

# DRIVER GUIDE for Acclimation, First Timer, Novice & Novice Solo

Thank you for your participation in our program! We are passionate about teaching the art of high performance driving - we love it, and know you will too! Throughout this program you will learn special skills that will not only make you a better driver on the track, but also help improve your capabilities and safety on the street. This is a safe, fun and addictive experience that we will make sure you enjoy!

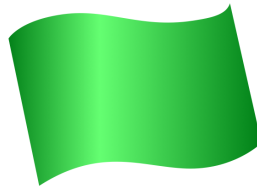
**It is important to attend ALL Meetings, Classroom Sessions and Car Control Sessions (where applicable) ON TIME!**  
**Please pay careful attention to the time and your schedule, as these are MANDATORY. You will not get the full benefit of the program and will not get what you paid for when you miss parts of the program!**

**Car Control:** These hands on, in-car sessions take place OFF the track in a controlled environment. You will work on skills in your own car such as late/early apex, over/under steer, trail braking, and more. These sessions are run by the Classroom Manager and this area may only be used under his directive at scheduled times. *Car control sessions are not always available depending on the venue, please ask the classroom instructor if you are unsure whether car control exercises are available.*

## ROAD COURSE FLAGS

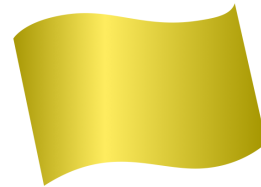
AND THEIR MEANINGS

STUDY AND  
MEMORIZE THESE!



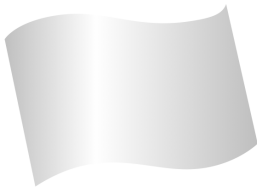
### GREEN:

Course is clear, and session is underway. Generally indicates "all clear" from debris or other cautionary flag.



### YELLOW:

Take caution, danger, SLOW DOWN, no passing until past the emergency area. DOUBLE YELLOW: Full course caution.



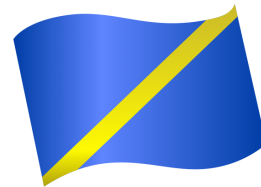
### WHITE:

Slow moving vehicle ahead, (car, ambulance, emergency vehicle); pass with care.



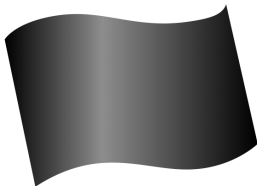
### YELLOW/RED STRIPES:

Be cautious, a slippery condition exists, oil or debris on the track.



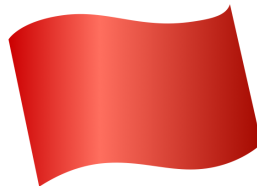
### BLUE:

(with or without yellow stripe) Another car is close behind and is faster than you. Maintain a line and point them by when it is safe to pass.



### BLACK:

Indicates you are driving unsafely or have a mechanical problem (\$\$\$), slow down and pit in as soon as you reach track exit. Pull up to the starter station for instructions. If flag is shown standing at all stations all cars are to proceed to the pits.



### RED:

EXTREME DANGER, come to an immediate controlled stop at the side of the track. Wait for further instructions; do not proceed around track until told to do so.



### CHECKERED:

Indicates session has finished; begin cool down lap and proceed carefully to the pits.

**Please be sure to create your “Hot List” in the My Learning system on [autointerests.com](https://autointerests.com). This is how your instructor will record your progress as you move through the curriculum.**

**However, some fundamental general concepts to keep in mind throughout the day include:**

**Smooth:** smooth driving is key to maintaining vehicle control and quick, efficient maneuvering. Erratic harsh movements lead to loss of control, spin-outs, etc.

**Don’t fight slides:** steer into a slide like in snow. This is important to avoid rollovers and accidents – when in doubt drive into the slide and when the vehicle is in a straight line again fully apply the brakes to safely go off-course.

**Ease into corners and straights:** start easy and work your way gradually toward more rapid corner entry speeds and higher top speeds on straights; going “all-out” without first testing and finding your limits is unsafe and risky.

**Limit wheel turning:** the key to fast, efficient cornering is turning the wheel the least amount possible and taking the straightest path through a corner.

**Flags:** learn your flags! It is absolutely critical to know what corner workers are trying to tell you – study the flags and their meanings.

**Corner workers:** always look at each corner worker as you pass by their station; acknowledge any flag they give you with a simple wave.

**Use all the track surface:** go edge-to-edge and use all available surface to take corners in a smooth, wide manner.

**Lines:** there is not necessarily a specific, correct line in every corner or on every track. The most efficient path is the one that you can drive the most quickly through and this will vary by vehicle type, driveline, driver skill/comfort and other factors. Feel free to carefully experiment with different “lines”. Instructors can provide recommendations, feedback and general guidance but it is ultimately up to you to find the path around the track that works best for you.

## HPDE Program & Run Group Structure

	ACCLIMATION <small>(HALF DAY PROGRAM)</small>	FIRST TIMER	NOVICE	NOVICE SOLO	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
<b>INSTRUCTION IN-CAR?</b>	REQUIRED <small>(both sessions)</small>	REQUIRED <small>(ALL sessions)</small>	REQUIRED <small>(SOME sessions)</small>	NONE <small>(group leader available)</small>	NONE <small>(group leader available)</small>	NONE <small>(group leader available)</small>
<b>MAY DRIVE SOLO?</b>	NO	NO	Solo during non-instructed sessions	SOLO	SOLO	SOLO
<b>PASSENGER PERMITTED?</b> <small>(non-instructor)</small>	NO	NO	with instructor approval	YES	YES	YES
<b>ELIGIBLE FOR OPEN SESSION?</b>	NO	NO	with instructor approval	YES	YES	YES
<b>CAR CONTROL SESSIONS?</b> <small>(where available)</small>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	OPTIONAL	N/A	N/A
<b>CLASSROOM SESSIONS?</b>	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	OPTIONAL <small>(unless a mandatory group meeting is called)</small>	N/A <small>(unless a mandatory group meeting is called)</small>	N/A <small>(unless a mandatory group meeting is called)</small>