



Blackhawk Drivers Education 2020

Coordinated By:

THE CHICAGO REGION
of the
PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA

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WELCOME

This is the 51st year that the Chicago Region is presenting a Driver Education program at Blackhawk Farms Raceway. **This is not a Racing Program but rather, it is an instructional school to teach you how to better handle your Porsche sports car.** This booklet contains general information, a Blackhawk track map, corner worker information and the Emergency Plan Documentation.

Please take a few moments to review the information presented, as you will be much better prepared for either your first time with us along with the season.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All drivers, crew, family members, and guests must sign the Blackhawk Farms Raceway waiver when you enter the track **and** the Chicago Region event waiver when you sign in at the PCA registration located in the registration building adjacent to the start finish line. You will receive a Chicago Region color-coded wristband, which is to identify drivers, instructors, and spectators. **Only drivers and instructors, with appropriately colored wristbands, will be allowed on-track during this event. Grid personnel will check wristbands. If there are two occupants in a vehicle, one must be a registered PCA Instructor with appropriate wristband.**

Exchanging wristbands is strictly prohibited and violators will be asked to leave the event.
Absolutely NO courtesy rides or “joy rides” are allowed.

All drivers' must present a valid drivers license at registration. Traffic violation slip in lieu of driver's license is not acceptable. You will not be able to participate in the event without a valid license. When driving through the pits please note there is a **15 MPH maximum** speed limit in the pit area.

Run group ID will be applied by Tech and will be displayed using labels affixed in the upper center portion of your windshield, near the rear view mirror. Only cars running in more than one run group may display more than one run group designation. Grid workers will be checking vehicles for the appropriate on-track sessions.

Your assigned car number must be displayed on both sides of your car and on your hood. You will not be allowed on the track without your car numbers properly displayed. Car numbers should be at least 8" high on both sides of your car and on the hood with a 1 ½" stroke all in a contrasting color easily read by the corner workers. Shoe polish on car or windows will not be acceptable.

Any driver who feels that he or she has been placed in an inappropriate run group should discuss the matter with the Event Chairman and/or the Chief Driving Instructor. All requests to be moved to another run group **MUST** have the approval of the Event Chairman, and the Chief Driving Instructor.

SAFETY

Safety is the Chicago Region's main priority and we want you to feel as strongly regarding safety as we do. We expect you to do everything in your power to make this event safe for yourself, your fellow drivers, the organization, corner workers and the Blackhawk Farms personnel.

Mandatory clothing for this event include: a SNELL approved SA 2010 or later helmet, long sleeve cotton shirt, long pants, socks, all made of non-synthetic material, and closed toe shoes.

Highly recommended, but not mandatory are drivers' suits, driving gloves and shoes all made of Nomex or similar fire resistant materials.

All Cabriolets, except Boxster and 996 and newer models must have a race approved roll bar or cage bolted or welded to the vehicle. This protection is required for participation in any run group, as of 2004. Boxster and 996 and later vehicles do not require this roll protection as the vehicles are equipped with integral roll protection. *993 models and earlier Cabriolets' without roll protection may NOT participate in Drivers' Ed events.*

Automatic Emergency Braking Systems - At this time, it is not known how "Automatic Emergency Braking Systems" will react at speed in the HPDE environment. For the safety of all participants PCA has decided not to allow affected vehicles to run with our group at HPDE events unless the system can be and is turned off. We have no doubt that this equipment is very helpful in street driving; however, we cannot risk endangering drivers, instructors and their vehicles at our on-track driving schools.

Participants and their guests cannot consume any alcohol or controlled substances during the hours of the events' operation, nor may any person in the paddock area. This is not intended to prevent participants from taking medication for which they have a valid prescription, if such medications do not carry a warning that usage may have an effect upon the person's ability to control a vehicle at speed.

RUN GROUPS

This event will be run with either 3 or 4 run groups ranging from most qualified Black group to the least experienced Green/Novice group. When running 3 groups we combine the Black and White groups and the combined group runs under White rules.

Black Run Group:

Vehicles must have a 5 or 6-point harness with race seat with access holes for the shoulder and submarine belts to pass through & Hans Device; equipped with roll protection such as race-approved roll bar or cage that is bolted or welded into the vehicle. Boxsters may run with Roll Bar Extender.

Driver's skill levels include expert driving the line; use of side vision, trail braking, throttle steer, heel & toe downshift; ability to carry momentum thru corners.

White Run Group:

Vehicles may run stock Porsche seats and factory 3-point belts for Drivers' ED events however it is recommended to have a 5 or 6-point harness with race seat & Hans Device and Roll protection as described above.

Drivers in the White Run Group are gaining seat time and working on the advanced skills indicated above for the Black Run Group.

Yellow Run Group:

Vehicles may run stock Porsche seats and factory 3-point belts for Drivers' ED events. If a harness is added race seats must also be installed as above.

