

# VARIETY NT



• BASH •

# BASH HANDBOOK



**THE VARIETY BASH - *Ya gotta do it!***

# Contents



<b>Introduction</b>	1	<b>4. FUNdraising and Sponsorship</b>	
<b>1. Rules and Regulations (serious)</b>		a. FUNdraising	13
a. Event Control	2	b. Bank Accounts/Banking of Funds	14
b. The Absolute “No Discussion Entered Into” Rules (No Exceptions)	2	c. Bash Logo	15
c. Road Rules and Other Laws	3	d. Raffles/Lotteries	15
d. The Bash Code of Conduct	3	e. Sponsorship	16
e. Bash Route	3	f. Putting a Proposal Together	17
f. Firearms, Fireworks, Flares	4	g. Marketing and Use of Variety Bash Logo	17
g. Litter	4	h. Publicity	19
h. Behaviour Not Tolerated	4	i. Video Coverage	19
		j. You Don’t Have To Do It Alone	19
<b>2. Registration and Your Team</b>		<b>5. On the Bash</b>	
a. Registration Fees	5	a. Normal Bash Day (...There’s No Such Thing)	21
b. Entry Fee	5	b. Route Instructions	22
c. Participant’s Fees	6	c. Route Markers	22
d. Team Prerequisites	6	d. Steps When Arriving in Town	23
e. Car Registration	6	e. Overtaking	23
f. Insurance	6	f. Radios	24
<b>3. Bash Vehicles and Preparation</b>		g. Front Door Panels/Stickers	24
a. Age of Vehicles	7	h. Vehicle Entry Numbers	24
b. Vehicle – Bash Worthiness	7	i. Decals	24
c. Bash Vehicle Must Haves as per Scrutineer Checklist	8	j. Officials	25
d. Bash Vehicle Modifications	10	k. Mobile Workshops	25
e. Tools and Repairs	10	l. Accommodation (You’re Dreaming!)	26
f. Towing	10	m. Meals	27
g. Additional Equipment	10	n. Awards and Trophies	27
h. Spare Parts	12	o. Scamming and Bribes	28
i. Odometers	12		

# Introduction

## ♥ *Dear Basher*

A Variety Bash is one of the world's great motoring adventure/charity fundraising events. Australia is the only continent where its citizens' can travel on dirt roads and tracks across vast deserts and wooded flood plains to tropical and temperate destinations in freedom and relative safety.

Our Variety colleagues interstate also stage varying motoring adventures within their States and Territories in Australia, with one common purpose, being to maximise fundraising for children in need so we can grant much needed equipment or services to individual children, or community projects.

Your fundraising and participation in a Variety Bash will have a positive impact on the lives of many children. The children may not know you by your name, but by your contribution which makes their lives that little more enriched. On behalf of the

children and communities that you touch in one way or another. We would like to express their gratitude.

The Variety Bash experience is also one of mateship. You can travel with old friends and make new ones along the way. There are many challenges to be faced and a sense of personal achievement and self-reward awaits you once you complete a Bash.

Expect more than a little bit of scamming along the way as you will be travelling with some of the greatest comen and women ever assembled.

Whatever you do, don't take it all too seriously. Our promise to you is to put the fun back into FUNdraising. Want to know more? Contact the Bash crew at Variety NT. Thank you for helping us assist children in need in the NT that rely on Variety's help. The rewards are huge as witnessed by the miles of smiles you will personally witness on a Bash.



# Rules and Regulations (serious)



## a. Event Control

In the interests of safety, insurance and event management, the requests and directions of all people designated by Variety to be Officials will be always observed.

If, in the opinion of the Bash Chair, a participant's or team's behavior compromises the interests of other participants, the Bash or Variety Northern Territory (NT) then that participant or team may be asked to withdraw from the event and will not be invited to participate in future Bashes.

