglo Caledonian	Carlisle	Sun	22 nd November

Competitors must run to the Mini Rally Challenge event format in order to score championship points. Therefore, if the Mini Rally Challenge is running a half event format. Those who choose to run the full event will NOT be eligible for championship points.

2026 SPECIAL (Asphalt)

New to 2026, the Special is a stand-alone round of the MRC, and a no points round, however support for competitors will be given by way of Servicing during the event, and will be a mid-season social event for those not competing.

Hills Stages	Shrewsbury	Sat – Sun	19 th -20 th September
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In accordance with Motorsport UK NCR 3.10.4.1 (d) the organisers reserve the right to amend the published list of dates and rounds, in which case, all registered competitors will be informed of the amendments by way of an Official Bulletin.

If through “**Force Majeure**” any of the qualifying rounds cannot take place, then the Mini Rally Challenge reserves the right to either include a replacement event, or to alter the number of best scores to count as follows:

- 10 events – 6 best scores
- 9 events – 6 best scores
- 8 events – 6 best scores
- 7 events – 5 best scores

Once Event Regulations have been published, testing at Championship venues, including Track Days, is forbidden. Photographers are present at test days and if caught and you compete on the mentioned event, points will be automatically forfeited.



Being a registered MRC contender does not guarantee an entry on any event and we recommend an entry is made promptly on the opening date at the opening time.

THE CARS

R50 BMW Mini Cooper up to 2006 using the Tritec Chrysler engine.

R53 BMW Mini Cooper S up to 2006 using the Tritec Chrysler engine.

No JCW or GP1 cars are eligible, nor are any JCW or GP parts allowed to be fitted to cars.

Cars must comply with the 2026 Motorsport UK NCR regulations, Stage Rallying passport section and meet the Road Traffic Act 1988 regulations. All cars must also be issued with a MRC car passport to be kept with the vehicle at all times.

ENGINE

1.1 Induction Kit may be fitted.

1.2 Exhaust system may be replaced, but retaining the OE catalytic converter manifold.

1.3 Exhaust flexi may be removed and refitted after the OEM cat, it must be carried out as demonstrated in fig.1 at the bottom of the regs.

1.4 Mountings may be uprated.

1.5 Extra engine stabiliser may be fitted.

1.6 Water expansion tank may be moved and uprated.

1.7 Air Conditioning equipment may be removed.

1.8 Engines may be sealed. Two bolts on the rear of the camshaft cover box must be drilled to allow for sealing. Once engines are sealed, if repairs are required where as the seal needs to be broken. The championship committee are to be notified of the reason and what work is to be carried out and photographic recording may be requested. Once the work is complete the engine will be resealed at the next event. Any removed parts must be retained until the end of the season.

1.9 Silicone coolant hoses may be used, if they adhere to the original OEM specifications.

R53

1.10 KAVS 17% reduction supercharger pulley may be fitted. Part numbers 6PK843 or 6PK1360

1.11 Direnza top mounted Intercooler may be fitted.

1.12 Water Oil Cooler and associated pipes may be replaced with the R50 type.

1.13 NGK BCR8ES Spark plugs may be fitted.

FUEL

2.1 Permitted Fuels - Competitors are permitted to use fuel that conforms to the definitions of Pump Fuel in the 2026 Motorsport UK NCR or fuel that complies with FIA Appendix J, Article 252, Art 9.

2.2 Fuel additives are not permitted for use.



GEARBOX

- 3.1 Gearboxes may be sealed. Two bolts in close proximity must be drilled to allow for sealing.
- 3.2 Blackline Geared helical LSD art number HLF015 may be fitted for R53 and 6 speed R50s. Black line helical LSD part number HLF051 or Quaife ATB LSD part number QDF9H/MG for 5 speed R50 may be fitted.
- 3.3 A championship Questmead supplied performance clutch may be fitted.
- 3.4 Uprated gearbox mounting bushes and mountings may be fitted.

R50

- 3.5 Gearbox choices, Midland - Getrag 5 speed or Getrag 6 speed (codes BKD, BKE or BKL).

