

Hello all,

First off, thanks for signing up to join the Tidewater Sports Car Club for our **Spring HPDE at NCCAR sponsored by Performance Innovations!**

We're less than a week away from the event and want to make sure everyone is prepared so that everything goes smoothly and without issue. Below you will find some information that applies to all, and some specifically tailored for individual run groups (but I do recommend reading it ALL).

FOR EVERYONE:

You MUST have the pre-event tech inspection form filled out. It can be downloaded and printed HERE: <http://www.tidewatersportscarclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/TSCCHPDEtech.pdf>

If you are fully capable of performing a tech inspection yourself, then it is OK to do so, otherwise it is advised you have it performed at a trusted shop. **Performance Innovations** in Hampton can help you out and make sure your car is good and safe. If you do NOT have the tech form filled out, you will not be turning any wheels on track.

Also, I hope that if you signed up, you read our Track Event Supplemental Rules located here: <http://www.tidewatersportscarclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/TSCCsupprules.pdf>

The Tech Inspection Form and Supplemental Rules have been on the Event Requirements page of Motorsport Reg from the beginning... there are no excuses to show up without the Tech Form or to not understand the broomstick test requirements if applicable (or any other part of the Supplemental Rules).

*One amendment to the supplemental rules above (that we will reiterate at the driver's meeting) is that **passengers are not allowed** with ANYBODY except for designated Instructors (white group) OR anyone who has gotten explicit permission from Jake Anderson (Lead Instructor), or Brendan Long (Event Day Point of Contact/POC). This will be amended before our October event, which will be posted very soon!

EVERYONE DRIVING/RIDING ALONG IN CARS MUST WEAR LONG PANTS AND LONG SLEEVES made of natural material (cotton, etc).

Brendan Long will be the POC if you have any general questions throughout the day; he will answer them or find somebody who can. He has 20+ years of on track experience including HPDE, time trials, road racing, and hill climbs.

The gates to NCCAR open at 6AM, be there when they open! When you go through the gate, you will drive to the small brick security building and STOP, walk inside and sign waivers (for both NCCAR and for TSCC) and receive the appropriate wristband for your run group (spectators will receive a different non-green/yellow/blue/white band).

You shall then drive straight along the road (note the building to your right) until you get to the gravel area on the left which will be the designated Paddock area. Find a spot, unload EVERYTHING from your car to be in it's as-tracked state before heading back to the building noted above for Tech/Registration.

Tech will probably be a long line (to the right of the building)... Make sure you have your hood and trunk/hatch popped, your car cleared out, your Pre-Event Tech Inspection Form ready to hand over, and your helmet present to verify SA2010+ certification. If your car is full of stuff, you will be told to go unload it then you get to wait in line a second time. Lesson being unload your stuff in Paddock before getting into the Tech line.

After Tech, you can park your car around the front of the building and go inside to Registration to check in.

Tech and Registration will open at 6:30AM (or earlier). If you show up at 6:00, you can have plenty of time to unload and be one of the first through tech/registration and relax until the Driver's Meeting at 8:00. If you do not attend the Driver's Meeting, YOU WILL NOT DRIVE.

Please adhere to the schedule and be on-time/early which will keep the day rolling smoothly so everybody gets as much track time as possible.

Point-by etiquette and designated passing zones will be gone over at the Driver's Meeting.

FOR NOVICE (GREEN) GROUP:

Thanks for coming out! This is probably one of your first track days, and there are some things you probably need to know that may not necessarily be common knowledge just yet if this is your first time:

- Bring a FULL tank of fuel! You will burn through it like crazy on track. If you are an autocrosser this is probably a surprise to you. Even a little 1.5L will get under 10mpg on track (V8 stuff can probably expect 2-4mpg)... you will probably put 150-200 miles on your car on track. Better yet, bring some fuel jugs to avoid having to leave the site (and be re-tech inspected) for a fillup!
- To reiterate as stated above for ALL people, BE ON TIME!
- Multiple 20 min lapping sessions are HARD on your brakes and tires. Check them regularly! Ask your instructor for help/advice. Generally your tire pressures for your first session you want to start out about 5-8psi LOWER than your target "hot" pressure... If 35psi all around is what you want, then somewhere in the 28-30psi area is probably about where you want to start. Take the first couple laps easy to slowly bring your tires up to temp.
- This isn't racing. There is no competition, there are no times, and nobody wins anything. Literally the only thing you will "win" is getting to take your car home in one piece and yourself uninjured.
- Check your fluid levels, brakes, tires, and suspension in between sessions. If something is questionable, park your car. It's pretty unlikely your car is worth less than the \$175 paid for the day... it's not worth risking a catastrophic failure.

