



POLICIES & RULES – Cadillac V-Club HPDE event

TRACK DAMAGE

The driver involved in an incident is responsible for costs of damage to the track surface, damage to the track facilities, towing, fire/rescue services, and cleanup, including dry sweep.

PASSENGER (RIDE ALONGS)

HOD recognizes that sharing our experience is part of the fun. With our primary concern being safety and the smooth operation of our events, we have instituted this policy to accommodate passenger ride requests:

A driver, who has been solo-signed off by HOD, may have a passenger who is 18 or older (and be able to prove it) ride with him/her in the car in the Intermediate and Advanced groups only.

In all situations, passengers are to be provided and use the same level of restraint system as the driver.

Passengers who are under the age of 18 will not be allowed as passengers for this Cadillac V-Club HPDE event.

In all cases – THIS IS A REVOCABLE PRIVILEGE. If the Safety Steward, Group Leader, or Event Manager observes any behavior while driving with a passenger that shows evidence of “showing off” or lack of concentration by the driver, or attentiveness to traffic, the car will be immediately black flagged and the passenger will be required to exit the car – there will be no second chance on this decision.

ALCOHOL

No alcohol to be consumed anywhere on track property before the final checked flag

DAY OF EVENT

Your vehicle must have good tires, brakes with good life left, and no leaks or squeaks that indicate wear. You will be asked to an agreement that your car has been inspected by you if you are qualified to do so, or a qualified mechanic.

Your Cadillac V-Series vehicles should not require any modifications other than to ensure you have DOT 3 or better brake fluid. Frequently we have drivers that show up with a car that has had major horsepower upgrades, wings, race tires, and other mods. These are NOT NEEDED! You will become an informed consumer after you see and experience a HOD day as a driver. You may discover that you love

this activity, but really need to eventually change the type of vehicle you drive – in order to climb the skills ladder. Frequently, as drivers return for a second and third day, they will find they need to upgrade the brake pads and fluid – a fairly inexpensive upgrade. But again – bring a reasonable road car in good condition and have fun your first day!!

All you need is an auto racing helmet with an SA (Snell Safety Foundation) rating of 2015 – there will be a sticker hidden in the shell of the helmet, under the padding that will say SA2015, SA2020, or SA2025. These are good to go. Motorcycle helmets are NOT allowed for use in an automobile as they have a different shell, different padding, and they are not fireproof like an auto helmet.

You might bring a folding chair and a small water bottle – as HOD will have a hydration station, but there are not always places to sit in the driver's paddock area.

Watch for and read advance updates about your event.

Do NOT try to get up at 4:00 am and make a long drive to the track. Go the night before and stay nearby so you can arrive fresh. This will be a long and exhilarating day... we don't want you napping after lunch!!

Wear sunscreen and bring apparel for any changes in conditions.

Be early to the meetings. Get to know the drivers next to you in the paddock.

Experienced drivers will be super helpful to you – but only listen to our Driving Coaches for your introduction on track technique. Feel free to ask about other cars, or if you find one like yours, ask about what they've done to it for the track.

Join a new friend for lunch!

Be at all your group meetings and listen – “We know what we are doing!”

DRIVING ON THE TRACK

Intermediate drivers are an important part of the HOD culture. Many drivers who do not want to modify their cars substantially find themselves having a great time in the “Speedy B's” and feel no need to change groups. Some drivers in B will also be on the ladder, working on skills and adding pace to move up to more advanced groups. Regardless, HOD priorities of Safety, Fun and Learning apply to B just as much as any group.

Passing Protocols: While there may be minor variations from track to track, most HOD B groups will be “Point-by is required to pass, generally on the left side, ONLY on designated straight sections of the track.”