R53

- 3.6 Gearbox codes allowed are BKD, BKE or BKL.

SUSPENSION

- 4.1 Championship supplied dampers and springs must be fitted. Only the current R53 kit will be supplied in 2025 for both R50 and R53 categories, however R50 class cars that were originally built using the R50 suspension kit (built pre 2023) are permitted to use their original suspension.
- 4.2 Steering wheel may be replaced.
- 4.3 Uprated bushes may be fitted throughout.
- 4.4 Wheel stud and nut conversion may be fitted.
- 4.5 Wheel spacers may be fitted to a max of 20mm.
- 4.6 Strengthened rear lower track control arms may be used (no Rose Joints).
- 4.7 Power steering reservoir may be moved.
- 4.8 Front upper strut brace may be fitted and stiffening of the strut top, and a reinforcement plate for the front shock top mounting point, is allowed.
- 4.9 A bracket may be fabricated around the lower connecting bolt on the rear shocker absorbers for the purpose of reinforcing the bolt only. As per the example shown in fig 2.

ELECTRICAL

- 5.1 Battery may be moved and replaced by gel type.
- 5.2 ECU may be mapped.

BODY & TRIM

- 6.1 Trim and sound proofing may be removed, but no body lightening is allowed.
- 6.2 Rear parcel shelf metal supports may be removed to allow access.
- 6.3 Seam welding is not allowed unless approved with the series Co-Ordinators.
- 6.4 The alloy radiator protection member may be removed.
- 6.5 Air Bags may be removed.
- 6.6 Foot trays may be fitted.
- 6.7 Bonnet and Tailgate pins may be fitted.
- 6.8 Door cards may be fitted.



- 6.9 Roof Vent may be fitted.
- 6.10 Front Bumper spotlights may be removed
- 6.11 Mounts may be fitted to the sill for sill mount stands.
- 6.12 Front side windows may be replaced with polycarbonate windows kits (Lexan etc) with a thickness of no less than 4mm.
- 6.13 All car must always be carrying a spare tyre.
- 6.14 For those who wish to opt for a weld in roll cage in a challenge car, must submit the cage design to the championship eligibility scrutineer before installation. This is to ensure the cage design has no purpose other than to provide safety to the crews inside.

BRAKES

- 7.1 Championship Questmead Branded MINTEX 166 F and 144 R must be fitted with MRC logo etching.
- 7.2 ABS system may be removed or disabled.
- 7.3 Hydraulic Handbrake may be fitted. (OE must be retained as per Road Traffic Act).
- 7.4 Brake Bias Valves may be fitted.
- 7.5 Brake Lines may be uprated and redirected through the cars interior.
- 7.6 Grooved and or drilled brake discs may be fitted.

WHEELS

- 8.1 Only 15" Diameter, with maximum width of 7.0 inches.

TYRES

- 9.1 R50 Asphalt 195/50R15 85V (505775) Davanti Protoura Race control Tyre.
- 9.2 R53 Asphalt 195/50R15 85V (505775) Davanti Protoura Race control Tyre.
- 9.3 Gravel 175.70x15 MRF tyres (soft) with MRC branding (MRF tyres without branding will be permitted for round 1 and 2 of the gravel championship). 10 tyres per season. All competitors will be given a form to keep tyre records for spot checks. If you do not keep track of your record slip, it will lead to a 10 point deduction.
- 9.4 Tyres are not to be tampered with or cut.

VEHICLE WEIGHT

- 10.1 A minimum weight, less crew but inclusive of spare wheel and tyre, of R50 1,075kg or R53 1,100kg. The Eligibility Scrutineer will designate the scales to be used for any post-stage checks, and they will be deemed to be the Championship scales.

All cars must comply with the 2026 Motorsport UK NCR regulations, Stage Rallying passport section and meet the Road Traffic Act 1988 regulations.



