



# Installation and Use of the Richta App

Rally Sport Region PCA

July 2022



# What is the app and why do we need it?

Rich and David Bireta have developed a series of mobile applications specifically for the TSD rallying community. “Richta” is the brand for these apps; it is obviously based on Rich’s name, but is also a reference to the classic Curta rally calculator (feel free to Google if you want to be amazed at how sophisticated manual calculators could get!). Among others, this includes a Rallymaster app for laying out the checkpoints and ideal timing for the route, and most relevant here, the Competitor app which TSD competitors run to keep track of their times as they cross each checkpoint.





# What is the app and why do we need it?

- The use of these apps has significantly changed the logistics of hosting and running a rally. Previously, rallies included a combination of manned checkpoints, where workers would log times for each vehicle as they passed a fixed location, or unmanned checkpoints, where the rallyists would record their own times. At the end of the rally, the competitors or a scorekeeper would calculate the number of penalties based on the times for each leg. Depending on the number of checkpoints and course layout, this could require 20 or more volunteers to man the checkpoints and handle the scoring. The scoring process could also be very intimidating to newcomers.
- With the use of the app, this has all changed. Rallies can still include manned checkpoints if desired, but it is entirely possible to create and run a rally with no volunteers out on the course. Scores are tracked in the app in realtime and sent back to the Rally Master whenever the phone has cellular or Wi-Fi connection. As soon as the last competitor hits the last checkpoint, preliminary results are available, and final results can be made available very soon after.



## What kind of device do I need?

- Virtually any iOS (Apple) or Android smartphone or tablet will work, so long as it is equipped with GPS. Cellular data is helpful but not required; if you have a wi-fi only device please let us know at the check-in so we can give you information to connect to a cellular hotspot (you will need a data connection at least at the start of the rally so you can register your phone in the app for the event and download the checkpoint locations, and at the end of the rally so the app can upload your times/scores). Cellular/network connection is not required during the rally itself; the app will store the data locally until it gets a chance to upload at the end of the rally.

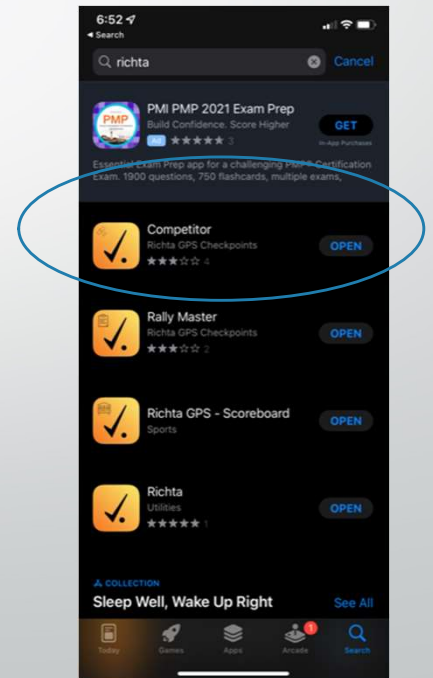




## Before the event – install the app (Apple)



- Go to the App Store. Search for “richta” and you will see the list of applications. Select “GET” or “INSTALL” for the “Competitor” application.

