

# RP Scheme

## Overview

The Victorian Rally Permit Scheme is functioning well under its new structure with: -

- many Permits being reissued on application by current holders and
- new Permit Applications being received each week.

Some new applications are for existing RP holders applying for new or additional vehicles, some are new owners of previously RP plated cars that have changed 'hands' and some are coming from completely new entrants to the Scheme.

Full details and Application forms are available from the Responsible Person.

## Organisation of the Scheme

VicRoads and the VRAP have worked closely on the review and redirection of the Scheme over more than 12 months to cause the least bother or inconvenience for bona fide Victorian residents who hold a Victorian Driver Licence and need the RP to use their vehicles in bona fide events.

The RP Scheme is an asset of the Victorian rally community. In order to protect it and improve its security, there have been some changes to the procedures that lead to a Rally Permit being issued by VicRoads.

VicRoads has designated the Chairman of the VRAP as the 'Responsible Person' for the RP Scheme and in this role, with the support of the VRAP, I have established an RP Scheme Eligibility Committee comprising Leeham Bansagi as Secretary, Col Hardinge, Ian Swan and Stewart Barling as Members. 'RP Eligibility' is the first step towards a Permit being issued and application for Eligibility is made on the form provided.

## Step 1. Applications

ALL applications for re-issue of new applications, changed ownership conditions etc go through the Eligibility Committee. Generally, their work can be conducted within 48 hours of an application being received because most are 'straightforward.' In rare cases, the Eligibility Committee can call for the subject vehicle to be presented to them at a venue and time by agreement.

In other words, if you are the current holder of a Rally Permit, VicRoads will notify you on its anniversary that you should apply for re-issue to the Chairman of the VRAP. You will most likely be directed to the Secretary of The Eligibility Committee who will see that you are supplied with the relevant Application forms and current information about the Scheme.

## Step 2. Vehicle Inspection

Please note, vehicle inspection *follows* RP Eligibility.

After RP Eligibility is confirmed, the Secretary directs you to an RP Scheme "Authorised Vehicle Inspector." There are just three of these, also appointed by the Responsible Person in consultation with the VRAP.

They are: - Gary Howard (City and West to the border with SA), Bob Buck City and North to the border) and Graeme Palmer (City and East to the border).

Inspectors and Applicants agree on a venue and time for inspection to be completed. Each Inspector has an 'understudy' as a planned approach to knowledge and understanding of the Scheme.

### **Step 3. Request to Issue Permit**

Once Inspection is completed satisfactorily, the Responsible Person issues the Applicant with a personally signed document that makes certain warranties about the vehicle and the applicant to VicRoads and requests the issue of a Rally Permit.

The Permit is issued to an individual person, not to companies and not to agents of owners. A vehicle may be driven on RP plates by an individual other than the Permit holder.

### **Step 4. VicRoads issues the Permit**

Presentation of the Request Form, the Vehicle Inspector's Report and the CAMS Logbook together with any proof of ownership that may be required by VicRoads will result in the issue of the Rally Permit and plates. VicRoads will ask you to sign an Agreement covering use of the vehicle before the Permit is issued. Breach of these conditions may lead to withdrawal of the Request and/or the withdrawal of the Permit.

### **Notes: Separation of functions**

Please note, that we have deliberately separated the functions of determination of RP Eligibility and Vehicle Inspection. Authorised Vehicle Inspectors may not determine Eligibility and vice versa.

Similarly, the Responsible Person may not determine Eligibility nor Inspect Vehicles.

In the same vein, we have limited the number of individuals that are authorised to carry out inspections under the Scheme. It is expected that the Authorised vehicle inspectors will be rotated periodically to broaden the base of knowledge and understanding of the Scheme among the community. At present, it is believed to be best to limit the number of inspectors.

### **Note: 'In principle' determination of Eligibility**

We have also introduced 'In principle determination of RP Eligibility' for intending vehicle importers or builders or both. In principle determinations, made in advance of a purchase, should enable potential owners of new rally cars to proceed with confidence. For instance, if you are considering an import or considering the purchase of a rally car that has not been previously registered nor been subject to a Victorian Rally Permit or equivalent Permit from other States.

### **Measuring success of the changes to the RP Scheme**

The changes to procedures are proving effective in our key objective – to improve the security of the Scheme as an asset of the Victorian rally community. Some applicants may find the procedures a little bureaucratic but if this is the case I would ask these feelings to be balanced by the overall, community wide benefit that we are realizing improvements to the Scheme in terms of the participating Permit holders and vehicles. As the security of the Scheme improves, we may be able to make further changes to simplify procedures. At present, the procedures are delivering the intended results and I expect them to remain in place more or less unchanged for about 18 months. Unchanged, that is, unless there is a good case to continue their evolution.

Information about the RP Scheme is available from either the Chairman of the VRAP, Ian Crook [ian@seemore.com.au](mailto:ian@seemore.com.au) 0419538707.