CHAMPIONSHIP KIT PARTS

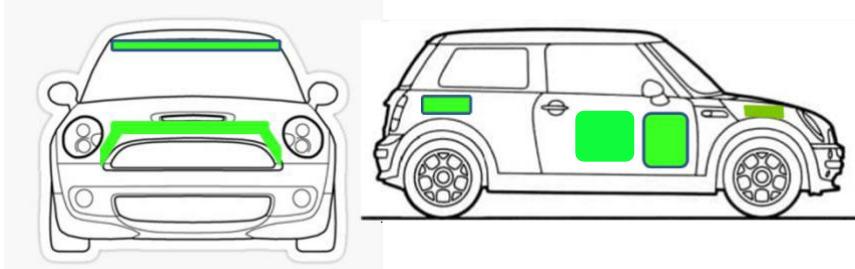
The following items must be supplied via the following (receipts to be retained and may be requested) -

Brake Pads.	Questmead.
Davanti Tyre	BMTR / SLICKS
MRF	MRF

ADVERTISING

The following space must be left available and where applicable championship partners decals MUST be affixed at all times as follows –

- 11.1 Front Screen Sun Strip.
- 11.2 Partner door plate x2
- 11.3 Rear quarter panel for MRF branding
- 11.4 Front wing above the wheel arch for Davanti branding
- 11.5 Front of bonnet around grill
- 11.6 Door Number squares.



These will be supplied free to each competitor once, at the start of their season.

Decals must not be modified or altered. They can be trimmed where exceptionally necessary to fit the vehicle, but this must be approved by the Championship Co-ordinator and/or the Eligibility Scrutineer. It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure the decals remain on the car. Failure to display decals may result in no points scored for any event they are not present on.

INSURANCE and LIABILITY

- 12.1 Competitors to make their own arrangements to ensure Third Party Liability event cover.

CONDUCT

- 13.1 Where any reports of disrespectful conduct are judged to be well founded, the Championship organisers may issue warnings or require remedial actions and/or escalate to impose appropriate penalties which can include loss of Championship points and or event bans, through to Championship expulsion and referral to Motorsport UK.



The championship organisers will not tolerate abuse be it to Officials, fellow competitors or team members; this is inclusive of the behavior of competitors' friends and family and to like wise. This includes any actions leading to confrontation, and/or social media comments.

It is imperative that we promote the safety and wellbeing of young people and adults at risk. In addition to this all participants must be aware of their behavior and conduct at all times, and abusive language and harmful behavior will not be tolerated

Guidelines are available at www.motorsportuk.org/resource-centre by selecting Policies and Guidelines.

POINTS & SCORING

R50 and R53 Asphalt Cups. Best 4 of 5 rounds count
R50 and R53 Gravel Cups. Best 4 of 5 rounds count

R50 & R53 Mini Champions, best six scores (three Asphalt and three Gravel, including a Joker score if applicable). To qualify for the overall championship points must be scored in at least 3 Asphalt and 3 Gravel rounds.

14.1 Points will be awarded - 1st R50 and R53, 25 points, 2nd 22, 3rd 19, 4th 17, 5th 16 down to 10th being 11 points all other finishers 8 points. DNF 6 points, unless you are disqualified in which case 0 points are awarded.

14.2 One Joker round, be it Asphalt or Gravel, where a competitor can gain the following extra points 1st 5 points, 2nd 4 points, 3rd 3 points, 4th 2 points, 5th 1 point. Your Joker must be registered prior to MC1 of the event you have chosen to play it, to Julia Perry or Adam Fern in writing and acknowledged. This can be text, Whatsapp or email. If you haven't played your Joker by the last round it is automatically added. **The Joker is ONLY effective on the overall Championship** and does not apply to the single surface championship.

14.3 Championship points will be displayed on the MRC website (www.minirallychallenge.co.uk) after each event, and it is a championship contender's responsibility to check the championship points. Points tables will be final after seven days from the date of posting on the website if no queries are received.

14.4 Any ties will be decided in favour of the competitor with the greatest number of maximum scores within their best six scores or four in relation to the single surface championship. In the event of a further tie the greatest number of second highest scores shall decide and so on. Should this fail to resolve the tie then reference will be made to the fastest time on the first stage of the last event in which both or all the competitors who have tied take part. If this fails to resolve the tie then joint awards will be presented.

