

## NEW REGULARITY FORMULA IN 'FREE START' MODE

The new regularity formula stretches over 5 days. The competitive aspect of the rally is conserved through the focus on the timing of the regularity tests **without the constraints** of the time checks (CH/TC).

Put in other words, the competition remains a very amicable one, with the difference that you cover the **connecting drives between** the regularity tests (RT) at a pace of your choice.



The only time check that remains in place is the one at the start of each stage every morning (with departure either being based upon the age of the cars or the ranking). Practically speaking, each team is obliged to pass the regularity tests in the order determined by the Road Book, but for the start of each Regularity Test, they may dispose of a time frame of +/- 30 minutes. This 'Free start' is calculated based on the hour of departure for the morning stage. The 30-minute time frame is multiplied as often as there is a 'free start'.

This system allows for the liaison sections to be driven at a **calmer** pace and for the participants to have the opportunity to make a stop for a quick fix, toilet stop or photo, **during the connecting drives**. Moreover, it also enables to participants to take a small break to enjoy the landscape or the vibe of a particular village without gaining penalty time.

The new formula is possible thanks to the timing system via satellite (Tripy system or other). All of the liaison drives are calculated at an average speed of 45 km/h. At every RT, the participants start at the full minute of their choice. The ranking is exclusively drawn up based upon the penalty time gained throughout the Regularity Tests (average imposed speed: from 36 to 50 km/h at the most) while respecting the traffic regulations.

Considering that a drawing is often much clearer than a lengthy explanation, the following simulation shows the timetable for an imaginary team:

- Departure team nr. 1: 9.01 AM.
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- Connecting drive +/- : 18 min.
- **Free start 1:** between 9.19 AM and 9.49 AM (example) – duration RT: 9 min.
- Connecting drive +/- : 35 min.
- **Free start 2:** between 10.03 AM and 10.33 AM (example) – duration RT: 17 min.
- Connecting drive +/- : 10 min.
- **Free start 3:** between 10.30 AM and 11.00 AM (example) – duration RT: 12 min.
- Connecting drive +/- : 30 min.
- **Free start 4:** between 11.12 AM en 11.42 AM (example) – duration RT: 11 min.
- Connecting drive + aperitif + lunch: 45 min.
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- LUNCH:
- Available from 12.08 PM or from 12.38 PM (90 min. lunch time)
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- **Free start 5:** between 1.38 PM and 3.08 PM (example) – duration RT: 15 min.
- Connecting drive: +/- : 28 min.
- **Free start 6:** between 2.21 PM and 3.51 PM (example) – duration RT: 19 min.
- Connecting drive: +/- : 35 min.
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- ARRIVAL AT THE HOTEL:
- A/ at 4.45 PM at the latest (by using the maximum time frame)
- B/ at 3.15 PM at the earliest
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