

# What to expect when you attend a High Performance Driving Event

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Whether this is your first ever High Performance Driving Event (HPDE) or your first HPDE that the Audi Club Glacier Lakes (ACGL) chapter has put on, this document describes what your preparation for the event should entail as well as what you can expect during the event.

Our goal is simple: Audi Club Glacier Lakes driving events are designed and run to educate, build skills and promote the application of advanced driving technique on the track and on the street. We will use the racetrack in order to provide a safe and structured environment for our students but this is not a racing school.

There are few thrills that can rival safe driving at high speeds. Modern technology has given us cars with capabilities far above those required for everyday driving. Most drivers never really get the opportunity to experience their car's driving potential, or their own for that matter.

**We do not promote nor do we condone illegal driving activities e.g. speeding.**

## Preparation

In preparation for the event, you need to make sure your car is safe, not only for you but for the other instructors and drivers attending this event. This means, that your car needs to have working headlights, taillights, turn signals, brakes, steering, suspension, and it must not be leaking any fluids. If your car passes the required 'Tech Check' then you should be good to attend the HPDE - more on that 'Tech Check' later.

Other items worthy of your preparation attention would be a list of things that you might think about bringing with you so that you are prepared for having a great time learning car control, having fun, and doing that safely.

Some items you may not have thought about bringing might be a tarp, to lay on the ground and then fold over all of the things that will need to come out of your car; or bring a large plastic waterproof tub. Remember everything must come out of your car and trunk, including floor mats, loose change, empty water bottles, trash, etc...

Other items you may wish to bring would be bottled water or sport drinks, a folding chair, a portable gazebo, oil, torque wrench, tire pressure gauge, sun screen, rain gear, bug repellent, hat, gloves, hand cleaning gel, and paper towels.

You may also wish to vacuum the interior of your car prior to the event.

Clothing also plays an important safety role. Long pants and long sleeved shirts are required and all cotton, no blends. You're "up North"; temperatures will vary widely. Shorts are not acceptable on anyone driving. Shoes should have fairly soft, non-slip soles. Open toes, sandals, flip-flops and the like are not allowed.

Safety is our primary concern. Cars and drivers not judged to be safe will not be allowed on the track. However, the ultimate burden for safety is yours. The management team cannot foresee and codify

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every potential situation. Thus, the school management reserves the right to make ad hoc decisions concerning the operation of the school. Your participation in the school is contingent upon your abiding by these decisions. One of these decisions may be that inappropriate behavior on the part of a student is grounds for expelling a student from the balance of the school without refund.

This is not a racing school. Racing is not allowed, and if you are deemed to be racing, you will be expelled from the event. There will be no refunds or recourse for students expelled from the event under this rule. There are other infractions that will get you expelled from the event - those will be covered by the event master and/or chief instructor.

One thing to note, your car insurance does not typically cover you or your car for any type of loss at any sanctioned event at a facility that is not 'public roads', such as a racing surface. Please check your car insurance policy for coverage at an HPDE event. If your insurance policy does not cover any damage or loss at such an event, consider purchasing 'track insurance' that specifically covers certain damages at an HPDE. Typically the motorsportreg.com registration for the HPDE event has a link or links to track insurance providers. Make your own decision if you want this coverage and sign up for it in advance.

In the weeks or months prior to attending the HPDE, you should make sure your vehicle is current on maintenance, isn't leaking any fluids and the brake pads and rotors have significant life left in them. Being current on maintenance includes oil and brake fluid as recommended by the manufacturer. An HPDE event will have you experience significant acceleration, braking and cornering, so be prepared for that.

In the weeks prior to the event, you must take your car to one of the authorized or sponsor businesses to have them perform a 'Tech Check' on your vehicle. This simple form is a check list of items for a technician to perform for a technical evaluation of your vehicle. Any vehicle can pass this evaluation if it is a safe vehicle, technically. When your vehicle passes the technical inspection, the technician will sign your car off as having passed. You must fill out the rest of the Tech Check form and bring it with you to the drivers meeting. When you hand the form over to the HPDE registration official, you will receive the HPDE event packet that will include many of the items this document refers to, like your run group, a color sticker, the vehicle number stickers, and a schedule for the event.

