

# Highlands Sports Car Club Autocross Rules

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## Contents

1. General Rules
2. Eligibility of Participants
3. Safety and Car Preparation
4. Registration
5. Worker Assignments
6. Event Scoring and Classing
7. Classes Supported
8. Aborted Runs
9. Points

## 1. General Rules

1.1 For matters not defined in this document, refer to the current year's SCCA SOLO Rule Book, available on site at all Highlands Sports Car Club (HSCC) events.

1.2 In the case of questions regarding safety, protests, or any issue regarding general rules the Autocross Chair and the Event Chair will be involved in the decision. They may ask for input from any participant not directly involved in the issue. If an Autocross Chair or Event Chair is involved in the issue, they will remove themselves from the discussion. Involved parties will be allowed to offer their input.

If, for some reason, disciplinary action must be taken, all HSCC officers present at the time of the incident will decide upon the correct action. The officers may give the competitor a time/class position penalty or disqualify the competitor from the event.

1.3 The Event Chair(s) will be responsible for making any decisions or clarifications regarding the running of their specific event. Event Chair(s), after consulting with the Autocross Chair, will determine the number of runs and whether fun runs will be done.

1.4 On event set up days, only Event Chair(s) or drivers selected by Event Chair(s) may pre-run the course. It is desirable that the driver for the safety pre-runs be someone that is not going to compete in the autocross. For NCAC events, the driver for the safety check should not be competing in the series.

1.5 No alcohol, drugs or any controlled substance may be consumed during the event, and any person under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any controlled substance will be asked to leave. An event starts when registration opens and ends when the last run is made and the course is picked up.

1.6 All people present at an event must sign the insurance waiver and will be given a wrist band that must be worn the full duration of the event. This includes all participants, spectators, and crew. Participants are responsible for having their family members, crew or friends sign the waiver. An announcement will be made by the Event Chair(s) at the driver's meeting pointing out this rule. It is the responsibility of all participants to ensure compliance with this rule.

1.7 The course may be walked as many times as desired before the drivers' meeting. Only walking is allowed. This rule is intended to keep people from riding bikes or using skateboards, roller-blades, or scooters during the walk through. All Novices should participate in a course walk that will be conducted by a veteran autocrosser selected by the Event Chair(s).

## **2. Eligibility of Participants**

2.1 Participants must have a valid driver's license at the time of the event and must be prepared to present such license during registration. Kart

drivers between the ages of 12 and 16 shall be exempt from this rule. See below for the minor waiver requirement.

2.2 All participants must be 18 years of age, OR if under age 18, must have a HSCC minor release form signed by a parent or legal guardian. Such form is to be presented and signed off by the President, Vice President or Autocross officer, then turned into the registrar. Minor release forms are to be kept on file with insurance waiver forms.

2.3 HSCC reserves the right to refuse to allow anyone to participate if it is not possible to verify the above qualifications.

2.4 Passengers under 12 years of age are not permitted in any runs on course, including fun runs.

### **3. Safety and Car Preparation**

3.1 Refer to the current year's SCCA SOLO Rule Book for car classing and preparation regulations.

3.2 Vehicles will be identified with car number and car class as follows:

a. Numbers must be a minimum of 8" high with a 1.25" stroke. Class letters must be a minimum of 4" high with a 0.75" stroke. In all cases, the height of the class letters must be between 25% and 75% of the height of the numbers. Stroke width must be at least 10% of the height.

b. Class shall be represented by the upper-case abbreviated form rather than be spelled out. Ladies classes shall be indicated by the letter L preceding the class letters. (Example: LBSP instead of Ladies B Street Prepared).

c. For full Vehicle Identification rules, refer to the current year's SCCA rule book.

3.3 It is the responsibility of the driver to ensure that his/her vehicle is properly prepared and safe for competition.

3.4 Speed through the pits and grid area will be no more than a walking pace (5 MPH). No tire warming, brake warming or other high-speed maneuvers will be allowed anywhere on the event site. Violation of these rules will be grounds for a competitor expulsion from the site.

3.5 All cars must pass a technical inspection. Cars will only be inspected after the driver(s) have registered and before tech inspection closes.

3.6 Sunroofs must be securely attached to the car or completely removed from the car.

3.7 All loose objects must be removed from the car and trunk. Spare tires may be left in if secured.

3.8 Helmets and seat belts must be worn on every run by every person in the car. This includes fun runs and runs during set up days.

