

PLEASE READ THESE NOTES CAREFULLY AS THEY IMPART ESSENTIAL INFORMATION AND TAKE THE PLACE OF AN EXTENDED INSTRUCTORS MEETING!

1. THANK YOU very much for your commitment and dedication to our student drivers. Without you, our experienced Instructors, we could not run such safe, fun and educational driving events. *A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to those Instructors who agreed to instruct at this event and do not even have a car to drive this weekend!! Instructors with cars, please help these Instructors by giving rides to their students – every student wants and needs a ride!*
2. Throughout the weekend, when working with your C and D students, please try to remember what it is like to be a new DE driver. Build your students' confidence, answer their questions, help with car maintenance, make sure they meet new friends at the event, keep them safe!
3. ALL STUDENTS are assigned an Instructor to assist them throughout the weekend. C and D students have full-weekend in-car instructors. A and B students are considered to be pre-soloed, and Instructors are encouraged to ride with A and B students (and/or drive them) at the discretion and availability of the student and instructor. We encourage A and B students to take advantage of their assigned instructor and A&B classroom sessions taught by Chris Stiffler from Black Sheep Racing and Lou Brancae – A and B students still have a lot to learn!
4. YOUR STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS ARE POSTED ON CLUBREGISTRATION.NET. **PLEASE CONTACT YOUR STUDENTS IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT** and arrange to meet them on Friday or on Saturday morning. There will be no scheduled instructor introductions at the driver's meeting. Conduct a pre-driving interview to understand experience, vehicle and modifications, driving objectives and answer any questions. C and D students will have familiarization rides riding with you on Saturday morning – slow speed, no helmets.
5. Friday lapping day will be conducted under PCA Expanded Passing Rules. If you are not familiar with these rules, please see the information at the end of the full information packet.
6. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** We may have cars participating in this school that are not able to use hand signals for passing (typically open cars with arm restraints). In this case, turn signals will be used to indicate passing permission. In this case, **the turn signal replaces the hand signal. The turn signal is the hand.** In other words, left turn signal means "you go left". Right turn signal means "you go right". Each overtaking car gets a separate signal.
7. We will continue our practice of a single large "A" group that includes both Instructors and traditional "A" students. This group is divided into two run groups "White A group" faster cars (car numbers A1-A75) and "Blue A group" slower cars (car numbers A75-A150) to reduce speed differentials on the track. Please drive in your run group – White or Blue. Both groups have Expanded Passing.
8. Note that we have recently added four new policies to our student information:

- a. **We will supply two stick-on group numbers for this event. One goes on the upper center of the windshield, the other goes on the upper portion of the REAR window.**
 - b. Automatic braking systems (not ABS, this refers to “look ahead” collision avoidance braking systems or “ACAS”) must be turned OFF when on the racetrack
 - c. Traction controls or stability controls should remain ON at all times
 - d. Students should not record audio or video when an instructor is in the car without the instructor’s explicit consent
9. Please make a conscientious effort to ensure your students are operating safely AND WITH A COURTEOUS ATTITUDE. As you always do, make a commitment to the student – make sure they are learning but also operating safely. This means riding with your C student 5-6 sessions and your D student 6-8 sessions. Put in the time and also get them out for a ride with you EARLY IN THE WEEKEND – ***at their pace or just a bit faster!***
10. You are our eyes and ears on the track. Come to event organizers if you have a student who is unsafe, uncourteous, or especially a student who is **not listening to you.** PLEASE talk to the event organizers if you have a problem with a student – we have your back and can be the “heavy” if necessary – including removing a student from the school.

11. Passing

We are working very hard to improve passing discipline this year – this was at your request! We want prompt passing signals (no trains) and NO PASSING WITHOUT A SIGNAL! ALL CARS HAVE FRONT AND REAR NUMBERS to permit accurate identification of violators. Report the offending vehicle to the starter or black flag official. We can black flag cars that are not passing properly, but only if we get prompt and accurate information.

