

# HPDE Preparation and Guidelines

**SAFETY** is a word that 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, our guests, and the 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 or have specific health needs that should be known by safety persons, ensure you have it clearly identified on your person such as a medical alert bracelet. We do not collect nor retain medical information for attendees.

## Drugs and Alcohol

- No alcoholic beverages are allowed at this event while the track is hot. No drugs (i.e., illegal) are allowed at this event at any time. This applies to participants and to guests.

## Vehicles:

You do not need to own or bring an Audi to participate. Your car does not need to be a “track car” or race car. Most participants bring their “daily driver” to this education event!

Most makes and models with the exception of trucks, SUVs, vans, convertibles, T-tops, and Targas are accepted provided they meet minimum club safety standards. Final determinations of a vehicle’s acceptability will be determined by the Event Master. If you have any doubts regarding vehicle acceptability, contact the event organizers (email: [events@audiclubglacierlakes.org](mailto:events@audiclubglacierlakes.org)).

- Vehicles are not provided by the club.
- Your vehicle must receive a documented technical inspection (“tech check”) by a competent entity or individual (dealer, authorized service center, mechanic, or another competent individual) within 30 days of the start of the event. A link to the required form is included in the registration page information.
- Your vehicle must be empty of all objects. Clean out the trunk, the glovebox, cubbies and cupholders, and the passenger compartment.

You must complete a “Tech Check” on your vehicle within 30 days prior to the start of the event. It is recommended that you take your car to an authorized business to have them perform the check on your vehicle. The Tech-Check form is a checklist of items for a technician to evaluate for a technical assessment of your vehicle. (A copy of the form is available on our website: [audiclubglacierlakes.org](http://audiclubglacierlakes.org) Go to events > quattroberfest HPDE, then locate the Want to learn more? Section and look for the technical inspection form link.) The technician will review all things on the checklist, and if all are within requirements, will sign the checklist certifying the vehicle “passed” the safety inspection. Make sure the Tech Check form is complete when it is returned to you. *You must bring this completed form with you to the event!*

*Note: Neither the technical inspection nor any onsite examination relieves the driver of their sole responsibility for the safe condition of their vehicles.*

## Helmets

Helmets must be worn by all participants during all in-car sessions.

- All helmets used in ACNA events require a valid Snell Memorial Foundation certification sticker or FIA certification sticker as described below.

Application	Rating	Valid until
SA	2015	Dec. 31, 2026
SA	2020	Dec. 31, 2031
EA	2016	Dec. 31, 2027

### FIA Certifications

Standard	Valid Until
8859-2015	10 years from DOM*
8860-2010	Dec. 31, 2028
8860-2018	10 years from DOM*

\*The date of manufacture (DOM) can be found on the FIA sticker in the helmet

\*\*For helmets that have both Snell and FIA certifications, the later expiration date takes precedence.

- If you do not own one of the permitted helmets listed above, there are places that will rent helmets, or you may be able to request helmet rental during registration. Email us if you need help finding a rental helmet.

## Lap and Shoulder Belts, Harnesses, and Frontal Head Restraints

- Unless harnesses are utilized, fully functional 3-point lap and shoulder belts must be used by the driver and passenger at all times while a vehicle is in motion.
- Harnesses are not required but may be used by the driver at events where legal as long as equivalent harnesses are also provided and used by any passenger. Provided the track allows them, acceptable harnesses for ACNA events are 4-point with ASM (antibulbar) feature (e.g. Schroth QuickFit, QuickFit Pro, and Rallye harnesses), and 5-point, 6-point or greater. ACNA recommends aftermarket harnesses have FIA, SFI, or FMVSS certification; these approved harnesses are considered equivalent under these Guidelines.
- Use of a Frontal Head Restraint (FHR) is not required; It is a personal choice to be made independently by each occupant of a vehicle. FHR devices should only be used with belts or harnesses that are designed for that purpose.

## Clothing

- Comfortable clothing is recommended. **Long pants and long sleeve shirts are required**, as are leather or canvas closed-toe 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. Consider making sure your tank is at least 1/3 full before heading on track.
- Before entering the track or pit area, remove EVERYTHING from your car's trunk and interior. This includes door pockets, under the seats, glove box, floor mats, loose change in the cup holder, HOV Lane reader, and visor attachments. If in doubt, take it out!
- Ensure your tires have factory-recommended pressure to start the event. As you drive, the tires warm and the air within expands. Check pressure throughout the day to optimize traction given the conditions. At a minimum, check pressure at the start of each day.
- Sunroofs must be **closed** while on track.
- A tech inspection sticker (provided at registration) must be affixed to your windshield before you enter the track.
- A run group indicator (provided at registration) must be affixed to your windshield before you enter the track.
- Apply car numbers and class so they are clearly identified on the car (ask for placement instructions at the driver meeting!) before heading to the track. Number and class stickers will be provided at registration.
- Hybrid & Electric Vehicles: Apply a hybrid/electric identification sticker near the car number before driving on the track. Stickers will be provided at registration.

