**Sandlapper Chapter BMW CCA Autocross – Timelines and Participant Duties**

**Approximately four weeks prior to the event date:**  Registration opens. If you have any registration questions for the Registrar or Autocross Chairman, please ask them as soon as possible so we can get back to you in a timely manner before registration closes.

**Two days before the event:** The decision will be made on whether to proceed or cancel the event. If there are a sufficient number of registrations to ensure a safe event and the weather forecast does not predict unsafe conditions, the event will proceed and a confirmation email will be sent to the participants who have already registered. If an insufficient number of registrations have been received or the weather forecast predicts unsafe conditions, the event will be canceled and all on the list will be notified. **The former cause for cancellation is why you should not wait until the last moment to register if you intend to participate.**

**One Week Prior to the Event:** **Registration closes.** This time is set so that we can finalize the event organization and share the particulars between the Registrar, Autocross Chairman, and Timing Committee, while still having a reasonable amount of time for rest before the event. **Any special requests (e.g. being assigned to a particular run group and/or the same run group as another participant) must occur before registration closes.**

**The day of the event (standard timing below, with delays as approved by the Chairman only):**

Before 9:00 **Arrival:** Park in the area depicted on the map provided during registration.

08:00-9:30 **Sign-In:** Proceed to the timing tent to sign in. **8:00 is the earliest you may sign in** and **9:30 is the sign-in deadline – this means that if you arrive after 9:30, you will not be allowed to participate.**

08:30-9:30 **Tech inspection:** **If you arrive before 9:30, your vehicle will be inspected; if you arrive after 9:30, your vehicle will not be inspected.** Once signed in, prepare your vehicle for the tech inspection: remove the driver’s floor mat, remove all loose items from all compartments (consoles, door pockets, glove box, trunk, etc.), open the hood and trunk, place your helmet on the driver’s seat, and then number your vehicle. **Do not place your numbers on the vehicle until it is ready to be inspected.** A sticker will be placed on the upper driver’s side corner of the windshield to signify your vehicle has been inspected. If your vehicle has not been inspected by 9:30, please notify a committee member.

09:00-varies **Course walk:** If the course has been called “open to walk” and your vehicle is ready for tech inspection, please undertake a course walk to familiarize yourself with the routing. Please take a piece of chalk (available at the starting line) with you to outline any course cones that have not already been outlined. Do not commence a course walk after 9:45, as the length of our courses will prevent you from getting back for the driver’s meeting by the stated time, thus delaying the start of the driver’s meeting.

9:30 **Novice instruction/course walk:** If this is your first event or you still consider yourself a “neophyte,” this is highly suggested, but optional.

9:45 **Course walk closes:** Due to the length of our courses, anyone starting a course walk after this time will not be able to complete it before the stated driver’s meeting start time, thus delaying the start of the driver’s meeting.

10:00 **Driver’s meeting:** **This is mandatory for all participants and encouraged for spectators.** **If you have any questions about the event, this is the time to ask them.** Immediately following the driver’s meeting, the first run group will be directed onto the grid and the first work group will be given their assignments.

Varies **Run/Work Group changeover:** There will be short breaks between the groups for changeover, but no “lunch hour” – please do not leave the area during the breaks. ~~If you are neither running nor working in a particular group, you may leave the area, but must return before your run or work group.~~ (we are only running two groups now, so this is not relevant) Due to their nature, autocrosses are not precisely-timed events where the total duration or individual segment duration can be guaranteed; we can only estimate the start time for the first run group and cannot estimate the end time of the first run group or the start/end times of any subsequent group.

Varies **Event end:** Due to their nature, autocrosses are not precisely-timed events where or individual segment duration or total duration can be guaranteed. Total time for an event can exceed six hours from “first car out” time – keep that in mind when registering. See the refund policies document for more in regards to this aspect.

**For your run group (all participants):**

When your run group is called, proceed to your vehicle and drive at a slow pace to the grid as directed by committee members or course workers. Do not pass through the timing lights when driving to/from the grid during group changeover. While positioning your car on the grid, pay heed to the directions given to you by committee members or the grid marshal; if your position is not specified by grid cones, position your car at a moderate distance from the vehicle next to you, as grid space is limited and we cannot allow excessively generous spacing between vehicles.

When directed by the grid marshal, proceed to the start line as denoted by start cones positioned prior to the timing lights. As you approach the start line, the hold/go lighting will be red, signifying you must hold. When the hold/go lighting goes green, you are cleared to go, but this is not akin to a drag race “tree” and reaction time does not matter – your time only starts when you pass the timing lights. Proceed as your ability and experience allows – if you feel the need to make your first runs at a moderate pace, do so. If you need an instructor, ask for one. No matter what occurs on the course, complete the course and come through the timing lights. When you have completed the course and are receiving your time slip for the run, do not dawdle to chit-chat or ask where you hit a cone – the time slip worker does not know and there is another participant coming up behind you quickly!

Proceed back to the proper position on the grid at a safe pace. If you have been told by the Timing Committee or grid marshal that you are getting a re-run, proceed to the specified re-run lane/area.

During your run group, do not stray far from your vehicle on the grid or ride with another participant who is close to you in the run cycle, lest you lose runs or delay other participants. Once all of your runs are completed, you may depart the grid at the Grid Marshal’s discretion.

**For your run group (first-timers):**

For at least your first two runs, we require you take an instructor with you. Not only is this for your benefit in learning the course and how to drive your car, it helps ensure that your run goes as smoothly as possible, which will help to avoid errors that will slow down the event. Do not take this as any sort of critique of you – we were all first-timers at one point and we understand what novices need for a positive introduction to autocrossing. We want you to have fun, not frustration!

**For your work group (all participants):**

When your work group is called, please proceed to the timing tent for your work assignments – the event will not proceed until all course workers are in place and ready. Roll call will be taken. Work assignments are pre-assigned to help ensure a station is not manned solely with unexperienced participants. As with previous seasons, participants with limited mobility will be assigned to duties which do not require quick movement, significant walking, and/or are safe to perform from a sitting position.

While working the course, you must remain standing and alert – sitting down, doing photography, or using cell phones are not allowed. Disregarding any autocross committee member who tells you to cease the behavior is grounds for removal from the event and/or barring from participation in future events.

**“All participants” as stated above does indeed mean “all participants.”** There are no paid workers for the event – all workers are participants and all participants are workers. Failing to work (even inadvertently) or refusing to work can result in the following to the participant: 1) removal from the event, 2) results stricken, 3) participation noted as “DNW” (Did Not Work), and/or 4) barring from participation in Sandlapper Chapter BMW CCA driving events for a period of one calendar year plus four weeks (365 days + 28 days = 393 days). These penalties are at the discretion of the Chairman.