Instructors, please help your students with passing – you need to watch the mirrors and help clear up any trains. The lead car in a train should go through the pits.

- a. Instructor and A – PCA Expanded Passing. Remember this still requires signaling, cooperation and extra courtesy. **Don’t come back on line until you are sure you are clear.** Be careful of overlaps and watch out for “tail end Charlie” passing without a signal.
- b. BCD – four zones, straight line only, overtaken car always stays on line after exiting the turn at the entrance to the straightaway. Front straight pass left side, turns 1-2 pass left side, back straight pass right side, Chute pass right side.

IMPORTANT: B GROUP EXPANDED PASSING PRACTICE: B Group students will have the opportunity to practice PCA Expanded Passing in two driving sessions at 2:20 PM Saturday and 10:55 AM Sunday. There will be a brief training session for B drivers Saturday morning.

Assigned instructors will ride along with all B group students during these sessions. The objective of these practice sessions is to prepare B group students for eventual promotions to A (Advanced) group where PCA expanded passing is required. We want the students to give and make multiple expanded passes during the session, not do straightaway passes.

12. Experience levels at this school (Spring 2024): ALWAYS CHECK EXPERIENCE LEVEL WITH YOUR STUDENTS. There can be exceptions due to car shares and special group requests. Check the student's Mid-Ohio experience, ***some experienced students may have limited or no experience at Mid-Ohio.***
 - a. "A" Group – 40 total track days up to hundreds
 - b. "B" Group – 12 to 40 total track days
 - c. "C" Group – 4 to 11 total track days
 - d. "D" Group – 0 to 4 total track days including 6 novices
13. Note that we have a large number of higher experience students at this school. So, some students may feel that they are grouped too "low". Promotions may not be advisable due to the size of higher experience groups. See Bob or Lori if you want to make a group change – must be endorsed by the instructor and we need to ensure continuing instructor coverage. We will give the student a new group number for their car.
14. One important policy reminder – you are NOT permitted to drive student cars.
15. We also strongly ask that instructors take their personal track time during their assigned session. We have had complaints in the past about instructors driving in student groups. ***It is okay to take a student for a ride in any student group, we trust your judgment on this, but please be exceptionally courteous and maintain the pace and passing procedures of the group.***
16. If we do get rain this weekend, please speak to your students. In most cases you should be back in the car, typically teaching the "rain line". TIRES MUST HAVE TREAD TO RUN IN THE RAIN to avoid high risk of hydroplaning at Mid-Ohio.
17. Remember we have cold tires and limited grip in the morning, remind yourself and your student!
18. Remember that if "you break the track you bought it". Students and instructors who cause track damage or cleanups will be charged back by NORPCA for these costs that we are charged by Mid-Ohio. If Mid-Ohio needs to bring out a rollback wrecker to retrieve a car, the driver will be charged \$1500.
19. If you have car sharers back-to-back, they can exchange instructors and drivers in the hot pit, otherwise observe the new traffic flow – enter the pits at B/C split (near Garage 21) and exit the pits at A/B split (near Garage 6). Always drive through the grid to enter the track.
20. Black flag station will be at B/C split (in front of garage 20).

21. See chief instructor for solo stickers for C and D groups. A and B groups are considered to be “pre-soloed” and do not require a sticker.
22. We have several Saturday Only instructors for this event. You have been assigned to more experienced students. If your student needs coverage on Sunday, please let us know. We have instructors available to cover.
23. If you do not have a forward head restraint (“HANS”) device you should consider purchasing one for your own safety. More and more student cars are equipped with harnesses and therefore require an instructor that has a HANS available. The Simpson Hybrid S device can be worn in any car with any belt system.
24. THANK YOU! WE COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU. LET’S BE CAREFUL OUT THERE AND BRING EVERYTHING BACK IN ONE PIECE!
25. Track Map:

