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12/17/22 NASA Autocross @ VMP: driver details

1 message

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To: Jon Felton <jon@getfastevents.com>

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Hello everyone-

You are reading this big email because you registered for the NASA Mid Atlantic GNG Performance Winter Championship Autocross #1 [Rounds 1 & 2] at Virginia Motorsports Park in Dinwiddie this coming Saturday December 17th, 2022. Thank you so very much for supporting this first event of our reborn series! We do have some spots left so please invite your friends to register by noon Friday at <https://members.drivenasa.com/events/4033> . Now here are many details to help us all have a safe, fun, smooth-running day together...

First things first, thanks very much to GNG Performance in Ashland for their support, be sure to check 'em out at <https://www.facebook.com/gngperformance> .

Next, please make sure you are on the entry list correctly and reply with any updates ASAP:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vQomyf5z5i2O1ucGxqx7KOGxYC3vt-C5h6U4RmOJ8hSiNxwwru7QbRi0HJs5m7eBXDNprBsN2qUBft2/pubhtml>

Most importantly - your numbers shown on there need to be "big and visible" on both sides of your car please, on doors not windows - the bigger the better; at least 10-12 inches tall, vinyl or magnetics are preferred but painters tape/masking tape is fine. Contrasting colors are good - blue tape on a blue car or white shoe polish on glass isn't visible enough. Please pay special attention to your car number on that list; you won't get times if you have any number on your car other than the one on that list, or if we can't see your numbers on your car for whatever reason. What we can see on the car is what helps us make accurate results, thanks in advance!

Also a note about car classing... the burden of being correctly classed falls on us all collectively as participants so if you see someone doing it wrong, let them know - and let us know. To help fix this we have put the classing details on their own page of the interwebs: <https://www.getfastevents.com/trackcross-classing/> . The bold red section near the bottom is most applicable here... so please check that link and reply ASAP if your car is in the wrong class for this event, or if you're in EXPO (i.e. run what ya brung/catch-all/can't win anything) and don't want to be. Note if you have done 5 or more autocrosses, trackcrosses, HPDE days, or similar performance driving events in the last few years you are not considered a Novice with us! Again, thanks much for helping us have accurate results.

Tentative schedule:

7:00a – registration & tech

8:00a – mandatory drivers meeting

est 8:45a – heat A on course 1, heat B drivers work

est 10:30a – heat B on course 1 heat A drivers work

12:00p – lunch/course reset

1:00p – heat C on course 2 (heat A drivers again), heat D drivers work

est 3:00p – heat D on course 2 (heat B drivers again), heat C drivers work

Run heat splits (i.e. who runs and works when) will be decided/announced that morning.

Arrival:

Please arrive early, the VMP gates should be open by 6:30am. Everyone will need to sign the waiver and get a wristband immediately. Please then go directly to the paddock area - generally the parking area closest to the gate - and unload your car then head to registration & tech inspection ASAP. Speed limit in the paddock and on the VMP grounds is 10mph unless otherwise posted. When you are near people (i.e. tech or grid) the speed limit is 3mph i.e. walking speed.

Tech and Registration:

We will have tech and registration together in our designated grid area, both will only be open from 7am to 8am. Please come to "techistration" with your car ready to go (empty, numbers on, bring your helmet, etc.) You will receive your driver wristband at this time. You will need to show us the orange or brown Snell sticker under the liner of your helmet as well,

so please know where that is. And please arrive early to get this taken care of early - late arrivals will be problematic (read: there is no time for registration or tech after the 8am drivers meeting.) Tech is a safety inspection of your vehicle before it goes on track - you need to please print, fill out, and bring a completed/signed form which is here:

<https://www.getfastevents.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/autotech21.pdf>

We strongly encourage participants to "pre-tech" their cars before each event or have a shop or trusted professional do it. Pre-tech the car yourself if you know exactly what to look for or have that done by a qualified shop or individual if not, we will then re-check the car that morning as usual. The most important part is bringing a filled-out/signed form. It will also cost you \$20.00 (cash only) for a blank tech form from our clipboard if you forget yours! Techistration will take longer (and you risk missing drive time as a result) if you forget your tech form, so please consider everyone in line behind you. It is the responsibility of the participant to ensure safe mechanical condition of the vehicle at all times. If you have any questions about passing tech please reply immediately. Sorry but refunds or credits will not be available for owners of cars that fail tech.

Drivers Meeting:

This is a mandatory meeting unique to each event for ALL participants and officials, regardless of when you are running. We always have additional important info about the day to relay to you, much of it safety related. It is the only time of day we can reliably get everyone together. If you miss the drivers meeting for whatever reason you forfeit your entry. Unfortunately we don't have time or manpower to give additional meetings later for one person who overslept because immediately following this meeting, the staff scatters to various parts of the facility to put on the event. Again, if you are not there and registered/tech'd/in the meeting by 8am, you will not be participating - sorry. Also we will have a quick "novice meeting" after the drivers meeting, so novice drivers please hang back for a few minutes to discuss the day.

Getting To Course:

Shortly after the drivers meeting, Heat A drivers will line up in grid (where we all went through tech) to leave "parade style" from the paddock behind a designated pace car which will do a slow "drive through" for at least one lap so everyone knows where the course goes and how to get back to grid. We will then line back up and get started with timed runs. The same applies to all later heats - basically for all heats please line up as directed/announced in the paddock behind the designated lead car and we'll go from there with drive-throughs then timed runs.

Grid:

For all heats we will grid as directed in the designated area only. Grid order doesn't absolutely matter, but please do your best to stay in the same order for each run, as it makes things easier for timing & scoring. Please bring anything you might need (tire pressure gauge, water & snacks, etc) and leave it on the ground next to your grid spot. When your timed run is complete, i.e. once you have gone through the finish timer, please get your car under control and gently slow down to a reasonable speed (think 20mph at most, but much slower when near people) and come back around to get back in the same grid row/spot.

On Course:

Our course designer for Dec 17 will be the legendary Tim Aro. His course designs and course walk times are TBA that morning. Note that we will reverse or otherwise significantly change the course at lunchtime, so this is more like two events in one.

At Speed:

Once on the course for timed runs please assume there is a car about 20-30 seconds ahead of you and another about 20-30 seconds behind you at all times. Penalties for hitting cones or missing gates will be explained at the drivers meeting. Otherwise any significant loss of control may result in the loss of your run's recorded time (i.e. DQ or DNF.) The only flag you'll ever see on course is a red one which means full stop, the course is blocked. If you "catch a flag" as the result of someone causing a problem ahead, you will get a re-run. If you cause a flag, you will not get a re-run... speaking of which, re-runs will be called at the end of each heat so please don't head back to the paddock early.

Work Assignments:

As a registered driver you DO have a mandatory work assignment for at least one heat at this event. Please sign up on the worker sheets at registration when you get your wristband. Spots to fill include starter, grid, timing & scoring, course flag/radio, course/cone chasers, waiver/front gate, and more. As of today's headcount we will be working two heats each (i.e. drive A & C, work B & D or vice versa) but hopefully we will get enough additional registrations this week so we only have to work one heat each. Again, please encourage your friends to sign up ASAP for that reason as well!

Eligibility:

All participants must be at least 18 years old with a valid drivers license unless cleared by me (i.e. minors) in advance.

Convertibles:

All convertibles should have rollover protection as per the tech form.

Helmets:

Helmets must be Snell rated SA2010/M2010 or newer in good condition. Helmets with just DOT approval and/or helmets without Snell approval are not allowed. Sorry we are no longer providing loaner or rental helmets, but they may be available directly from OG Racing in advance - see <http://www.ogracing.com>. As per text above you will need to show us your helmet's orange or brown Snell sticker (under the inner liner) at techistration, please check for this before you arrive...

Passengers:

Passengers are allowed (age 18+ only) AFTER LUNCH i.e. in the afternoon heats with NON-NOVICE drivers as long as they have the same level of safety protection and attire as the driver. For safety reasons, passengers are not allowed with anyone during the morning heats unless they are recognized/approved instructors who have been cleared in advance, and novice drivers may only take instructors as passengers.

Weather:

We run "rain or shine, hot or cold" and only pause for lightning/thunderstorms to wait it out. These events may be rescheduled or paused for more significant weather systems or slippery conditions. Regardless, we cannot control the weather so please bring extra clothes/gear and be prepared for anything!

Live Timing & Results:

Again please help us make accurate results by having your car registered in the correct class and putting the correct car number "big and visible" on both sides of your car! We will tentatively have live timing at this event so you can see all times on your phone in grid updated every minute. IF that live timing breaks, your times may be given to you on a printed ticket or post-it note on your way back to grid. These are provided for reference, subject to change during the event, and are not official times. The live timing link to bookmark on your phone for viewing that day after each of your runs is <https://www.tinyurl.com/gft620> or <https://getfast.nfshost.com/results.htm> directly . Again please note these are unofficial, provisional times as they happen - subject to correction as needed. Results will be posted online and emailed to you usually the next day, then they are provisional for 24hrs.

Additional Charges:

The "you break it you bought it" policy is in effect. Fees must be paid immediately for damage caused on premises - including but not limited to timing equipment, oil-dry/kitty litter, and more.

Cancellation:

Please review the entry cancellation policy you agreed to when you registered at the bottom of the page <https://www.getfastevents.com/autocross-faq/> .

Upcoming Events:

Winter autocrosses at VMP - Jan 14, Jan 15 Evo school, and Feb 18. See <https://www.getfastevents.com/autocross/> .

Winter trackcrosses at Summit Point - Jan 8 and Feb 11. See <https://www.getfastevents.com/trackcross/> .

More Questions & Answers:

Check out the series info page <https://www.getfastevents.com/autocross/> and the FAQ at <https://www.getfastevents.com/autocross-faq/> . If you need anything, please don't hesitate to reply ASAP. We look forward to this day of fun at VMP!

Thanks again,

Jon

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Jon Felton

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