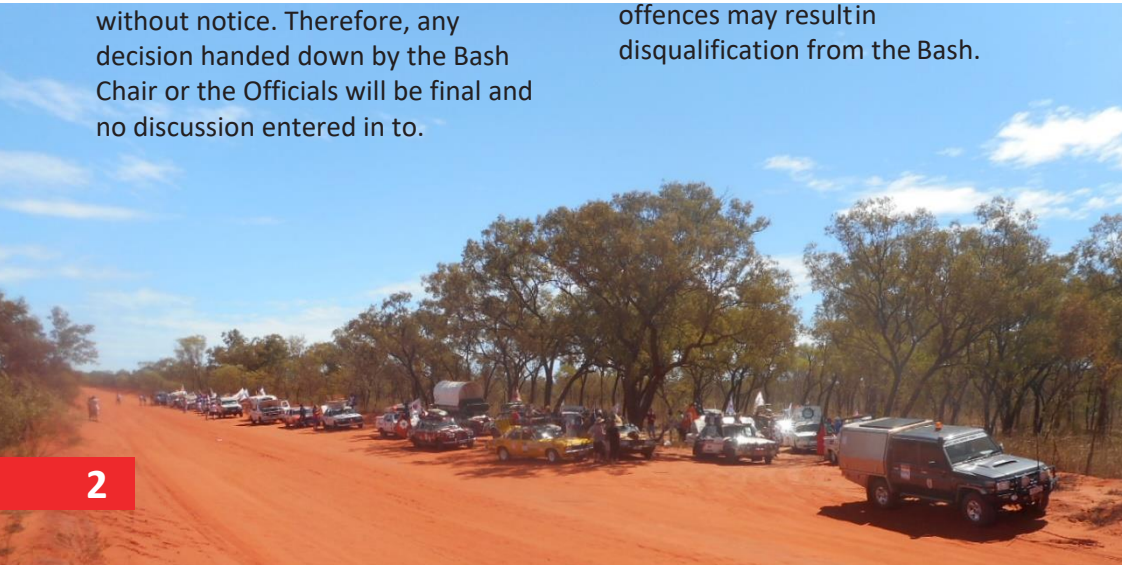
The Bash Rules have been forged over the years through common sense and safe practice, and amendments as practical can be made by the Bash Chair or the Officials at their absolute discretion without notice. Therefore, any decision handed down by the Bash Chair or the Officials will be final and no discussion entered in to.

## b. The Absolute "No Discussion Entered Into" Rules (No exceptions)

There are 4 absolute rules – no exceptions:

- Adherence to Bash Vehicle compliance standards is paramount for safety reasons for all Bashes and the general public;
- Deliberately traversing a dirt road closed by the Bash Chair due to it being affected by adverse weather conditions;
- Tampering with road signs will NOT be tolerated. The outback is dangerous enough without Bashes getting lost;
- Tampering with other Bash vehicles, personal items and Official vehicles is also not permitted.

Committing any of the above four offences may result in disqualification from the Bash.



# Rules and Regulations (serious)

*continued*



## **b. Road Rules and Other Laws**

The Bash is neither a speed event nor a race. The Bash is not exempt from the normal road and traffic rules. In particular, infringements of speed limits and blood alcohol limits can/ will be prosecuted by the Police.

All entrants agree to wear a designated sober driver ID while driving (supplied to each crew). The ID signifies and obliges the wearer to be alcohol free or under the legal blood alcohol limit (.05) at all times whilst driving. Random breath tests may at any time be carried out by Bash Officials or Police and all drivers agree to submit to such tests.

## **c. The Bash Code of Conduct**

Bashers are bound by the Code of Conduct. Bashers must acquaint themselves with its contents and always comply. A copy is available from the Variety NT website and all participants are to sign and return to the Variety NT office.

Entrants who, by breaking the law, disobeying the Code of Conduct, driving over the legal alcohol limit or behaving in a dangerous manner, bring discredit to the Bash and/or Variety may be asked to withdraw and must do so immediately upon request by the Bash Chair or delegate, and will not be invited to

participate in future Variety motoring events.

## **d. Bash Route**

The Bash route is that set by the Bash Chair with the approval of road owners. If these roads are affected, eg by adverse weather conditions, Officials will liaise with local Councils, station owners/ managers and any other appropriate bodies to determine an alternative route. Participants who disregard instructions to abort the original route face bash ejection.

We are the guests of property owners and local communities. Please leave gates as you find them. Report any damage to gates or fences or collisions with stock immediately to the Bash Chair. Arrangements will then be made to repair or compensate the landowner for damage.

You must never:

- Affix advertising decals and stickers to gates and signs
- Wire shut or padlock boundary and paddock gates
- Smear grease or other substances over gates or accessories

Tampering with road or Bash signs is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.

# Rules and Regulations (serious)

*continued*



## e. Firearms, Fireworks, Flares

Participants are prohibited from carrying firearms on the Bash.

Fireworks are a hazard to the environment and human safety and are therefore banned from the Bash. Licensed fireworks display organised or approved by the Bash Chair is the only exception to the above.

Flares are for emergency use only unless special dispensation has been obtained in writing from the Bash Chair.

## f. Litter

Please ensure you pack rubbish bags in your Bash vehicle and use them. Dispose of bags in the bins provided at each overnight stop. Local communities should not have to clean up after us. Litter is not to be thrown from any bash vehicle.

