



Pine Mountain Hillclimb

Presented by:

Summit Racing Equipment, Backroads of Appalachia, and Grassroots Motorsports

Hosted by:

Appalachian HillClimb Series, East Tennessee Region - SCCA, Pine Mountain State Park, Bell County, KY and Pineville, KY

April 24-26, 2026

Pine Mountain - Pineville, KY

SCCA sanction #26-HC-66673

Pine Mountain HillClimb is the first event in the 2026 Appalachian HillClimb Series. As the kickoff to the 2026 series, the Pine Mountain HillClimb offers a rewarding yet demanding course that requires extreme precision from both driver and machine.

The event will be held subject to SCCA HillClimb rules.

EVENT OFFICIALS	
Event Leads: Mark Pilson, Heyward Wagner	Competition Director: Brad Gates
Safety Stewards: Rob Leslie, Jim Mason, Chad Summey	Chief of Tech: Steve Eckerich
Registrars: Nan Leslie, Vicky Lanning	Chief of Timing: Krystal Diandra
Chief of Course: Chris Polhamus	Chief Starter: Betty Tignor, Rick Mitchell
Chief of Communication: Nikki Edwards	Equipment and Technology: Steve Eckerich
Novice Chiefs: Tracy Gaudu, Chris Rathke	Paddock Marshals: Mark Pilson, Terry Kehne

Registration and entry information:

Registration opens **March 4, 2026 at 6:00 PM eastern time.** The first 90 qualified entrants will be accepted.

Entry fee(s):

Prepaid: \$350 (If received postmarked before April 13)

Late entry fee: \$425 (If submitted on or after April 13)

Weekend membership: \$ 25 (If not a current SCCA member)

Refunds and fees:

Prepaid entries canceled before **April 13th** will receive a full refund.

Late entries will be charged at registration, and there will be a \$35 fee charged for any check returned by the bank.

Online registration is available at <https://tinyurl.com/AHSPine>

Please bring your state-issued drivers license and your SCCA membership card to event check-in in the lower paddock..

General information and supplemental regulations

Driver licensing and eligibility

Drivers must:

1. Have a current full membership of the SCCA
2. Have a valid state-issued driver's license
3. Be able to handle the physical and mental demands of competition for the length of a session for each session of the event
4. Either possess a current SCCA Hillclimb Driver License or complete the novice orientation process at the event.

Minor drivers (less than 18 years old)

In addition to the above, minor drivers:

1. Must contact event officials before the event
2. Must provide a completed SCCA minor waiver (form 1068)
3. Attendance of the novice HillClimb program, novice coaching, and working with a mentor is required.

Novice drivers

Drivers who have not participated in a Hillclimb event are required to attend the novice HillClimb program, participate in novice coaching, and work with a mentor. There will be a hill orientation on Friday at 2pm (sharp). Please arrive at the lower paddock on time, and be prepared to ride up the hill in one of a few provided pickup trucks, exploring the need-to-knows of the hill. While a 7:00 AM Saturday huddle is available for those with unavoidable conflicts, the Friday 2:00 PM session is the comprehensive orientation and is strongly encouraged for all novices.

Vehicle eligibility

The event is open to automobiles (no motorcycles, karts, ATVs or similar) which meet the following criteria:

1. Vehicle must have at least four (4) wheels, grouped in equal sets of half of the wheels on the vehicle per side.
2. Vehicle must be properly muffled.
3. Vehicle must not have a high center of gravity. Potentially unstable vehicles with a high center of gravity (determined by whether they are wider than they are tall) are excluded from SCCA Time Trials. Width is the average track width of the vehicle, and height is measured from the ground to the highest point. Extra caution should be exercised with non-traditional vehicles (e.g., trucks using racing slicks or tires with less than 200 tread wear rating).

Minimum safety equipment

This event requires that all vehicles meet the SCCA HillClimb “safety level 2” at a minimum. This includes an approved Snell SA2015, SA2020, or SA2025 helmet, at least a 4-point roll bar constructed to SCCA specifications, an approved racing harness, racing suit, shoes, gloves, and other items like arm restraints or window nets and fire suppression devices/systems. Factory safety systems (like you might find at a track day or time trial) are not considered appropriate. <https://timetrials.scca.com/pages/hillclimb-safety-rules>

Tech inspection

All competition vehicles must be properly registered for the event and pass tech safety equipment inspection at the lower paddock. The tech station will be in the turn around lane for upper paddock cars nearest the bottom of lower paddock. **Tech will not be available downtown this year, so please tech early.** Tech opens in the paddock at noon and closes shortly before the lineup for the escort to fanfest starts. If time does not permit tech to complete your vehicle, tech is available from 7:00 AM Saturday morning. Please have tech completed before the driver’s meeting. Please bring your logbook if you have one to the tech inspector, and some cash if you don’t have one as one will need to be issued.

