Training Day Notes
2019
Passion Has No Boundaries

The iconic Targa Florio has been a much-loved tradition in Sicily since 1906. Today the Targa Florio is considered the world’s most sought-after historic event for classic car enthusiasts. And because passion has no boundaries, that experience is now enjoyed in Australia replicating the tradition and culture of the Italian event with a uniquely local flavour.

Victoria’s great driving roads provide the pathway to adventure, where competitors can unleash their passion, take in the sights of our main regional tourist destinations, enjoy the food and wine unique to each of the regions and feel part of an event that is built on 100 years of European driving history. Establishing long-lasting friendships along the way.

Drive like a Professional

The first training session was a great success and was held with Giordano Mozzi, the Italian Regularity expert. Given the benefit of regular training, we are setting aside a couple of hours on the last Sunday of each month to provide an opportunity for competitors to thoroughly understand the techniques of competing in a competition stage and sharing options for equipment to enable competitors to be successful in the Targa Florio and Mille Miglia.

We are delighted to have Giordano Mozzi as an Ambassador for the event and to have him available to run the occasional training session. Giordano has had great success in the European Regularity events including victories in the Mille Miglia in both the Classic and Ferrari tributes. Having honed his skills over the last 30 years he is keen to see as many people as possible share an understanding of the regularity events and enjoy the competition elements. Giordano is excited to see the Targa Florio develop in Australia and has been impressed with both the passion for competition during the day and the friendly and openness of people enjoying each other’s company in the evenings.
3 Categories, Classic, Ferrari and Supercar

There is something for everyone to enjoy, with x3 categories open for drivers to compete and spectators to adore!

Classica Trofeo: For vehicles from 1906-1976. A showcase of classic vehicles that are a crowd favourite.
Ferrari Tributo: For vehicles from 1977-present. A superb collection of beloved Ferraris in one place.
Supercar Trophy: For vehicles from 1990-present. Superb power and prestige on display.
Once understood it has all the information in it to help you enjoy the event.

On the event, there will be briefings and many opportunities to ask the race officials any questions that you have.

The Road Book is intended to provide a full summary and includes the following:

- Contact numbers for the race officials, emergency services, tow trucks and assistance.
- A summary of the symbols used in the book and what they mean,
- A map of the route
- A summary with the name of each trial, the average speed and set time for trials and overall times for the morning and afternoon sectors.
- Arial layouts and photos of the competition stages
- A detailed trip guide with “tulips” [tulips are diagrams that show you the way to drive through or around the intersection] there is a distance marked from Tulip to Tulip and a cumulative distance shown.
- Competition stages are highlighted and additional information included, such as the time needed to complete the individual trial etc.
Road Book

Time Control: CO/TC
- Each car is given a number and start time.
- You have a minute to cross the Control Start.
- The road book then has the times for travel to the next TC.

i.e.

Start time of 9:01:00
Depart between 9:01:00 and 9:01:59
Section time 1:45
Arrival time between 10:46:00 and 10:46:59

The penalty for not arriving in the minute is 100 points

The object for the competition is to loose the least amount of penalties over the event
Regularity Stages: (Time Trials or PC’s)

[PC = Prove Cronometrate]

The key to success in PC trials is hitting the exact time over each line.
A big help is establishing a consistent time and technique for the last 10 metre zone.

These stages are all about hitting the exact time for each trial.
- There are more than 70 of these on the rally and they are timed within 1/100 of a second.
- This is where the regularity rally is won and lost.
- The key is to accurately drive these short sections, between 40 and 400 meters long in exactly the correct time.
- Typically you are required to travel approx. 10-30km/h.
- There are typically 2 – 4 of these in a row and they are positioned in car parks, ovals and where roads can be closed to ensure public traffic do not drive through them and affect the timing.

Generally, there will be marshals to direct you into the time trials.

The penalty for not being exactly on time is 1 point per 1/100th of a second.
Average Speed Tests: (MAS or PM’s)

[PM = Prove di Media]

There are only a small number of these trials and they require the driver to get to the average speed and maintain it for the 5 to 10 minutes.

There are 1-2 of these tests each day. They are up to 5km long and require competitors to average the nominated speed from the start to finish. You will start the test on instructions of a Marshall and your speed checked at secret locations anywhere during the prescribed distances specified.

• Average speed tests in the Targa Florio Australian Tribute are set as Maintained Average Speed (MAS).
• This means you are required to maintain the set speeds of the test throughout the distance of the test.
• These tests are set on quiet and less used open roads.
• Penalties for being slower or quicker are incurred.
• These are timed to 1/10 of a second.

Generally, there will be marshals at the start of these tests and then hidden marshals checking average speeds.

The penalty for being quick or slow is 1 point per 1/10th of a second

There is often no end sign, once you have finished these you keep traveling to the next trial
Timing Equipment, Practice

There are a number of ways to enhance your understanding and enjoyment of your Targa Florio Australian Tribute experience. Ask any questions of officials if you are not sure. Keep asking until you have a clear understanding of how the event works.

Below is a summary of the timing equipment that can help you become more skilled and accurate:

**Mid Level:**
If you want to get more accurate there are a wide range of equipment that have been created to help you:

- ‘rally’ style odometer (Zero, Terratrip, Monit etc.) which are mounted in the car. This can also be achieved with an App such as ‘Rallytripmeter’. There are a number available.

For Time Controls it is pretty simple. Check your clock, be on time, and add the time allowed to your time out and make sure you arrive at the destination on time!

- Regularity Stages and Average Speed tests are a little more involved. It’s a team effort and you need to work together. If you have the space in your car I cannot recommend a Regularity Test App. more highly for your ‘Ipad’ than one called Chronomaster.eu (Lite is free, Klassik costs $99 but will allow you to enter the entire rally before you start the event where as the lite version requires you to enter the tests in groups).

**Expert Level:**
Generally, after you have completed a number of these rally’s and your competitive nature takes over there is no end of preparations you can take and equipment you can add to the car to give you the best chance.

To make the timing even more accurate hand-held triggers, countdown audio and very accurate equipment all enable the competitors to be very accurate.

Examples of the top end equipment include the Zero, Digitec Ecco, Bora and Bora S systems that have been developed in Italy for these races.

**Practice:**
Teams spend weekends and spare time training to time the last 10 meters into controls to get as close to exact as possible.

This year’s winner of the Targa Florio lost 2.38 seconds for the entire rally. A similar margin won the Millie Miglia.

Feedback from experts is that they use a foot on the brake and a foot on the accelerator to get the time as close as possible. Winning these events takes practice to be as consistent as you can be over the line.
THANK YOU