## g. Behavior Not Tolerated

- **Food projectiles** – The throwing of flour bombs, eggs and any other food is banned. They leave a terrible mess in the towns we visit and tarnishes the Variety name.
- **Throwing of lollies from cars** – The throwing of sweets from vehicles to children can be dangerous and is therefore not permitted.
- **Cheating** – Cheating is not allowed and not encouraged. Anyone caught cheating should expect to pay a heavy fine to Variety.



# Registration and Your Team

## a. Registration Fees

**Registration fee \$600 incl GST separate from fundraising.**

Entries are not transferable. The person or persons who obtain the entry is the Entrant. The entry is not attached to a vehicle.

Entries each year will be invited and accepted at the absolute discretion of the Bash Chair.

The number of spaces available for each Bash may be limited. Generally, entry in a Bash is on a first comes first in basis.

Once registered, teams will be sent an induction pack of Bash information and supporting promotional tools.

## Entry Fee

**Minimum \$5,000**

Entrants who do not pay each instalment of the entry fee by the due date (as set out in the Application for Entry and the Bash Newsletters) could automatically forfeit their position and any part of their entry fee which has already been paid to Variety NT.

## Entry Fee Instalments

- a) An initial non-refundable entry fee must accompany your entry form. This deposit includes GST and is not tax deductible.
- b) Subsequent instalments as specified in the entry form are required to be paid to the Variety NT Office by the date specified.

b.



# Registration and Your Team

*continued*

## **c. Participant's Fees**

Vary from year to year and are approximately \$140 per day and include camping, meals, entertainment, merchandise, public liability and Ambulance officials.

## **d. Team Prerequisites**

All participants must be over 18 years of age.

Teams will be no less than two and no more than four people, or such other number permitted at the Bash Chair's discretion.

All participants driving in the Bash must have a current driver's license.

Agreement to Terms and Conditions, Code of Conduct and Publicity Consent forms (available from the Variety NT website) must be signed by all participants prior to commencing the Bash.

If a team comprises any more than one car and crew, they must carry the

same theme i.e. Fairies 1 & Fairies 2 or common numbering system (eg Car 25.1, 25.2, 25.3). Each car would be required to pay the vehicle entry fee and raise the minimum fundraising contribution in their own right.

## **e. Car Registration**

All Bash vehicles must have current registration covering the full period of the Bash and a Department of Motor Vehicles certificate in those states where applicable must be produced.

## **f. Insurance**

Third party property insurance is essential for all Entrants as a minimum.





# Bash Vehicles and Preparation

## a. Age of Vehicles

Year of Construction: Vehicles shall be manufactured 30 years prior to the Bash Start\*. Exceptions to this will be made only at the discretion of the Bash Chair and for specific reasons e.g. elaborately themed car.

\*Cars 25yrs and older registered into the 2022 NT Bash are exempt.

## b. Vehicle – Bash Worthiness

Nothing beats a well-prepared vehicle for pleasurable driving on the Bash. Vehicle owners must also ensure that:

- all Bash vehicles are registered
- roadworthy
- good mechanical condition
- all safety equipment, such as fire extinguishers, first aid kits, seat belts and UHF radios are fitted
- all vehicles conform to the rules of the event
- all vehicles have number panels, numbers and the official sponsors' decals affixed and prominently displayed

Entrants are given a copy of the Bash Vehicle Compliance Form that lists items, parts etc that must be checked and repaired or replaced by a qualified mechanic prior to the Bash Start. A registered mechanic must check off this compliance list and sign



The signed form must be returned to the Variety office by a week prior to Bash Start.

The preparation of a Bash vehicle requires thought and planning and should be undertaken as soon as possible. You should leave enough time to run a few kilometres on a 'shakedown' to be sure that you encounter no problems.

**REMEMBER** – if your vehicle is not ready – **NO START!** Be prepared that your vehicle may need to be surrendered for freighting one –two weeks prior to commencement.

Variety NT reserves the right to ask the owner of any Bash vehicle to produce a roadworthy certificate prior to the commencement of the Bash. Officials can at any time on the Bash ask to sight the roadworthy certificate if they have any reason to suspect the Bash vehicle is not roadworthy so carry this with you.

