

EVENT INFORMATION, REQUIREMENTS AND SAFETY MESSAGE AUSTIN SCHNELL FEST HPDE - July 29-31, 2022

Welcome! This message contains important information about Schnell Fest. We've made some significant changes to this event, so please read it carefully!

Event Description:

Schnell Fest is a High Performance Driver Education Event run according to the minimum HPDE standards of the Porsche Club of America which emphasize safety and education. All non-solo (Novice and Intermediate Instructed run group) drivers will have an instructor. Club membership is not required in order to participate. This event is not limited to Porsches and BMWs. We have a wide variety of automobile types at our events including Corvettes, Camaros, Mustangs, Ferraris, McLaren's, Vipers, etc. Open wheel cars are not allowed.

Covid 19

This event will be conducted in compliance with all applicable public health orders, and in accordance with the Hill Country Region PCA Communicable Disease Policy adopted on January 13, 2022.

COTA's Waiver Form

COTA's waiver form is included in the Event Files section. Please print it, sign it, and present it at the Tunnel 2 Gate to expedite the entrance process.

Visitors and Guests

Visitors, guests, and family members may enter the facility. They will have to sign the applicable PCA Event waiver forms, and COTA's Waiver Form to enter. They will be issued 2 colored wristbands, one each for PCA and COTA, which must be worn at all times when on site.

Minimum Age and Valid Driver's License

Drivers must be 18 years of age or older. All drivers must possess a valid driver's license - no exceptions. **Drivers will be asked to present their drivers license at the registration desk when picking up their packets.**

Car Occupancy (Ride Alongs are not permitted)

If two people are in a car, one must be an approved event instructor and the other must be a registered entrant in the event. There are no exceptions to this rule. Registering people for the sole purpose of "thrill" rides is not acceptable. A registered entrant is defined as a person who will be participating in substantially all appropriate aspects of the event (on track, classroom and exercises).

Demonstration Rides

Our Drivers Education (DE) program is based on the core assumption that these events are instructional in character. Our DE Instructors ride with students in their cars in an educational capacity. An instructor is defined as a fully registered entrant who has signed all waivers, successfully completed an approved PCA regional or national program and has been approved by the Chief Driving Instructor for this event. A Student is defined as a fully

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registered entrant who has signed all waivers, paid the regionally stated registration fee, and is driving a car that has met all required safety standards. There are no exceptions.

Cabriolet/Convertible Cars

Any make of cabriolet or convertible delivered with factory installed roll over protection meets the minimum standards for PCA DE events. In these cars, we require the soft-top be in the up position or the hard top installed.

Stock Miatas do not have factory installed roll over protection. C7 and earlier Corvette convertibles do not have factory installed roll over protection.

If a cabriolet or convertible does not have factory installed roll over protection, a roll bar or roll cage must be installed, which meets the "broomstick" rule (the driver's helmeted head is below a bar placed on top of the roll bar and windshield). Design, installation and materials of roll bars or cages and their installation must meet PCA Club Racing specifications, contained in Appendix A-Roll Cage Specifications of the PCA Club Racing Rules. All Targa tops must be installed unless there is additional roll over protection. All sunroofs must be in the closed position.

The windshield alone is not considered to be factory roll over protection.

Car Safety Inspection

The car owner must certify that the car is safe to run on the track and that the car has been inspected by a regionally approved person or shop within thirty days prior of the event. A completed Tech Form signed by the driver and the approved person or shop is required to be submitted to the region at the event.

Instructors may self-inspect their cars and submission of a tech form is not required. All other drivers must complete the following tech form process.

The mandatory Tech Inspection Form is included in the Event Files section. Please download and use only this 2022 Form. Any ASE-Certified automotive shop can do the tech inspection. A non-exclusive list of eleven Austin-area shops that routinely perform tech inspections can be found at this site: [Driver Education \(D.E.\) - Hill Country Region PCA \(hcrpca.org\)](http://hcrpca.org)

It seems simple, but to avoid having your Tech Form rejected, please print your name and car information at the top of the form; confirm all check items, including Helmet, or indicate "N/A" if an item does not apply to your car, i.e., Roll Bar. Both you and the inspector must sign and date the Tech Form and provide the inspecting shop's name – some use a stamp, otherwise print it legibly. The completed form must be uploaded using the clubregistration.net "Upload Documents" feature.

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The time “window” for getting your car tech inspected begins 30 days prior to the event. Do not put off the tech inspection. History has shown that many drivers who wait until the last few days to have their car inspected may find a major issue that can't be resolved before the event - resulting in cancellations and forfeited registration fees.

