



# GGC BMW CCA High Performance Driving Event Preparation Document

## **1. The GGC Driving School Program**

The GGC BMW CCA driving school program is a structured program designed to provide you with skills you can use in your every day driving. **This is not a racing school.** There is a lot of material to cover during the event but in no case will an instructor push you to exceed your comfort zone. To speed learning, please closely review this document prior to arriving at the event. Don't hesitate to take advantage of the resources listed in this document for more information.

## **2. Preparing For The Event**

### **THINGS TO DO BEFORE THE DRIVING SCHOOL**

1. **Study the Enclosed Materials.** It is important to have a working knowledge of the flags, procedures, and schedules before you show up at the track. Given the tight schedule of these events, it is important that everyone be on the same page.
2. **Get A Tech Inspection.** You will be operating your car under hard braking and at high speed so your car needs to be mechanically sound! This inspection, which must be performed by a qualified mechanic, focuses on engine compartment condition, brakes, tires, suspension, steering, etc., in an attempt to insure that cars have adequate systems before they are driven on the track. We require a completed, stamped and signed tech inspection form from a qualified mechanic within 30 days prior to the event. Please use only the tech form on the chapter web site. Self-techs are not allowed. Contact us early if you have any questions regarding the tech inspection form or requirements.
  - a. **Failure To Have Your Car Inspected.** If you arrive at the track without a completed, signed and stamped tech inspection form, you will not be permitted to run—no refund will be issued in this situation. Also, if you show up with mechanical problems that keep you off the track, or such problems develop during the school, no enrollment fee refunds will be issued.
  - b. **On-site Mechanic Services.** In order to avoid abuse of our volunteer mechanic's time, we have instituted a policy for dealing with mechanical problems with student cars. This policy evolved due to cars experiencing mechanical problems on the track and cars being brought to the track with pre-existing problems. Our volunteer mechanic's duties consist of authorizing cars' mechanical ability to be on the track and brief consultation (e.g., "Yup, you broke your car, keep it off the track.") Any mechanical failure of your car is your responsibility and mechanical time of the volunteer mechanic will only be provided at our discretion and at shop rates. If you show

up with mechanical problems that keep you off the track, or such problems develop during the school, no enrollment fee refunds will be issued.

3. **Source A Helmet.** Snell SA2000 or M2000 or newer rated helmets are required. The requirement for a SNELL SA2000 or M2000 or newer rated helmet is MANDATORY and there will be NO EXCEPTIONS. **Snell SA95 or M95 helmets are unacceptable as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006.** A Snell SA2000 or M2000 approved helmet can be identified by a dated sticker that is usually located on the inside of the shell beneath the inner liner. Contact us in advance if you can't find the sticker on your helmet. You may borrow one of the club's helmets if available, but you must make arrangements ahead of time by calling or emailing us in advance of the school.

**BMW CCA Helmet Discount Program.** Wine Country Motorsports, located in the paddock at Infineon Raceway, has kindly created a helmet discount program for BMW CCA members in the Pacific Region. Wine Country will sell any helmet they carry at a 10% discount as well as throw in a free helmet bag. Please identify yourself as a BMW CCA member.

Wine Country Motorsports is located at:

28001 Arnold Dr  
Sonoma, CA 95476-9710  
(707) 935-7223  
<http://www.winecountrymotorsports.com>

4. **Choose Your Attire.** Comfortable clothes are recommended including loose fitting pants, shirts, sweaters, etc. Flat-soled sneaker or similarly treaded shoes are recommended. Full Nomex race gear is very seldom worn by students and not worn by instructors. Consider cool weather possibilities as well as rain and/or heavy fog, so be prepared. Don't count on a canopy to huddle beneath if it's raining.
5. **Check The Weather Forecast.** The event will be held rain or shine. Rain is an excellent learning opportunity; don't be afraid to attend if it is wet. Do plan on bringing appropriate protection for you and your belongings.
6. **Arrange For Lunch and Refreshments.** Lunch will **not** be provided at this event. Food can be purchased at the café located in the paddock. You should bring your own ice chest for snacks and fluids, particularly if the weather is warm. Do not rely on the availability of water at the track.
7. **Think About Dinner.** An optional group dinner will be held at the school – please see School Specifics for information on dinner location. If you would like to attend, please purchase your tickets when you register. We will not be able to sell extra dinner tickets at the track. Please contact us immediately if you did not sign up when you registered. You will be given a dinner ticket in your registration materials that you should bring to the dinner. We very much encourage attendance at the dinners as it is a great opportunity to speak with a number of instructors in a very relaxed setting.
8. **If You Smoke In Your Car.** Cars that have recently been smoked in are not in particular demand by instructors. Please clean and air out your car and refrain from smoking in it during breaks as a courtesy to your instructor.
9. **Read The Sample Liability Waiver.** Carefully read the enclosed SAMPLE of the Liability Waiver. You will need to sign a Liability Waiver as you enter the track and again at registration.

10. **Check Other Track Information Resources.** The Northern California Shelby Club web site <http://www.norcal-saac.org/> has a Drivers' Handbook that includes descriptions and maps of the tracks. The individual track web sites also contain helpful information. The GGC Chapter discussion forums are a great place to ask about track schools, prepping your car for the track, etc. They are found at:

[http://www.justracing.com/ggc\\_bmw\\_cca](http://www.justracing.com/ggc_bmw_cca)

### **TRACK DAY PREPARATION AND PROCEDURES**

This list of items will help you to prepare for your track school experience.

- Get a good night's sleep. It will be a long, busy day and alert students are safe students.
- Upon arrival, empty your car, glove box and trunk of all loose objects. Remove hubcaps and trim rings.
- If you did not register the night before, proceed to registration with your completed, signed and stamped tech inspection form, and SNELL SA2000 or M2000 (or newer) helmet in hand. At registration you will sign the liability waiver, your helmet will be checked, your tech inspection form checked and you will receive your wristband and student registration packet that includes your car numbers, nametag, track map and a schedule.
- Place the smaller sets of car numbers on each of your rear side windows. Place the letter designating your run group (A, B, C or D) behind or below the number on your driver's side rear window. Place the color block and large number on the upper left of the back window.
- Check with more experienced attendees for their input on tire pressures. Air service may not be available at the track, so bring your own pump and tire pressure gauge.
- Stay alert for announcements and driver meetings. No slack time in the schedule means we go with or without you.
- Be sure to think through what you want from your weekend, and discuss it with your instructor at the start of each track session.
- If you want something different from your instructor (e.g., different quantity or quality of feedback), discuss it with your instructor. If you still are not getting what you want, consider changing instructors and discuss it with your instructor and/or instructor group leader – this is expected to be routine, acceptable practice.
- There is a 5 MPH speed limit in the paddock area. Please observe this limit for your safety and the safety of others.
- CHP and local authorities patrol surrounding highways. Please behave yourself as you travel to and from the school since problems with the CHP reflect badly on our program and can jeopardize our renter status with the track.
- We will be using professional corner workers with the following exception: A and B group students will staff the corner worker stations for two track sessions mid-day on both days of the school, so that track sessions can continue while corner workers eat lunch. A separate instruction meeting will be conducted for A and B student corner workers. Your participation is mandatory.

- To better control access to the track, wristbands (issued at Registration) will be worn on left wrists by all students, instructors, and workers. No one will be allowed to drive on the track without a wristband visible. Passengers in instructor cars will also be required to have wristbands to signify that the passengers have signed the liability waiver. Wristbands for passengers will be available from the staff at Control, located at the entrance to the track from the hot pit lane.
- A nametag will be provided in the packet you receive at registration. Instructors have requested that students wear nametags to help them manage their responsibilities in an organized manner. Help the instructors out with this one by wearing your nametag - they are dedicating an unpaid weekend to helping you.