Numbers and class designation

Numbers and class designation must be visible on both sides of the vehicle, will be issued on a first-come/first-serve basis or through the annual permanent number registration (available at <https://tinyurl.com/2026AHSPN>) and must meet the following criteria:

1. Numbers must be minimum 8” tall
2. Two-driver cars should add "1" to the primary driver's number (e.g., first driver 59, second driver 159)
3. All competition vehicles must display the issued Appalachian Hillclimb Series class designation sticker during competition runs.

Competition classes

Pine Mountain Hillclimb will utilize the Appalachian Hillclimb Series classing matrix. The classing matrix can be found here: <https://www.appalachianhillclimb.com/rules-and-classes.html>

Awards and records

The following awards will be given for class performance:

1. The top 3 finishers in each AHS class will receive trophies.
2. King or Queen of the Hill (Overall fastest time)
3. King or Queen of the Hill (Fastest driver not matching the gender of the overall fastest time award)

Pine Mountain Hillclimb records are kept for class and overall performance awards. For a record to be set, at least two cars must have run in the history of the class.

Running order and number of runs

1. There will be a minimum of two Run groups. Run groups and run order will be announced at the event.
2. Two driver cars will run in separate groups.
3. Only runs available to all competitors in AHS class will be eligible for awards. The event leads have discretion to allow additional runs to stand as records, provided all competitors present within 2 seconds of the standing record are given the option to run

4. While event management will do all we can to notify drivers, it is the driver's responsibility to know when their group is on call. Unless the missed runs are due to event organizer error or other circumstances beyond the driver's control, missed runs will not be made up.

Official timing

Timing will be passive and no actions will be required by the driver for times to be scored. The Chief of Timing is Krystal Diandra.

Fuel and fueling

Standard pump gas is available around Pineville. Race fuel is not available onsite or nearby. A minimum 10 lb ABC fire extinguisher is required to be present any time fuel is being transferred.

Additional event rules

1. Other than mentors on parade lap(s), passengers are not permitted on official runs
2. Drivers must attend the daily driver's meetings. If a driver misses the driver's meeting for any reason, they are required to see the Competition Director or Event Lead before being allowed to compete
3. The requirements for conduct and sportsmanship as defined in the SCCA Time Trials Rules will be strictly enforced. (<https://timetrials.scca.com/pages/tt-basics>)
4. All participants, crew, officials, workers, spectators and guests will adhere to all applicable city, county, state and federal laws and regulations, will follow all rules and regulations listed herein, added, posted at the event or otherwise communicated, and shall not engage in any illegal, immoral, or unsafe activities or business while on the event site.
5. Active tire warming devices are prohibited.

Parking and paddock

1. Paddock spaces for the Pine Mountain Hillclimb are very limited. Please help us make best use of the space available by bringing the smallest rig you have available. If you have a trailer or RV longer than 28', you will likely have difficulty reaching the upper paddock area. Priority for lower paddock will be given to competition vehicles with extremely low ground clearance. We have very limited space for large tow rigs and we cannot guarantee a space in the lower paddock.
2. Friday check-in and staging will happen at Laurel Cove Amphitheater in Pineville, Kentucky. Navigate to 1040 State Park Road, Pineville, KY, 40977. Please use Google Maps as the amphitheater doesn't have an address.
3. Paddock spaces will be directed by Paddock Marshals
4. Workers will park above the race car turn around, or at the picnic area at the bridge.
5. Support Vehicles - For lower paddock spaces, you will likely be limited to no more than one support vehicle (truck, trailer, or RV) per entered race car. Please reach out to the Paddock Marshall ASAP for special needs.
6. Transporters, RVs, trucks and enclosed trailers taking up multiple paddock spaces may be required to share paddock space for other race cars. Assume one race car for every 25 linear feet. Late entries or oversized vehicles not indicated at the time of registration may be assigned to the upper paddock.

