

# Ice Driving Events

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## Goals

Our goal is simple: Audi Club Glacier Lakes driving events are designed and run to educate, build skills and promote the application of driving techniques on the street that go beyond what is typically taught in driver education courses.

You should never be just a “passenger” in a car that you are driving. The technology integrated into cars today gives our vehicles capabilities far above those required for relatively safe everyday driving. That said, as the driver you still need to be prepared to take decisive action behind the wheel when you experience the unexpected or adverse situation on the road. Panicking or doing nothing in such cases will make you a simple passenger along for whatever ride the situation takes you and your vehicle.

Our educational driving events are designed to help you experience some of those adverse conditions in a controlled environment so you are able to identify such situations and build driving skills intended to help you be a driver versus a passenger in your vehicle.

*We neither promote nor condone illegal driving activities (e.g., speeding, texting while driving, etc.).*

## Who can participate?

Members of Audi Club North America (ACNA) are invited to participate in this skill enhancing event. Teens are welcome to participate with a learner’s permit or driver’s license if their parent or legal guardian is an ACNA Member. (Not yet a member? Sign up [here!](#))

## What Happens at this Event?

We use a very shallow lake in Scott County MN in order to provide a safe and structured environment for our participants. The ice depth is tested prior to each event, and the ice surface is also reviewed. We will NOT hold an event unless we have deemed the lake has sufficient ice depth and the ice surface is clear enough to accommodate our event. The event is generally held regardless of weather conditions; however, we will not hold an event if visibility or temperatures are deemed unsafe.

We plow the lake prior to the event to establish slalom, accident avoidance, and skid pad exercise areas for skill building. We also create a road course on which participants can apply the principles learned in the exercise areas to the test. The plowing is completed prior to your arrival which helps us maximize your time on the course.

This driving event course mimics actual driving conditions on the street, and is designed to probe the limits of your car and the driver under safe, controlled conditions. The purpose of this is to get you accustomed to the

experience of having to deal with adverse situations on the road; If that happens, the element of surprise is minimized. You'll be doing a lot of driving, repeating exercises over and over to enhance your response to adverse events while building 'muscle memory' or instinctive reactions.

The day will start with a Driver's Meeting. *Please arrive on-time.* You must be present for the driver's meeting or you may not be allowed on the course. The Event Master or a delegate will give an overview of the exercises and the road course, as well as tips for how to successfully manage each challenge. Verbal overview and instructions are provided, then driver's attempt to master the exercises on their own. The key is repetition. As you learn how you and your vehicle react to an exercise, you try different reactions and see how the vehicle behavior changes.

Check out this video for a sample of what to expect: [Ice Driving 2021 02 13](#)

*In-car instruction is not provided at Ice Driving events.* If you'd like additional tips or help managing an exercise at any time during the event, ask the Event Master.

ACGL does not provide any food or refreshments. Bring some beverages with you. Lunch is on your own. Participants often gather at the nearby [Minnesota Horse & Hunt Club](#) for lunch and share stories and tips from the course!

## Safety First! Prepare for the event

Safety is our primary concern at driving events. Our event team cannot foresee and codify every potential situation. The ultimate burden for safety is yours.

You need to make sure your vehicle is safe for you and for others around you before you head to the event.

Check the following:

- Working headlights, taillights, turn signals
- Brakes work as expected, sufficient pad material
- Tires properly inflated
- Steering reacts as expected
- Suspension feels as expected, nothing feels or sounds loose
- No leaking fluids
- Full gas tank
- Tow eye/tow hook in place

We reserve the right for our Event Master to make ad hoc decisions concerning the operation of the event. Your participation in the event is contingent upon your abiding by these decisions. Cars and drivers not judged to be safe will not be allowed on the driving course. Inappropriate behavior on the part of a participant or their guest(s) is grounds for expelling a participant from the balance of the event without refund.

# Requirements

## *Driver Requirements*

- Drivers must be at least 15 years of age with a valid learner's permit or driver's license
  - For Drivers under 18 years, their parent or legal guardian must be onsite for the event.
  - For driver's with only a learner's permit, a parent or legal guardian (for a teen with a permit) or adult licensed driver (for 18+ with a permit) must be in the passenger's seat while the vehicle is under operation.
- All participants – drivers, guests, staff, & volunteers - must sign the required waivers prior to arrival.
  - For participants under 18 years of age, their parents/legal guardians must complete the required waivers on behalf of the minor prior to arrival.

## *Vehicle Requirements*

- State-mandated insurance coverage must be in effect.
- All makes and models accepted provided they meet minimum club safety standards.
- Empty of all loose objects in trunk, glove and passenger compartments, including back seats, under seats, cup holders, floors, etc.
- Must be free of leaks. We strive to be good stewards of our environment and any vehicles leaking any fluids will not be allowed on the lake.

## *Safety Requirements*

- Follow all instructions provided by the Event staff prior to and while at the event. Staff's primary concern is keeping everyone safe and the instructions they provide help to promote safety and mitigate risks.
- Be aware of your surroundings including moving vehicles and foot traffic at all times.
- Adhere to 5 mph speed limit in parking/paddock areas and while moving between exercises.
- Stay hydrated throughout the day. Bring liquids along and drink them.
- Monitor yourself for fatigue. Stop driving if you feel tired.
- No alcohol or drugs allowed at the event. Anyone showing up with these – whether driver or guest – will be expelled from the event.

## Are you ready to give Ice Driving a try?

We see significant improvements in drivers of all ages over the course of the day. The confidence level of each driver increases as their skills and capabilities increase. And the fact that it's so much fun is icing on the cake! We see many repeat attendees because they enjoy the event so much. Are you ready to give ice driving a try?

Find an Ice Driving Event at: <https://acgl.motorsportreg.com>