# Bash Vehicles and Preparation

*continued*

## c. Bash Vehicle Must Haves as per Scrutineer Checklist

All Bash vehicles will comply with and have fitted at the start of the Bash:

- **Brakes** – Bash vehicles can have original type brakes fitted, or be converted to disc brakes if recommended by qualified personnel. It is imperative your brakes are in good working condition.
- **Engine Size and Modifications** – The engine shall not be of a later model car, or of a larger capacity than that permitted for that model car at the time of construction.
- **Seat Belts** – Bash vehicles must have seat belts for ALL passengers and need to be either full harness or lap/sash.
- **Suspension** – check to see if the springs and shock absorbers fitted to your vehicle are satisfactory for outback conditions. Bash vehicles should have the original springs modified and heavy-duty shock absorbers added to increase ground clearance.
- **Sump Protection Plates** – The sump guard cover is fitted from the front of the engine to the rear of the gearbox (excluding the extension housing) and mounted for easy removal.
- **Transmission** – Bash vehicles may have column or floor gear shifts and have manual or automatic transmission. Stronger gearboxes are recommended.



# Bash Vehicles and Preparation

*continued*

- **Tyres** – Appropriate tyres and rims are to be fitted to all Bash vehicles. All Bash vehicles must take two (2) spare tyres and rims.
- **Radios** – All vehicles must be fitted with a 40-channel UHF radio. These are for safety reasons and for communication between vehicles.
- **Lights** – It is essential that each vehicle in the Bash has a rear mounted Dust Light and a high mounted Stop Light. Flashing Lights may only be fitted to vehicles in accordance with State Legislation. Flashing red and blue emergency lights are NOT permitted.
- **Windscreen Washing Reservoirs** – Variety recommends that a larger capacity water reservoir be fitted to your Bash vehicle. One tried and true substitute reservoir is a 2 litre cordial bottle.
- **Radiators** – Make sure your radiator has been cleaned out and is suitable for long distances and difficult conditions.
- **Fuel Tanks** – An extra fuel tank may be fitted provided this tank is vented outside of the passenger and luggage compartments and filled from outside the passenger compartment. Additional fuel may be carried in jerry cans but cannot be stored in the passenger compartment and MUST be tied down. All Bash vehicles will be required to have sufficient fuel for a four hundred and fifty (450) kilometre range.
- **Exhaust** – Excessive exhaust noise will not be permitted.
- **Cargo Barriers** – It is advisable to have approved cargo barriers fitted to all station wagons and vans.



# Bash Vehicles and Preparation

*continued*

## **d. Bash Vehicle Modifications**

All Bash vehicles **MUST** be modified and fitted with the following:

- Sump, gearbox and petrol tank protection plates
- Engine securing devices to prevent the engine from being forced back into the passenger compartment or forward into the radiator
- Laminated windscreen
- Safety strap to be fitted under front of tail shaft
- Mud flaps

## **e. Tools and Repairs**

All Bash vehicles must carry basic tools including an adjustable spanner, one jack, a tyre repair kit, jumper leads, a portable light and a shovel. Full back-up emergency service provided by the mobile workshop crews including towing, welding and mechanical repairs will be available to all Entrants.

These are considered temporary repairs only and should be checked by a qualified person at the first opportunity.

## **Towing**

All Bash vehicles must allow for the ability to be towed out of sticky situations. All Bash vehicles should carry one tow rope or heavy-duty snatch strap. Steel ropes, light duty snatch straps and thin ropes will not be permitted as towing devices.

## **f. Additional Equipment**

Ensure you have the following:

- A First Aid Kit
- A Radio (UHF)
- Twenty (20) litres of Water
- Additional fuel if required (20L)





# Bash Vehicles and Preparation

*continued*

## **g. Spare Parts**

All Bash vehicles must carry on the bash:

- Five (5) litres of oil
- Spare nuts and bolts (suitable to your vehicle)
- Spare fan belt
- Fire extinguisher
- Spare fuel and oil filters
- Fencing wire and pliers
- Spare globes for brake light and dust light
- Container of brake fluid

- Wheel bearings
- Uni joints
- Upper and lower ball joints and tie rod
- Set of wheel studs and nuts
- 100 mile an hour tape (duct tape)
- Fuel hose (500mm)

## **i. Odometers**

As most Bash vehicles will not be travelling with standard tyres, odometers should be checked over a measured distance.

Route instructions will be given in kilometres. It is essential that each Bash vehicle's odometer is working.



# FUNdraising and Sponsorship

## a. FUNdraising

There are a few simple rules that Entrants should observe when seeking fundraising or sponsorship.

The Bash is not a free holiday, 100% of all monies raised by you through sponsorship, functions, raffles etc. must be given to and officially received by Variety NT.

The cost of preparing your vehicle, your meals, merchandise, and travel expenses is your personal responsibility. Make your sponsors aware that their cash donations will directly assist children in need and emphasise that you and your team are covering all other related expenses.

Variety NT does not align our organisation with sponsors whose business activities are inappropriate for a children's charity and not in keeping with the corporate image of Variety NT.