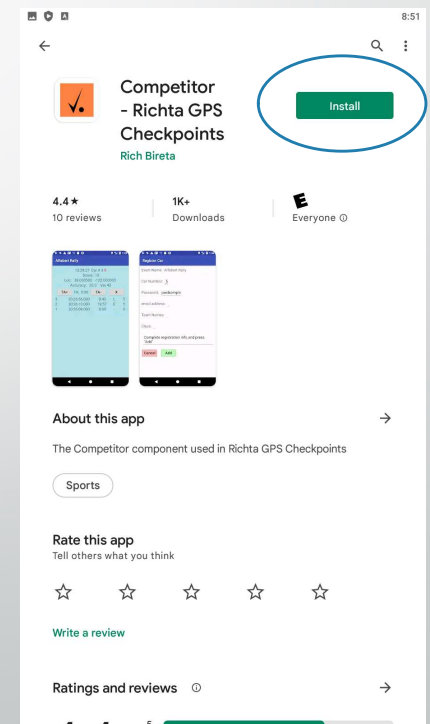
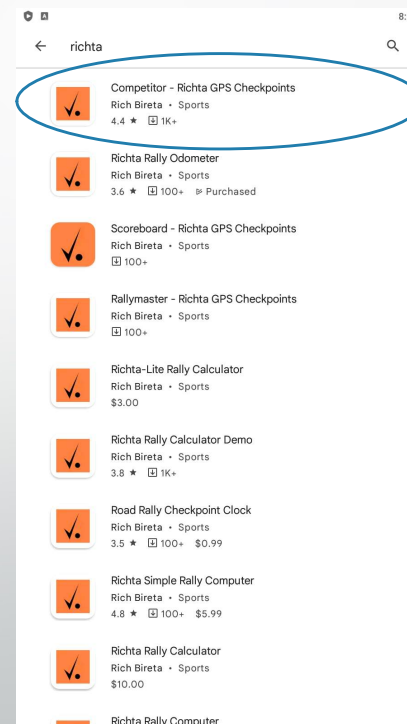




# Before the event – install the app (Android)

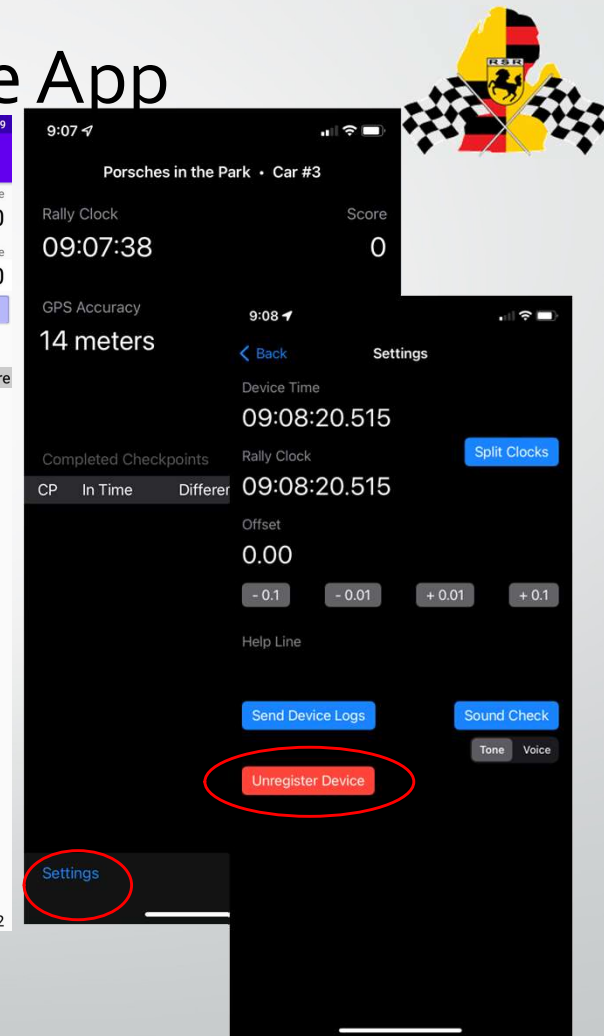
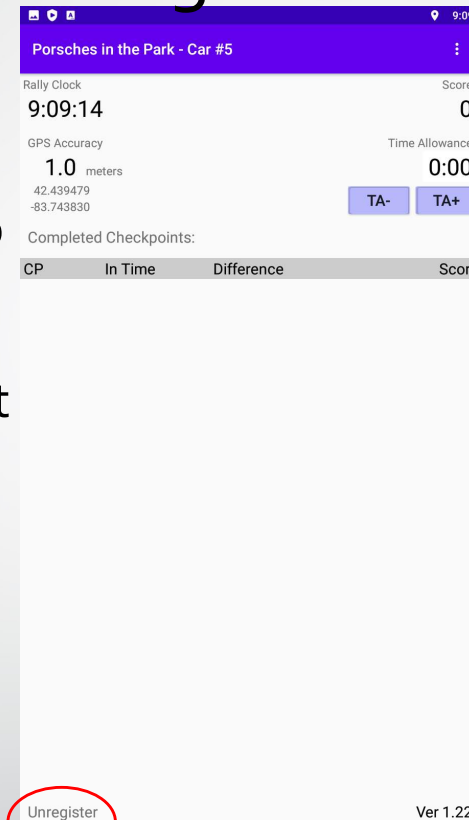


