

WHY FLAGS ARE USED IN HPDE EVENTS

Flags are used in HPDE to communicate track conditions and to instruct drivers. The messages can include signaling the official start (green flag) and finish (checkered flag) of a session; but more importantly, flags are displayed by corner workers stationed at observation posts or flag stations along the racetrack to communicate both local and course-wide conditions to drivers. Flags are a critical component to a safe racetrack and should be thoroughly understood by the driver.



GREEN FLAG, displayed at start/finish to indicate the session is underway with clear track ahead.



YELLOW – Caution FLAG, a standing yellow flag indicates a hazard that is typically off the racing surface. A waving yellow flag is a hazard on the racing surface and the difference in how the flag is being waived will indicate the severity of the hazard. There is **NO PASSING** under yellow in HPDE.



YELLOW and RED STRIPE – SURFACE FLAG, sometimes called the debris flag; this flag is used to indicate a potential hazard on the track surface. Often the hazard is oil, coolant, or small pieces of debris. This flag may only be displayed for two laps even though the hazard remains.



RED FLAG indicates an **emergency**, check your mirrors and safely come to a stop driver's right. Continue at a walking pace until you can see the next flag station. Stop on racing surface, stay in your car and do not move until corner worker signals it is safe to continue and then return to pit lane.



BLACK FLAG, a standing black flag at all stations, everyone must return to pit lane. A waving black flag directed at an individual car, that car must return to pit lane. A waving black flag will be accompanied by the car number at a specified flag station (Sebring Turn 15). A furled black flag pointed at a specific car, the corner worker has targeted you for inappropriate driving and will monitor your behavior.



Mechanical, often called the "Meatball" indicates a mechanical issue with the car this flag is waved at. The driver must return to pit lane immediately.



PASSING FLAG, a faster car is approaching, be prepared to point the car by at the next available opportunity.



WHITE FLAG, slow moving vehicle on track, could be another driver or a safety vehicle. Use caution when passing the slow-moving vehicle.



CHECKERED FLAG, the driving session has ended, use this lap to cool your car down at a 70% pace. Please acknowledge your corner workers. There is **No PASSING** under checkered flag in HPDE.