

2024 President's Report

Canadian Association of Rallysport (CARS)



We have made it to the end of another season. It has been an exciting season with the return of Antoine L'Estage and some FIA cars competing in the championship. The future of Rally in Canada looks promising, but not without challenges.

This year at CARS has been very challenging. We lost the series sponsor meaning we were not able to continue to run our full media program. We continued to operate our social media program to try to keep the engagement we have. The National Series Manager stepped down from the role after the first event of the season, this led to an increased workload on the board. The board members stepped up to take over the National Series Manager position for the event in their regions. The championship continues strong despite these setbacks.

Pacific Forest Rally made a triumphant return to the calendar this year after being missing for many years. There was a lot of excitement around this event, and we hope to see an increase in entries for next year. Rallye Baie des Chaleurs continued to be a part of the NACAM championship, bringing some fantastic international attention to our championship.

Like every year we saw a fluctuation in event entries with almost every event on the calendar. Some events lost entries this year compared to last year, but many other had a stronger entry field. At the time of writing this report, we are on track to have the highest overall entry numbers at our national events since before 2014.

Not all my goals for this year became reality, but I believe we did a lot of great work in moving the sport forward. We implemented the permanent car number system. We created a new class ruleset for implementation in the 2025 season. We continued to increase our social media following despite losing access to some very valuable content. New positions were created within CARS to be able to share the current workload, allowing for more future planning.

I would like to take the time to thank everyone involved in the championship. There are so many moving parts to it that without all of you we could not make this happen. From the event organizers to volunteers and even competitors, we all play a vital role in keeping this sport alive. Thank you all for the time, energy and passion you put into it.

After working with CARS for nine years I have decided to step down from the President role. I have spent 8 years as the Rallywest director, six of which I was also the CARS treasurer and this year as president. It is time for me to take a break and focus on some other aspects of my life. It has been an honor to be a part of this organization, and I thank everyone for the trust they have put in me over the years.

I wish you all the best in the 2025 season and I hope to see you all out at the stages.

Chris Kremer
CARS President

CARS Rule changes and projects in 2024

Bulletin 2024-01 Helmet, Tow Hooks and Tow Rope rule changes

Bulletin 2024-02 Rule Changes required for Permanent Numbers

Bulletin 2024-03 Draft CARS Technical Rules Section 12 update including change to P4WD & P2WD

2025 rule book is updated with all 2024 updates and ready for publication.

FINANCES

We achieve a balanced budget in 2024. We provide quarterly financial reports to the CARS board.

The CARS organization in 2024

The CARS organization is made up of many people who volunteer countless hours for the benefit of sport and all its participants. I want to thank you all, because the pleasure we have driving in the forest would not be possible without your help. Of course, this also applies to our event's organizers and our hundreds of volunteers.

Thank you all.

Directors Elected 2024

CARS Regional Director – Atlantic Region Motor Sports: Mal Swann

CARS Regional Director and Vice President - Rallye Sport Québec: François East

CARS Regional Director - Rally Sport Ontario and Secretary (Warren): Warren Haywood and David Cotie

CARS Regional Director – Rally West: Michael Szewczyk

CARS Regional Director – Rally Pacific Motorsport Region and Treasurer: Martin Burnley

Members of the 2024 extended Board

CRC Series Director:

CARS Office Manager: Debbie Dyer

Organizers' Representative: David Brassard

Technical Director: Graham Bruce

Competitor Representative: Ken Wawryk

Support roles

Translator: Pierre Racine

Medical Advisors: Kelsey Holt

Statistician: Debbie Dyer

Rulebook: John Hall

Stewards 2024

Philippe Coté

Mal Swann

Todd Patola

Martin Loveridge

Daphne Sleigh

Philippe Corbeil

Alan Perry

Dave Sharp

Marcel-Paul Raymond

Nicki Lachappelle

Steve van Rees