- Go to the Play Store. Search for “richta” and you will see the list of applications. Select “GET” or “INSTALL” for the “Competitor” application.



## At the event – Unregister The App

- If you've registered for an event previously, the app may resume in that event.
- If this occurs, unregister the app and then register as shown on the next slides– this makes sure your car number and checkpoint locations are updated. Do this even if the event you're registered for is Porsches in the Park.
- In Android, select Unregister at the bottom of the screen
- In Apple, select Settings at the bottom of the screen, then select Unregister on the next screen.





## At the event – Configure Your Phone

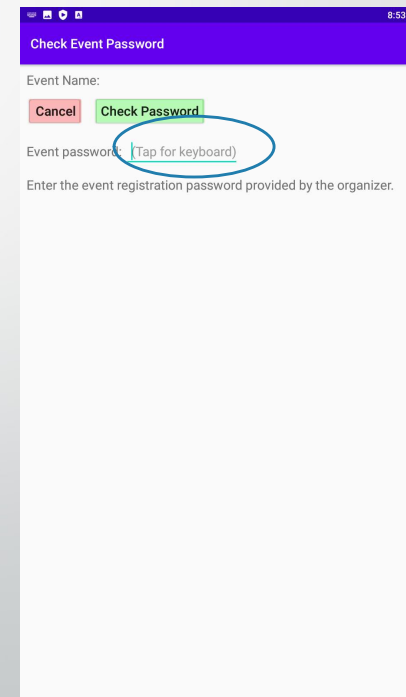
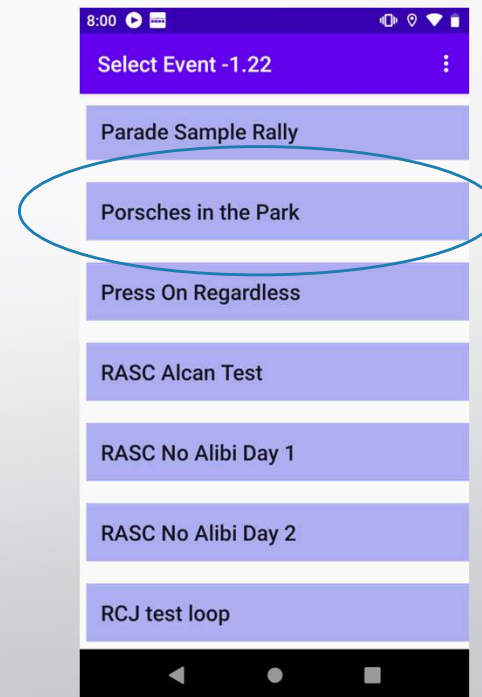
- ***Only use one phone for the app. Running two phones for the same car will cause scoring issues!*** *If you have a second phone in the car (recommended for contacting the RM's if necessary), do not run the app on that phone and the following doesn't apply to that phone. In all remaining discussion, we are referring only to the device that's running the app.*
- In order for the audio to work properly, it is important that your device is using its own audio rather than trying to connect with the car. The following is highly recommended!
  - Disable Bluetooth on the device.
  - If you are plugging the device in to the car for charging purposes, plug it in to a charger only (ideally not into the same connection you use for audio, CarPlay/Android Auto, etc.).
- Prior to start of the route, conduct an audio check (described in later slide) with the device in the vehicle, engine running, exactly as you intend to conduct the drive.
- Note that if your audio doesn't work, don't panic– you'll still get visible notifications on the app. Your scores will be fine.