A complete, confirmed Tech Form must be submitted before you will be allowed on track.

Please Upload Your Completed Tech Inspection Form by Wednesday July 20th

Run Groups and Team Assignments

Schnell Fest will operate with the following four run groups:

- Novice (Instructed)
- Intermediate (Both Solo and Instructed)
- Advanced 1
- Advanced 2

In order to be assigned to the proper run group, be sure to update your driving event history in your clubregistration.net profile and accurately identify the car you will use for this specific event. When updating your driving event history be sure to include both PCA driving events as well as those hosted by other organizations. For each event include the name of the hosting entity, dates of the event, venue, type of event – HPDE, time trial, race, etc., vehicle driven and run group. The Chief Driving Instructor will consider the content of your driving event history to assign you to a run group.

Drivers will be issued a registration packet containing the following:

- Colored wristband indicating all waivers of liability have been completed
- A second colored wristband designating your Run Group assignment
Both wristbands are to be worn on your left wrist
- Run Group sticker – place it in the top, center of your car's windshield
- Car sticker – place it in the Driver's side lower or upper left corner of the windshield.
Once your car has passed the onsite tech inspection (garage 10) a tech sticker will be applied to the car sticker

Drivers wishing to be considered for promotion to a higher run group may request a check ride by talking to their instructor team lead. No check rides will be conducted after noon on Sunday.

All drivers will be assigned a Team number, which will be printed on your windshield sticker and your packet label. Any questions or requests should be discussed with the Team Leader. Team Leader names and contact information will be posted at the registration desk.

Required Helmets/Clothing

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Your helmet must be Snell Foundation 2015 or 2020 "K" "M" or "SA" rated, with the identifying label visible on or in the helmet. Normally you have to dig through some of the helmet padding to get to the sticker. Other helmets are acceptable if they are approved for PCA Club Racing. PCA requires us to conduct an annual helmet inspection, which will be done at the final safety inspection.

Long pants made of natural fibers are required.

Footwear must be enclosed toe, non-slip, with a relatively smooth sole. No loafers, sandals, flip flops or open-toed shoes. Hiking type deep lugged soles are not acceptable.

Tire Requirements

Tires should not be older than 6 years from the date of manufacture, should not have an excessive number of heat cycles, and should not exceed the hub or wheel rim weight loading. Just because a tire has a full tread pattern it doesn't necessarily mean that it is safe, certainly not at high speed. These links provide valuable information on this topic: <http://www.tirerack.com/tires/tiretech/techpage.jsp?techid=11>
<http://www.thedrive.com/opinion/5189/the-truth-behind-what-caused-paul-walkers-fatal-crash?iid=sr-link1>

Wheels

Ensure all wheels are torqued to the -Manufacturer's recommended lug/nut torque settings. For Porsche center lock wheels ensure that Porsche's procedure has been followed to install and torque the center lock nut and that the locking mechanism is engaged.

Check inside and outside rims for cracks (metal fatigue) before, during and after the event. Unfamiliar? <http://www.tirerack.com/wheels/tech/techpage.jsp?techid=110>

Cameras and Data Loggers

All internal cameras, data loggers and other items stuck to your windshield, dash or other place inside your vehicle must be securely tethered to a permanently-fixed object such as rearview mirror or vent via a short leash (Zip ties are often used for this purpose.).

Restraints: Belts and Harness Systems

Factory installed shoulder/lap seat belts are acceptable.

If the participant chooses to install a five, six, or seven point driving harness, several changes to the automobile must be made to create a safe occupant restraint system. Harnesses must:

- Include an antisubmarine strap.
- Five, six or seven point SFI or FIA approved competition harnesses are required and must be properly mounted in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- FIA approved belts must be replaced no later than five years after the date of manufacture.
- SFI approved belts must be replaced no later than two years after the date of manufacture.

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- Have all harness attachment points secured/mounted in an approved manner consistent with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Be used in conjunction with a seat that has the supplied routing holes for the shoulder and antisubmarine belts.
- Have the shoulder straps mounted in an approved manner consistent with the manufacturer's instructions.
- The participant should BE AWARE that the addition of such a seat and harness system results in the occupant being fastened upright in the vehicle. Therefore, in order to have a COMPLETE SYSTEM, a properly padded roll bar or roll cage is recommended, and an approved head and neck restraint device is **required**. A head and neck restraint device certified as meeting the standards of either SFI 38.1 or FIA 8858 or its successor is required. The use of such a harness system without roll protection and a head and neck restraint device may result in an unsafe environment and is not a COMPLETE SYSTEM. Roll bars or cages and their installation must meet PCA Club Racing Standards.