Entrants should be aware of this policy when sourcing sponsors or holding fundraising events. Please speak to the Bash Chair or General Manager prior to committing to a sponsor, or organising an event that may contravene this policy. (Read the above again – this is MOST IMPORTANT).

Please advise the Variety NT office of your event so we can support and promote it.



# FUNdraising and Sponsorship

*continued*



## **b. Bank Accounts/Banking of Funds**

Never at any time must the name of Variety NT, Variety Bash, Bash Car or anything similar appear on a bank account controlled by a participant. Bash teams should not operate bank accounts for funds raised – all money raised (including sponsorship) must be forwarded directly to Variety NT for receipting, so the funds can be used to provide Grants to kids straight away. Sponsors' cheques must be made out to Variety NT.

Entrants are welcome to deposit funds into the Variety NT account using their vehicle number as a reference. In this event, notification of your deposit and details of the nominated recipient of the receipt MUST be forwarded to the Variety NT Office. If you are unclear about any of the above, please contact the office: 08 8981 2544.

We know that some of you like to surprise us with your fundraising abilities at the very last minute, however, please spare a thought for our staff and limited resources. The last week before the Bash has proven to be extremely hectic and, therefore, monies must be paid in to the Variety NT office by COB the Friday 2 weeks prior to the Bash, or at

a date nominated by Variety NT, to be eligible for the Fundraiser Awards.

However, we are always delighted to accept money for our kids at any time.

Details of all contributions credited to your Bash Entry are confidential and only available to the Bash Chair. At no time will other entrants have access to this information.

The general procedure to follow for submitting your sponsors donations is to mark your entrant number on the back of the cheques and send them to the Variety NT office. Receipts will then be issued to the sponsor/donor with a thank you.

Receipts will only be issued for donations directed to Variety. Receipts cannot be issued for parts donated for the car, or other donations not received by Variety.

Visit our website to access the online donation portal.





# FUNdraising and Sponsorship

*continued*



**BASH**

## **c. Bash Logo**

The Variety logo cannot be used in any documentation made up for the team (such as team letterhead) for their entries without prior approval of the Variety NT General Manager or Bash Chair.

The Bash Logo should be used in all fundraising promotions and on all printing and advertising material (raffle tickets included). It is imperative that your car number is the predominant feature of the title, then, and only then, should you mention that Variety is the beneficiary of your particular fundraising activity.

For example:

- *CAR NO 444 (Raising funds for the Variety NT Bash), or*
- *CAR NO 444 (Raising funds for Variety's special needs children through the Variety NT Bash)*

## **d. Raffles/Lotteries**

Entrants must ensure that they comply with any legal requirements regarding lotteries, raffles or other games of chance. Prizes with a value over \$5,000 need a lottery licence number. Contact the Variety NT office if you are not sure.



# FUNdraising and Sponsorship

*continued*



## **e. Sponsorship**

Most entrants will be approaching sponsors, so here are a few tips about fundraising:

- Draw up a plan of attack. Do you have contacts in big business? If you approach the big guns, be aware the more you want from each source the more you'll need to put into each proposal and follow through. If you don't have these contacts then more traditional methods of fundraising such as quiz nights, raffles etc can be very fruitful.
- Identify your potential sponsorship targets. You need to know the products, services and distribution network of these companies and, most importantly, the right person to speak to (who has the financial delegation to authorise spending sponsorship money). In large companies, any proposal not addressed to the appropriate individual will often go unnoticed.
- Identify the return on investment to the sponsor. The sponsor will want to know what is in it for them. Tell them what route the Bash is taking, what exposure will be gained in media, what steps they may be able to take themselves to capitalise on the sponsorship, and how you will promote their product (keep it relevant).
- Come up with a novel idea or theme to make your car and team stand out from the crowd. Unusual decor or superb paint work will alert your sponsor that their car will be noticed. Basing your entry on some community effort involving children with special needs will provide linkage between the sponsor and the community.
- Do not leave it too late – the sponsor will think it's an afterthought.
- If you are considering contacting a large company (eg Coca Cola), please check with the Variety NT Office first. Many of these companies already support Variety and we need to avoid duplication.
- Requesting product for raffle/ auction will often bring a better response than a request for money.

# FUNdraising and Sponsorship

*continued*



## f. Putting a Proposal Together

Please remember the following:

- It must be professional. Have someone type it up if you do not have a computer. Include photos or sketches of what you propose the car will look like in the sponsor's logos/colours. You must present as professional when you get the chance to present your proposal.
- Highlight tax deductibility benefits of donations and that money will go to Variety NT. Include Variety NT information to show the sponsor's how Variety NT works for children in need in the NT.
- Make the car available for promotions by the sponsor. If possible, speak to their marketing department as they may have some innovative ideas.