## At the event – Register your car

- ***Register your car on one phone only. Running two phones for the same car will cause scoring issues which cannot be fixed after the event!***
- Once the driver and navigator check in, you will receive your car number and the password for the event.
- Open the Competitor app. If asked, allow the app to access your device's location, and accept the privacy policy.
- Select "Porsches in the Park" event
- Enter the event password





# At the event – Register your car

- This will bring up “Register Car” dialog. Enter your provided car number.
- Enter a password. This is a personal password used so that other competitors can’t log into your car number. Then click “Save”
  - Recommendation if you’re not great at remembering passwords – use driver’s first name and first letter of last name. That will prevent other competitors from accidentally logging into your car, but also makes it easy for us to guess what your password might be if you forget!
- This will bring up car registration screen. This identifies your car to the Rally Master, and lets us know how to contact you if needed.
  - We’re not using classes, so OK to leave this field blank.
  - Enter email where you would like to be contacted
  - Enter driver/navigator names – just first names is fine
  - Enter phone number where we can contact you during the rally. If you have a second phone with you (that won’t be running the app), list that phone number so we don’t interfere with the app if we have to call you.
  - Click “Add” or “Submit Info” when done

Register Car

Event Name: Porsches in the Park

Cancel Save

Car Number: (Tap for keyboard)

Password: (Tap for keyboard)

Enter car number and password, press "Save"

8:36

< Car Registration

Enter your class

Enter your email

jthomso4@gmail.com

Enter driver / navigator names

John/Diane

Enter phone number

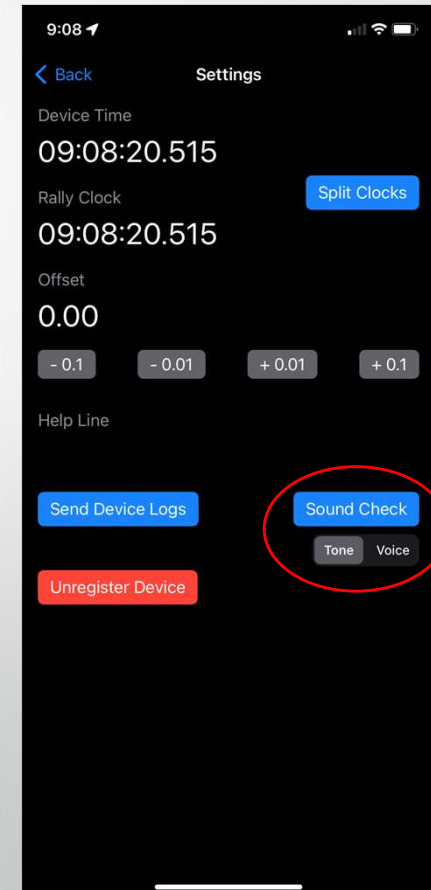
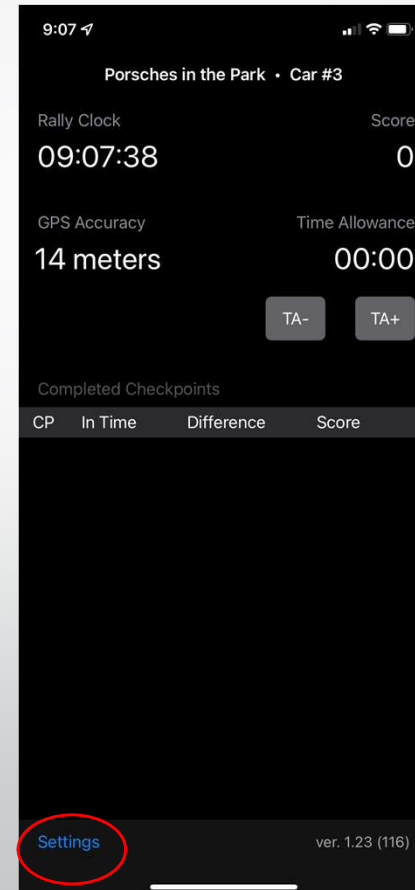
(734) 673-8155

