

ITN 2023 Critique (December 9, 2023)

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Leg 1

In order for scoring to occur on the Richta app, all CP times have to be measured from some sort of Start (or Restart). To preserve the general style and format of this Starlite/PanAm type of map-based rally, we had to make the Start Leg 1 (Richta CP 1), and use that point as the starting time of all the legs of the rally.

(We also did not use the Standoffs as Richta Restarts, so we could keep all the timed Checkpoints in chronological order. In order to allow all the Checkpoints to be unstaffed, we put 'off-course' Richta Course Controls opposite any Checkpoint that might be entered backwards. These 'off-course' controls were given high CP numbers to keep them from confusing the order of the timed Checkpoints. Remember, the Richta app calls everything – Start/Restarts, timed Checkpoints, and Course Controls – a 'CP'.)

Leg 2

Out of Start, head East on Palmdale Blvd, navigate the roundabout at 47th St E to continue East. Go Right on 90th St E to Ave S and go Left there to find CP 2. To allow for any possible heavy traffic on Pearblossom, an extra 4 minutes are included in your time.

Leg 3

Out of CP 2, you make a very quick Right onto 96th ST E and take it all the way South, carefully cross Pearblossom Hwy (CA 138) and continue to Fort Tejon Rd. Left there and head East until you pick up 106th ST E which becomes Juniper Hills Rd and follow it to SO 3-5. (How about that view coming into Standoff, eh?)

The challenge upon leaving Standoff 3 is to complete CP's 3-5 in order, AND in the correct direction. The initial complication is that CP 4 and CP 5 are on the route (131st St) that is the most direct path from Standoff 3 to CP3 on Valyermo.

Therefore, the route taken to CP 3 must dodge both of those CP's.

To dodge CP 5, proceed North from Standoff 3 on 131 St. Turn Right on Pallett Creek Rd to avoid passing through CP 5 in the wrong order **and** wrong direction. Turn Left on Fort Tejon, pass 131 St, and turn Right on Homer Rd.

Proceed East on Homer Rd to 131 St, then turn Left (thus avoiding CP 4, which is immediately on your Right as you make that Left turn).

Use the map mileages to find the Right on Ave W, which then turns into Valyermo, and successfully head toward CP 3.

Leg 4

The only trick here is to be sure that CP 4 is crossed in the correct direction. Thus, out of CP 3, continue South on Valyermo, turn Right on Pallet Creek Rd and then an immediate Right on Fort Tejon. Proceed past 131st St (again), then go Right on Homer (again) and Right on 131st St. CP 4 will now be crossed in the correct direction.

Leg 5

Nothing complicated here at all. Continue South on 131st St and go Left at Fort Tejon Rd. A Right back onto 131st St and CP 5 will be straight ahead approximately 100 yds.

Legs 6-10

Out of CP 5, use Pallet Creek Rd (again) back over to Valyermo Rd. Turn Right at the Stop and make your way up the mountain to SO 6-11.

Next comes a 'gauntlet' run from the STANDOFF through 5 CPs in under 9 minutes. Leave the STANDOFF heading North on Largo Vista Rd to find all 5 CPs.

Leg 11

From CP 10, head West on Pearblossom Hwy, South on 165th St E, which becomes Bob's Gap Rd. CP 11 is on the only section of road that runs generally East-West, thus allowing you to enter 11 heading West.

Leg 12

After lunch and a restart, the next 4 legs offer another challenge of completing CP's 12-15 in order, AND in the correct direction. The preferred route out of Standoff 12 is to exit the parking lot on the EAST side onto 85th St. and turn Right, then an immediate Right onto a potentially very busy Pearblossom Hwy. Additional time has been added to this leg due to the high traffic volume, so there is no need to hurry. Turn Left on 82nd St., then Left on Ave V (this turns into Fort Tejon Rd). Turn Right on Mount Emma Rd, then Right on 47th St. Enter CP 12 from the South in the correct direction.

Leg 13

After completing Leg 12, the most direct route (heading due North on 47th St.) to CP 13 passes through CP 14 in the wrong order AND in the wrong direction. To avoid CP 14, continue North on 47th St and turn Left on Barrel Springs Rd (thus avoiding CP 14 in the wrong order and wrong direction). Turn Right on 40th St and Right on Pearblossom Hwy. Proceed past 47th St. Be sure to follow Pearblossom Hwy/Hwy 138 at the junction of Pearblossom/Fort Tejon/Ave T. A Right on Cheseboro which comes up very quickly, and a Right on Barrel Springs Rd will bring you to CP 13 safely in the correct direction.

Leg 14

From CP 13, the most direct route to CP 14 (Barrel Springs then North on 47th St) passes through CP 14 in the wrong direction. Thus, to approach CP 14 in the correct direction, from CP 13 continue on Barrel Springs past 47th St (avoiding going the wrong direction into CP 14). Turn Right on 40th St, Right on Pearblossom Hwy (again), then Right on 47th St. CP 14 will be just prior to the intersection with Barrel Springs Rd.

Leg 15

From CP 14, the locations of CP 12 and CP 13 force you to head West on Barrel Springs Rd (again) to avoid entering them twice and in the wrong direction. North on 40th St E, East on Pearblossom Hwy, South on Cheseboro Rd, West on Mt Emma Rd to find CP 15.

Leg 16

Continue on Mt Emma Rd to Angeles Forest Hwy. Then South to Aliso Canyon Rd and find CP 16 just after intersection.

Leg 17

From STANDOFF, CP 17 is just to the East (Left). The map shows that Crown Valley Rd parallels Soledad Canyon Rd to the East so you can determine that CP 17 is just South of the Northern intersection of these two roads. Head South out of the STANDOFF, turn Left onto Crown Valley Rd to CP 17.

Leg 18

From CP 17, Left onto Soledad Canyon Rd, through STANDOFF 17 again (no need to stop a second time), then Right onto Agua Dulce Canyon Rd to CP 18.

Leg 19

From CP 18, continue on Agua Dulce Rd to Davenport Rd to STANDOFF. Out of Standoff you very quickly get on Summit Knoll Rd to CP 19 and continue the 1.2 miles to CP 19. Average speed to reach the CP on Summit Knoll is about 15 mph.

Leg 20

From CP 19, turn safely Left onto Davenport Rd, then go South on Sierra Hwy about 2 miles to CP 20.