Drivers in the Yellow Run Group are increasing confidence and learning more advanced techniques including smooth and proper braking, driving the line consistently while using the full track, looking ahead in corners, demonstrating competent car control and recovery skills.

Green / Novice Run Group:

Vehicles may run stock Porsche seats and factory 3-point belts for Drivers' ED events. If a harness is added race seats must also be installed.

Drivers in Green Run Group can expect to spend a minimum of 5 track days in this group with, or under, observation by an instructor. The Instructor will assist in teaching the line of the track, pace of the group, smooth steering and brake inputs, passing safely, and track etiquette.

If you wish to have an instructor ride with you in *any* run group, the same type of harness/ seat requirements as described for the driver must be installed on the passenger side.

PASSING RULES

This event is a Driver Education event, and NOT Racer Education. The road course is being made available to an entire Run Group of drivers working together to the benefit and safety of all. Passing slower cars should not be viewed as "aliens" being eliminated in a video game, but as a serious part of your learning process. Maintaining a free flow on the track is a prime safety consideration. Therefore, passing is permitted only on the designated straights and only with a clear signal from the lead car.

The Chicago Region passing rules are as follows. The car being passed will remain ONLINE and the car doing the passing will move OFF-LINE to pass.

The simple rule is if the next turn goes to the right then the OFF-LINE passing lane preceding the turn is also on the right. If next turn is left, make offline pass on the left.

Passing areas at Blackhawk Farms Raceway are on straights between turns; 5 and 6, 6 and 7, and, 7 and 1 (please see track map at end of this publication). Some run groups may be given additional passing areas. Passing rules and locations for all Run Groups will be discussed at the morning drivers' meeting. Check your mirrors often, especially at the beginning of a passing area. Let the faster drivers pass. If a car appears behind you and it was not there the last time you looked in your mirror, it is faster than you. Signal the vehicle to pass at the next available opportunity. You are responsible for coordination with the car in front and behind you.

To Allow A Pass:

- Remain ON-LINE.
- Put your ARM OUT the driver's window, and point to the left or right (over the top) to direct the passing car around you OFF-LINE. Point with authority. If your car is equipped with a window net, you may point to the right from inside the vehicle using your right hand. Make sure it is visible through the rear window.
- Back off the throttle. Do not drag race down the straights. Sometimes the car behind you can stay with you through the turns, but it might not have the power or momentum to pass on the straight unless you slow down.
- If you intend to allow more than one car to pass you, clearly signal each and every car.
- Initiate all passing at the beginning of the straight, not near or at the end of it. You are responsible to allow the pass to be completed before reaching the first brake marker.

To Pass:

- If you come upon a slower car in the turns, please stay back for a comfortable distance. Do not ride their bumper! Allow adequate spacing if their car should suddenly slow until the next passing area.
- Wait for a distinct signal from the lead car, accelerate and pass on the side indicated by the car being passed. SEE the Section **PASSING RULES** Later in this document
- The turn at the end of the straight can come up fast when you are concentrating on a pass. Be certain that you have the time to complete the pass and get back on-line, or have the competence to negotiate the turn from the “inside of the corner” if appropriate.
- You are encouraged to gain experience and a comfort level in entering a corner from the inside or “off-line”.
- All passes must be completed prior to the first brake marker.

FOLLOWING DISTANCES

Keep reasonable distances between cars. Do not bunch cars on the straights. If you are not going to pass someone, keep your distance. Minimum distance on straights should be three car lengths, unless you are passing, and then you should not be directly behind the car in front of you. In corners, stay three seconds behind the car in front of you. Corners are where problems are likely to occur. If you are approaching a turn, back off before the braking zone to maintain a safe corner. Corner workers will be reporting unacceptable intervals and unsafe driving practices to the Starter. Drivers will be Black Flagged and talked to. Repeated violations will result in your disqualification from the event. We do not want any single car incidents, much less multiple car incidents.

FLAGS AND PROCEDURES

Recognition of flags is a very important safety consideration at any track event. Since flags are the only means of communicating track and vehicle conditions to the drivers, all participants must know the meaning of each flag and the subsequent actions required. Be alert to where the corner stations are located. Acknowledge any flag issued to you by the corner workers with a hand wave or a quick flash of your lights. The flags are categorized as information and/or command as described below:

GREEN FLAG: Implied go; session underway; track is clear. Only Displayed at Start/Finish

YELLOW FLAG (stationary): INFORMATION & COMMAND - problem somewhere on the track requiring caution; this is also a warm up or cool down lap; please slow down; no passing

YELLOW FLAG (waving): INFORMATION & COMMAND problem requiring caution in your immediate area; car off the track; oil on the track; slow down and be prepared to avoid problems. Please slow down allowing the issue to disappear.