Submit Info



# Sound Check (Apple)

- Once you've submitted your info, you should see the main screen.
- You may immediately hear a checkpoint ding (we will have a nontimed checkpoint near the registration desk)
- If not (or if you want to double-check or modify the sound), click "Settings" on the main screen.
- On the Settings screen, click "Sound Check" to hear a test notification.
  - If you prefer a voice notification, click the "Voice" button and then verify with "Sound Check".
  - Otherwise, leave "Tone" selected.
- If you don't hear any sound, verify that you have Bluetooth turned off and phone isn't in silent mode, then try again





# Sound Check (Android)

- Once you've submitted your info, you should see the main screen.
- You may immediately hear a checkpoint ding (we will have a nontimed checkpoint near the registration desk)
- If not (or if you want to double-check or modify the sound), click the three dots on the upper right of the main screen.
- In the drop-down menu, click "Sound Check"
  - If you don't hear a sound, click "Toggle Sound" and try again
- If you don't hear any sound, verify that you have Bluetooth turned off and phone isn't in silent mode, then try again

The image displays two screenshots of the rally application interface. The left screenshot shows the main screen with a red circle highlighting the three-dot menu icon in the top right corner. The right screenshot shows the same screen with the menu open, and a red arrow pointing to the 'Sound Check' option.

Test Porsches in the Park - Car #66

Rally Clock: 20:33:09

Score: 0

GPS Accuracy: 1.0 meters

Time Allowance: 0:00

Completed Checkpoints:

CP	In Time	Difference	Score
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Unregister Ver 1.22

Test Porsches in the Park - Car #66

Rally Clock: 20:34:38

Score: 0

GPS Accuracy: 1.0 meters

Time Allowance: 0:00

Completed Checkpoints:

CP	In Time	Difference	Score
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Unregister Ver 1.22

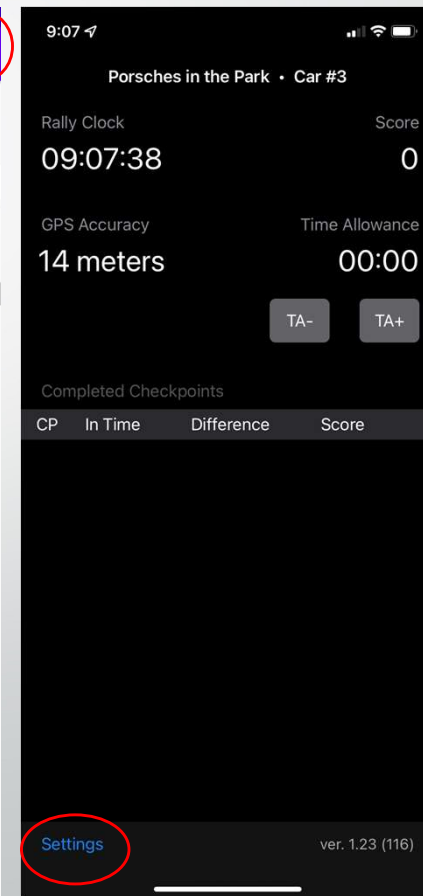
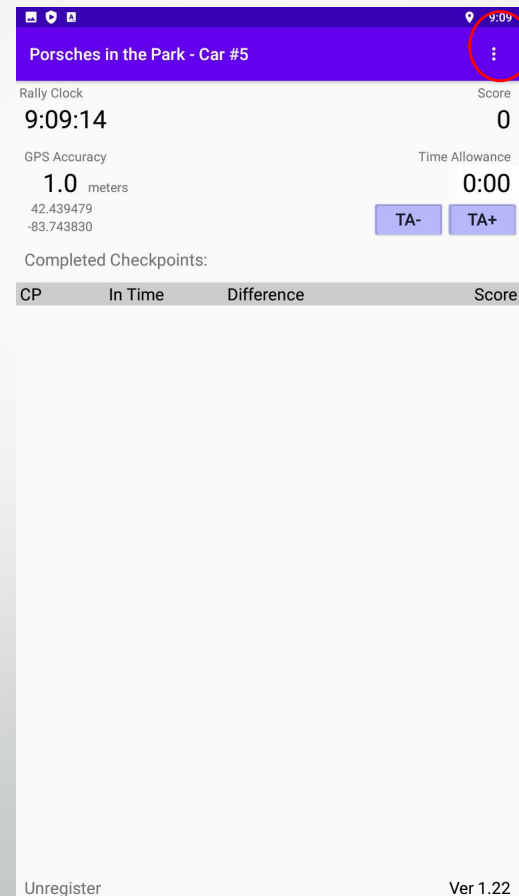
Menu options:

- Show Help Line Phone #
- Show Broadcast Message
- Mail Timeslips
- Mail Debug Log
- Trim Debug Log
- Comms Check
- Sound Check
- Toggle Sound
- Change Event (Unregister)



# You're ready to rally!

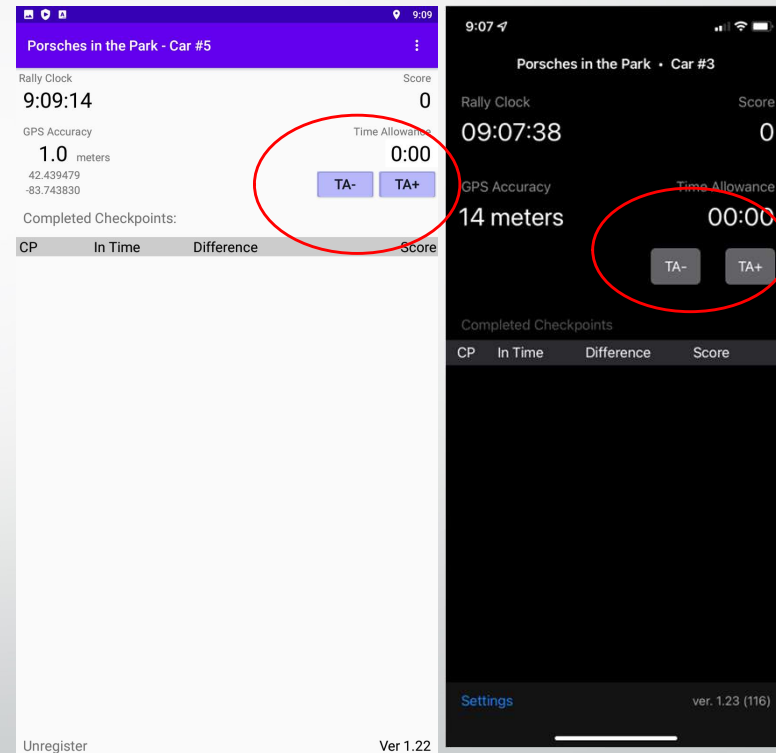
- Once you've submitted your info, you should see the main screen
  - Rally Clock – this is the official time for the rally. Use this as your reference for start time, and any time-based instructions during the rally.
  - GPS accuracy – indicates the current accuracy of your phone's GPS. If you're reading over 10 meters, see if you can position your phone with a better view of the sky, but don't worry– anything <20 meters is fine for this rally.
  - Score – your current score based on completed legs. Note that this is provisional; if any errors are found in ideal leg times or RI's, this could change later.
  - Time Allowance will be discussed more in another slide. TA+ adds time, TA- subtracts time.
  - Completed Checkpoints. As you pass checkpoints, the CP #, the time that you passed it, the raw time difference early or late, and your score for that leg will be listed.
  - Settings (Apple) or More (...) for Android (circled in red) will be discussed on next slide



