

Reliability Rally – The Original Jalopy Motorcycle Tour
www.reliabilityrally.com

2021 Rules and Guide – Yearly Changes Shown in Red Text

Abstract:

The Reliability Rally is a motorcycle tour exclusively for bikes with a purchase price of \$1000 or less. The goal is complete the ride route, while competing in various contests along the way. The ride will cover approximately 400 miles over the course of 2 days.

Registration:

There will be a registration fee of \$30 this year. This covers the T-shirt cost and the remainder will be donated to a children's charity, **Neighborhood Resilience Project**. Payment can be made via paypal, venmo or check only. Payment details will be sent out when registration opens. The registration window will be announced via the official email distribution list. Sign up at www.reliabilityrally.com All official communication goes to reliabilityrally@gmail.com. When registering, you must include the following information:

- Name
- Email address
- Cell phone #
- City/State of residence
- T-Shirt Size
- Emergency Contact name and phone #
- Photo of your RR bike if possible

Eligibility:

- **Bikes.** To be eligible for competition in the RR, the entered motorcycle must have a purchase price of \$1000 or less. The purchase price can be modified by parts/accessories SOLD from the bike. For example, if the bike includes an aftermarket seat AND original seat, one seat can be sold and the purchase price adjusted thusly. Stripping a bike of parts and replacing with aftermarket with the intent of affecting the purchase price is not allowed. You MUST show valid registration and proof of insurance before the start of the rally.
- **Repairs.** Repairs to safety related parts are unlimited. This includes tires, battery, brakes, controls, lighting, horn, Fuel system, electrics, mufflers, chain, sprockets, bearings, suspension, etc.
- **Upgrades.** Performance upgrades are allowed but extensive spending is not in the spirit of the ride.
- **Non-Beater Bikes.** All riders must bring a motorcycle purchased for \$1000 or less.
- **Injury Waiver.** All riders must sign the release waiver before the ride begins.

Ride Rules:

- The ride rules, scoring and route may be changed by the organizers at any time for any reason.
- **Participation in the Reliability Rally is 100% AT YOUR OWN RISK.** Any and all injury or damages are YOUR responsibility alone.
- **Absolutely ZERO alcohol consumption while riding.** There will be plenty of time to relax each evening.
- **Ride at your own pace.** I have seen too many crashes due to someone trying to follow a faster rider. There are many reasons why a rider is faster, he may know the roads better or be more familiar with the conditions, better handling bike etc, you must and should not care about this. The bottom line is that this is not a race and safety is our primary objective followed by having a good time.
- **You are responsible for the rider behind you.** If the person following you is no longer visible, slow down so he can catch up or stop and wait for him. If he does not show up in 2 minutes of waiting there is a problem and you should turn around to investigate. The logic behind this is that if something happens to anyone it will cause a chain reaction moving forward all the way to the lead rider. This is a tried and tested strategy that works. Bear in mind that you do not want to make a U-turn in stupid places use the pullover spots and if not available turn around on a straight section of road.
- **Passing rules.** You are welcome to pass any rider if they are riding below your pace or they have a smelly two stroke. **Pass for the comfort of the person you are passing. Leave lots of room and make sure they are aware of you coming through. On the flip side, if someone is filling your mirrors, find a safe place (straightaway with good visibility) and wave them by. Everyone will be more comfortable.**
- **Ride Route.** The ride route will be **provided in several ways prior to the start of the RR, via a printed ride plan and also via .gpx file** which can be read by various free phone apps (**beeline is highly recommended**) or garmin devices. It is subject to change at any time for any reason. Regardless, you are responsible for having some idea of what the ride route is and where it is going.
- **Cell Phone.** Make sure your phone is charged and on. If for some reason you become separated from the group, you will be contacted with either a meeting point or other instructions.

Scoring:

Throughout the ride, various contests will be held to judge the riders and bikes. The scoring is based on seven categories, six of them worth 20 points and one of them worth 10. For example, 20 points will be awarded to the winner of each contest, 19 to second place, etc. Ties will both receive the same point value. Contest participation is not mandatory, but no points will be awarded if a contest is skipped.

1. Purchase Price: The lowest amount paid for the motorcycle itself will receive 20 points, 2nd lowest will receive 19 points, etc. The purchase price can be modified by selling unused parts/accessories from the bike, as described above. The cost of repairs/upgrades does NOT factor in to purchase price, however heavy spending is not in the spirit of the ride.
2. Fuel Economy: At a predetermined fuel stop, you will refuel the bike of the rider in front of you. Put in as much fuel as possible. (front rider fills up bike in back) Distance traveled will be based on my bike's odometer. Save your fuel receipt if possible. Least fuel used gets 20 points, etc.
3. Acceleration Test: At some point along the ride route, we will find a low-traffic "closed course" stretch of road. All bikes will be tested for acceleration over 1/8th mile using the Car Performance Meter App available at the link below. Fastest elapsed time gets 20 points, etc. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/car-performance-meter/id895030519?mt=8>.
4. Slow Race: At some point we will find a shopping center parking lot or other suitable space and hold a slow race. You will ride your bike within the confined space for as long as possible. Leaving the boundary or putting a foot down will stop your time immediately. Longest time wins 20 points, etc.
5. Reliability: Everyone who finishes the entire ride on the bike they have entered will receive 20 points. However points will be deducted for each unplanned stoppage. Failure to start (within reason) counts as an unplanned stoppage.
6. Rider's Choice: A vote will be held to determine your favorite bike in the field. No specific judgment is required for judging. However, you cannot vote for yourself. Most votes gets 20 points, second place gets 19, etc.
7. Best Accessory/Best Customization: Motorcycles are frequently customized by their owners. The best accessory or customization will be voted on and there will be 10 bonus points awarded to the winner, 8 points for second 6 points for third, 4 points for fourth and 2 points for fifth. Voting ties both receive equal points. You cannot vote for yourself. Also, for the accessory or customization to be entered in competition, it must be attached the bike/rider for the duration of the ride. No votes = no points.

Bonuses: Bonus points shall be awarded based on the type of machine entered.

- **Asian Machines:** No Bonus
- **American/European:** 8 points
- **50 years old or older:** 8 points
- **2-Stroke:** 8 points
- **Ride in Bonus:** Riding to the rally is not mandatory but is very much in the spirit of the event. We want to throw those extra hardcore riders a bone. Riders who ride to the event receive 1 bonus point for every 100 miles distance they cover, up to a maximum of 5 points. If you ride in from further than 500 miles away, congratulations, you are a badass.

General RR Tips:

- **Shop for bikes in the Fall.** Prices on used bikes plummet as the weather cools. Lots of folks just want these machines out of their garages. Early October is the high time for great deals.
- **Shake your bike down.** Put as many miles on your bike as possible ahead of the RR. Any glaring issues with the machines should become apparent in the first 100 miles or so.
- **Pack some light snacks and drinks.** Stops throughout the ride will be sporadic and parts of the route are fairly remote. We could be delayed due to weather or a breakdown, and some refreshments would be very helpful.