YELLOW AND RED STRIPED FLAG: INFORMATION – the Track Surface has changed – caution; slow down; slippery or hazardous conditions. Oil, coolant, dirt, grass or debris on the track – The Flag will be removed after all cars have seen and you should have acknowledged you understand.

BLUE FLAG with YELLOW STRIPE: INFORMATION car behind you that may want to pass; give way (this flag is normally pointed at the car to be passed). Give your own pass signal at the next appropriate passing zone

WHITE FLAG: INFORMATION slow moving or emergency vehicles in your immediate area; slow down and proceed with caution until clear of problem. It is OK to cautiously pass emergency vehicles on the track. (It is not NASCAR last Lap!)

BROWN CRITTER FLAG: INFORMATION animals have been spotted adjacent to or on track. Please do not try to avoid a “small” animal as it may create more damage rather simply hitting it. Displayed only at Start/Finish. A Surface Flag displayed at the corner where the animal was spotted.

BLACK FLAG: COMAND a rule infraction has occurred, and you are to pull into the pits and see the corner worker in the hot pits area.

BLACK FLAG with ORANGE BALL: COMAND (displayed at Turn 6 and/or 7): your car has a mechanical problem, and you are to proceed to the pits and see the corner worker in the hot pits area.

RED FLAG: COMAND (displayed at all corner stations): track shutdown; reduce speed and stop, on the track, at the next AVAILABLE corner station without causing a backup from the car behind you – Stay inline without blocking the track for Emergency vehicles. Wait for directions from corner worker.

CHECKERED FLAG: COMAND (displayed only at the Start/Finish line): end of the run session; commence cool down lap and exit to right side of Grid.

BEFORE YOU GO ON THE TRACK

1. Remove all loose items from the trunk, door pockets, glove compartment, hanging from the rear-view mirror, and under the seats. This means everything that is not bolted down (floor mats, radar detectors, Garman’s, I-PASS, maps, rubber ducks, etc.).
2. Install your TOW Hook.
3. Check fuel level and fill if necessary. Adjust your tire pressures.
4. Check the oil and brake fluids – Do Not Over Fill Oil.
5. Check the torque on lug nuts (only when the wheels are cool).
Porsche recommends 94-96 ft.-lb.
6. Take a few minutes before your run time to:
 - Adjust your seat so that when the clutch pedal is fully depressed there is a bend in your knee and when you grip the steering wheel there is a bend in your elbow.
 - Adjust all mirrors to your new seating position.
 - Fasten your seatbelts snugly.
 - Put on your helmet and fasten the strap.
 - Lower the driver and passenger’s window. Windows must remain lowered whenever someone in the Seat regardless of Rain – any exception will be announced at the Drivers Meeting.
 - Vehicles must have sunroof closed and soft top up.
 - Turn off Automatic Braking System if equipped on Newer Cars.
7. If you are unsure of anything, ask your Instructor or the Event Coordinator.

ENTERING AND EXITING THE TRACK

Run Groups should stage 5-10 minutes prior to your session. Enter the Start Grid from the Silo end. Look left, and if you see a car from Turn 7, wait until the track is clear. Line up on the left-hand side of the Grid.

Pull up to the Starter and wait for a signal to enter the track.

As you enter the track from the Start Grid, stay to the right of the “blend line” and on the inside line through Turn 1. Check your mirrors before you enter the track. Don't assume the track is clear - Infraction will always bring an automatic Black Flag.

The first lap will always be under a Stationary Yellow Flag for each Run Group.

Exit the track after Turn 7, at the Silo. Stay to the right side of the Grid. Pull forward up to the beginning of the Grid and exit to your right. If you are exiting early make sure you are on the inside all around turn 7 and signaling with fist up to make sure the car behind you does not misunderstand a passing signal as apposed to an exit signal.

OFF-TRACK EXCURSIONS

If you happen to go 4 wheels off the track, try to drive in a straight line. If you spin, the general rule is “Both Feet In”. Step on the brake and the clutch until you come to a complete stop.

“In a spin, both feet in.”

Try to signal the corner worker that you are okay and looking to get back on the track. Wait for the corner worker to signal that it is safe for you to enter the track.

If you drop two wheels off, gradually ease off the gas, continue straight until the suspension is settled and gently steer the car back on the track. Do not jerk the wheel as you may do a direct turn or shunt into a barrier.

If you spin on or off the track, or if you take all four wheels off the track, you will be given an automatic Black Flag and must return to the Grid for a safety check of your vehicle.

NEVER go counterclockwise on the track.

If your car becomes disabled and if it is possible maneuver your car off the track and out of harms way. If you see Blue Smoke in you mirror or you have the slightest hint your car may be dripping fluids, move off track and slowly come to a stop. WE WILL GET YOU and THANK YOU

Shut off your ignition and stay in your vehicle with helmet on and seat belts secured. Exit your vehicle only if on fire. Stay with your car until directed by the corner worker or until tow truck arrives. Do not lock your vehicle.