The side on which to pass may vary based on whether it is a clockwise or counter-clockwise track. In all cases, the B group is a medium + paced group of cars – many in stock configurations – having fun, enjoying the track they're on while working on skills improvement and/or becoming more consistently on the driving line. There will be a mix of cars as with every group, but the driver is the key to the group

selection. The B group also tends to be a very loyal group of “regulars” that enjoy running with each other and learning from that process. There will be one or two mandatory meetings for the B’s. However, there will be a Group Leader watching over the Group, who is able to give tips on the line, answer basic questions about tires and pressures, and discuss skills like trail braking, visual references, left foot braking, and threshold braking.

Overview of the Advanced Run Group (C,D) with HOD

We welcome advanced drivers as a key part of our program and culture. Having run events that have covered an estimated 19 million miles since 2004, we’ve seen everything and have a clear focus of how we handle the faster/advanced drivers. We’ve had a number of pro racing teams practice at HOD. They have found that our drivers are “heads up” and work with faster and slower cars very well. We work hard to communicate our protocols, so everyone on track is on the same page – leading to a GREAT time by all.

HOD Advanced Groups usually includes a mix of those who have worked up the skill ladder and may even include drivers with competition licenses. We do not want to see competitive driving at HOD. Aggressive, late passes, dropping two tires regularly, pouncing on a slower car’s rear bumper, blocking or being unpredictable are all unacceptable. The key to the HOD Advanced Group is COOPERATIVE DRIVING. You will see our group running very quickly, and working amongst each other smoothly. Slower cars hold their line, and sometimes will lift a bit early on corner entry to make the pass easy for the passer. We don’t fight for entries or apexes.

Point-bys:

Rules on point-bys will vary by track, size of run group, and number of run groups. The most common passing protocol for the C Group is: One point-by per car, on either side, where it is deemed safe to make a pass. Be sure to attend the Drivers meeting to be fully informed on the protocol for your run group. We’ll add this as a guide. Even in an Open/Cooperative passing group without required point-bys, we still think that there are times a good point-by makes sense. If I’m in a momentum car with a much faster car catching me as we approach a braking zone, it’s not too much to ask to do a point assuring the approaching driver that he is seen and he can have the entry/apex. This is SO much better than blocking the entry under braking and forcing the faster car to wait for the exit to then drag race out of the turn.

Black Flag:

We use the black flag with a number posted to bring in a driver who has gone off or spun. We’ll check you and your car to be sure all is ok. If all is good, and you take a breath and listen to what the Group Leader/Black Flag attendant tells you...you will be released back on track.

Tech Inspection:

HOD does not know your car as well as you do. So our policy is that you electronically sign an agreement in our registration process that binds you to be responsible for your own inspection – whether done by you or a professional mechanic. This eliminates the early morning lineup, and expedites your prep time as you arrive at the track.

Group Leader

We assign a group leader to watch the group carefully from the beginning. Are there bad apples? Someone not watching their mirrors? Someone in the wrong run group? Is there someone driving too aggressively, showing signs of a future issue? If any of this is discovered, our Group Leader will manage the situation promptly, with respect to the driver, and warn or discipline as appropriate.

How many sessions are on track, and how long are they?

HOD Regions run either 3 or 4 run groups, with between 5-6 sessions per group. Sessions will range from 20-25 minutes. This is heavily affected by the track day being either 7 or 8 hours. The average track time per driver is between 100-120 minutes. We work hard to efficiently exchange groups in a “feed on, feed off” format with no lost time between sessions. HOD pre-grid is carefully managed to allow an efficient flow onto the track, and we work to always be on time – except in extenuating circumstances.

Does HOD run in the rain?

Yes, of course!! We have a blast running in the rain! We hope that everyone has a “rain setup” with tires, RainX, and wipers. We also know that some don’t. Here’s the scoop on rain days – Almost all days that start out with a forecast or appearance of rain, end up with a fair amount of dry during the day. The tracks require us to show up, regardless of the forecast. Thus we require you to show up too. Again – many more times than not, the day ends up a good experience, even if it is a mix of dry and wet driving. We will NEVER drive if it is truly unsafe, with sheeting and standing water – or if it is unsafe for workers and participants to be in the elements. Having said that, we frequently receive surprise compliments telling us they really loved a rainy day on track.