## g. Marketing and Use of Variety Bash Logo

The copying or use (in whole or in part) of the Variety logo or any other intellectual property belonging to Variety is not permitted on letterhead, in advertising material, brochures, tickets or other medium without prior written permission of the Variety NT General Manager.

In general the Variety Bash logo is the logo to be used for promoting your fundraising events and can be obtained from the Variety office.

When marketing your Bash car/crew:

- Be prepared to make personal appearances with your vehicle for your sponsor and to be available to talk to Apex, Rotary or Lions etc on behalf of your sponsor.
- Arrange to have the car on display or launched at shopping centres or at a sponsor's premises.



# FUNdraising and Sponsorship

*continued*



**BASH**

- Make sure sponsors are mentioned whenever the opportunity arises.
- Keep your sponsors informed about what is happening with the event and the progress of the car. Pass on the information and newsletters you get from the Variety NT office.
- Invite your sponsor to join you in the vehicle on the Bash.
- Invite your sponsor to a Bash Drinks gathering, or to other Variety events such as the Variety of Chefs, a Golf Day, Race Day function etc.
- Use your local newspaper, television stations, or radio stations and keep them informed about your team.
- Make it a matter of pride that your entry is a well sponsored and well-presented vehicle.
- Personally contact the media and have a prepared statement to give them detailing name of event, dates, names of people in your team, vehicle being entered and who has prepared the vehicle. Go to the extent of preparing a typed media release for them – journalists don't like handwriting. **YOU MUST** run any releases, etc past the Variety NT Office – this will ensure up to date information is included.
- Try to involve the local media as part sponsors – other sponsors will then know they will get coverage.
- Have photos taken of the car and team to give the media.
- Have just one spokesperson otherwise too many people contacting the media about the same team will have a negative effect.
- Try to be original in your choice of vehicle or decoration and colour. The media is looking for something a little different that stands out and there is not a story in being just another car.



# FUNdraising and Sponsorship

*continued*



## **h. Publicity**

The Variety NT Office prepares and distributes media releases and media information. These go to every metropolitan, suburban and regional media outlet, including all media outlets on the Bash route.

This information will give overall details of the event. In addition, media outlets are directed to entrants in their local area when an enquiry is received for stories with local interest. While great efforts are directed to a media campaign, exposure in media is never guaranteed. The success of a media campaign can depend on several external factors that are not under Variety's control.

By entering the Bash, you consent to publicity by Variety NT.

## **i. Video Coverage**

Production crews may accompany the Bash and if it is appropriate each Basher will receive a USB or download link of the Bash Movie and photos.

## **j. You Don't Have To Do It Alone**

The Variety NT office team are happy to assist with a range of supporting promotional materials, event promotion through their social media and database channels, raffle ticket sales opportunities and prizes and general helpful tips. Call the Variety NT office to discuss.





## a. Normal Bash Day (...There's No Such Thing!)

While the Bash is in part a holiday, there's no sleeping in late as the start will generally be at 8.30 am. A full breakfast will be served from usually between 7.00 am to 8.00 am. Ensure you know where the start is located (it will help).

The day is divided by lunch at a venue that can accommodate all the vehicles. Each vehicle will be checked off as you leave in the morning, as you arrive and leave lunch and as you arrive in town each night. This is important – this is how we identify if any vehicles are missing. It is essential that you check in at the designated check point (usually the pathfinder or nominated Official) and as you arrive at the overnight destination.

The evening's festivities include a hearty meal at a local venue which may again be a hall, pub or sportsground. In some instances, there'll be some form of entertainment, either arranged by the locals or provided by the Officials or entrants. In most instances, the evening meal will usually be between 7pm – 9pm (within reason).

Meals will be available for those who are late due to breakdowns etc. Meals will not be held because you are partying elsewhere and have not bothered to get to a venue.

Entrants' briefings normally take place during breakfast. At least one representative from each car must attend. These will normally be at set times through the Event.



# On the Bash

*continued*



## **b. Route Instructions**

You'll receive route instructions for the Bash each day. These are given out each morning and you should follow them carefully.

**DO NOT FOLLOW THE CAR IN FRONT  
– THEY MAY BE LOST!!!**

Do not deliberately deviate from the Bash Route. If you are going off Route you **MUST** notify an Official.