- If you do not have brake pads MEANT for track use (anything that says “street” in the name is almost for sure not), you will burn through them quickly, and also probably experience some level of pad fade. This is more likely on heavier and higher HP cars but even on lower HP clown cars it will happen.
- Speaking of brakes, your brake fluid has recently been changed right? You need to run DOT4 or DOT5.1 (NOT DOT5 which is silicon based and only meant for show cars) which are both compatible and safe if your car originally called for DOT3. You should flush your entire system (this does not mean use a turkey baster and just change the fluid in the master cylinder)... You must bleed the fluid at the calipers to get all the crud that settles to the low points in the system out of there. Brake fluid moisture % will be tested at Tech. Pending results of that, a speed restriction may be placed upon you or you may not run at all at the discretion of the Lead Tech Inspector.
- Listen to your instructor. They are here to first and foremost to keep you safe, and secondly to make sure you learn and have fun. You’ll have plenty of track time, there is no need to try and impress them. You won’t.
- Bring lots of water and sun screen. Stay hydrated, driving all day on track will take a LOT out of you.
- If you have any questions, ASK! See Brendan Long or your instructor for any questions you may have on the day of the event... If you have any before then, feel free to email trackevents@tidewatersportscarclub.com up until Friday.

FOR YELLOW (INTERMEDIATE) GROUP:

You’ve probably done a few track days and have most of the basics down. If you have previously been approved to drive solo with Tidewater Sports Car Club then you should be good to go. See Jake Anderson (Lead Instructor) to verify approval.

If you recently got moved from Green to Yellow Group, then you will still have an in-car instructor who will be making sure you have situational awareness, know the flags, you’re smooth with steering/throttle/brake inputs, have a consistent line, and don’t hold up traffic by failing to give point-bys as appropriate), etc.

When your instructor thinks you are ready to run solo, then an additional check-ride will be necessary from Jake Anderson (Lead Instructor) or someone designated by him to do so.

FOR ADVANCED (BLUE) GROUP:

You’re in this group because you won’t need an instructor, and shouldn’t need anything more than just a check-ride if anything. Because there are only 4 registered in Blue (at the time of this email), this group will likely be combined with the Instructor group and/or Intermediate as appropriate.

FOR INSTRUCTOR (WHITE) GROUP:

THANK YOU for volunteering your time to help teach others to drive at speed! We all know there are risks involved, and we attempt to minimize those risks as much as is realistically possible. If something is wrong with your student's car/attitude, DO NOT hesitate to reach out to Jake Anderson to partner with. Our Supplemental Rules were written with your safety in mind and that remains of utmost importance to us with the Tidewater Sports Car Club.

You will be receiving another email from your Lead Instructor Jake Anderson within the next few days with further information on your students, schedule, etc. If you have any general event questions before Saturday, feel free to email trackevents@tidewatersportscarclub.com. Note that there will be a **MANDATORY INSTRUCTORS MEETING** from 7:30-7:45... This means it is extra important to show up early and get your car ready prior to 7:30.

As an additional thank you, we want to remind you that if you'd like to compete against the clock for awards, that we are hosting Gripfest 14 the day after the HPDE which you will have a \$75 credit for, which is the same price that our own Board and Chiefs pay to run. It is a single lap, standing start time trial essentially. You may register here: <http://msreg.com/gripfest14> and use the discount code "THANKYOUINSTRUCTORSSPRINGNCCAR" to redeem the \$75 credit. You are not expected to instruct or do anything Sunday, this is just an additional perk for helping us instruct at the HPDE.

WAITLISTED ATTENDEES:

We are working through the numbers to try and get you in as well, and we will be potentially taking people off the wait list (and charged appropriately) up until Thursday night at midnight at the latest. By remaining on the waitlist, you are acknowledging you still want to pay to come and run with us. If this is not the case then you should go onto Motorsport Reg and cancel your registration so we know to skip you and not charge when a spot opens up. After Thursday night, because it would be such short notice, IF a spot opens up, an attempt to contact via phone and/or email will be made to see if you still want to attend.

SPECTATORS:

Show up and watch! You may ride along with instructors if there are any open seats available (students take priority). This will be more likely later in the day.

Thank you for your time, and we look forward to seeing you on track this weekend!

Tony Mester

President, Tidewater Sports Car Club

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