

Wild Bunch Nostalgia Drag Racing RULES 2026

Who can enter? The Wild Bunch is open to Slingshots, Altered, Dragsters & Funny Cars built *specifically* for the purpose of Drag Racing. **NO Doors/Doorslammers** and **NO** dual-purpose cars, ie. Street/Strip. The vehicle must be centre-steer, unless it is of historic importance. Cars should be in keeping with the nostalgic essence of the Wild Bunch. All vehicles/memberships are subject to committee approval. Please apply to the committee *in writing* submitting a picture and full description at least 1 event prior to the event you wish to race at. Any questions please refer to the committee.

SPRC involvement All members of the Wild Bunch must be current members of Santa Pod Racers Club. NB. You must be a member to qualify for trophies / Series; and submit your club membership number to the Race Co-ordinator.

What about electronics? **NO** throttle stops, **NO** delay boxes, as per **MSUK** Drag Racing supplement. **NO** traction control. Transbrakes **OK**, dual-stage ignition **OK**, aftermarket electronic ignition **OK**. Data loggers **OK**. ECUs are permitted but only if running an 'open-loop' system. Any electronics *must not* alter the setup on a run. Any queries ask the committee.

Registration fee There will be an annual fee of £30 per vehicle (ie. per WB number) to register with the Wild Bunch. This is to cover admin costs, regular news & info, trophies and other expenses to the club. This may be paid by cash or cheque made payable to **"The Wild Bunch Drag Racing Club"** and sent to the Treasurer. There is a Registration form that *must be completed* to become/remain a member of the Wild Bunch. You must list all drivers in a team (see "Points structure"). NB. Please return the form & fee asap *before the start of the season* in order to enter Wild Bunch events & register to collect points. *Late submissions mean you will miss information and may miss being able to enter events.*

Event Contributions There is a contribution of £5 per meeting per vehicle. This is payable to the Treasurer at the track. It covers trophies, cost purchase price of merchandise, expenses and possibly a prize fund at some point.

Race numbers Regardless of classification of car, all numbers will be **WB ##** to be displayed on *both* sides of the car, ideally in letters *at least 4"* high, *clearly visible* to timekeepers. This number will be yours for as long as you remain in the Association. WB 1, WB 2, WB 3 & WB 4 will be run for each year with members reverting back to their original WB numbers if they do not remain in the Top 4. Allocation of new numbers will be co-ordinated by the Race Co-ordinator.

Technical & safety Technical & safety requirements for **Motorsport UK (MSUK) events** must be as per current **MSUK NCR** regulations and **MSUK** Drag Race Rule Book, including chassis tag, equipment & safety wear. An **MSUK Drag Racing licence** is required to participate at these events (as well as an **MSUK logbook** - see track scrutineers for this). You do not need an **MSUK** licence for **Run-What-You-Brung events**, but you *will* need a valid DVLA driver's licence. At non-**MSUK** events a high standard of safety & presentation of your car is required, to pass any inspection. Any queries, check with track officials. **NB. It is now Mandatory to run a diaper or oil containment device under your engine.** If no suitable diaper is available, an edged under-tray fitted with absorbent pads/matting is acceptable. Please ask the committee for advice.

Nitrous users: it is *highly recommended* to fit a 1/4 turn nitrous shut off valve, installed within reach of the seated driver.

What is the format of the Wild Bunch Series? The **Wild Bunch Series** is run over 5 events during the 2026 season. (Please see Date list). Points are awarded for each event with Best 4 out of 5 events counting towards the final total in the 2026 season. (See 'What about a draw?' = same for **Spirit of Nostalgia**, **Springbridge MSUK** & **Roy Wilding Series**).

What do I do at each event? If you are new to Drag Racing or the Wild Bunch, feel free to contact a member of the committee who will show you the ropes. Help is available! We run *two* different formats as follow:-

Run-What-You-Brung events - Make yourself known to the Wild Bunch Race Co-ordinator & say you wish to participate in the event as a Wild Bunch member. On a 2-day event Saturday will be practice and test & tune. During practice **everyone must run 'heads up'** on a Pro Tree. This is to standardise practice similar to MSUK events, limit the use of staggered starts to the Rounds and to ensure everyone has an equal playing field. Sundays will be **Series Points competition** day. (On a 3-day event the 3rd day will be **Series Points** day). Each event is run over 4 rounds (weather and track time allowing). Results will be calculated on rounds completed by the majority of participating members; and can be declared even if only 1 round is completed. In 3 of the 4 RWYB events this year we are a **'Race class'** and will be called to the pairings lanes by marshals in *scheduled* sessions and paired up. [At the Mopar event *we will assemble and queue up for RWYB sessions*]. Display your **Series Points** day Dial-in on a board, or your vehicle. After trials, the membership voted to *change from 'heads up' starts to 'staggered' starts on Series Points day. Starts are again on a Pro Tree.* These are not 'races' and the time trial format applies. The WB Race Co-ordinator will usually be given a printout of the runs from the timekeepers but may need to see your timing ticket in case of query. It is your responsibility to ensure your Dial-in is displayed (or notified to the WB Race Co-ordinator if applicable). You will not be able to change your Dial-in after you have completed the 1st round* (though you may change it at the next event). The **Winner** is the one who records the lowest average difference between E.T. and Dial-in over all rounds completed. +/- differences are treated equally so "breakouts" do not affect the result. [NB. *In the event of *probable* bad weather on the 2nd/3rd day (Series points day) there will be a facility, *if the majority present agree*, for the first 'Series Points round' to be held at the end of the previous day. Dial-in would be shown (or taken before the round). If the last day then turns out to be fine weather, everyone can keep **or change* this Dial-in, proceed as usual and complete the remaining 3 rounds if possible.]