**DRIVE TO THE CONDITIONS OF THE  
ROAD AND YOUR CAPABILITIES.**

## **c. Route Markers**

Route markers are witches hats marked with Variety stickers. The Pathfinder vehicle will lay out a number of route markers during each day. They're generally used to denote the correct direction to turn (in the case of indistinct signs or a detour required because of changes to road conditions between the last route survey and the Bash). They may also denote a section of the track where caution is required (such as a wash away, a pothole, entry onto main roads etc).

At times when extreme changes need to be made due to changed road conditions – other signage may be utilised.





# On the Bash

*continued*

## d. Steps When Arriving in Town

These are the steps you should take when arriving in town at the overnight stop:

- Check In – Ascertain where the evening meal venue is being held and where the Baggage Truck is situated
- Fuel up your vehicle
- Retrieve any items you require this evening (like swags) or tomorrow morning (fun stop stuff) from Baggage Truck NOW
- Find your accommodation
- Go to dinner

If you follow these steps in that order, you will be prepared to leave in the morning without great difficulties.

## e. Overtaking

Take care when overtaking. It is polite to advise the vehicle of your intention to overtake. Give them time to respond by moving to the left and slowing down BEFORE you overtake. An example of polite two-way radio communication is:

*Car 15 this is Car 543, we wish to overtake/come around Car 543, this is Car 15, clear to proceed.*

Always remember the most important rule when driving is to DRIVE TO THE CONDITIONS OF THE ROAD.



# On the Bash

*continued*

## f. Radios

All Bash vehicles must be fitted with an operating UHF radio. This is perhaps the most important piece of equipment on the Bash and, as such, it must be treated with respect. The main reasons for using your UHF are:

1. To warn other drivers of your intention to pass.
2. To warn other drivers behind you of any impending danger, or oncoming traffic.
3. To advise the Officials and Mechanics in the event of a breakdown.

**Please note:** In the event of an emergency, you should avoid using your UHF unless you are directly involved.

Finally, we'd appreciate your cooperation in only using the UHF for the reasons above. If the airwaves are clogged through general chatter, then you may hinder the passage of important information, or delay the response to an emergency.

## g. Front Door Panels/Stickers

Front door panels with vehicle entry number will be provided by the Variety NT Office and all Bash vehicles must have those panels fitted to both front doors.

Your car vehicle entry number will be allocated in consultation with the Variety NT Office.

Vehicle entry numbers must also be affixed to the top left of the windscreen and top right of the rear window of your Bash vehicle.

These will be provided by the Variety NT Office at the commencement of the Bash.

## h. decals

Official sponsor decals/stickers will be provided by the Variety NT Office and must be prominently displayed on each Bash vehicle.



# On the Bash

*continued*

## j. Officials

Officials are primarily focused on ensuring everyone gets to the finish safely while having a good time.

Officials raise funds, pay all their own expenses, cheerfully put up with the ravings of the Bash Chair while working long hours for free and missing most of the fun.

The basis of our 'Safety System' is the tracking of entrants from start to finish during each day. As the outback of Australia can still be a potentially dangerous environment, it is important that all entrants are accounted for. Those not accounted for at checkpoints will be notified to our Bash Chair who will contact Official vehicles and divert them to search for missing entrants. Thus, a prime responsibility of Officials is to continually monitor the radio set fitted to their vehicle.

Our satellite phone also allows us to contact emergency services in a hurry if need be. We would appreciate it if everyone would help the Officials with their objectives by following their directions.

## k. Mobile Workshops

The Bash Chair, at their sole discretion, will invite or accept 4WD vehicle or vehicles deemed fit, as authorised mobile workshop vehicles to assist the Bash.

These authorised mobile workshop crews provide their own vehicles and of course pay their participants fees. They are volunteers.

All authorised mobile workshop vehicles should have a minimum crew of two (2) people. All authorised mobile workshop vehicles must have at least one (1) mechanic and carry welding and towing gear and a selection of tools.

All authorised mobile workshops come under the control of the Bash Chair. The mobile workshops play a vital part in the Bash to assist you in the event of a breakdown.

If you need a mobile workshop at any time, please note the following:

1. Before calling on your radio, try to pinpoint your exact location on your route instructions.

If possible, try to remove your car from the Bash traffic, particularly



# On the Bash

*continued*



- on dusty roads where visibility may be poor.
2. If you are supplied petrol or spare parts, you should pay the mobile workshop in 'real cash' unless other arrangements are made.
  3. If your car cannot be repaired on site and is easily towable, the mobile workshop or the sweep will tow you into the next place of repair. (FROM HERE IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SORT OUT YOUR DIFFICULTIES.)

You may have a fair wait for a mobile workshop as they tend to lag towards the back of the field due to the time taken to repair cars, so get out the necessary parts before they arrive.