14.5 Both Driver **and** Co driver in each car **MUST** be registered in order to score points.



PENALTIES

15.1 For the breach of regulations, where we have not specified the penalty, the number of points will be determined not by reference to the type of offence, but the type of penalty imposed (c2.1.7), below is an example of how we might choose to apply penalties. However, we reserve the right to use our own discretion dependent on the severity of the regulations breech.

Verbal Warning accompanied by a Formal Written Warning – 0 to full points acquired on the corresponding round

Second formal written warning – The full points acquired on the corresponding round will be deducted.

Failure to comply after expiry of Second Formal written Warning deadline – Exclusion for the remainder of the season.

Any vehicles used by registered contenders may be subject to random eligibility checks throughout the year. These checks will be carried out by the Championship Scrutineer and/or members of the Motorsport UK Technical Commission, who shall be considered Judges of Fact in matters of eligibility. In the event of a car being found ineligible for any reason, then the penalties specified in Motorsport UK Regulations (C2.Ap8) shall apply. The competitor will be responsible for any costs they incur as a result of eligibility checking, whether found eligible or otherwise. Refusal to comply with eligibility checks will result in the exclusion from MRC point scoring rounds or even the championship.

In the absence of a eligibility scrutineer and a breach of the regulations found. An organiser of the MRC can complete a form of fact with photographic evidence which is then signed by the competitor, organiser and witness, and these details passed to the eligibility scrutineer for referral.





AWARDS

Individual Events - 1st, 2nd and 3rd R50 and R53

2026 R50 Mini Rally Champions - 2 Trophies

Prizes TBC

2026 R53 Mini Rally Champions – 2 Trophies

Prizes TBC

R50 & R53 Gravel Cup Champions

4 Trophies

R50 & R53 Asphalt Cup Champions

4 Trophies

R50 & R53 Gravel Cup Runner up Driver & Co-driver

4 Trophies

R50 & R53 Asphalt Cup Runner up Driver & Co-driver

4 Trophies

R50 & R53 Gravel Cup 3rd Driver & Co-driver

4 Trophies

R50 & R53 Asphalt Cup 3rd Driver & Co-driver

4 Trophies

The Andrew Watson Drivers Trophy

2 Trophy (1 to be returned, 1 to retain)

The On the Pace Navigators Trophy

1 Trophy

OFFICIALS

**Championship, Event & Competitor
Co Ordinator**

Julia Perry 07929 356464

Championship Technical Co Ordinator

Adam Fern 07814 370141

Championship Eligibility Scrutineer
Richard Williams 07760 412792

Event Liaison Managers & Safeguarding

Officer & Co Ordinator

Paul Stringer 07957 144979

Partnership Co Ordinator
Guy Butler 07758 145814

PARTS

BC Racing
Questmead
MRF
SLICKS

tom@bcracing.co.uk 01274683633
01706 363939
07718049561
077966621468



A socially-minded standard of behavior is expected from everyone within the motorsport community.

By participating in a Motorsport UK event in any capacity you agree to follow the values of the Respect Code:

Motorsportuk.org/racewithrespect #RaceWithRespect



THE VALUES

- Respect
- Integrity
- Self-Control
- Fair play
- Good Manners

I pledge to #RaceWithRespect and:

- Contribute to a welcoming and friendly environment that ensures the safety and welfare of all participants.
- Always behave with integrity and uphold fairness in the sport; play my part in keeping the sport safe through my actions
- Treat everyone with respect, regardless of their gender, ethnic or social background, language, religious or other beliefs, disability, sexual identity or other status
- Recognise that we all represent the sport and therefore have a duty to be polite and respectful to all staff, officials, fellow competitors, volunteers, as well as fans and supporters
- Respect the rules, regulations and authority of the officials and Motorsport UK

Any breach of these obligations may result in disciplinary action.