MSUK events procedures - These events are run in line with most other E.T. classes (as in an E.T. bracket situation). There will be a qualifying day(s) with heads up runs - show the Tower your Dial-in (either by displaying it on your car or a board) and the Top Qualifier is the one closest to their Dial-in (without breaking out) and so on. On race days, we will run a Progressive Sportsman Elimination Ladder with staggered starts on a Pro tree.

MSUK events procedures (continued) All qualifiers will run, with one from each pair progressing to the next round. Dial-ins, times and winners will appear on the scoreboards and the winner will automatically progress forwards. In this format of racing it is possible to “break out” or “red-light” and be eliminated from further competition at the event.

Points structure **RWYB events** - 1 point for attending an event + 1 point for each round completed at that event. 1st place = 5 points, 2nd place = 3 points, 3rd place = 2 points, 4th place = 1 point. [NB. At *Dragstalgia*, points will be awarded for the **Top 6**, so: 7/5/4/3/2/1]. Points are awarded per vehicle (ie. per WB number). **You must register all drivers in a team at the beginning of the season** for them to be *eligible* to collect points for that team. Please return the Registration form & fee *before the start of the season* in order to enter Wild Bunch events and register to collect points.

MSUK events - points are awarded as per the relevant National Series points schedule and will include qualifying points.

Prize fund In the event of a prize fund being raised, the share would be at the discretion of the committee or sponsor.

Contingency fund If a contingency fund were raised, the vehicle would qualify by meeting conditions requested by the sponsor eg. stickers on the car, components used in the car**, etc (**receipts must be produced to claim prize money).

What if I break my car at an event? (RWYB)

You must complete the same number of rounds as other Wild Bunch members attending to qualify for 1st - 4th places at the event. If you break or cannot take part in every round, you will still get your point for attending and points for any rounds completed, but you will not be eligible for 1st - 4th place event trophies.

What if I red light?

RWYB events - You will score a point for that round and you can still carry on participating in the event, and score points for other rounds, but you will lose your time for that round and not qualify for 1st - 4th place trophies.

MSUK events - You will be eliminated from competition (*unless you are the second car to red-light in that pairing*).

Who gets lane-choice?

RWYB events - Lane choice is by mutual agreement. If disputed, the closest to Dial-in in the last round takes it; then if unresolved, Series leader takes the choice. If this *still* does not solve the dispute, then the fastest car takes lane choice.

MSUK events - as instructed by marshals with alternating lanes each qualifying run. In **Eliminations Round 1** lane choice is by highest qualifying position. **After Round 1** lane choice goes to the ***racer Closest-to-Dial-in from the previous round***.

Round times Failure to be in the pairing lanes at the given round time will result first time in a warning, second time in exclusion from the round and loss of the point for that round. **NO** exceptions, excuses, arguments or discussions! The responsibility for turning up on time is down to the team. All round timings will be posted or made known in the pits.

What if the meeting is rained off or ends early?

In the event of a total rain-off, ie. no rounds are completed; everyone who has turned up will get 1 point for attending. (Make sure the Timekeeper knows you are there). **(RWYB)** If the rain-off is called before 4 rounds are completed, then calculations will be based on the number of *full rounds* that have been completed by all of the participating Wild Bunch members. **MSUK** If the rain-off is called after at least 1 full round of racing, the results will be based on *Closest to Dial-in without breaking out or red-lighting (out of all the last round winners)*. If either or both infringements occur, results will then be decided on lesser break-outs (of those who did not red-light). Then if any red-lit, the lesser red-light prevails.

What about a draw in one event? (RWYB) All teams involved would receive a trophy and corresponding points to their position, with other Top 4 places unaffected. This would also apply to Spot Prizes like “Closest to Dial-in” etc.

What about a draw at end of season?(Wild Bunch/Spirit of Nostalgia/ Springbridge/Roy Wilding Nostalgia Race Cars) 2026 Points are totalled for the **Best 4 out of 5 (WB)* / Best 6 out of 7 (SNC)* / all 3 Springbridge MSUK / all 3 RWNRC** events (*see *Dates and explanation info*). In the event of a draw, the greatest number of events attended would be counted. If this still did not produce a clear result, the most 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th places respectively would be counted.

What if I sell my car and buy another car during the season? If you sell your car mid-season, and buy another *Wild Bunch eligible car*, you may transfer your WB number to this new car and carry on collecting points for that number. You may not swap back and forth during the season between two cars - *only one change is permitted*.

Criteria for winning Spot Prizes

Most Improved E.T./MPH - At any one event, the driver who decreases their E.T. or increases their MPH over their previous Personal Best by the greatest margin. (If disputed, it is the driver’s responsibility to prove their previous PB to the WB Race Co-ordinator). **Driver’s Choice** – Slips are given to every driver attending an event, to vote for their favourite car amongst any WB car participating in an event, barring their own. In the event of a tie of more than 2 winners, the prize will not be awarded. **Best Slingshot, Best Altered, Best Dragster/Funny Car, Best Appearing Car/Team,** and **Best Burnout** are chosen by commentators and/or other impartial observers. **Best Engineered** is chosen by an official. All other Spot Prizes are as described in their titles. Further details may be contained in the event handout.

Eligibility for end-of-season trophies A team must have completed at least **3** events under the Wild Bunch banner [ie. events where WB trophies and/or Spot Prizes are awarded] in any one season to be eligible for end-of-season merit trophies. A team must have completed *at least 4* such events to be eligible for the Don Garlits ‘Spirit of Drag Racing’ Shield, which may not be won for a subsequent time within 5 years. You must run 2 passes at WB-bannered events within 2% to qualify for Quickest ET or Fastest MPH trophies in addition to 3-event minimum (2 events for British engine)