

# HPDE Preparation and Guidelines

**SAFETY** is a word which you will hear frequently during this event as it is our main priority. We expect you to do everything in your power to make this event safe for yourself, fellow drivers, and Audi Club of North America. Anyone deemed to be driving in an unsafe manner is subject to expulsion from the event.

## Medication or specific health needs

- **If you are taking any medication, please ensure you have it clearly identified in your profile in MSR.**

## Drugs and Alcohol

- NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR DRUGS ARE ALLOWED AT ANY TIME WHILE THE TRACK IS HOT. THIS APPLIES TO PARTICIPANTS AND GUESTS.

## Clothing

- Comfortable clothing is recommended. **Long pants and long sleeve shirts are required**, as are leather or canvas shoes with socks. Be prepared for all types of weather.

## Car Preparation

- Arrive at the track with a full tank of fuel. You will likely need to refuel at least once a day. Driving with less than 1/3 tank can cause the engine to suck in air when fuel sloshes to side of tank.
- Before entering the track or pit area, remove EVERYTHING from both the trunk and interior of your car. This includes door pockets, under seats, glove box, floor mats, loose change, and visor attachments.
- Ensure your tires have factory recommended pressure to start the event. As you drive, the tires warm and the air within expands. You will want to check pressure as you drive to optimize traction given the conditions. At a minimum, check pressure at the start of each day.
- Sun roofs must be closed while on track – shut it now and leave it that way till you are on your way home.
- You must have a tech inspection sticker (provided at registration) on your windshield before you enter the track.
- You must have a run group indicator (provided at registration) on your windshield before you enter the track.
- Car numbers (provided at registration) must be applied to both sides of the vehicle on glass toward the rear of the car – avoid blocking view.

## Safety Gear

- Helmets must be worn by all participants during all in car sessions. We do offer helmet rentals in the event you may need one. The following are valid Helmets for this event:

Application	Rating	Valid until
M	2010	Jan 1, 2021
SA	2010	Jan 1, 2021

## On the track

- Schedules for an HPDE event are purposefully tight to maximize track time for all run groups. Be in the staging area and ready to GO five minutes BEFORE it is time for your run group. Run groups will be announced over the loudspeaker. Be belted in with you helmet on before entering the pit area. Make sure the passenger seatbelt is ready for your instructor.
- Make sure your car remains safe to drive throughout the entire event by frequently checking the condition of your tires, brakes (pads), lug nuts and fluid levels. Check your gauges when on the track. In all sessions the first lap of each run is a warm up lap.
- For the first lap, drive at reduced speed. Take time to warm up your tires, brakes and yourself.

- At the end of each session a cool down lap is provided to allow your engine, brakes and tires to cool down. Treat your car well and take advantage of it.
- All student drivers must have an instructor with them while on track at all times until they are signed off as “Solo” and the sign-off or solo sticker is applied to their car.
- While on track – if there is a butt in the seat, the window must be either 100% up or 100% down – this will be defined by the event master.
- In all sessions, run the first lap at reduced speed. Take time to warm up your tires and yourself. Drive your own line. Do not follow someone else's mistakes.
- DO NOT USE THE EMERGENCY BRAKE. Park the car in gear. Clamping down brake pads on hot rotors will likely cause them to warp.
- Drive within your ability. This is a fast track where one can quickly get into trouble. NO RACING IS ALLOWED. Drive safely. Have fun!

## General Rules:

- Passengers are NOT allowed. The only persons allowed on the track are instructors and registered participants. Instructors may give rides (front seat only) to non-participants if schedule permits. Waivers must be signed.
- SAV's, SUV's and convertibles are not allowed to participate.
- Any camera and video devices must be securely mounted. No hand-held devices are allowed in the car.
- Track and insurance regulations prohibit the timing of vehicles or any type of competitive driving.

## Driving Tips:

- Concentrate on being smooth and consistent with the line. Do not try for speed. If you have the correct line, speed will come naturally. If you attempt to go fast initially, you probably will drive a poor line, the car will not be balanced, and you become a hazard to yourself and others. Drive your own line.
- Keep reasonable distance between cars. Minimum distance on straights should be 3 car lengths unless you are passing, and then you should not be immediately behind the car in front of you. Maintain a safe interval in corners. If you find yourself in a group, back off for a while, or even pull into the pits for a moment. This will allow you to concentrate on your own driving and not worry about how close other drivers are.
- Watch your mirrors, especially at the beginning of a passing area. Allow faster cars to pass. Follow the passing rules outlined in this packet.
- Corner workers will report unacceptable intervals and unsafe driving practices to the track marshal. Drivers will be black-flagged and warned about improper or unsafe driving. Repeated violations will result in your disqualification from the event. Be conscious of and respect your fellow drivers. It is frustrating to be held up or have someone riding your bumper.
- Pass only in designated areas described in this booklet. Do not attempt to pass near the end of a straight. Be sure you have time to complete your pass before any turn.
- If you see a RED FLAG at any station, stop as quickly and safely as possible. Remember that there may be other cars behind you. Pull clear to one side of the track. Do not start again unless you are given a green or yellow flag.
- If a BLACK FLAG is pointed at you, acknowledge it with either a wave or flash of headlights.
- Proceed around the rest of the track and report to the pit master. You will be told what the problem is. It may be an infraction or simply an open sunroof. Failure to respond to a black flag will not be tolerated.

## Recommendations in case of trouble:

- If you drop two wheels off the track, gradually ease off the gas, continue straight until the suspension is settled and gently steer the car back on the track-do not jerk the wheel.

- If you see you are going off the track, but are still in control, drive off in a straight line. Do not turn the wheel. Do not make a futile attempt to hold the car on the track. This will result in a slide or spin.
- If you spin, the general rule is "both feet in". Depress the brake and clutch simultaneously until you come to a complete stop.
- If you spin or drive off the track or take two wheels off the track, come into the pits, report to an event official for a re-tech. Don't wait to be black flagged.
- Pit and track entry will be explained at the driver's meeting.

## Passing

All passing requires a "contract": meaning before a pass can take place, both the passing car and the care being overtaken are aware of the pending pass, acknowledged the situation and have both granted permission and accepted the opportunity to pass.

Passing rules will be explained in detail at the drivers meeting. Novice and Intermediate drivers will rely on guidance from their instructor to perform all passing.

With safety as our primary concern, failure to follow passing rules will result in disciplinary measures and could result in expulsion from the event.