What is Car Rallying?

Car Rallying is

- an adventure motorsport!
- a team motorsport - driver & navigator
- a test of driving precision and the will to finish
- run at any hour on the clock, any season
- run on loose surface and tarmac roads (it is NOT off-roading)
- a competition for Modern and/or Classic cars
- varying levels of competition ranging from Club level to Regional, to National, to Continental, to World Rally Championship

Navigational / TSD Rallies

- Real cars, real roads - legal speeds
- Basic rules: Stay on the road, stay on course, stay on time.
- Open public roads
- Legal speeds requires only regular licensing
- Unmodified cars (some people add more lights)
- Low cost, 'normal' risk
- Stay on time all the time – several variations and styles
- Route instructions vary widely, simple to perplexing
- Classes based on experience, or navigational equipment.
- Good driving skills are required
- Navigational is a good and popular entry to higher levels
- Many have so much fun doing TSD they do not aspire to the higher speeds and costs of performance rallying
- Never on TV!

Performance Rallies

- 'Real cars, real roads, real fast'
- Closed roads (permits/permissions)
- High speed racing, special competitor licensing
- Route instructions are simple, many styles (blind, stage notes, or pace notes)
- Slightly to highly prepared cars
- Potentially high cost, higher risk
- Classes based on car specification
- Very good to excellent driving skills are required
- Often on TV!

RallyCross & RallySprint

- Performance with much less: risk / equipment / cost
- Classes based on car specification
- Very good driving skills are required
- Great entry to performance rallying

All types of rallying are closely related:

- Rally etiquette
- Cars leave one at a time at a regular interval, usually a minute apart
- The exact route is almost always a secret until just before you start
- Consistency and discipline typically win out over pure horsepower
- Often a family sport (teams are father-son, brothers, sisters, husband-wife, etc.)
- Many avid TSDers marshal at performance events
- Many performance rallyists help out with TSD events
- Timing calculations are required in all rallies, and nearly identical.