

Greetings! It is now about XX days from the beginning of the Grand Design National Owners Rally 2022, and as you might imagine, things are quite busy. We did want to reach out to everyone to let you know what to expect, and what you can do to get the most out of this awesome event.

The Organizing Team and Volunteers put a TREMENDOUS amount of effort into this event. This is the largest GD Rally in the country, and involves an immense number of moving parts, coordination points, and thousands of details.

While we are going to continue to bust our tails to make this another awesome event, it's important to note that we cannot anticipate everything - there will be hiccups - please be kind, remember that nobody gets paid for this, everyone is a volunteer, and the funds we raise go to charity. When something goes sideways, go with the flow, make the best of it, and help where you can. If you have ideas on how to make the event better, let us know. Better yet – volunteer and help us make it happen!

## Before You Arrive

### GPS Mapping Info

This year, the registration and check in process will be a little bit different. Everyone will arrive thru Gate 7. If you're new, no worries, you won't have a change from previous years. The specific GPS location for Gate 7 is [here](#). Please pre-map your trip, so that you don't get caught in a spot that difficult to manage.

### Tickets

There is no need to print your ticket from Eventbrite. What will help speed the registration process is having your order number, or simply give us your full name. We will pull your registration packet, scan a barcode, hand you a packet and a swag bag, and send you off to get parked.

### Covid Considerations

At this time, there are no mask requirements for any buildings at the fairgrounds. If you wish to wear a mask, either indoors or outdoors, please do so. If there is a change regarding Covid protocols, everyone will be notified using the email address you used when you placed your order.

### Rally Map

There is a map of the fairgrounds all the Area locations marked clearly. You can find that by going [here](#). A copy of the map has also been attached to this email.

### If You Plan To Arrive Before 8/28

If you are arriving on Friday or Saturday (8/26 & 8/27), you should have already made arrangements with the Elkhart County Fairgrounds and paid for those extra days. The Rally Ticket covers the cost of camping at the Fairgrounds from 8/28 until 9/3. If you are arriving before 8/26, you will be placed in Area F, and will need to be ready to move to your ticketed Area at 8:30am on Friday, 8/26. More information below in the When You Arrive section.

### If You Plan To Depart After 9/3

If you are departing after Saturday (9/3), you should have already made arrangements with the Elkhart County Fairgrounds and paid for those extra days. The Rally Ticket covers the cost of camping at the Fairgrounds from 8/28 until 9/3.

### Schedule Information

The schedule of events is published online. "How do I get to the schedule?" you might be asking? Well on the back of everyone's name badge is a QR code that you scan with your smart device's camera, and it will automatically open the latest version of the schedule in your mobile browser! This will allow folks to more easily have access to the latest and greatest event schedule, regardless of where you might be in the park!

"Nice - but how am I going to know about changes to the schedule, without wandering around praying there will be something when I get there?". Morning announcements are held each day at 9am. Changes to the schedule will be announced there. The website will be updated in real time to reflect changes. Use that QR code and check the schedule.

### **Area Hosts Happenings**

Your Area Hosts will be communicating with you prior to and thru the event. They will keep you updated on the schedule of events happening in your specific area. These events may or may not be published on the daily Compass schedule.

## **When You Arrive**

### **What to expect on arrival**

When you arrive thru [Gate 7](#), you are going to form into two side-by-side lines. There will be Registration checkpoint, where it will be most helpful if you have either a) a printed copy of your ticket, or b) your ticket pulled up on your phone. Check-In is being done electronically this year, so it's important that we can find your info and get that process completed quickly. Once you are checked in, there will be escorts to take you to your site. Follow the directions of the volunteers are Registration and you will get to your site quickly. If you are arriving in a group that wants to be next to each other, make sure you let the folks at registration know so they can accommodate in the best manner possible.

**Note:** If you arrive between 9-11am on Tuesday, 8/30, you will enter thru [Gate 7](#) and wait outside the Registration checkpoint. This time is reserved for Don's address to everyone, so there will not be anyone at Registration to check you in until that concludes at 11am.

### **The Check-in Process**

At check-in, you will receive your event ("swag") bag, as well as the on-site credentials you will need to participate in the event activities. There are several very important items:

- Your name badge (with holder and lanyard) MUST be worn at all times when participating in rally activities
- A tag that will hang on the front of your trailer for the service team
- A tag that goes in your tow vehicle

### **Group Parking**

Parking together as a group is available, but will be on a first-come, first-served basis. All members of your group MUST have tickets in the same area, and all members of your group MUST arrive at the same time. All members of your group MUST be lined up one behind the other in the same lane at the registration checkpoint. It is important to note that there will be two lanes of entry, so end to end is important to ensure your group stays together. You have to arrive at [Gate 7](#) already lined up, you will not be able to change lanes once you enter [Gate 7](#).