The scheduled drivers meetings are mandatory, so you should do everything in your power that you can to attend them, including the drivers meeting the Friday evening prior to the event at the designated location, usually the host hotel.

## **Event Structure**

The event is held regardless of weather, unless there is severe weather approaching, which the track staff monitors very closely.

This driving school mimics actual driving conditions on the street, and is designed to probe the limits of your car and yourself under safe, controlled conditions. The purpose of this is to get the students accustomed to the experience of having to deal with adverse situations on the road, and if that happens,

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the element of surprise is minimized. We will have you doing a lot of driving, doing the same exercises over and over to instill these reactions to adverse events as 'muscle memory' or instinctive reactions.

The Saturday morning, the day of the event, you must attend the drivers meeting in the meeting room at the track. You will be given an overview of the schedule for the weekend and the car control clinic exercises. You will be paired up with an instructor in this meeting and you will be assigned a run group and a color code. The color codes indicate which exercise and time slot you will be learning at which time.

Run groups are what we refer to as 'a set of like drivers with similar vehicles'. All first-time, or novice drivers will be in the same novice run group. If there are too many students to be safe in the same run group, we will create two novice run groups, then the color designation will further define which novice run group you are scheduled for.

Your weekend will typically be scheduled like this:

Friday evening, at the designated location, typically the host hotel there is a drivers meeting where you sign the liability waiver\* form, turn in your completed and signed 'Tech Check' form, and receive the drivers packet which includes your event schedule, wrist band, color designation, car number stickers, and attendance tickets for anything you signed up for in your registration.

\*Entrants assume all risk of damage to persons and property during this event.

Saturday morning, at the designated location, typically the meeting room in the paddock area of the track, you will be fitted for a helmet if you don't have your own rated helmet, you will be assigned an instructor, you will be talked through the track layout, the schedule of events, and the specific rules for this HPDE as defined by the event master for this HPDE.

The event master for this HPDE will declare what rules you need to follow in the paddock area, how to get to your driving exercises, what the driving exercises consist of, what rules to follow when on the track and how to have fun doing all of this. Don't worry if this seems overwhelming, your assigned instructor will be right by your side helping you become proficient in what all of this means.

If at any time during the event, you want, **for any reason**, to switch instructors, please talk to the chief instructor, or the event master. Not every instructor will meet the needs of every student. Please do not hesitate to ask for a different instructor. We will be glad to help find a better fit for you and your learning style.

After the Saturday morning drivers meeting, you will attend an additional classroom session to instruct you on the car control exercises you will perform.

Then, you will go to your car with your instructor to prep your car for the car control exercises. This usually involves personal introductions, checking your tire pressures, the torque of your lug bolts, and making sure that there are no loose objects anywhere in your vehicle.

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Saturday morning will consist of alternating car control exercises and classroom sessions in which you will learn high performance driving skills.

After lunch, Saturday afternoon, you will be driving your car on the race track. This does NOT mean that there is racing to be done, quite the contrary. This means that you get to practice your morning car control sessions at higher speeds on a race track. A race track is one of the safest places you can practice these exercises, especially with an instructor at your side guiding you through the topics you learned in the morning classroom and car control exercises.

Saturday evening, after the track closes, is typically a social gathering where we all meet up and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere of dinner, beer, water, soda, and sharing the exhilaration of the day we experienced.

After this social, or after your last run group of the day, you are on your own for the evening/night.

Sunday morning, at the designated location, typically the meeting room in the paddock area of the track, there is another mandatory drivers meeting. In this meeting you will be advised by the event master of any schedule changes, any course layout changes, any instructor changes, and a reiteration of the track and paddock rules.

Sunday is typically run groups scheduled alternating between instructors, advanced drivers, intermediate drivers and novice drivers. In between your on-track driving you may wish to work with your instructor to tailor your instruction to the skillset(s) you wish to work on.