**STUFF TO BRING TO THE TRACK:**

These items have proven useful over time to our students. They are not required items but suggested to maximize your enjoyment of the school.

- Plastic tarp or plastic garbage bags to protect your stuff while it's out of your car
- Bungee cords to hold the tarp down in the wind
- Ice chest with FLUIDS and snacks
- Hat and sunscreen
- Event paperwork
- Hand sanitizer
- Paper towels
- Lounge chair
- Work gloves (to help us with cones)
- Air compressor
- Tire pressure gauge
- Windex
- Rain-x
- Toolbox
- Torque wrench
- Duct tape
- Brake fluid
- Electrical tape
- Spare engine oil
- Extra car keys
- Fuses
- Fan belt
- Car shop manual
- Flashlight
- Carpet cleaner

**TRACK RULES**

Sound limits at local tracks are as follows:

Track	Sound Limit
Thunderhill Raceway	103 dbA
Mazda Raceway at Laguna Seca	92 dbA
Infineon Raceway	103 dbA

All measurements are at 50 feet.

**These limits are strictly enforced.** Drivers will get only one warning. A second violation results in an immediate Done Day. This is track policy, not GGC policy. There is no avenue of appeal. Nothing will screw up your weekend more than problems with the Sound Lady. Please fix your exhaust systems BEFORE you show up at the track!

Cleanup of trash, oil or fuel spills is charged at exorbitant rates. Please help keep the facility clean. Trash receptacles will be provided. Waste fluids need to be removed by participants. Fuel spills on the asphalt must be brought to the attention of track personnel immediately, and doused with lots of water. Save yourselves from major cleanup bills on this one, please.

Fuel is sometimes available from operations at the track but do not rely on this. Filling stations can be found a short distance from the track but you may not always have time to make the trip.

Track gates are open from 6:30am to 5pm.

*No vehicles are permitted on any portion of the property other than the paddock or parts of the racetrack.*

### **THINGS WE'VE LEARNED WHILE RUNNING THIS PROGRAM**

Over the years, we've noticed certain things about how students learn. Here are some of them to think about:

1. **Car Equipment.** Students with limited or no experience in high performance driving programs are strongly encouraged to avoid the use of R compound tires and suspension and engine modifications. Since these modifications provide a combination of improved cornering ability and higher speeds, relatively new students have a more difficult time learning basic skills. We strongly suggest limiting their use until the student develops a better awareness of car control with equipment with lower speed potential.
2. **Family and Friends.** Spectators are welcome, provided they can care for themselves. A racetrack is not a good place for children or pets, so please leave them at home. You will be plenty busy and added distractions don't help the learning curve.
3. **Passengers.** Our policy on passengers: this is a Driving School, not a passenger school. Students may not have any passengers in their cars except instructors (this includes other students). If you or a friend would like a tour of the track from the passenger seat, ask for a ride with one of the instructors. This is encouraged and can really give you an idea about the size of the performance envelope. One of the most common comments we get after each school is the great value of getting a ride from an instructor. Students are given first priority for rides, but others can usually have access to rides.
  - i. All passengers must be 18 years of age or older and sign our waiver available from the staff at Control, located at the entrance to the track from the hot pit lane

## **3. Flags And Other Safety Issues**

### **DRIVING SCHOOL FLAG SIGNALS**

All drivers should study this description of our signal flags. Bring it with you to the track for review and reference (while in the paddock, not while on the track). You may be quizzed by the instructors regarding this information, so be sharp!

Following is a description of the flags used for communications at the corners and start/finish line at our Driving Schools. Learn the meanings of these flags-- they are our means of communicating with you while you are on the track. Remember that flag signals must be obeyed without question. If you are flagged while on the track and do not understand why, obey the flag, complete the lap you are on, exit to the pit lane, continue to the head of pit lane, and ask the Steward there for more information.

