

INSTRUCTOR'S CORNER

Issue #5 Jan 8, 2015

2014, "IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR"

But first, a message from the Chief Instructors

"Thank you for all your hard work, professionalism, and dedication in 2014. We look forward to 2015, a year in which we hope we all continue to build our skills; to deliver the most capable and competent instruction our students will find anywhere; and to continue to support each other in our amazing BMWCCA family".

April and Paul

2014 stats:

Following a tradition, it seems that everyone tallies up the ending year, so here are some stats from 2014

Spring 2014 Full Course: 133 Students, 89 Instructors, 5 ASolo students

Summer 2014 North Course: 84 Students, 57 Instructors, ASolo not offered,

ITS graduated 10 new Tarheel Instructors

Fall 2014 Full Course: 127 Students, 94 Instructors, 4 ASolo students

These are all really good numbers, comparable to the best years from the past. It does show that students value the competency and organization of the Driving Events team of Instructors, Volunteers and Registration staff. So thanks to all!

New for 2015

For 2015 the HPDS schedule is:

April 24-26-Full Course. June 26-28-North Course. October 2-4 Full Course.

For 2015, we will have a second ambulance on site Saturday and Sunday to prevent track time loss as a result of an ambulance having to leave the premises. This is costly, but the DEC team felt it was an important investment

For 2015 we will have a revised schedule for Saturday and Sunday. The goal is to have the Instructors as the first group on track on Saturday, so those who cannot get there on Friday have a session to get re-acquainted with the track and the conditions.

We will also be working on combining run groups in the PM on Sunday, so that those Students who need to leave early will not lose as much track time. Those who stay until 5:30 will actually gain the equivalent of an additional session (approx. 25 minutes). When the schedule is finalized it will be published.

Classroom sessions will be shortened slightly, so that Students will have time to get to their car, and you will have time to discuss the next session with them before it starts, or transition from your session to theirs with a bit of time between.

One thing you can do to help the CI team in their efforts to balance the student instructor pairings and to assure we have enough, but not too many Instructors at an event:

PLEASE register as early as you can for any event. The CIs have often had to send out last minute pleas for more instructors, to properly staff the school. In the case of the Fall school, this worked a bit too well and we accepted more Instructors than we actually needed, making the Instructor run sessions a bit crowded. The CIs understand work and family commitments, but if you can, sign up as soon as you are able. It will really make a difference

These changes are all in response to comments from the Instructors and Students in their evaluations of the schools in 2014.

Evaluations in 2015

Speaking of evaluations, we will be adding a very important aspect to the evaluation process in 2015. As you will recall, we went to an on-line evaluation program in 2014 (Driving Evals.com). The response has been excellent, both from you and from the Students. The overall response rate was very high, and we feel the quality was improved over the previous manual system. For 2015, we will be adding an additional module, one which will help you to evaluate student skills in more specific detail, and will also help to evaluate the run group placement for your student. We will be communicating in much more detail about this in the near future, and it will require a bit of re-thinking on your part, but it does offer some real benefits to both the Student and the Instructor.

Resolutions?

Can't start a New Year without resolutions-right?

Of course most of us start with trying to get into shape etc., but how about something relating to Driving or Instructing? How many of us just drive around during the Instructor sessions, enjoying the time of course, perhaps passing a friend or two, perhaps watching a really fast car leave us in the distance?

How about dedicating one session during the weekend to improving our skill in one specific area? Could be braking, steering input, vision, or throttle input, something that we talk to Students about, but don't always execute well when we are on track. Personally, I'm going to work on throttle input. I know, deep in my heart, that I could be much smoother on application, and that I should wait a bit, so that when I do go to the throttle, I can go Full, rather than feather a bit first. How about you, any areas that could be a bit better?

OR: For those who just can't find an area of their driving which could use a bit of tuning, how about picking one Student skill (Vision could be a good place to start) and finding new and better means of delivering your instructing or coaching to your Student. There is a lot of material available to you, use it.

Have a great year and see you soon at the track!

CONTACT US:

Please do. We want to hear what you want to say on the subject of Instructing

Contact us at scottmeyer400@gmail.com

