

## Rally Support – Information for Potential Crews

Support crews are a vital part of the rally and without them it would be impossible to run the event. If you feel you may be interested in participating as a Support Crew for a current or future rally, please read the information below to learn more about the different Support Crew roles and what you might expect as a Support crew.

### Support Roles

In the Support Crew structure, there are 3 main categories of Support crews; Mechanical Support, Towing Support and Medical Support. All 3 are equally vital to the running of the rally, and some crews are able to fit into more than one category. For example one of our Medical support crews is a Doctor and a qualified motor mechanic with years of experience in off road racing. He spends more time in Triage fixing cars than he does fixing people.... This is a good thing.

### **Towing Support:**

As the name suggests, the primary function is to tow a car trailer and pick up broken down Shitboxes and transport them into camp so that they can be worked on that night. Most of these crews are pretty handy bush mechanics and will generally give the Shitboxers a hand to fix their cars on the side of the road if possible, as well as helping out in Triage at night.

Towing Support crews are strategically placed throughout the main rally group.

The minimum requirements of Towing Support are:

- A **RELIABLE** 4WD that **MUST** have a minimum towing capacity of 2500kg (3000-3500kg is preferred)
- A rated Tow bar
- LT (Light Truck) rated tyres
- 5 watt UHF radio
- Experience; we prefer that our towing support crews have plenty of experience towing heavy trailers and even better if it is in an off road environment.
- Mechanical skills are a bonus
- Basic First Aid skills are a bonus

### **Mechanical Support:**

The Mechanical Support crews are generally very skilled and gifted people that travel with the main rally group during the day, stopping to fix cars along the way. Their main priority is to get into camp reasonably early and set up "Triage" and start repairing the busted cars as they present. Typically these are the Guys and Girls that you see in the videos working very late into the night doing all sorts of weird and wonderful things to cars. Typically our Mechanical Support crews don't tow a trailer, as we like to keep them as mobile as possible.

The minimum requirements of Mechanical support are:

- A good and wide ranging mechanical knowledge (You don't need to be an expert in everything) – a Jack of all trades
- Ability to think on your feet, be creative and problem solve
- A **RELIABLE** 4WD
- 5 watt UHF Radio
- Your own basic hand tools.... we have Welders, generators, jacks etc
- An ability to operate on little to no sleep

### **Medical Support:**

Our Medical Support crews are vital to the rally. Medical Support crews are strategically placed throughout the rally convoy so that they can respond as quickly as possible should their services be required. Their primary role is provide advanced emergency medical treatments and stabilise any casualties until emergency services are able to take over.

They also provide medical assistance to the people on the rally that are not necessarily life threatening, ie Cuts, burns, foreign objects in the eye. From time to time they have also been able to write out prescriptions for people that have lost or forgotten their medication.

The minimum requirements of Medical Support are:

- Qualified healthcare professional, ideally with A&E or remote experience
- Professions may include medical doctors, surgeons, Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners or Paramedics
- Your own medical supplies and equipment (we are able to supply AED's if required)
- A **RELIABLE** 4WD
- a working 5 watt UHF radio

### **General Info**

There is generally around 1 Support car for every 10 Participant cars.

Support Crew days are long - **a 12-16 hour day on the road is quite normal**. Support crews can only go as fast as Shitboxes can. You are frequently stopping to assist broken down teams and your average speed may only be 50kph.

There is a "20 Minute Rule" for repairing cars on the side of the road... if you can't fix it in 20 minutes, put it on a trailer and get it into camp ASAP, where there are more resources available.

"Triage" is the Rally equivalent of the Pits at a race meeting. Each night all the vehicles that have mechanical issues are brought into the Triage area to be worked on. It is a common area in the camp site that is set aside specifically for vehicle repairs. This is where the "Magic Happens", where some of the most creative and innovative repairs you will see are carried out on a nightly basis. In the past the Support crews have done Engine swaps, Gearbox swaps, rebuilt engines, put Ford gearboxes into Mazdas and pop rivets into pistons.....Triage is a real hive of activity and an entertaining place to be, and as such usually draws a bit of a crowd. **It is very common that "Triage" will go on into the early hours of the following morning.**

One of the most important skills for Support Crews to have is a thick skin and a wicked sense of humour!

When you apply to participate as support for a particular rally or if we contact you to consider you for a role, we will ask you for more information to help us make a decision on who will best be able to fill the requirements. Unfortunately the number of available Support positions are extremely limited, so please don't get disheartened if you don't get accepted the first rally you apply for. We need to have the right mix of skills and experience to make sure the Support crews can get the job done and there are lots of talented people who apply.

Thank you for your interest in the Support role.