When using a head and neck restraint device, it is recommended that one follow the SFI Recertification process for the head and neck restraint device. The instructions for this can be found on the device. Additionally, it is recommended that the straps be replaced every five years.

Four-point systems are not allowed in Porsches because of the integrated headrest supplied by the factory. In addition to the standard SFI and/or FIA-approved five- and/or six-point system, a four-point system is allowed in non-Porsches that meet the following requirements:

- Meets the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 209.
- Attaches to the factory seat belt mounting points.
- Each belt is designed to work in a specific vehicle and that vehicle tag must be attached to the belt system.

Four Point Belt Exception: Schroth has developed a four point harness for specific vehicles. These vehicles must be fitted with the original factory seats with which the cars and belts were tested. The belts must also be installed per the Schroth instructions. The belts are Federal Motor Vehicle Standard 209, and as such they are deemed street legal and approved by federal seat belt safety regulations. These belts also have labeling confirming the intended use for these specified vehicle models. They are ONLY allowed in the vehicle with which they were tested. These belts are allowed for five years from date of manufacture.

If you plan to drive with a 4-point harness system in a non-Porsche vehicle, contact the Event Chair prior to the event so the exception can be approved and noted.

Tow Hook

All cars must have one tow hook installed. Know where your tow hook is stored and how to install it. Note: Some cars use a left hand thread.

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Final Pre-Grid Safety Inspection

We will do a final pre-grid Safety inspection of each car the morning of the first day of the event at Garage 10. This is a onetime inspection for the entire event.

The following will be checked:

1. Helmet – check for helmet sticker indicating it is compliant
2. Belts/Harnesses – check belt condition and that they are within the expiration guidelines stated above
3. All loose items are removed from car interior, glove box and trunk areas
4. Gas cap tightened
5. At least one tow hook is installed
6. All suction cup cameras / data loggers are securely tethered within the vehicle

A sticker will be placed on your windshield indicating that your car has undergone the final inspection. This will be the grid workers' indication that you can be allowed on track.

Driver Assist Systems

Driver assist systems such as collision avoidance and steering/lane assist systems must be deactivated when you are driving on track. Be sure you know how to deactivate them on your car before approaching the grid.

Schedule

We will send a detailed event schedule to all registrants in the week prior to the event.

Safety

Cars, drivers, and instructors judged to be operating in an unsafe manner will be removed from the track and no refunds will be given. No glass beverage containers are permitted at any time. No alcoholic beverages are permitted on the premises while cars are on the track. Students are not allowed to take passengers on the track at any time -- absolutely no exceptions. Only registered students and instructors are allowed to drive on the track.

Waitlist:

If you are one of the first on the waitlist, please have your car ready with a passing technical inspection and be ready to go. Assume you might get in! When an opening becomes available, we will contact those on the waitlist in the order they registered (paid date).

Access To Cota:

We will exclusively use the Tunnel 2 Gate all weekend, unless advised otherwise

Load-In and Parking:

Thursday: No load-In

Friday: starting at 6:00 a.m.

Park in marked spaces only. Please respect the marked fire lanes.

Garages and Garage Assignments

If you rented a garage space, one week prior to the event, you'll receive a separate message asking for your preferences. The event administration will make every effort to take your

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preferences and requests into account when assigning garage spaces. You cannot store fuel containers in the COTA garages, nor refuel vehicles within the garage walls.

Locations: Registration, Tech Garage, Mentors Garage:

Garage 33 – Event Management

Garage 34 – Registration - 10:00 a.m. Friday, 7:00 a.m. Saturday.

Garage 34 – Mentors Garage – assistance – numbers, tire pressure, etc.

Garage 10 – Safety Garage – Final Inspections, helmet tech.

Media Center “A” – HPDE Mandatory Drivers Meetings 12:15 p.m. Friday, 7:15 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Media Center “Press Room” – Instructors Meetings 12:15 p.m. Friday, 7:15 a.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Media Center “Press Room” – Novice Classrooms Saturday and Sunday (see schedule)

Paddock Loft 205 (above garages 25-30) – Novice Classrooms on Friday (see schedule)

Paddock Loft 205 (above garages 25-30) – air-conditioned lounging space available all weekend.

Social Events

We anticipate hosting a social on Friday and Saturday from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. More details will be provided.

Food this Weekend

More details will be provided

Safety questions: Hugh Brazier - hq@sterlinglines.com.

Registration questions: George Hansen - george@hcrpca.org.

All other questions: David Gross - david@hcrpca.org.

We look forward to seeing you at COTA!

David Gross

DE Chair – Hill Country Region - PCA