

2022 Tobacco Road Relay Driver Handbook

Introduction

Driving the Tobacco Road Relay course requires preparation and planning. The preparedness of the team driver(s) greatly impacts the experience of the team, the efficiency of the Tobacco Road Relay and the safety of all involved.

1. Non-running driver and co-pilot are suggested. However, some teams prefer to do the driving themselves.
2. Know the course, the rules, the driver handbook and the team handbook.
3. If you don't like runner food, be prepared with your own food and beverages.
4. Have a plan with your team, if you need to rest or sleep (alternate drivers).

Preparation and Planning

Drive the Course Before the Race? If you can't drive the course in advance:

1. Thoroughly review the course and driver maps.
 - a. Leg Maps: with the exception of one leg, the team van will not follow the course.
 - b. Driver Maps to navigate around Ellerbee Creek Trail.
 - c. Driver Maps to navigate around American Tobacco Trail.
 - d. Driver Maps to navigate around White Oak Creek Greenway.
 - e. Driver Maps to navigate around Black Creek Greenway.
 - f. Driver Maps to navigate around Reedy Creek Trail.
 - g. Driver Maps to navigate around Restricted Roads.
2. Identify exchange zones (and areas where more time will be required).
3. Know the difficult parking areas and plan accordingly.
4. Some roads are country roads, but many are in towns/cities.
5. Know locations for gas, groceries, supplies and additional restrooms are located.

UNC Chapel Hill, Bowles Parking Lot

UNC Chapel Hill has issued a Special Use Permit to the Tobacco Road Relay. Team Packet Pick-up must be completed at least 30 minutes prior to the start of your team's wave. Sign-in at the starting line will take place 15 minutes prior to the start of your team's wave.

Traffic Laws

Understand, that as a driver, you must comply with all traffic laws and regulations. If you get pulled over by Law Enforcement...that's on you... and your team may also receive a penalty or disqualification from the Blue Ridge Relay.

Gravel Roads

The course will follow several gravel roads.

1. Please drive slowly to keep dust at a minimum for the runners and community.
2. Respect local traffic.

Road Conditions

Runners will be on sidewalks and greenways for the majority of the course. However, for those roads without a sidewalk, runners will be on the road shoulder. When passing runners, ensure that you allow approaching traffic and runners ample space.

Course Markings

The course will be marked with

1. One yellow directional sign (18" x 24") before each turn
2. One yellow confirmation sign with black arrow after each turn.
3. One yellow "EXCHANGE ZONE" sign will be posted before the exchange zone. This is not the beginning of the exchange zone, but an alert sign for runners and drivers that the exchange zone is approaching.
4. Van directional signs in EZ are white with orange letters.
5. Course directional signs will be for runners only. Directional signs will NOT guide vans.

Rules and Penalties

Please refer to the website for a complete listing. Every runner and driver MUST comply with rules.

Driver Related Rules

Drivers are representatives of their respective team and are responsible for complying with all Tobacco Road Relay Rules. A team will be penalized if their driver is in violation of Tobacco Road Relay Rules and/or does not comply with the alternate driving directions provided.

Exchange Zones

1. When entering exchange zone parking, roll down window to communicate with EZ staff.
2. Park as indicated in the EZ Maps and as instructed by EZ staff.
3. Park in one space only. Most parking lots have limited space.

Alternate Routes for Support Vehicles

The "Driver Info" page on the TRR website has interactive maps and printable cue sheets.

Leg 1: Follow the course, with 2 subtle exceptions.

Leg 2: Follow the course.

Leg 3: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 4: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 5: Follow the course.

Leg 6: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 7: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 8: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 9: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 10: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 11: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.

Leg 12: Reference Cue Sheet for alternate driving directions.