Legend Boucles @ Bastogne 2027

What Stays, What Changes, What's New

The first press conference for the Legend Boucles @ Bastogne, held just after the opening of entries, officially kicks off preparations for the 2027 edition, scheduled for Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 February! It was the perfect opportunity to review the new features and changes that will shape this iconic winter event on the historic rallying calendar.

As they do every year, the Legend Boucles @ Bastogne continue to evolve. On the sporting front, this means minor adjustments to the coefficients for certain categories, based on the lessons learned from the latest edition. There are also a number of changes to the event's organisation and safety procedures. Here is an overview of the key points.

Village crossings: a new neutralisation system



The Legend Boucles @ Bastogne have long stood out for the limited number of village crossings on their route. When drawing up the 2027 itinerary, the Royal Automobile Club of Spa made sure that only unavoidable connecting sections and short stretches remained.

The main new feature this year is the replacement of the 'Slow Zones', which imposed speed limits through built-up areas, with a full neutralisation system known as the 'Neutralization Zone', inspired by the FIA W2RC (World Rally-Raid Championship).

In practical terms, timing will be stopped at the entrance to each zone, with a maximum speed limit of 50 km/h applying throughout the crossing. Vehicle speeds will be continuously monitored by the Tripy system. A designated acceleration zone immediately after the neutralisation section will allow crews to build up speed again before timing resumes.

However, we would like to point out that the 'Slow Zones' system will also remain in place.

Four different regularity tests on each leg

While the route approval process for the 2027 Legend Boucles @ Bastogne is still ongoing, each day / leg will feature four different 'stages'.

On Saturday, each stage will be contested twice, while Sunday will feature one run through each stage. A possible second run on one of Sunday's stages is still under consideration.



Reconnaissance of forest stages

For safety reasons, all stages of the 2027 Legend Boucles @ Bastogne, including the forest stages, will be open to formal reconnaissance. A request to this effect was submitted to the regional authorities and has been approved. This measure will apply to all categories, including ‘Classic 50’!

As with the other stages, forest-stage reconnaissance must be carried out in road-legal cars, within designated time slots. Checks will be conducted at both the entrance and exit, and each crew will be limited to a single pass.

Videos, pace notes and route marking will, of course, remain available for all categories.

Slight increase in the coefficient for 4WD cars

From a sporting perspective, there are very few changes to report. Following an in-depth analysis of the 2026 results, it has been decided to increase the coefficient applied to four-wheel-drive cars by 1%, in both the ‘Legend’ and ‘Challenger’ categories.

All other coefficients applied for the most recent edition will remain unchanged.

Coefficients adjusted according to weather conditions

Depending on whether conditions are relatively mild or typically wintry, certain types of cars may enjoy an advantage or find themselves at a disadvantage.

As was the case at the 2026 Legend Boucles @ Bastogne, coefficients may therefore be adjusted on the morning of each leg in February 2027, depending on the prevailing conditions, classified as either ‘normal’ or ‘extreme’.

The aim, once again, is to avoid giving certain competitors a significant advantage over others.

Entry fees: unchanged, with the tiered system retained

Regardless of the Legend Boucles @ Bastogne category entered, entry fees will remain unchanged compared with 2026.

The tiered entry-fee system will also be retained, rewarding crews who enter early rather than those who leave it until the last minute.

In practical terms, entry will be cheaper from 1 to 30 November than from 1 to 15 December, followed by the period from 16 to 31 December and then from 1 to 16 January.

The objective is to encourage crews to enter well ahead of the deadline, making it easier for the organisers to plan the event and manage the number of competitors in each category.

Thursday Shakedown retained



Introduced for the 2026 Legend Boucles @ Bastogne, the Shakedown is back!

An official test session will once again take place on Thursday, from 17:00 to 21:00. It will give crews the opportunity to test their cars and rack up some valuable mileage ahead of the official start of the competition.

All running will take place on a closed and secured section of road.

Intermediate timing points retained in 'Challenger'

With crews tackling the stages at average speeds of up to 80 km/h, the 'Challenger' category saw a significant increase in competitiveness in 2026 following the introduction of two intermediate timing points on each Regularity Test (RT).

The initiative proved popular and will therefore be retained for 2027. The location of each intermediate timing point will be indicated in the roadbook and clearly marked with signs along the route.

Classic 65 & Classic 50: Timing to be measured to a tenth of a second

For competitors in Classic 65 and Classic 50, timing will now be recorded to the nearest tenth of a second rather than to the nearest full second, following the system already used in the Belgian VHRS Championship. The multiplier coefficient applied to 4x4 vehicles will now only come into effect in extreme conditions. Finally, the eligibility cut-off for Classic 50 cars has been extended from 1986 to 31 December 1990.

Royalty-free photos: R.A.C. Spa / J.F. & J. Fiasse

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