## General Rules:

- Only registered driver participants, including Instructors, are allowed to drive on the track.
- Passengers are not allowed in student vehicles while those students are driving on the track.
- Instructors may take a passenger (one; front passenger seat only) on track provided that the passenger has signed all required waivers, is wearing an approved helmet and approved clothing, and meets the minimum age requirements set for the event.
- Any camera and video devices must be securely mounted. No hand-held devices are allowed in the car.
  - Novice and Intermediate Drivers: You Instructor must pre-approve use.
- The Club does not sanction the “timing” of vehicles or any type of competitive type of driving.
- **No drones allowed.** (Not even in the parking lot.)
- Follow all club and facility rules including any restrictions on motorbikes, scooters, skateboards, etc. If in doubt, ask before use.

## Track Time

- How to enter and exit the track will be explained at the Drivers Meeting.
- HPDE Event schedules are purposefully tight to maximize your track time. Be in the staging area and ready to go five minutes *before* it is time for your run group. Run groups are announced over the loudspeaker, but keep an eye on your schedule.
- Have your helmet on, and seat belt fastened BEFORE you enter the pit area.
- You must have an instructor in your passenger seat while on track at all times unless you have been approved to “Solo” by our Club and the solo sticker has been applied to your car.
- While on track, if there is “a butt in the seat” then the window must be either 100% up or 100% down. Up or Down will be defined by the event master at the morning Drivers Meeting each day.
- Listen to your Instructor and track safety officials. Follow their instructions immediately. Do NOT argue, even if you disagree. Their priority is to keep you, themselves, and others at the event safe. You can discuss the situation **after** you leave the track if needed.
- The first lap of each session is a warm-up lap – yellow flag. Drive at reduced speed. Take time to warm up your tires, brakes, and yourself.
- DO NOT USE THE EMERGENCY BRAKE following a session on track. If you have a manual, park the car in gear. (Clamping down brake pads on hot rotors may cause them to warp.)
- Check the condition of your tires, brakes (pads), lug nuts, and fluid levels frequently during the event to make sure your car remains safe to drive.
- Drive within your ability. You can quickly get into trouble on any racetrack if you get flustered or lose focus. Take a break if you need one.
- **NO RACING IS ALLOWED.** No Practicing race-type maneuvers in any session! ***Violations will result in disqualification from the event without a refund.*** [Our use of bold and italic font here should be an indication to you of how seriously we take this rule. Just.Don't.Do.It!]
- Listen to your Instructor. Drive safely. Have fun!

## Passing

- Passing rules are explained in detail at the Drivers Meeting and in the classroom.
- Novice and Intermediate drivers will rely on guidance from their Instructor to perform all passing.
- All passing requires a “contract”. This means that before a pass can take place, both the passing car and the car being overtaken are aware of the pending pass, acknowledged the situation, and have both granted permission and accepted the opportunity to pass.
- You are responsible for knowing where on the track you are allowed to pass or be passed.
  - If you do not get a valid contract to pass from the car in front of you, DO NOT PASS.
  - If you get a contract to pass but you are not in a valid passing zone, DO NOT PASS.

## Driving Tips:

- Listen to your Instructor. They have training and experience to help you learn and to remain as safe as possible.
- Focus on being smooth and being consistent with the “line”. As you improve these items, speed will come naturally.
- Drive your own line. Don't just follow the line of the car in front of you. (Hint: They may not have the correct line!)
- Keep a reasonable distance between cars. It is easier to focus on your own driving when you aren't worrying about how close other drivers are to you.
- Your Instructor will help watch your mirrors. Let faster cars pass where allowed. (Your Instructor will help you learn safe contract-passing when the time is right.) Follow the passing rules outlined by Event staff.
- Be conscious of and respect your fellow drivers. Be courteous. Not getting a pass? Keep a cool head and cycle out through pit road to put some distance between you and that vehicle.
- Corner workers report mechanical concerns, unacceptable intervals, and unsafe driving practices. Drivers will be black-flagged to be informed of or discuss the situation.
- 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.
- ***Failure to respond to a black flag will not be tolerated. Unsafe driving practices will not be tolerated.*** At a minimum, you will lose track time. Egregious or repeat violations may ***result in disqualification from the event without a refund.*** [Again, note the use of both bold and italic font types. Just.Don't.Do.It!]
- If you see a **RED FLAG**, stop as quickly and safely as possible and in sight of a corner station. 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, yellow, or black flag.

## In the Event of Trouble on the Track:

- If two of your wheels drop off the track, gradually ease off the gas, continue straight until the suspension is settled, look to see if the track is clear, 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 attempt to hold the car on the track. If you do it could result in a slide or spin.
- If you spin, the general rule is "both feet in". Depress the brake and clutch simultaneously, or put both feet on the brake if an automatic transmission, until you come to a complete stop.
- If any of the three bullets above happens to you, come into the pits and report to an event official for a re-tech. Don't wait to be black-flagged. They will help you look over the vehicle and check in with you to make sure both you and your car are ready to go back on track.