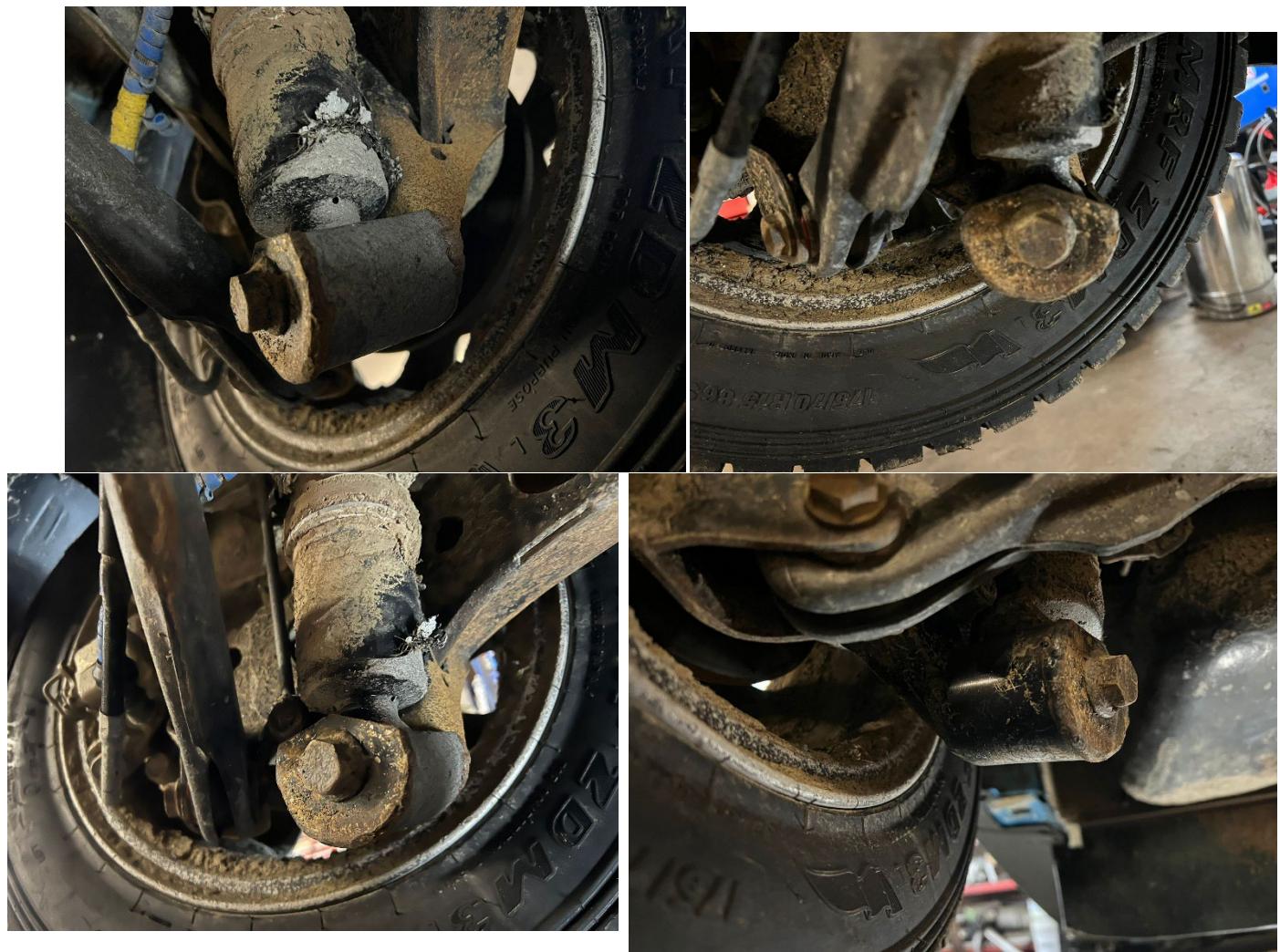




FIG 1;



Fig 2;



GLENBROOK

Mathewsons
MOTORSPORT