

2012 BMW CCA Tarheel Chapter Drivers School Rules

All participants shall be/become BMW CCA members. Registration shall facilitate such membership. Participants must be at least 18 years of age and present their valid driver's license at registration.

1. Everyone, including guests and children, must sign the Tarheel Chapter's insurance waiver. Guests are welcome, they must abide by the rules of the track and remain in spectator areas only. No student may ride with another student, even one who is "signed off". Students are encouraged to ride in instructor cars for purposes of instruction. Such rides will be at reduced speed in student groups and are permitted at the discretion of the Chief Instructor or his designee. Space on the track during the student run groups will determine how many additional [instructor] cars may be out in any student run group. The Tarheel chapter driving school committee reserves the right to refuse any participant for any reason except race, sex or religion.
2. Driver School participants shall bring only production-based vehicles to the school. Modifications shall be declared on the application and pointed out to the mechanic doing your pre-event tech inspection. Ask him to inspect your modifications for safe installation. This is for your safety and that of your Instructor.
3. Each participant will drive in his assigned run group only. Shared cars, while discouraged will need to be approved by the Chief Instructors.
4. All cars must be pre-teched prior to, but not earlier than 30 days prior to the event. Drivers MUST have completed registration and final car tech (as is evidenced by wrist band and tech sticker) PRIOR to the first session of the event or they will not participate until that is accomplished. All student cars shall be equipped with mufflers. Instructing is difficult when communication is not optimal. The car ahead and behind you needs to hear his/her own engine sounds for shifting points and tire noise as well as his instructor's dialogue.
5. Snell SA or M rated helmets are required. They must be no older than one cycle from the most recent "available" year (cycles are every 5 yrs). For example, in 2012 Snell SA 2005 or 2010 is acceptable. Tarheel as a club does not provide helmets for loan or rent. (See FAQ web page)
6. Participants must wear full coverage, NON-SKID shoes; long sleeved shirts (unless exempted by the track) and long pants (natural, not synthetic fibers). It is recommended that Nomex driving shoes or other thin-soled shoe (to permit pedal feel) with Nomex socks be worn, at a minimum. If participants choose to wear driving gloves, they should be rated as fire proof. Non-fire proof gloves have been shown to worsen hand injuries in the event of a fire.
7. Harnesses (optional for all **except open cars**), which are designed to be 5-point harnesses, must include the sub strap in a manner consistent with the manufacturer's recommendations and BMW Club Racing requirements. The **importance of seatbelt/harness anchorage** cannot be stressed enough. Comply with manufacturer recommendations. Harnesses shall be used with seats designed to accommodate them. Exception: the Z3 and M Coupe seats with the specially designed 4 point harnesses, when an approved harness bar is used. Example is: HMS harness bar with harness strap guides.
8. Harnesses **are only** recommended in conjunction with roll bars/cages.
9. Students in an instructor's car or instructors in a student car must have available the same restraint/ safety equipment as the driver. Lap and shoulder belts must be fully functional if harnesses are not used.
10. Fire extinguishers are optional. If used they must be securely fastened metal to metal. (Minimum 2.5 lb. two strap metal brace is recommended.)
11. **Open cars are defined as cars with retractable tops, whether soft-top or folding hard-top.** Single passenger hoops and pop up "bars" shall not be approved for use at schools. All OPEN CARS including Z3s, Roadsters, Miatas, Cabriolet's and Boxsters must show written proof of either an approved roll cage or an approved roll bar mounted such that it is 2" above the head of the driver and his passenger with helmet on. **Tarheel Chapter** has elected to enforce **BMW Club Racing Standards** and will not accept just SCCA or Vintage Racing standards without meeting additional BMW Club Racing Standards. It is the responsibility of the driver to provide written proof of compliance (dated stamps on the roll bar, for example) with the standards of SCCA, VINTAGE and demonstrate added compliance with BMW CR Standards or of BMW Club Racing . The decision of the Chief Instructor or his designee will be final. At present (2012) Mike Hinkley is our safety specialist mhink0001@aol.com

13. All **cars** with roll bars or cages, shall have harnesses installed to the manufacturers specifications, and harnesses shall be used in this manner: lap belts tight first; then shoulder straps tight. The pit out staff shall check the harnesses to see that they are buckled up and are positioned right and are tight. The Pit out person is only reminding the participant and assumes NO responsibility or liability for the safe use of the harnesses.

14. All semi-open cars, having factory reinforced, permanent structural member in the top of the car such as: T tops, Targa's and Porsche 914s must run with hard tops firmly attached unless they have a full SCCA + BMW Club Racing approved roll cage or an additional roll bar that meets the above standards, including harnesses and wrist restraints.

15. All sunroofs on all cars must be closed. Driver and passenger side windows must be fully down (rain or shine) and it is requested that window nets not be used, in order that HPDS hand signals will be consistent and easy to see by all participants. This is not a racing environment.

17. Street tires must have a minimum tread depth of 3/32" around at least two grooves, excluding R-rated tires. Slicks are discouraged at schools. Tires showing cord must be replaced prior to reentry on track.

18. Passing is only permitted with a clear signal from the car being passed, and only in defined passing zones. Passes must be completed before the next turn-in point is reached unless specifically designated by the Chief Instructor. Example: A level students may pass anywhere with a clear point.

19. There is a mandatory Black Flag pit stop for a spin or a two-wheel or four-wheel "off" occurrence. Students are encouraged to "drive it off straight rather than fight it to stay on pavement." Repeatedly driving over one's ability resulting in spins or unsafe situations will mandate a long talk with the Chief Instructor who may, at his discretion, remove the offender's driving privilege at the school for that day or send her/him home for the remainder of the school with no refund. The intent is to learn a new skill or hone your skills, not to endanger yourselves or others.

20. In the unlikely event that an "off" results in physical damage to the car or such damage is suspected by the Chief Instructor, the car will not be permitted to continue in the event pending the completion of a new "event tech" inspection by a licensed mechanic and his signature is affixed to the tech sheet.

21. No off leash pets are permitted, the owner is responsible for cleaning up after the leashed pet. Any pet that is deemed to be a nuisance may cause its owner to have to leave to remove the pet. An example is jumping on people or cars or constant barking or begging. Per VIR no pets are allowed in the buildings.

22. No alcoholic beverages may be consumed by anyone (participant or guest) until the last car is off the track at the close of the day. Glass containers are not permitted at the track. Coolers are allowed.

23. Report to the track ready to be cooperative and eager to learn. Our goal is to promote a safe, enjoyable learning experience for everyone involved in the Tarheel & Toe driver schools.

Driving Events Committee, Tarheel Chapter BMW CCA JoElla John, Chair JJohnmcoupe@aol.com

*For further information, refer to www.bmwcca.org Drivers School Standards, Section III, Appendix B.