

Navigational Rally Report - 2019

Another year of rally has come to a close. The 2019 season was full of interesting rallies and interesting people exploring Southern Ontario. The usual group of Experts plus a new team had a tight race for the ORRC series win and a large group of new Novice teams vied for the Novice championship. There were also several fun club level events to fill in a busy calendar. The social aspect of navigational rallies continues to grow and build relationships to help build a larger, more diverse community. All in all, 2019 was a good year for TSD rally and I'm looking forward to 2020.

The ORRC series had a total of nine events again this year hosted by KWRC, MLRC, PMSC, TAC, and SPDA. The organizers sent us all over Southern Ontario including some new turf around the Mount Forest area during the Northern Lights Rally. The Expert class was a close fought battle with the Driver title coming down to the last event with two drives tied in points before the last event. Only a win by either team could break the tie. Similarly, the Navigator title was contested by three where a win by any would determine the Championship. The end result was a win by the new Expert team of Marzetti/Laye by one point over Parry/Seelenmeyer. The Novice championship was also a close one between Bell/Bell and Vanderwal/Walia with the championship settle at the last event by a single point in favour of Bell/Bell. The series was successful and introduced many new people to the activity. KWRC continued their club-level Saturday Night at the Rallies (SNATR) series with six events on the calendar.

These events are typically around 100 km and take place, as the name implies, on Saturday evenings. They are beginner level events intended to introduce new people to the activity and prepare them for the ORRC and to offer a very relaxed atmosphere for cruising around Ontario roads. The team of Jacobs/Jacobs won the Novice Championship and the team of Comens/Martin won the Beginner Championship. PMSC hosted a couple of fun club rallies over the summer too which included a poker run.

Navigational rallies have also been proven as a means of introducing people to, and involving them in, other types of rally. It's a stepping stone for many into rally cross and performance rally. The social aspect allows people to share their experiences, meet others, and build knowledge which encourages and aids in entering rally cross and performance rally events as competitors, crew, spectators, and/or volunteers.

There were 16 separate navigational rally events in 2019 and a similar number is planned for 2020 with some new organizers and new locations to keep things fresh. The ORRC continues to be a strong series with the clubs providing supporting events to promote the series and introduce their members to TSD rally.

This will be my last year as VP Navigational Rally as I do not intend to run for re-election at the AGM. I would like to thank the membership for permitting me the opportunity to serve on the Board for the past four years and am looking forward to another year of competing, organizing, and supporting navigational rallying in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Darin Mayes

VP Navigational Rally