

BIRR STAGES RALLY 29 MARCH 2026

ORGANISED & PROMOTED BY:



IN ASSOCIATION WITH:  **ABBHEY COURT**
HOTEL & LEISURE CLUB



Tel: 067-21123
www.pathoranmotors.com



REGULATIONS



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DACIA SANDERO
CHALLENGE CUP



1. Announcement

The Birr Stages Rally is promoted by Birr & District Motor Club and will be held on Sunday 29th March 2026. The competition will be held under the International Sporting code of the FIA, the General competition rules of Motorsport Ireland including Appendix 25, Appendix 26, Appendix 28, Appendix 29.1 and Appendix 31 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook and these Supplementary Regulations. Amendments to these supplementary Regulations will be issued by numbered bulletins. All competitors who submit entry forms agree to be bound by these regulations.

2. Organisation

2.1 These regulations have been submitted to and approved by Motorsport Ireland who have issued Permit No. 26/030 for the holding of the competition.

Championships for which the rally is a counting round:

- Triton Showers Motorsport Ireland National Rally Championship
- Dacia Sandero Challenge Cup
- Top Part West Coast Rally Championship
- Sligo Pallets Border Rally Championship
- Motorsport Ireland Junior Rally Series
- Hugo Loonam Motors Midlands East Rally Championship
- Stellantis Rally Cup Ireland

2.2 Officials

Motorsport Ireland Steward (Chair)	Micheál Boland
Motorsport Ireland Steward (Observer)	Noel Devlin
Club Steward	David McCormack
Clerk of the Course	John Tynan
Motorsport Ireland Safety Delegate	James Coleman
Club Safety Delegate	Kieran Ambrose
Motorsport Ireland Chief Scrutineer	Pat O'Dowd
Deputy Clerk of the Course	David Forde
Assistant Clerks of the Course	Pat Horan, Pat O'Connor
Assistant COC Responsible for Timekeeping	Carmel Leonard
Secretary of the Event	Noelle Horan
Entries Secretary	Lisa Foley O'Connor
Chief Marshal	Podge Newe
Timekeeping Equipment Provider	Eamon McGee
Radio Controller	Mary Fitzgerald
Press Officer (Event)	Becky Hollinshead
Press Officer (Club)	Eoin Stapleton
Communications Officer	Bill Fitzgerald
Children's Officer	Susan Smyth
Competitors Relations Officer	Gerard McLoughlin

Results Provider	Angus Sealy
Results Officer	Andy Caldwell
Assistant COC Responsible for Tracking	Greg McCarthy
Emergency Services Liaison Officer	Tristan Horan
Chief Medical Officer	Dr Declan O'Brien
Service Area Co-Ordinator	Shane Burns
Spectator Control	Aiden Harper
Stage Commanders	John Fogarty, Breeda Lysaght, Mark Parsons
Deputy Stage Commanders	James Lowry, John Cavanagh, Willie Balfe Willie Percy
Car Accountability	Hal Lewis
Sweeper	Trevor O'Callaghan
Super Rally Co-Ordinator	Elaine Shinnors
Chief Rescue Officer	Fergal Henehan
Road Closed	Declan Burke
Equipment Officer	Trevor Hogan
Safety 001 Crew	Patrick Haughey / Richard Talbot
Safety 002 Crew	Michael Conneely / Michael Doherty
Safety 003 Crew	Gerry Kelly / Patrick Brides
Safety 004 Crew	Tony O'Driscoll / Donal McGrath

2.3 Rally Headquarters:

Name: Abbey Court Hotel
 Address: Dublin Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, E45 KA99.
 Telephone: 067-47111
 Email: info@abbeycourt.ie

2.4 Secretary Contact Details

Event Secretary Contact Details:

Noelle Horan
 AGLISH,
 ROSCREA,
 Co. Tipperary,
 E53 HX57.
 Email: birrmotorclub@gmail.com
 Telephone: 087-0666663

Entries Secretary Contact Details:

Lisa Foley O'Connor
 CURRAHEEN NORTH,
 ASKEATON
 Co. Limerick.
 Email: entries.birrstages2026@gmail.com
 Telephone: 083-4714786

2.5 Official Notice Board:

During the event, individual and general communication between all Rally Officials (Rally Control/COC, Rally Secretaries, CRO, Stewards, Technical Staff, etc.) and the competitors/crew members will primarily and as far as possible be conducted via Sportity App. The Official Notice Board will be the Digital Notice Board (DNB), available in the Sportity App. There will be no physical Official Notice Board. All competitors will be informed only by Sportity of notifications about the publication of any documents on the Digital Notice Board.

Sportity app is downloadable for iOS devices on Appstore and for Android devices on Google Play.

The Password to the Sportity app will be: **BirrRally26**

3. Programme

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
Supplementary Regulations Available	On publication of these regulations		DNB: Sportity
Entries Open	On publication of these regulations		ENTRY LINK
Entries Close* (including priority)	17/03/2026	23:59	
Final Instructions posted	25/03/2026		DNB: Sportity
Reconnaissance Registration	28/03/2026	08:00-11:00	Rally HQ
Reconnaissance	28/03/2026	08:30-16:00	
Collection & installation of Safety Tracking devices	28/03/2026	13:00 – 18:00	K MACK Engineering
Mechanical Scrutiny	28/03/2026	13:30 – 18:00*	K MACK Engineering
		*Last car permitted to enter at 17:00	
Documentation Scrutiny	28/03/2026	14:00 – 18:30	Rally HQ
Competitors' Safety Briefing	Online	Online	DNB: Sportity
Rally Start	29/03/2026	As per T&D	Parc Fermé Out
Rally Finish	29/03/2026	As per T&D	Parc Fermé In
Return of Safety Tracking Devices	29/03/2026		Parc Fermé
Provisional Results	29/03/2026	After last car enters Parc Fermé	DNB: Sportity
Prizegiving	29/03/2026	30 minutes after results final	Rally HQ

* The organisers reserve the right to accept entries after the closing date and up to the closing time of reconnaissance registration

4. Entries

4.1 Information:

4.1.1 Entries may be submitted by all persons holding a valid FIA competition licence or Commercial Entrants Licence by a recognised ASN.

4.1.2 All entries must be made on the official [online Entry Form](#), via EVO Online Entry.

This is to be fully completed and signed by the entrant, driver, and navigator with the appropriate fee submitted by Electronic Funds Transfer, with the entrant's name or the OL/XXXX entry number provided for as the reference to the account details below.

Incomplete or illegible forms will be returned. Entry fee bank transfers must have a reference included otherwise they cannot be accepted as payment of entry fees.

Entries will be deemed incomplete and will not be accepted unless accompanied by the full entry fee.

4.1.3 Entries from other (non-MI/MSUK) ASN licence holders from abroad may be accepted provided:

4.1.3.1 The licence holder has written permission from his/her ASN (National Governing Body) to compete in the declared "national competition organised abroad".

4.1.3.2 The licence holder holds a **STAGE RALLY** licence of an appropriate grade.

4.1.3.3 The Motorsport Ireland (MI) office has been contacted in the first instance and has given PRIOR approval for each individual competitor before an entry can be accepted. Written proof of which must be provided to the organisers

Note: The licence holder must be listed on the IRDS/BRDS database published weekly on www.motorsportireland.com. BRDS can be applied for via the MI website or by contacting the MI office. This must be applied for a minimum of 2 weeks before the event

The number of starters will be limited to 165 including Juniors & Historics. The number of starters in the Junior Class will be limited to 25. The number of starters in the Dacia Sandero Challenge Cup will be limited to 25 but these are in addition to the total amount of starters as they are not starting at the first control.