# Time Allowances



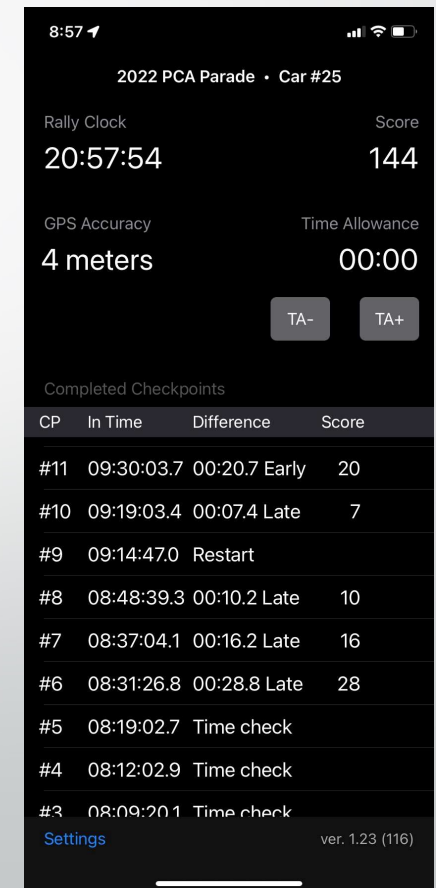
- Time allowances are the only thing you need to actively “do” in the app during the rally.
- Whenever you find yourself behind the ideal time (due to traffic, construction, etc.), use a time allowance to adjust your actual time. This prevents any need to “make up time”.
- If you find yourself behind time, take a time allowance by clicking the “TA+” button. This will add time delays in increments of 10 seconds up to 30 seconds total, and then in 60 seconds (so delays can be taken for 0:10, 0:20, 0:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, etc.). Maximum TA time per leg is limited to 19:30.
- If you have taken more delay than you need, use the “TA-” button to reduce the allowance.
- If you want to take a delay other than the available options, simply take the next higher TA and then simply pause safely on the route in order to get back on time.
  - Example – team is delayed 2 minutes and 10 seconds at a train crossing. Team takes 2:30 in time allowance, and simply delays safely for 20 additional seconds to get back on time.
- Time allowances must be taken before the end of the current leg (next checkpoint). Since you don’t know where those checkpoints are, make sure to take your TA as soon as possible after the delay occurs!



# During the Event



- During the rally, you really don't need to worry about the app for anything other than time allowances (TA).
- On its own, the app will record the time at which you pass checkpoints and calculate your score. Various checkpoint types are:
  - Time check – will display time that you passed the checkpoint, but no score is recorded. RSR uses these particularly during the odo leg so you can see how the app works as you pass checkpoints.
  - Restart – no score recorded; this just means a scored leg has started.
  - Scored checkpoint – indicates the end of a scored leg (may also be the beginning of a new scored leg). Will show your time at the CP, the time difference between your actual time and the ideal time, whether you were Early (too fast) or Late (too slow), along with your Score for that leg. Your score is just your score in seconds, rounded down (for instance, 1.9 seconds early or late is a score of 1). There is a maximum score per leg, typically set to 300 seconds.



# At the End of the Event



- The app won't give you any particular notification of the end of the rally– it will just record the last checkpoint like any other.
- When you're done with the rally, follow the route instructions to the check-in location to let the RM's you've completed the rally. They can make sure your scores have uploaded properly.
- After you've checked in and verified all is complete, make sure to close the app or unregister the event (see slide 7). Otherwise it can continue to use GPS in the background, hurting your battery life.