3.9 Both driver side and passenger side windows must be down when the vehicle reaches the start line and remain in the down position until the vehicle crosses the finish line.

3.10 Participants are permitted to ride as passengers in the automobile during training sessions and driving schools. Participants are permitted to ride as passengers during the competition run only with the approval of the Autocross Chair or Event Chair . All passengers must meet the requirements of section 2 above. Specifically they must be in an automobile which has passed technical inspection; must wear seat belt and approved helmet and must have signed the waiver. The passenger must be either a student riding with an instructor or an instructor riding with a student during a driver's school. (Note: Copied from K and K Insurance Autocross Event Minimum Insurance Qualifications)

3.11 During runs, drivers (and passengers if applicable) must keep arms, hands, and all body parts inside the car. No handheld cameras or other devices are allowed unless secured to the vehicle.

3.12 Car number and class needs to be on both sides of the car. If more than one driver, driver is responsible for reporting to the starter the correct class and number. Two driver cars must be clearly marked with a 2 in the upper right hand corner of the windshield. Shoe polish and/or painter's tape is available on-site.

3.13 Helmets: Copied from the SCCA Solo Rule book

Helmets meeting the following standards must be worn while on course: All helmets meeting the current or two immediately preceding Snell Foundation standards (SA, K, or M), or SFI standards 31.1A, 31.2A, 41.1A, or 41.2A are acceptable.

For maximum protection, helmets must fit securely and should provide adequate peripheral vision. The chin strap must be securely fastened. Loaner helmets are available to vehicle occupants not having their own.

## **4. Registration**

4.1 All competitors must check in at the registration desk before registration closes.

4.2 Competitors must be prepared to show a valid driver's license at registration.

4.3 A driver may only compete in one car and one class during the event.

4.4 Registration will be refused to anyone that has not signed the waiver.

## **5. Worker Assignments**

5.1 Each driver must work at the event. If a driver cannot work at the event, they must arrange to have someone work for them. Additionally, no NCAC points and/or HSCC points will be awarded to anyone who has not worked. They will be awarded a DNW (Did Not Work). Lastly, anyone who did not

work an event will be refused entry into the next scheduled HSCC event and will be required to work an event without competing before being allowed entry at another HSCC event.

5.2 All work assignments will be performed as while keeping the safety of all participants, workers, and spectators in mind. Workers assigned to stations on or near the course, must be attentive to their assigned work station - no cell phones, no socializing, no smoking, never turn your back to a car on course, and always wearing the supplied orange safety vest. Novices will be assigned a post with an experienced autocrosser.

## **6. Event Scoring and Classing**

6.1 Car Classification is the responsibility of the participant. Any vehicle that is protested for mis-classification, in which the protest is upheld, shall receive DNF's for all runs completed at that event in the wrong class.

6.2 Car classifications and preparation will follow the current year's SCCA SOLO Rule Book.

6.3 A car may only be entered in its appropriate Stock, Street Prepared, Prepared, Modified, Tire, or other class recognized by HSCC.

6.4 Points are only awarded to a participant that completes at least one run. DNF's do not count as completed runs.

6.5 Five cars or five minutes minimum must exist between runs. Reruns will also follow this guideline. A competitor may choose to go to the end of the line.

6.6 Any cone that is no longer standing upright will count as a 2-second penalty. Any cone that is standing upright but no longer has ANY part of its base within the marked area will count as a 2-second penalty.

## 7. Classes Supported

7.1 HSCC will support all official SCCA classes , including individual Ladies classes, as defined in the current year's SCCA SOLO Rule Book unless otherwise published for a specific event.

7.2 PAXed Classes: The following additional classes are supported by HSCC and will be scored using the current PAX index value unless otherwise indicated:

**Exceptions:** These PAX classes are not available to ST, STS, STU, or STX since these classes assume competitors are running on street tires. ST, STS, STU, and STX class will be scored based on their individual PAX index.

7.2a **Street Tire Class (T)**- A class where a vehicle complying with an SCCA SOLO vehicle class rules may compete on street tires which have a tread-wear rating of 140 or greater. Exceptions may be granted for vehicles equipped with OEM tires with ratings less than 140, but the competitor is required to show documentation to the Autocross Chair of such OEM equipment.