4.2 Entry Fee:

The entry fee is **€825**

The entry fee for Dacia Sendero Challenge Cup competitors is **€577**

The entry fee includes the Personal Accident Insurance, IRDS/BRDS Insurance at standard rate. All competitors should ensure they are listed on the IRDS/BRDS database prior to the event, as published weekly on www.motorsportireland.com. Contact Motorsport Ireland with any queries on +353 (0)1 6775628 or email info@motorsportireland.com

Payments can be made by direct lodgement Electronic Funds Transfer. All payments must be paid prior to closing date of entries.

Payments to be made to:

<i>Account Name:</i>	Birr & District Motor Club Ltd
<i>Bank</i>	Bank of Ireland
<i>Branch</i>	Birr, Co. Offaly
<i>Sort Code</i>	901677
<i>IBAN</i>	IE51BOFI90167781213189
<i>BIC</i>	BOFIE2D

IMPORTANT - Ensure competitor on-line EVO reference {OL / XXXXX} is included as the reference. Payment currency in EURO only. EFT payments must include all charges associated with the transfer.

Entries Secretary: Lisa Foley O'Connor
 Telephone: 083-4714786
 Email: entries.birrstages2026@gmail.com

Withdrawals:

- Entries withdrawn by **23:59** hours on **Friday 20th March 2026** will receive a full refund.
- Entries withdrawn by **22:00** hours on **Tuesday 24th March 2026** will receive a refund with the possibility of 50 % of their entry fee being forfeited.
- Entries withdrawn after **22:00** hours on **Tuesday 24th March 2026** may not receive a refund & potentially forfeit 100% of their entry fee.

All withdrawal refunds are at the discretion of the COC. Any refunds will be issued within two weeks after the conclusion of the rally.

Please note: Withdrawal of all entries must be completed via email to the Entries Secretary.

4.3 Entry Criteria:

In the event of an excess of 165 entries being received, a reserve list will be compiled in order of receipt of entries. The following criteria will be applied to all FULLY PAID entries received from the opening to the closing date of entries.

Completed entries will be accepted on a **first come first served basis**.

Please note: Entries will be deemed incomplete and will not be accepted unless accompanied by the full entry fee.

The Club will allocate priority to the following entries only:

- a) Appendix 31 Article 7 of the Motorsport Ireland Yearbook.
- b) Sligo Pallets Border Rally Championship registered competitors
- c) Top Part West Coast Rally Championship registered competitors
- d) Motorsport Ireland Junior Rally Series registered competitors
- e) Hugo Loonam Motors Midlands East Rally Championship registered competitors
- f) Stellantis Rally Cup Ireland registered competitors
- g) Fully Paid-up Members of Birr & District Motor Club (both crew members)

Note: The club reserves the right to refuse an entry without assigning a reason.

5. Classes

5.1 The event will include classes, as per Appendix 29.1 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook

5.2 Notes on Classes:

For further details on requirements for cars in classes 1 to 7, refer to www.fia.com, Appendix J, articles 252 to 261 (Article 260 refers to cars in Group R).

Refer to Appendix 29.1, Notes on Classes, Articles 1 to 24 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook for further information on class eligibility.

Dacia Sandero Challenge Cup cars will run in Class 23.

6. Reconnaissance

6.1 Information:

Pace notes will be allowed on the event, and competitors will be allowed to make pace notes on Saturday 28th March from 08:30 to 16:00. Competitors must sign on before commencing reconnaissance at:

Location: Abbey Court Hotel, Dublin Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, E45 KA99

Time: Saturday 28th March, between 08:00 – 11:00

Recce stickers must be displayed on the reconnaissance car windscreen on the top left-hand corner on the outside of the windscreen.

6.2 Pace note providers:

Pace notes will be available for sale by third parties. The club has no involvement in their preparation and accepts no responsibility or liability for their accuracy or otherwise.

6.3 Restrictions:

- Your attention is drawn to Appendix 29, Article 4 of the current Motorsport Ireland yearbook referring to a competitor found on a stage outside the reconnaissance period.

