

Southern Tablelands 4WD Club Trip Grading (Dry Weather)

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Terrain	<p>TAR ROADS & VERY EASY GRAVEL</p> <p>Tar roads or very easy gravel or clay topped type dirt roads.</p> <p>Some high range 4WD driving and no low range driving.</p>	<p>EASY GRAVEL/DIRT ROADS</p> <p>May include some corrugations and small obstacles.</p> <p>High range 4WD driving likely and some easy low range driving possible.</p>	<p>EASY TO MODERATE OFFROAD TRACKS</p> <p>Including bush tracks and riverbeds, wet clay and grass. Some moderate water crossings.</p> <p>River crossings would normally have well-constructed entry and exit points.</p> <p>Some steeper hills and banks (possible cross-axle-ing).</p> <p>Trips may include desert type driving on made tracks in areas of moderate remoteness.</p>	<p>MODERATE TO DIFFICULT TERRAIN</p> <p>Including rocky creek and riverbeds, bush tracks, wet clay and grass, or long sand driving. May also include tracks with deteriorating surfaces, ruts, rocky outcrops, moderate staircases and rock ledges, or muddy sections (possible cross axle-ing).</p> <p>Challenging banks and long hill ascents and descents.</p> <p>May include deep water crossings, may have some degraded entry and exit points.</p> <p>Trips may include remote areas driving (eg outback desert country) with little to no outside recovery support.</p>	<p>VERY DIFFICULT TERRAIN</p> <p>Some technically difficult and challenging terrain. Overgrown bush tracks etc.</p> <p>May include deep water crossings, may have degraded entry and exit points.</p> <p>Vehicles will be travelling over difficult terrain steep ascents and descents possibly requiring winching.</p> <p>Significant ruts, rock ledges and staircases can be expected.</p>	<p>EXTREME TERRAIN</p> <p>Very steep banks and hills.</p> <p>Severe rock ledges and staircases can be expected.</p> <p>May include deep water crossings, may have degraded or non-existing entry and exit points.</p>
Track Building	NOT REQUIRED	NOT REQUIRED	MAY BE REQUIRED	POSSIBLY REQUIRED	LIKELY REQUIRED	DEFINITELY REQUIRED
				For less capable vehicles.	For All vehicles.	May include extensive and complex track building.

Southern Tablelands 4WD Club Trip Grading (Dry Weather)

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Vehicle Preparation (see Minimum Equipment Standards for more information)	AWD, SOFT-ROAD 4WD, UNMODIFIED 4WD.	UNMODIFIED 4WD	<b style="color: red;">4WD WITH BASIC MODIFICATIONS Essential <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All terrain, light truck tyres and spare. - Rated recovery points on front and rear of vehicle. - UHF radio. Recommended for most club trips at Grade 3 and above: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traction boards. - Increased ground clearance. - Snorkel. 	<b style="color: red;">4WD WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS Essential - as for Grade 3. Recommended <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased ground clearance and better approach and departure angles. - Traction boards. - Body protection especially for sills. - Snorkel. Some trips may require long range fuel tanks and remote area safety equipment such as PLBs and Satellite phones.	<b style="color: red;">MODIFIED 4WD VEHICLES. Essential - as for Grade 4. Recommended depending on the trip: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased ground clearance and better approach and departure angles. - Traction boards. - Sill and under-body protection. - Snorkel. - Locking differential(s). - Winch. - Aggressive (mud-terrain) tyres. The trip leader will advise the recommended vehicle preparation in the trip notes.	<b style="color: red;">HEAVILY MODIFIED 4WDS Essential - as for Grade 5. Strongly recommended As for Grade 5, with a winch and specialised recovery gear mandatory.
Potential Damage	UNLIKELY	NEGLIGIBLE	<b style="color: red;">MINOR DAMAGE Brush marks and scratches possible, also possible tyre and body damage, including damage to sills and front and rear ends.	<b style="color: red;">POSSIBLE DAMAGE As for Grade 3.	<b style="color: red;">PROBABLE DAMAGE. As for Grade 4, including body and mechanical damage, especially to CVs and drive train.	<b style="color: red;">HIGHLY PROBABLE DAMAGE Body damage from rocks and banks. Mechanical breakages common - CVs, axles, rims etc.