CORNER WORKER POSITIONS

Corner Workers will be at corners 1, 3, 3A, 5, 6 (Gate), 7 and (6A for Oktoberfest)

EMERGENCY

In the event of a serious injury situation, action must be taken to facilitate the rapid transportation of the injured to a medical facility.

1. **MEDICAL PERSONNEL** on duty should remain on station. Medical personnel off duty shall report to the Medical Center.
2. **ALL OTHER PERSONNEL** should remain at their stations until instructed by Control or the Event Chairman. Corner personnel at the incident site should establish crowd control around the emergency and clear a path to allow the emergency equipment accessibility to the accident site. All communication equipment is to remain manned and open. After the incident has been responded to, the corner workers should gather all information regarding the incident and relay that information and their own observation to the Safety Chairman and Event Chairman.
3. **START LINE PERSONNEL** should continue to control the pit lane and keep the start/finish line open for emergency vehicles.
4. **TECH PERSONNEL** should secure the exit by Corner Five to keep it open for emergency vehicles.
5. **THE EVENT CHAIRMAN/CONTROL** will direct all operations. No new lines of authority will be established. **ONLY** the Event Chairman and/or the Board of Directors of the Chicago Region of the Porsche Club can make any official statement about the incident.
7. **SECURITY** at the entrance gate shall stop all incoming and outgoing traffic from the track so that medical, fire, and/or police equipment may enter and exit.

TELEPHONES are located on the South side of the concession building and in the Medical Facility.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

ROCKTON FIRE/RESUCE	911 or 815-624-6010
ST. ANTHONY HOSPITAL	815-395-5261
ROCKFORD MEMORIAL	815-971-3333
R.E.A.C.T. HELICOPTER	855-667-3228
LIFELINE Helicopter/Med-Con	855-673-3598
BELOIT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	608-364-5559
WINNEBAGO SHERIFF	911
BELOIT FIRE/RESCUE	608-364-2900
BLACKHAWK MAIN#	815-389-2000

TRACK ADDRESS

Blackhawk Farms Raceway

<http://www.blackhawkfarms.com/>

15538 Prairie Road
South Beloit, IL 61080
815-389-2000

2020 New & Review

Pit Vehicles - You must register and pay the pit vehicle fee (\$25 for Season or \$10 per event). You must be at least 16 years of age with a valid driver's license to operate a pit vehicle. If it is being used to move you around in the pits then it is a pit vehicle.

Electricity – Plug-in at \$30 for a weekend and \$15 for a day – Pre registered & paid to BHF is discounted at \$5 each.

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Garages for Rent – Contact BHF at (815) 389-2000 for availability and pricing

2020 FAQ's from Blackhawk

What is the sound limits (dB) requirement for Blackhawk?

Blackhawk requires all cars to have sound levels under 103 dBA.

Can I bring a dog?

Yes, it must be humanely leashed and/ or contained at all times.

Is there fuel available?

Yes, BHF has Sunoco race fuel. 93-alcohol free/unleaded. 100 unleaded & 110 leaded.

How much is camping?

Camping is free although only available for Friday & Saturday Nights for the PCA Chicago Region 2 day Oktoberfest Event.

Can my family get in after hours?

Only on Friday & Saturday night for the PCA Chicago Regions 2 day Oktoberfest Event

Can I get electrical?

Yes, there are electrical hook-ups throughout the track on a first come first serve basis. You can purchase your electrical pass at the Pit Stop or with Security. BHF **does not** have RV hook-ups with a pump and dump.

Is there a gate fee?

Not for any PCA Chicago Region DE Events. Spectators must know a registrant to enter.

Can I build a campfire?

Yes, **BUT** in designated areas and contained. Speak with Security prior to a campfire.

Does Blackhawk have an oil dump?

Yes, there are two locations to dump used oil. One is behind the Pit Stop and the other is just past the turtle bridge. Be sure you **put it in the correct used oil bin**.

Can I use my pit bike?

Yes, **BUT** you must register and pay the pit bike fee (See Pit Vehicle Registration and Agreement Form). The associated cost to BHF is \$10 for an event or \$25 for the Season. You must be at least 16 years of age with a valid driver's license to operate a pit vehicle. **If it is being used to move, you around in the pits then it is a pit vehicle.**

Can I bring my children to the track and what waivers are necessary?

Yes, children are welcome at PCA Chicago Region Events. Everyone will be required to sign a BHF waiver as you enter the track. The legal guardian must sign for minors via the BHF waiver. In addition all must sign the adult and minor PCA waivers at Registration along when obtaining the event wristbands. Minors must have a legal guardian present when entering event.

Track Map