### **If you have arranged to get your Trailer Weighed**

There will be a vendor providing a service to weigh trailers and tow vehicles. If you are having this service performed, the vendor will contact you directly regarding the procedure. You will enter thru [Gate 3](#), and exit thru Gate 2 for this service. You must have this done before you check in and Register, you will not be allowed to leave your site once you have been parked.

### **If you have arranged to get your tanks cleaned**

There will be a vendor providing a service to clean holding tanks. If you are having this service performed, the vendor will contact you directly regarding the procedure. You will enter thru [Gate 3](#), and exit thru Gate 2 for this service. You must have this done before you check in and Register, you will not be allowed to leave your site once you have been parked.

### **If you arrive after hours**

Registration and parking will be in operation from 9am until 5pm from Friday thru Monday. If you arrive after 5pm, you will still enter thru [Gate 7](#), but you will park overnight in the staging area. Follow the signs to that area. Note – there are no services in that area, you must be self-sufficient. Generators may be run in that area overnight. Once registration and parking re-open the next morning you will be directed thru Registration and to your site.

### **If you are arriving before 8/26**

If you arrive before 8/26(this would have been pre-arranged and approved), you will not be able to go to your ticket area. When you arrive, you will be placed in Area F, which has both 50/30A and full hookups. At 8:30am on Friday morning (8/26), everyone in Area F will need to be packed up and ready to move to your ticketed area. If Area You're your ticketed area, you will not need to move.

## **Once You Get To Your Site**

### **Security – For everyone's benefit**

A VERY important aspect of this event is the enforcement of security. This is VERY IMPORTANT – NO LANYARD and BADGE, NO PARTICIPATION. You will be required to wear your badge at all times during the rally. This is for everyone's security and safety, and it also helps us identify key information, like your emergency contact info, which is a barcode on your badge.

### **Asking For Help**

There are two information tents located on the fairgrounds. You can consult the [MAP](#) to see their locations. In addition, you will see folks wearing various color vests(Orange, Yellow, Green). They will also likely be able to answer your questions.

### **Schedule Updates**

On the back of your badge is a barcode that you can scan with your phone and it will give you the latest [schedule](#).

### **Service Requests**

If you arranged service to be performed on your rig, those 3 requests were sent to the Grand Design team automatically. They will create a schedule, and everyone will have a tag that goes on the front of your trailer so they can identify you easily. They will work the schedule over each day of the rally.

This is really important – Please do NOT approach service technicians directly with questions or concerns. They have thousands of requests to get thru in a very short time, and every time they are distracted it means that they may not get to everyone. If work is to be performed on the interior of a unit, and you would like the technician to be masked, please make that known to them when they arrive at your trailer.

### **Dump Tickets – How to request service**

Gary/Alecia - What's the process for this? How does someone request a dump?

### **Golf Cart Pickup**

If you purchased a ticket for a golf cart, you can pick those up at XXX location at XXXX times on XXXX days.

### **OEM's and Vendors**

All the participating OEM(Original Equipment Manufacturers) and Vendors are listed on the website. You will find many options for equipment, supplies, accessories, and services. You may also find discounts on items during the rally.

### **Sessions and Events During the Rally**

Seminars are often one of the things that folks are interested in and the purpose of these seminars is to help you learn about all sorts of different topics. The great part about this is that we have a lot of folks who are very experienced, and are willing to share their knowledge with you. These sessions are listed on the event schedule (you remember how to get the schedule, right? <http://www.gdrvnationalrally.com/schedule/>).

### **Social Activities**

There are many social activities intended to let everyone have a little fun, spend time with our fellow GD owners, and meet some new people. Some are run by the Grand Design, some by your Area Hosts, some are run by individuals who just want to do something fun out of the kindness of their heart. Regardless of who's hosting, remember that people have largely volunteered their time to put these activities together, if you can lend a hand and help lessen the load, please do so.

### **GUBERS**

Most of you are familiar with Uber – the ride service. GUBERS is our Rally version of that! The good news – it's FREE! However – it takes volunteers to make this happen. We have the golf carts, we need the drivers. Signup for GUBER shifts will take place at the Information Tents.(when?) If you would like to take a shift and help get people to-and-from sessions and various locations, please stop by and sign up.

### **Golf Cart Etiquette**

As you might imagine, a lot of people drive golf carts, and tend to park them all over the place. There will be spots reserved for operations staff (so we can get in to help with equipment, medical emergencies, etc.) but there may be more carts than formal cart spots. We ask that you please do your best to carpool (golf-cart-pool?) were possible just to make it easier for folks to get in and out as necessary. We will also use GUBERS (Golf cart Ubers) for high-traffic times. There are more attendees than available golf carts, so if you see someone who looks like they need a ride, please extend that courtesy provided it can be done safely.

Lastly – Have Fun And Meet New People