



## Road America Track Day – Driving Groups

### **Run Group Summary:**

Novice	Little to no experience driving on a race track, 0 to 5 events
Intermediate	Some experience driving on a race track but not necessarily at Road America, 6 to 10 events
Advanced	Significant experience driving on a race track, more than 10 events at multiple tracks

**Novice:** The Novice group is designed for the driving enthusiast that has limited or no prior track experience. These students may have previously completed in a few track events, but this is not required. Many of the students in the Novice run group will have never been to the track. Learning the fundamentals of performance driving, with a strong emphasis placed on learning the proper “line” around the track are the top priorities for the Novice group student. Typically, the Novice group student will be participating in his or her street car. These cars are usually stock or slightly modified.

All Novice group students will be provided with classroom sessions and on-track instruction. Classroom curriculum will include explanation of the flags, entering and exiting the pit Lane, line discussion and basic vehicle dynamics. Road America specific procedures including passing and getting on and off the track will also be discussed. In-car video footage and PowerPoint presentation will be used to fully describe the proper line around the track. On track instruction will include lead-follow exercises and rides with an instructor.

**Intermediate:** The Intermediate group is for driving enthusiasts with some level of prior track driving experience. Intermediate group students will have a basic understanding of vehicle dynamics, as well as an understanding of the driving line. Intermediate group students work on improving their driving skills through the most significant commodity for performance driving enthusiasts – track time.

Intermediate group students will also receive classroom instruction and on-track instruction. The curriculum will include working on increasing braking levels, fine tuning heel and toe downshifting, trail braking and looking at areas of the track where more speed can be found. Road America specific procedures including passing and getting on and off the track will also be discussed. On track instruction will include lead-follow exercises and rides with an instructor.

The Intermediate group student cars may have a few more performance modifications than the average Novice group student cars, but this is not required. A few of the Intermediate group drivers will have made the transition from street tires to R compound track tires.

Some of the Intermediate group drivers will have a fair amount of prior driving experience, but it might be their first time at Road America. Track specific tips will be provided to Intermediate group students during the classroom session. Emphasis will be placed on incremental steps in the quest to gradually find an increase in speed and overall comfort on the track.

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**Advanced:** The Advanced group is designed to provide an outlet for the seasoned track driver. These students will have had considerable prior experience with performance driving at a number different tracks including Road America. Some members of the Advanced group may have prior competition experience.

Advanced group students will be offered classroom instruction. A few of the topics that will be discussed in the Advanced group classroom include driving the rain line, driving off line and other advanced topics. Road America specific procedures including passing and getting on and off the track will also be discussed.

Advanced group drivers will possess a solid understanding of vehicle dynamics, will be proficient at heel and toe downshifting, and will exhibit the ability to control his or her car in a high speed environment without dropping wheels or spinning their car.

A large portion of Advanced group drivers will have cars that are heavily modified for track driving and a portion of the cars will be dedicated track cars.

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At Road America high performance schools the most important aspect of the day, regardless of which run group a student is assigned to, is safety. The goals for the school are to learn something (instruction), drive your car home in the same shape it was at the beginning of the day (safety) and to have fun.