

2022 Senior Butt Rally / Junior Butt Rally

Saturday, September 17, 2022

Day -1

The Senior Butt Rally, and its new companion created in 2021, the Junior Butt Rally, will jointly get underway at 8:00 am CDT, Sunday, September 18, 2022 from the parking lot of its new home, the Courtyard Marriott in Allen, TX. The "SBR" as it has become known, is a two-bike team event, which requires one rider to be an Iron Butt Rally finisher who is at least 55 years old. The Junior Butt Rally, or JBR, operates under the same structure and rules, and is open to any licensed motorcycle rider. However, although each year the two rallies have shared the same bonus book and even the same points for the bonuses, the "puzzle" as the means of scoring and obtaining bonuses is sometimes called, has been different. This causes natural deviations in where and when SBR and JBR teams will attempt or not attempt a particular bonus, producing two separate and distinct rallies.

This year, we are joined once again by an international rider, Chris Wiltshire from New Zealand. He will be riding with James Owen who is attempting to keep his streak of two wins of the SBR going. Two is a notable number since that is the total of all SBR's to date. In other words, he has never been beaten. There are plenty of strong teams hoping to end that streak and we'll cover some of those along the way in our daily reports. James is a strong rally talent, with two wins in the Iron Butt Rally to his credit. He know one day his streak here will end. He just doesn't want it to be this year. Stay tuned.

Two teams in the SBR are the only teams that have remained intact for the duration of the event. Marty Cover and Jack Airlee ride as "The Ancient Mariners" and have for the previous two offerings of the event. Danny Dossman and Matt Wise, the "Test Dummies", are perhaps the first team to adopt a name. Or as they tell it, they were given the name by the Rallymaster for their efforts in testing out the original concept. Regardless of how it came about, it stuck, and since then all teams compete to come up with the most clever name to ride with, some complete with shirts, hats, stickers, and even this year, logo mugs. Will "Merch" tents be the next thing to spring up at the event? Also of note, Jim Craig and Russell Black are making a repeat appearance in the JBR, although a change of name accompanied the move. Finishing 2nd in the inaugural JBR last year under the moniker, Team Chaos, a change was made to the more positive handle, "Keep Moving Forward". We'll see if that is enough to push them to the top.

With much to do and a limited volunteer staff this year due to some travel issues, this will be a short Day-1 report this year. There is much to cover, including the new addition of a team rally within the existing team rallies, called the "Chicken Challenge". Full details on that and some pics from the starting line in Allen, TX tomorrow morning.

Ride safe, Chicken Challengers.