

## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION TRACK DAY SESSION (TDS) GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

SCCA TDS is an Entry Education program, preparing drivers for Club Time Trials and Club Racing. Participation in the TDS program will count as high speed track experience, and will qualify a driver to be eligible to drive in the TT upon being signed off by a program instructor.

### **II. CONCEPT**

Track Day Sessions (TDS's) will be held at most events to introduce drivers to the SCCA and prepare them for competition programs should they wish. TDS sessions are also offered as incentive for volunteers.

### **The Track Day Session (TDS):**

The TDS focuses on track instruction, giving drivers the confidence and skill to drive at high-speeds and drastically improving track and street driving performance. TDS Entrants must have a car which passes tech inspection, a valid driver's license, and a helmet. Arm restraints are highly recommended for vehicles with not top. TDS participates as a separate run group or in conjunction with untimed TT practice sessions. Each TDS participant will have an instructor assigned to them for their session(s). Entrants in single seat cars may share an instructor with another student. There is no Timing and Scoring during TDS.

### **III. EVENT OPERATING RULES**

The typical daily schedule will be as follows (check event Supplemental Regulations for actual schedule)

- Three to four 20 minute sessions with a download meeting after each session
- While there are no maximum speed limits imposed, the intent of the practice session is to let drivers get a feel for the corners and the current track conditions without racing on the straights
- Passing allowed in designated zones according to passing regulations
- Multiple cars will be on track during sessions
- Passengers allowed in this session with proper event credentials
- Lead / follow groupings of cars may be implemented for the purpose of instruction or track familiarization
- Instructors will lead each session and determine when participants are ready to take to the track alone or qualify for TT participation.
- Corner stations manned by road race workers will maintain track conditions with flag status as outlined below.

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### **VI. VEHICLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

A vehicle safety inspection must be successfully completed prior to participation. TDS tech inspectors may conduct Tech Inspections and can direct participants to locations where a pre-inspection can be performed. The TDS Tech Chief reserves the right to conduct spot inspections, in paddock, on grid, or during impounds.

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### **VII. DRIVER SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

The following equipment must be displayed for Tech Inspection and be used during competition by all drivers:

- A helmet meeting the current safety requirements as a minimum.
- The two front windows shall be down on all cars.

### **VIII. DRIVING AND PASSING PROCEDURES**

The passing procedures for TDS events are designed to provide orderly flow of on-track traffic despite differing vehicle speeds while preventing car-to-car contact.

#### **Passing Rules**

- Cars must never be adjacent to each other (between the bumper lines of another) on the track
  1. Under any yellow, full-course black, red or checkered flag track conditions.
  2. In any location designated a no-passing zone by the event's Chief Operating Steward.
  3. Unless a passing signal has been given by a slower car's driver to a faster one's in a designated passing zone under a green flag track condition.
    - The driver of a car overtaken by a faster one on the track should, or if given a blue passing flag must, allow the faster car to pass at the first opportunity permitted above by signaling via hand gesture.
    - The driver of a car passing another should then initiate the pass to the side indicated by the signal, only if sufficient room exists to complete the pass before the end of the designated passing zone.
    - In any case, the car being passed should always remain on line and at speed, but must slow down if necessary to allow the passing car to pass the slower car's front bumper line before the end of the passing zone.

#### **Passing Exceptions**

- Cars entering the track may be passed in the vicinity of the track entrance under any flag condition (except red)
- Cars exiting the track, as signaled by the driver via raised fist may be passed in the vicinity of and to the side opposite the track exit under any flag condition (except red).
- Cars that have left the track surface and are stopped or are coming to a stop may be passed with care at any track location and under any flag condition (except red).
- Clearly disabled cars may be passed with extreme care, if there is sufficient room, at any track location and under any flag condition (except red). The driver of a disabled car should drive his vehicle offline and signal by raised hand.

#### **Hot Pits**

The hot pits will be open during the competition sessions. Drivers may enter the hot pits at their discretion. Before entering the hot pits from the course, the driver should signal by raising closed fist. Cars will be released back to the track by a grid marshal when safe. There shall be no refueling in the hot pits.

#### **Drivers Meeting**

There will be a drivers meeting each day of the event. The Steward will cover the following:

1. The meaning of flag signals and flagging procedures
2. The location of the black flag station and where to report if black flagged
3. The location and marking of the designated passing zones
4. The procedure for passing and being passed, hand signals and pulling over
5. The location and marking of any cone chicanes or corner markings
6. Any other Rules of the Road, Supplementary Regulations, etc.

### Download Meetings

There will be a drivers download meeting after each session. The Chief Instructor will cover the following:

1. Driver behavior and correction
2. Instruction and guidelines for driving lines for that track
3. Event updates and track conditions
4. Driver questions from the session

### IX. FLAGS

The following flags will be obeyed WITHOUT QUESTION:

- **RED** - EXTREME DANGER - THE SESSION HAS BEEN STOPPED. Come to an immediate, controlled stop at the side of the racetrack. Stay in car with safety equipment on; do not move until directed by a worker or official. When released by a worker proceed cautiously to the pits.

### Exceptions

- **GREEN** - When displayed, the green flag indicates that the course is clear and the competition session is running. This flag is only displayed from the starter's stand.
- **YELLOW** - Motionless - Take Care, Danger, Slow Down, No Passing.  
Waved - Great Danger, Slow Down, Be Prepared To Stop, No Passing.
- **YELLOW WITH VERTICAL RED STRIPES** - Take care. A slippery condition exists on the road that cannot be corrected in a reasonable time during which competition is halted. No re-run will be granted when a slick flag is displayed.
- **BLUE WITH DIAGONAL YELLOW STRIPE** - Motionless - Another competitor is following you, you should give way at the next designated passing zone by moving to the right, signaling and slowing down as necessary.  
Waved - Another competitor is quickly overtaking you, give way as soon as it is safe, by moving to the right after the corner, signaling and slowing down as necessary.
- **BLACK** - *Closed* - (Furled) Pointed or shaken at an individual car from the Starter's stand or black flag station. - WARNING! You have been observed driving in an unsafe and/or improper manner. If the action continues, you shall be given the open black flag.  
**BLACK** - *Open* - Displayed at start or the black flag station and accompanied by a number board indicating the car number - proceed directly to the hot pits and the location designated by the Chief Steward for consultation with officials. DO NOT TAKE ANOTHER LAP.
- **BLACK WITH ORANGE BALL** - There is something mechanically wrong with your car. Proceed to track exit and your pit with reduced speed.
- **CHECKERED** - You have completed your run. Slow and pull off the course into the assigned area. This flag is only displayed from the starter's stand. A Mandatory class on Flagging and Communications (F&C) will be given prior to the event for all participants.