Southern Tablelands 4WD Club Trip Grading (Dry Weather)

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Expected Level of Driver Skill and Experience	<p>LITTLE EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Suitable for any licensed driver.</p> <p>Basic driving skills and ability to read road surfaces and judge effect upon traction and braking.</p>	<p>SOME EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Suitable for any licensed driver.</p> <p>Knowledge of vehicle and selecting high/low range 4WD.</p> <p>Basic driving skills and ability to read road surfaces and judge effect upon traction and braking.</p>	<p>SOME EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Knowledge of vehicle and selecting high/low range 4WD.</p> <p>Experience at driving on low range tracks.</p> <p>Stall recovery technique may be required.</p>	<p>EXPERIENCED</p> <p>Completed at least three Grade 3 level trips.</p> <p>Ability to judge appropriate speed and momentum for obstacles will be needed.</p> <p>As for Grade 3 with increasing need for accurate wheel placement, being in the right gear, selecting the right line, and maintaining the correct speed and momentum. Drivers must be competent with stall-recovery technique on steep terrain.</p>	<p>VERY EXPERIENCED</p> <p>Completed at least three Grade 4 level trips.</p> <p>As for Grade 4, plus significant experience and excellent vehicle control skills, including when to use and not use locking differentials. Basic & Intermediate winching techniques.</p>	<p>EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Extensive 4WDing experience over a number of years including Grade 4 & 5 trips.</p> <p>As for Grade 5 and must know how to winch and recover vehicles in very steep terrain and complex environments.</p> <p>Careful and deliberate selection of the best/appropriate line will be required.</p>
Driver Training	NIL	NIL	COMPLETED BASIC DRIVER TRAINING	COMPLETED BASIC DRIVER TRAINING	COMPLETED BASIC DRIVER TRAINING.	<p>COMPLETED BASIC DRIVER TRAINING AND INTERMEDIATE WINCHING & RECOVERY COURSE,</p> <p>Strongly Recommended to have completed the Advanced Driver Training Course.</p> <p>Depending on the trip the Trip Leader may specify the completion of other courses.</p>

Southern Tablelands 4WD Club Trip Grading (Dry Weather)

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Line Selection	STAY IN YOUR LANE	STAY IN LANE AND AVOID POT-HOLES	CAREFUL LINE SELECTION	CAREFUL LINE SELECTION Careful and deliberate selection of the best/appropriate line will be required. Possible use of spotter.	VERY CAREFUL LINE SELECTION Careful and deliberate selection of the best/appropriate line will be required. Probable use of spotter.	ADVANCED LINE SELECTION Careful and deliberate selection of the best/appropriate line will be required. Definite use of spotter.
Likelihood of a Recovery	NOT LIKELY	NOT LIKELY	POSSIBLE Possible (but not likely) use of basic recovery techniques.	POSSIBLE Possible use of simple recovery techniques (for example possible use of winch).	PROBABLE Probable use of complex recovery techniques.	DEFINITE Complex advanced recoveries, including redirection, righting the vehicle, slingshot, etc.
Recovery Equipment	NO REQUIREMENT	NO REQUIREMENT	BASIC RECOVERY EQUIPMENT	APPROPRIATE RECOVERY GEAR FOR EXPECTED TERRAIN (And other equipment as specified by the trip leader).	APPROPRIATE RECOVERY GEAR FOR EXPECTED TERRAIN (And other equipment as specified by the trip leader).	APPROPRIATE RECOVERY GEAR FOR EXPECTED TERRAIN (And other equipment as specified by the trip leader).