

**Drivers must be 18 years or older.**

**Plan to arrive by 8:00am for the AM session and 11am for the PM Session. Bring lunch, lots of water and non-alcoholic beverages.**

An Autocross is an automotive trial-by-time competition that emphasizes automotive handling ability and driver skill. The course is marked by cones on a large paved area, such as a parking lot, and courses are generally under 60 seconds long, and are run almost entirely in second gear.

It requires a car in good repair, and little else. Few automotive events require so little preparation. Regular autocrossing pays off in increased smoothness, a skill that serves you well on the street and the track. It also results in lower times and points for our chapter's annual championship series trophy.

The adrenaline rush is highly persuasive in making many autocrossers regular participants. This is literally one of the most fun things you can do in your car, and it will amaze you what your BMW can actually do with you in control. Many autocrossers seek to improve the handling capabilities of their cars with suspension mods and sticky tires, but there is no substitute for experience and practice.

Cars are grouped according to performance potential, using a formula based in part on a [Boston Chapter BMW CCA listing \(follow this link to figure out what class you are in\)](#). Our class system for BMWs is as follows:

greater than 158.0 points	Class AA
138.0-158.0 points	Class A
121.0-137.9	Class B
104.0-120.9	Class C
87.0-103.9	Class D
70.0-86.9	Class E
less than 70.0	Class F
Non-BMWs	Class X

Your best time counts toward the competition. Each cone that is knocked down, or displaced from the box in which it stands adds a 2 second penalty.

You will be assigned to a group, and will line up to run with that group. After each run you will rejoin the line, until you have completed all runs. When you are not running, you will be required to work the course, at the timing table, or as a flagger. Flaggers are stationed at several places around the course. Their job is to reset cones that are knocked down, and maintain radio contact with the timing table.

If you are new to autocrossing, you will find plenty of people to give advice, or even ride along with

you. One of the most important things you will need to do is familiarize yourself with the course. It is easy to forget under the excitement of driving as quickly as you dare! There will be ample opportunity to walk the course before each event. A guided tour is usually given.

Your car will be checked for brake pedal travel, steering wheel play, secure wheel mountings, fluid leakage and looseness of components, like batteries. **Helmets are required, and you will need a Snell 2005 or newer.** The track will have some loaners available.

Other things to remember.

- Front windows should be open during runs, and rears if there are rear seat passengers.
- Loaner helmets are available, but must be returned to the starting line immediately after each run. Lots of people use them.
- All participants will be split into two groups. While 1 group is driving the other group will be working the course. This is mandatory.
- Be a good neighbor – obey local speed laws. Drive slowly and quietly on local streets.
- Decisions of the organizer autocross committee are final.