At anytime during the HPDE event, if you need to leave and return home, please let your instructor and/or the event master know so that they can adapt to the change as quickly as possible.

## **Addendum**

THIS IS A DRIVING SCHOOL. THE INSTRUCTORS SHALL TEACH AND THE STUDENTS SHALL LEARN. WE ALL SHALL HAVE FUN AND WE ALL SHALL BE SAFE.

At driving schools there is no prize money nor acclaim to win. No matter how fast you go, you always end up back where you started. So, unless you improve your car control skills, (or as an instructor, impart new skills to your students) you have squandered your time while risking injury to your property and person.

## **Liability Waiver**

When you sign the waiver to get into the track, you sign away your rights to sue Audi Club North America, the chapter, any other participant or any instructor or worker, for ANYTHING that happens to you, or to your car, at this event.

## **Requirements**

For insurance reasons, passengers cannot be allowed during student run sessions. This means no passenger rides to spouses, friends or foes. No minors may be passengers at any time.

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## Driver Requirements

- Driver must be at least 18 years of age.
- All forms must be completed and signed.
- Drivers must have a current driver's license and the state-mandated insurance coverage limits on any street-legal car.
- Drivers must wear a minimum approved helmet or better at all times while on the track.
- All drivers must wear long pants, long sleeve shirts and suitable footwear.
- Cleated shoes, heavy boots and sandals are not permitted. Pants and shirts of 100% cotton – no poly blends.

## Car Requirements

- Car must be empty of all loose objects in trunk, glove and passenger compartments.
- Car numbers and class must be placed on the car before driving on the track.
- **No SUVs, trucks, vans, convertibles, T-tops or Targas are allowed.**

**A typical schedule for the HPDE event is this (this may change for each event based on the number of, and experience of the participants):**

**Day1:**

## What to expect when you attend a High Performance Driving Event

Time	Green	Blue	Yellow	Orange	Red
7:00-8:00	Gates Open - Car Preparation				
8:00-8:25	DRIVERS MEETING - ALL				
8:30-8:55	CLASSROOM		EXERCISE SET UP (Instructors and Volunteers)		
9:00-9:25	Braking	Slalom	Lapping		
9:30-10:00	Slalom	Braking		Lapping	
10:00-10:30	CLASSROOM				Lapping
10:30-11:00	Wet Lane Change	Accident Avoidance	Lapping		
11:00-11:30	Accident Avoidance	Wet Lane Change		Lapping	
11:30-12:00					Lapping
12:00-12:45	LUNCH - ON YOUR OWN				
12:50-1:00	DRIVERS MEETING (classroom)		DRIVERS MEETING (Quattro Garage)		
1:00-1:25	Lapping				
1:30-1:55			Lapping		
2:00-2:25		Lapping			
2:30-2:55				Lapping	
3:00-3:25	Lapping				
3:30-3:55			Lapping		
4:00-4:25		Lapping			
4:30-5:00				Lapping	
5:00-7:00	SOCIAL BARBEQUE				

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## Day2:

Time	Green	Blue	Yellow	Orange	Red
7:00-8:00	Gates Open - Car Preparation				
8:00-8:25	Car Preparation				
8:30-8:55	DRIVERS MEETING (classroom)		DRIVERS MEETING (Quattro Garage)		
9:00-9:25					Lapping
9:30-10:00	Lapping				
10:00-10:30				Lapping	
10:30-11:00		Lapping			
11:00-11:30			Lapping		
11:30-12:00					
12:00-12:45	LUNCH - ON YOUR OWN				
12:50-1:00	DRIVERS MEETING (classroom)		DRIVERS MEETING (Quattro Garage)		
1:00-1:25	Lapping				
1:30-1:55			Lapping		
2:00-2:25		Lapping			
2:30-2:55				Lapping	
3:00-3:25					Lapping
3:30-3:55			Lapping		
4:00-4:25	Combined Lapping				
4:30-5:00				Lapping	
5:00-5:30	Combined Lapping				