

2022 RallySport Ontario President's Report

While 2022 started out with Covid delaying or cancelling events, rally in Ontario recovered well finishing the year with a strong performance from the Lincoln Electric Rally of the Tall Pines. Already, 2022 seems distant as we move into a new year.

I had the privilege of assisting the organizers and attending every event in the RSO championships that ran in Ontario. The effort that rally organizers and volunteer workers put into creating and running events is really appreciated. The other RSO board members will be covering results in individual disciplines.

I am pleased to see new competitors coming into the sport, especially in the more expensive performance rally. We need more local events in the Ontario Performance Rally Championship and it's nice to see PMSC stepping up and organizing Shannonville on April 1, 2023. Shannonville also includes a RallySprint, something that we missed having in 2022.

The participation in the OPRC was much improved last year thanks to the generous sponsorship from Matt Ballinger at Ontario Motor Sales and Clarington Hyundai, and Martin Donnelly at Enercare. We currently don't have a sponsor for 2023.

While numbers in the navigational series were down a little in 2022, they seem to be rebounding for 2023, with 19 cars at January Jaunt and 32 for Polar Bear.

New for 2023 is the RallyCross provincial championship. It's an overlay championship counting your best five events, no more than two from any one club. It's free to register, you just pay the entry fee for whatever events you attend. The sign-up for it is [here](#).

Make note of the special RallyCross Invitational on July 29, Sponsored by Free Flow MX Park and run by PMSC. It's a one-off Rallycross with prize money and runs of two courses. More details are [here](#).

In the last couple of years, RSO made the decision to waive some of the usual fees for events as clubs struggled to recover from pandemic induced costs and cancelations. We did receive a large and unexpected road grading bill prior to Tall Pines but we managed to more or less break even for the year.

I want to thank Kelly and Brandon for their work on the growth of the sport and Kelly's work on both the RSO and the [OPRC Online](#) websites. Eric Vanderwal has been keeping up our visibility with posts on Instagram and Facebook, things I never seem to get around to.

At this AGM, we'll be electing the President, VP Performance, Treasurer and a Trustee. If any of these positions appeal to you and you want to serve the greater rally community, please contact Kelly or I to steer you in the right direction.

Lastly, I want to thank the RSO board and the extended board members for the effort they put in with RSO activities and in the sport. They make my job as president pretty easy.

Martin Loveridge

President, RallySport Ontario