- The maximum speed allowed on a stage during the reconnaissance is **60 KPH** unless a lower limit is indicated by a traffic sign or a written instruction issued by the organisers.
- Traversing the stage in the wrong direction is expressly forbidden.
- A maximum of three runs per stage are permitted, competitors will be signed in and out of each stage.
- The special stages will be open to normal traffic therefore the safety and rights of other road users must be respected, and due care must be shown to other traffic.
- The organisers will monitor the behaviour of competitors on the reconnaissance route.

6.4 Penalties:

As per Appendix 29, Article 4 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook. Reports of breaches of any of the above regulations will be submitted to Motorsport Ireland who may convene a court of inquiry.

7. Administrative Checks

Documentation scrutineering will take place in the Abbey Court Hotel during the hours as noted in the Event Programme (Art. 3 of these regulations) on Saturday 28th March. Competition licences, and other documentation as requested must be presented at documentation scrutineering.

*** IMPORTANT – COMPETITORS UNDER 18**

Competitors under 18 years of age (Minor) must be entered in the event by the holder of a Minor Entrant Licence who must countersign the entry form. A Minor Entrant who is not the parent/legal guardian of the Minor, must be Garda Vetted. Where an adult sits in the same car as a Minor competitor, the adult must be the holder of a Minor Entrant Licence, if they are not the Minor's Parent/Legal Guardian this licence must include Garda Vetting. It is not permitted to have two minors in the same vehicle.

8. Scrutineering

- Mechanical Scrutineering will take place at K MACK Engineering between the hours as noted in the Event Programme (Art. 3 of these regulations) on Saturday 28th March.
- Post Event Mechanical Scrutineering will take place by invitation.
- Refer to Appendices 2 and 29.1 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook for scrutiny requirements

9. Servicing

- There will be a designated fixed Service Area
- Outside of the Service Area, Support / Service is expressly forbidden (Article 11.5, Appendix 29 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook).
- Judges of Fact will monitor the route.
- Ground sheets are compulsory for each crew.
- Waste/Recycling bins will be provided in the Service Area, and all crews are requested to place all rubbish and recyclable items in the bins.
- Competitors are requested to remove all oil / fluids and tyres from the Service Area. PLEASE LEAVE THE AREA AS YOU FOUND IT.
- In the Service Park / Area all competitors are required to have 2 fire extinguishers visible with displayed signage. The minimum requirement for the extinguishers is: 1 X 6 kg ABC

Dry Powder Fire Extinguisher (for each car serviced) 1 X 6 Litre AFFF(Foam) Fire Extinguisher (for each car serviced).

- Smoking by competitors or service crews is prohibited within the Service Area.
- A refuel zone will be in operation and all competitors are reminded that cars are not to be refuelled outside of this area other than at designated commercial filling stations on rally route.

10. Features of the Rally

10.1 Competitors Safety Briefing:

Competitors will be requested to log onto the Sportity channel for the event and click on the link to watch the competitor safety briefing online. This video must be viewed by both Driver and Co-driver prior to documentation scrutiny. At documentation scrutiny, when completing the event declaration, crews will be asked to tick a box confirming that both crew members have watched the video in full.

10.2 Route Information:

The rally will take place over a route of approximately 108 stage kilometres and 145 road kilometres and will comprise of 9 sealed surface stages with service after SS3 and SS6.

Cars in the Junior Class (Class 16) and Historic Classes (17, 18, 19) will compete over all stages. Cars in the Dacia Sandero Challenge Cup (Class 23) will start the event after first service and compete over the final two loops of stages.

10.3 Super Rally:

A restart after retirement facility (Super Rally), as per Art 13, Appendix 29 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook, will be operated on the rally.

11. Super Rally (Restart After Retirement)

11.1: General

11.1.1 The rally will operate Super Rally in accordance with Art 13, Appendix 29 of the current Motorsport Ireland Yearbook.

11.1.2 A crew retiring from the rally between Parc Ferme Out and Arrival Control of SS 3, may restart the rally from Service Out Control after 3 stages or Service Out Control after 6 stages, subject to compliance with 11.1.3 below.