7.2b **Novice Class (N)** - Competitors are eligible for novice class if they have run three or fewer autocross events before the beginning of the autocross season. If a novice wins an open class at an autocross event, the driver is no longer eligible for novice class. Tire choice in Novice Class is subject to appropriate open class rules. A Novice may not compete in Street Tire (T) and Novice (N) at the same event.

7.2c **Pro Class (P)** - Pro Class is established for competitors that seek the next level of competitiveness and often compete in regional and national events. Any non-novice competitor who wishes, may choose to run in Pro Class.

Note: For all the above PAXed classes, the indicator (T, N, P) will be placed before the car's classification (ie. TES, NFSP, PDS, etc.)

7.3 **Street Tire Unlimited (X)** - An open class where the only requirement is street compound tires with a treadwear rating of 140 or higher. This class will be scored on Raw Time only. There is no PAX index for this class. The class letter indicator for this class is simply "X".

7.4 **Karts:** Karts shall comply with the safety rules in SCCA Solo rules, regardless of age or engine type.

7.5 In addition to the official SCCA kart classes, HSCC supports the following Kart Classes:

7.5a **Adult Kart (AK)** Karts that are powered by a 5 HP Briggs & Stratton (or like) based engine may run in the ADULT KART class. These engines must be based on a stock block B&S engine. Engine modifications are allowed with the exception of forced induction. Drivers must be 17+ years old to enter this class.

7.5b **Junior Kart (JK)** Drivers age 12-16 may enter the JUNIOR KART class. Engines in this class will be stock 5 HP Briggs & Stratton (or like) engines. No modifications allowed except for exhaust and air filter.

7.5c **Open Kart (OK)** Karts that are powered by means other than a Briggs & Stratton 5 HP based engine may run in the OPEN KART class. This includes all 2 stroke engines, any motorcycle engine, or any other engine or engines not based on a 5 HP Briggs & Stratton. Drivers must be 17+ years old to enter this class.

## **8. Aborted Runs and DNFs**

8.1 A car that starts, but is unable to complete a run due to mechanical failure or due to missing a gate, the run will be scored as a DNF (Did-Not-Finish). Once a car crosses the start line the run is officially started. Once the car crosses the finish line the run is over. (This last part seems obvious but it is intended to clarify any situation where it is possible to hit the finish line before finishing the course. For instance, miss a turn and wind up unintentionally in the finish box.).

8.2 If, during a run, a participant sees a cone out of place, he/she must bring the car safely to a stop on course and point out the cone or cones. After this is done and the corner worker acknowledges this, the participant will drive to the finish line following the course at a reduced and safe speed. The participant will be issued a re-run. This rule does not apply to a cone moved by that participant during their run (i.e. on the way out along the same part of the course they come back on).

8.3 If a cone is knocked down by a competitor on the way out on a part of the course that is used again and, on their way back, has not been re-set by a corner worker because of insufficient time between the two passings of the car, no re-run will be issued. In this case, the competitor will drive the line that was originally marked by the cone. No extra cone penalty will be given if the knocked down cone is hit because it is in the line. The reason for this rule is to keep a competitor from gaining an advantage because of a knocked down cone and to protect the course workers.

8.4 For a timer malfunction or other situation resulting in a re-run, the car on course should be red flagged as soon as is safe and possible. The car should proceed at reduced and safe speed to the finish line while still following the course.

8.5 A car that is red flagged for a safety issue will be given a re-run. Safety should always be the prime consideration by all corner workers. If a competitor's car develops a mechanical problem that may cause a safety problem, even if the car is capable of finishing the run, they should be red flagged. Because the red flag was for a safety problem and NOT the mechanical problem, the competitor will get the re-run.

8.6 Anyone damaging the timing equipment or hitting the large cones by the timing equipment will be given a DNF for that run and will be responsible for the costs of replacing/repairing the equipment.

## **9. Season Class Championship Points**

9.1 HSCC will award separate class championships for events classified as Day Series events and for events classified as Nite Series Events. To be eligible for either Series Class Championship, a competitor must compete in the same class a minimum of three times in the respective Series.

9.2) Membership in the Highlands Sports Car Club is required to be considered eligible for an end-of-year championship. Membership must be established for a minimum of three events and is not retroactive.

9.3 Points for each event will be awarded 9-6-4-3-2-1-1-1... (9 points for first place, 6 for second, 4 for third, etc.). A driver must complete at least one run at an event to earn points at that event. (If all runs are DNS or DNF, no points will be awarded.)

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