Remember – when being towed on a dirt road, stones etc may cause damage to your vehicle – whilst all care will be taken, it is impossible to predict what will occur when being towed – any damage caused to your vehicle will be your responsibility.

In the event of a mishap, your Bash vehicle may be replaced by yourself during the Bash provided suitable arrangements are made to have your original Bash vehicle transported home or to the nearest wrecking yard/repairers. The replacement Bash vehicle must then be introduced

to the Bash Chair and fitted out with the appropriate decals. Your original allocated Bash vehicle number will not change.

## **I. Accommodation (You're Dreaming!)**

Standing at the final checkpoint for the day, gazing into dusty faces and listening to those wonderful questions on accommodation keeps an Official's sides aching for days!!!!!!

At each overnight stop there will be a designated spot for the Baggage Truck and this will usually be the designated camping spot where plenty of room is available for those wishing to camp.

Camping fees are included in your participant's fee.

Bashers are expected to book any accommodation directly with the provider (hotel/caravan park) and will be expected to pay the costs themselves ('higher accommodation' is not included in the participant's fee). This accommodation is limited and will be on a first in/first gets basis.

Accommodation will be extremely scarce - in some places there is none other than camping!! Yes, even Officials have to go without a shower every now and then.

**DO NOT LEAVE HOME WITHOUT A SWAG, OR TENT AND SLEEPING BAG.**

# On the Bash

*continued*



## **m. Meals**

The Participant fee entitles you to three meals per day. You must show your name badge to get your meals.

## **n. Awards and Trophies**

The following are awarded each year at the end of the Bash:

### ♥ **Awards:**

Fundraising Heart Levels

Platinum = \$60,000 +

Diamond = \$30,000 - \$59,999

Ruby = \$17,000 - \$29,999

Gold = \$13,000 - \$16,999

Silver = \$9,000 - \$12,999

Bronze = \$5,001 - \$8,999

White = \$4,000 - \$5,000\*

\*\$4k min for interstate-based teams, \$5k, min for NT based teams.

- **Spirit of the Bash** (Overall Winner, Top honor, epitomizes the spirit of the Bash)
- **Top Hat** (Highest fundraiser)
- **Bashers' Choice** (most popular team as voted by the Bashers)
- **Show & Shine** (Best presented car and crew)
- **Broken Compass** (Team least able to find their way)
- **Piston Broke** (most breakdowns)
- **Ultimate Best Scam**
- **Bashers Contribution** (Best hosted function)
- **Daly Waters Pub 'Virgin' Basher** (Best first time Basher or team)
- **Legend Award** (Best official team as voted by Bashers)



# On the Bash

*continued*

## o. Scamming and Bribes

### *Definitions:*

**Bash Bucks:** Your Bash Bucks have been earned by hard work. The exchange rate of Australian dollars to Bash dollars is variable. You will be notified of current exchange rates at the commencement of the Bash.

**Bribes:** A bribe is Bash Bucks donated purely at your discretion and is not compulsory, eg: you can bribe an Official for whatever reason your imagination dictates.

### *What is allowed?*

- **Fines** – Fines are compulsory. Failure to pay a Bash Buck fine will result in the amount of that particular fine being doubled.
- **Scamming** – Scamming is allowed and actively encouraged – the crew who pull the cleverest scam will be named the Ultimate Best Scam at the end of the Bash and awarded accordingly.
- **Bribery** – Bribery of Officials is both allowed and encouraged. All

Officials are adept at accepting bribes which are overt, covert, underhand, overhand, in hand, cash or goods. An accepted bribe is not necessarily a guarantee of advantage as subsequent bribes by other teams which are more substantial, or novel, may override the effect of your bribe. Don't forget there is a prize for those with the most bash bucks at the end of the bash so spend wisely!

- **Protests** – Anyone wishing to lodge a protest must firsthand over a cheque payable to Variety NT. Anyone lodging a protest is automatically taking the Bash too seriously. Frivolous or vexatious protests may incur a severe dressing down in public by the Bash Chair with no right of reply.
- Counterfeiting of Bash Bucks will NOT BE TOLERATED. You and your crew take the risk of being ejected from the event if you ignore this rule.



# Appendix A



**BASH**

## **BASH FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED AND SUPPLIED TO THE VARIETY NT OFFICE PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT**

All forms are available at the

Variety NT website

[www.variety.org.au/bash/bash-nt](http://www.variety.org.au/bash/bash-nt)

or from the Variety NT office

Telephone 08 8981 2544 / Email [bash@varietynt.org.au](mailto:bash@varietynt.org.au)