7. Lower and Upper Paddock – The lower paddock (amphitheater) will be utilized by race cars needing regular pit support (formula cars, prototypes, specials, super production, etc.) Lower paddock spaces will be assigned by the Paddock Marshals. The upper paddock will typically be utilized for cars running DOT tires. If necessary certain race cars paddocked in the upper paddock may be assigned a single parking space in the lower paddock. Upper paddock is first come first served and will not be directly managed by the Paddock Marshals. Please do your best to consolidate space in the upper paddock. Please contact the Paddock Marshal ASAP for special needs.
8. Remote parking for trailers - Any non-support critical (i.e. open deck, extremely large, or trailers not used in the run-by-run servicing of the car) should be parked in the remote lot at Wasioto Winds Golf Course, at 114 State Hwy 190, Pineville, KY 40977. Parking will be available at the golf course for the duration of the event, however the lot may be locked overnight, so please ensure that you remove your trailer before 6pm if you plan on leaving. Paddock space is extremely tight at Pine Mountain and we ask that you be considerate of utilizing the minimum required space to operate your car.

Course and paddock map

The course runs a portion of State Park Road 382, from the main parking entrance of Laurel Cove Amphitheater (altitude 1150') for 1.7 miles, to a point near the Hotel Rock trailhead (altitude 1850'). All traffic will be strictly controlled from and including the lower amphitheater entrance to a point immediately below, but not including the intersection with Chained Rock Road.



Appalachian Hillclimb Series

2026 Pine Mountain Hillclimb

***Tentative* official event schedule**

Friday- April 24

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM - Course setup from the Laurel Cove Amphitheater. Race course will be *closed to traffic.****

12:00 PM - 4:30 PM- Registration and Tech Inspection open in the lower paddock. Please register first, then bring your car and your gear to the lower paddock tech area, near the entrance to the paddock.

2:00 PM - **Novice hill orientation** at the Lower paddock. Arrive early, and be prepared to ride in provided trucks to tour the course efficiently.**

4:30 PM – 8:30 PM - Police escort to the car show in Downtown Pineville

5:00 PM - Fanfest in downtown Pineville.

8:30 PM - Road closed between the upper paddock and Chained Rock Road

TBD - Novice worker classroom

9:45 PM – 6:45 AM - Quiet hours in the paddock. The paddock will remain open, but no race Engines may run. No camping within Pine Mountain Resort Park (no camping tents, no camp showers, no campfires, no sleeping outside.) You are not required to leave the paddock overnight.

*** Vehicles with trailers will not be allowed beyond the upper paddock. Traffic to the resort, cabins and Chained Rock will be directed around the mountain. Race cars and race traffic will be allowed on course at a safe speed and in the right lane only. PLEASE be aware of workers, emergency personnel, fire trucks filling barriers, and other vehicles.**

**** This item is required attendance for novices.**

***** Tech Inspection will be at the tech station in the lower paddock. Cars will not be inspected until the car's drivers are registered.**

SATURDAY- APRIL 25

7:00 AM – 7:45 AM - The road above the upper paddock is open to two axle vehicles only. Late registration in the lower paddock.

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM - Late tech in lower paddock

7:00 AM - Novice Huddle at start line

7:30 AM - Worker meeting at the picnic shelter at mid-course/bridge parking

**7:45 AM - Driver meeting at starting line in front of lower paddock
Road is closed to non-event traffic.**

8:15 AM – 9:15 AM - ALL hill traffic under grid and paddock marshal control, ONLY.

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM - Parade laps - (both lanes up, right lane down. NOT AT RACE SPEED)

9:15 AM - HILL CLEAR

9:30 AM – 5:00 PM - Competition runs

5:30 PM - Road open to two axle vehicles.

9:45 PM – 6:45 AM - Quiet hours in the paddock. The paddock will remain open, but no race engines shall run. No camping within Pine Mountain Resort Park (no camping tents, no camp showers, no campfires, no sleeping outside.) You are not required to leave the paddock overnight.

SUNDAY- APRIL 26

7:30 AM - Worker meeting at the picnic shelter at mid-course/bridge parking

7:45 AM - Driver meeting at starting line in front of lower paddock

7:45 AM – 8:00 AM - Road closed to non-event traffic. ALL hill traffic under grid and paddock marshal control, ONLY.

8:00 AM - HILL CLEAR

8:15 AM – 3:30 PM - Competition runs

3:45 PM - PINE MOUNTAIN HILLCLIMB CHAMPION AWARDS