**STANDING YELLOW:** Proceed with caution, no passing. Displayed during the first lap of a session, when you are nearing a waving yellow, and at other times when ordered by CONTROL. Gives you the opportunity to warm up your car and your mind, and to see the location of the corner workers.

**WAVING YELLOW:** Proceed with **EXTREME CAUTION**; there is a car blocking the track or otherwise endangering oncoming traffic just ahead. **SLOW DOWN!** Be prepared to stop! **NO PASSING!!!**

**YELLOW W/VERTICAL STRIPES:** Oil/debris flag. Proceed with caution, there is oil, fluid, gravel, dirt, or other debris on the track. Traction will be poor. No passing until past the debris.

**GREEN:** Start of track session.

**OPEN BLACK:** Waved or pointed at the car in question-- there is something wrong with your car or with your driving. Complete the lap you are on, come into pit lane, proceed to the head of pit lane, and talk to the person there who will discuss the problem with you. In some emergency situations, a black flag will be displayed to **ALL** cars in order to clear the track in the quickest possible time. If available, a **BLACK FLAG WITH ORANGE BALL IN CENTER** will be used to designate a mechanical problem with your car, so be especially careful as you complete the lap and pull into pit lane.

**FURLED BLACK, POINTING AT YOU:** Warning! You are driving in a manner that is questionable. If you continue to drive in this manner you will be black flagged on the next lap. It may mean that you would benefit from an instructor to accompany you and remind you of the correct line, or other helpful information to make your track session and driving school even more enjoyable.

**BLACK DISPLAYED TO ALL CARS, AND STANDING YELLOW AT ALL TURNS:** Proceed with caution, no passing, complete your current lap, exit the track to the pit lane, and park.

**BLUE WITH DIAGONAL YELLOW/ORANGE STRIPE:** A faster car is behind you, and may wish to pass at the next passing zone. When the passing section of the track is reached, signal the car behind which side of your car you want it to pass you on. Do not change your line or speed up while being passed. Note: flag will be used at turns at the beginning of an allowed passing zone.

**RED:** Stop as safely and quickly as you can after checking your rear view mirrors for tailgaters. Signal with your arm raised out the window. Pull to the right side of the track. Do not finish the lap you are on. The Red flag is used only when continued lapping cannot be done safely-- a damaged car is on or near the track, or there is another unsafe situation.

**CHECKERED:** The track session is over. Slow your car safely, complete the lap you are on and exit into the pit lane and paddock. This is your cool-down lap. **NO PASSING!!!**

#### **4. Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Check your enrollment status at [www.ggcbmwcca.org](http://www.ggcbmwcca.org) to confirm your application and payment have been received.
2. A tech inspection is **REQUIRED** and should be completed, stamped and signed by a qualified mechanic within 30 days prior to the event. Please use the tech inspection form included in this application. Self-techs are not allowed.
3. A SNELL SA2000 or M2000 or newer helmet is **REQUIRED**. **Snell SA95 or M95 helmets are unacceptable as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006.** Loaner helmets may be available to a limited number of students and must be reserved in advance.
4. If you are enrolled and have to cancel prior to the cancellation deadline, there will be a \$50 cancellation fee. For cancellations after this date, **NO REFUNDS** will be issued.
5. If you choose to sign up for dinner, submit your dinner fee when you apply.

