

HIGH DESERT TRAILS RALLY

Instructions for working the **Main Time** part of the TC

Before The Rally Cars Arrive

Your Stage Captain will help you figure out where to put the control sign. Generally it is aligned with marked stakes in the ground or marked ribbons on the trees. The sign:

Red Clock (competitors check in here)

Synchronize your digital wristwatch with the official rally time before the rally starts. (Plus or minus one or two seconds is ok.)

When The Rally Cars Arrive

Working the Main Time Control (technically called the MTC) means you have two DIFFERENT jobs:

1. MTC OUT: At the start of the rally, you are the first control all competitors come to – Assign the ACTUAL OUT time for each competitor
2. MTC IN: Before service or at the end of the rally, you are the last control all competitors come to – Record the time each competitor arrives...it's a little more complicated than this, but see below.

Assigning ACTUAL OUT - when the rally vehicles leave the MTC

Each rally competitor has an ideal minute that they are supposed to leave the main time control (pass the sign). They will generally drive in about one-two minutes before this assigned time. If they are waiting until very close to that minute, feel free to “Wave them in.” Look at your watch when they actually hand you the time card to check that their “ideal out” time has not passed already. If it has NOT passed, record the “ideal OUT” (just the hour and minute, no hundreds) time to the following two places:

1. First, the MTC OUT Log
2. Second, in the ‘Actual out time’ box of the time control they are leaving (usually at the top of the very first time card).

If that minute HAS passed, record the time the card was handed to you (just the hour and minute, no hundreds) to the previous two places.

Recording MTC IN - when the rally vehicles get to you

Each rally competitor has a minute that they are supposed to enter the control (at the sign), just like an ATC. However, competitors are allowed to check in EARLY to an MTC IN. This means they are allowed to DECLARE their arrival time. Therefore, they will generally NOT wait just on the other side of the sign until their minute to just drive in. Look at your watch when they actually hand you the time card, and ask them what time they would like to declare. Whichever time is later (either their declared time, OR the time on the clock) is the time (just the hour and minute, no hundreds) that is written down in two places:

1. First, the MTC IN Log
2. Second, in the ‘MTC’ box of the time control they are entering (usually at the bottom of their time card).

The only complication comes if two cars enter during the same minute. Note quickly in the log if two cars arrive at once so you won't lose track of the time. Treat both cars normally – but be aware that one of these competitors may be frantically waving to you so they won't be time barred.

If the co-driver is really complaining about something, just make a note on the log and scoring will sort it all out later. Be sure to give your logs to the Sweep vehicle when they come through to close the stage.