- Cars retiring from the rally on Special Stages 3, 4, 5 or the following road sections, may only restart from Service Out Control after 6 stages, subject to compliance with 11.1.3 below.
- No restart will be permitted for crews retiring on Special Stages 6, 7, 8 or 9.
- A restart will not be permitted where a crew has been excluded for non-compliance with eligibility requirements, traffic violations or a decision of the COC / SRC (Super Rally Co-Ordinator).
- On retirement the crew must hand in their time cards to Car Accountability or the marshal / timekeeper at the next available location / Time Control. Crews must retain the duplicate copy of the time card, to present to SRC as proof of stages completed.

11.1.3 Competitors must register for Super Rally if they wish to restart from Service Out Control after 3 stages, or from Service Out Control after 6 stages by contacting the SRC prior to a time that will be specified in Final Instructions. Service Vehicles will not be permitted to access the Stage or any closed road between runs. The organisers will, where possible, endeavour to remove any car to the nearest location where it can exit the stage. The transport of the car from that location is the responsibility of the competitor. The car must return by direct route to the Service Area.

11.1.4 Competitors availing of Super Rally must present themselves at Service Out Control after 3 stages or Service Out Control after 6 stages, with their car for re-scrutineering. Due time is 10 minutes before their original due time at that Control, and 15 Minutes maximum lateness will apply.

11.1.5 The SRC, once satisfied that the crew meets the conditions for a restart, will issue new time cards which will have a restart time and restart Control Number. The restart position within the field shall be at the discretion of the COC / SRC.

11.1.6 The organisers reserve the right to disallow restart on safety grounds or if the restart would interfere with the running of the rally.

11.2 Penalties:

11.2.1 Penalties will be applied as per Article 13.5, Appendix 29 of the Motorsport Ireland Yearbook.

11.3 Award Eligibility:

11.3.1 In order to be classified as a finisher the crew must complete a minimum of 4 special stages, which must include the final loop of stages and the finish control.

11.3.2 Crews completing the rally under Super Rally regulations will be eligible to score points in Championships.

12. Awards

12.1 Award Details:

1 st Overall	Two Awards
2 nd Overall	Two Awards
3 rd Overall	Two Awards
1 st in each class	Two Awards
2 nd in each class	Two Awards
3 rd in each class	Two Awards

Best Ladies Crew Two Awards

John Finnegan Memorial Cup: Highest placed Birr & District Motor Club Navigator in the Overall Classification.

1st, 2nd & 3rd Birr & District Motor Club Crews (Not receiving any other Award) Two Awards

12.2 Notes on Awards:

- Overall Winners are not Eligible for Class Awards.
- The onus is on the Competitor to ensure that they have entered for the appropriate awards.
- Any awards not collected/claimed by 30th June 2026 will be forfeited.
- If 5 or more entries are not received in each class, the organisers reserve the right to amalgamate classes or reduce the awards accordingly.

13. Judges of Fact

13.1 Judges of Fact: A list of Judges of Fact will be advised in Final Instructions and will be posted on the official notice board Sportity. The decision of a Judge of Fact will be final.

14. Provision Regarding Postponement, Abandonment or Cancellation of the event

The organisers reserve the right to postpone, cancel or abandon the event in circumstances such as:

- Insufficient entries received at the closing date for entries
- On safety grounds (upon consultation with the MI Stewards reference GCR 129.11)
- Force Majeure (upon consultation with the MI Stewards reference GCR 129.11)

14.1: If a decision to postpone, cancel or abandon the event is made, the organisers will communicate this decision using one of or a combination of the following:

- Final instruction posted on Sportity App
- Final instruction posted or emailed directly to the crew member nominated as official contact on entry form
- Direct instruction to at least one of the crew from an official of the event

Every effort will be made by the organisers to communicate such a decision in a timely manner however, in circumstances of force majeure or on safety grounds, it may be necessary to make such a decision during the running of an event. In such cases, this decision will be communicated via direct instruction from an official of the event. In the event of cancellation or postponement for more than 24 hours, entry fee shall be refunded in accordance with GCR 51.2.