6. BMW CCA membership is a requirement. You can sign up for membership via <https://www.bmwcca.org/join/membership.shtml> or call BMW CCA (864-250-0022) to obtain a BMW CCA membership number. You must provide a BMW CCA membership number or confirmation of registration to be eligible for enrollment or must send an additional \$40 with your registration for a BMW CCA membership.
7. Two-driver (shared) cars are allowed in most cases, but may not be allowed for two beginners. Please contact us early if this applies to you. Please submit separate, signed applications for EACH driver. Three driver cars are not allowed.
8. Convertibles and T-top cars must have 5-point belts and arm restraints, as well as an approved roll cage installed. Factory "rollover protection" for a soft top (i.e. BMW Z3 and Z4, Porsche Boxster) is not sufficient for the school. Convertibles with hard tops are NOT ALLOWED. Examples of cars NOT ALLOWED without a roll cage include: Firebirds and Camaros with T-tops or convertibles; any Corvette other than the Z06 coupe; Porsche convertibles and Targas. The Lotus Elise, due to the integrated roll hoop used in its construction, IS allowed but the optional hardtop must be used. It is essential that you email or call Bruce Nesbit to discuss these issues well in advance if you plan to bring a convertible or T-top car.
9. Non-DOT racing tires ("slicks") are not allowed.
10. Cars must be registered to participate in BMW CCA driving schools.
11. Each student must have a valid state driver's license, which shall not be suspended or revoked.
12. Minimum age for participating in BMW CCA driving schools is 18.

## **5. Sample Liability Waiver**

Upon entering the track, whether student or spectator, you will be asked to sign a liability waiver at the front entrance gate for the track's records. You will also be asked to sign an additional liability waiver when you register for the school for our records.

### **THIS IS A SAMPLE – READ IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHOOL YOU WILL SIGN AT THE TRACK**

#### **RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to compete, officiate, observe, work for, or participate in any way in the EVENT or being permitted to enter for any purpose any RESTRICTED AREA (defined as any area requiring special authorization, credentials, or permission to enter or any area to which admission by the general public is restricted or prohibited), EACH OF THE UNDERSIGNED, for himself, his personal representatives, heirs, and next of kin:

1. Acknowledges, agrees, and represents that he has or will immediately upon entering any of such RESTRICTED AREAS and will continuously thereafter, inspect RESTRICTED AREAS which he enters, and he further agrees and warrants that, if at any time, he is in or about RESTRICTED AREAS and he feels anything to be unsafe, he will immediately advise the officials of such and if necessary will leave the RESTRICTED AREAS and/or refuse to participate further in the EVENT.
2. HEREBY RELEASES, WAIVES, DISCHARGES AND COVENANTS NOT TO SUE the promoters, participants, racing associations, sanctioning organizations or any subdivision thereof, track operators, track owners, officials, car owners, drivers, pit crews, rescue personnel, any persons in any RESTRICTED AREA, promoters, sponsors, advertisers, owners and lessees of premises used to conduct the EVENT, premises and event inspectors, surveyors, underwriters, consultants and others who give recommendations, directions, or instructions or engage in risk evaluation or loss control activities regarding the premises of EVENT and each of them, their directors, officers, agents and employees, all for the purposes herein referred to as "Releasees," FROM ALL LIABILITY TO THE UNDERSIGNED, his personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin FOR ANY AND ALL LOSS OR DAMAGE, AND ANY CLAIM OR DEMANDS THEREFOR ON ACCOUNT OF INJURY TO THE PERSON OR PROPERTY OR RESULTING DEATH OF THE UNDERSIGNED ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THE EVENT, WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE.
3. HEREBY AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS the Releasees and each of them FROM ANY LOSS, LIABILITY, DAMAGE, OR COST they may incur arising out of or related to the EVENT WHETHER CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE.
4. HEREBY ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY RISK OF BODILY INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE arising out of or related to the EVENT whether caused by the NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES or otherwise.
5. HEREBY acknowledges that THE ACTIVITIES OF THE EVENT ARE VERY DANGEROUS and involve risk of serious injury and/or death and/or property damage. Each of the UNDERSIGNED, also expressly acknowledges that INJURIES RECEIVED MAY BE COMPOUNDED OR INCREASED BY NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS OR PROCEDURES OF THE RELEASEES.
6. HEREBY agrees that this Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnity Agreement extends to all acts of negligence by the Releasees, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS and is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the laws of the province or state in which the Event is conducted and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT, ASSURANCE OR GUARANTEE BEING MADE TO ME AND INTEND MY SIGNATURE TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED

PRINT NAME HERE

SIGN NAME HERE

DUTIES

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