



COVID-19 Autocross Event Guidelines

BMC is committed to the safety of its drivers, including physical health. We don't want you to get hit by a car OR fall victim to a pandemic, but we have to work together to minimize both those risks.

The following is a comprehensive, start-to-finish breakdown of what is expected from you during a BMC Autocross event. It includes changes to our usual structure, so please read carefully regardless of whether you've attended events with us before. **You MUST review both this document and our Virtual Drivers Meeting before attending a BMC event. You are responsible for understanding and complying with all government regulations and BMC policies. We reserve the right to remove anyone who repeatedly poses a safety risk from the site.**

BEFORE THE EVENT

You MUST preregister online in order to attend. We will not be accepting walkups, memberships, or payments of any kind on site. Preregistration ends at 6:00P on the Wednesday before the event. This is also the deadline to cancel and request a refund instead of a BMC credit. Any cancellations after 6:00P on the Friday before will forfeit their payment outright unless for health-related reasons.

After preregistration closes, you will receive an email with your registration information, run group, and work assignment. Reply with confirmation or changes (ex. bringing a different car) and include a picture of your license. You may request a run group or work assignment change, but we reserve the right to deny it. Getting this all ironed out ahead of time will help us to prepare your information in the system for a smoother and faster event. Last-minute changes are permissible, but you must let the check-in worker know on the day of the event so that the event chair can get involved.

Be prepared to bring your own mask, gloves, helmet, water, pen, and car numbers or tape. We may have a limited supply of disposable masks, gloves, and take-and-keep pens available, but this is not guaranteed. We will NOT have loaner helmets, painter's tape, or the usual water bottle cooler.

ARRIVING ON SITE

The site opens around 8:00A. Park in the designated paddock area, which is the VIP lot directly outside the stadium entrance. Leave your car unlocked, remove any loose items in the cabin, and open the hood and trunk to prepare it for the tech inspector. Your car number must be visible on both sides of the vehicle, about 8"-10" high in a contrasting color to the paint (not on the glass). If you do not have permanent numbers, we recommend bringing painter's tape. The tech inspector will NOT approve your vehicle without numbers.

Once your car is prepared, report to the check-in station at the main parking lot entrance. You must wear a mask during check-in, and you must keep it on your person at all times during the event. Wearing your mask properly (covering your mouth and nose) is mandatory when approaching the tent or any worker, using the bathroom, or unable to stand 6 feet apart from others. You are required to stay 6 feet away from anyone outside your immediate household when not wearing a mask, and encouraged to distance even if you are wearing one.



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SETUP

The event chair will supervise tent and check-in station setup, including tables, computers, clipboards, signage, timing equipment, etc. Diagrams for power and router setup will be provided. Masks are required during tent setup.

The course designer will supervise course setup, including cones, station buckets, start/finish boxes, markings, etc. Each station bucket should have a fire extinguisher, flag, radio, and disinfecting wipes. All cones, including pointer cones, should be outlined in chalk. The event chair must approve any last-minute design changes.

The event chair and course designer will jointly supervise setup of timing equipment on course, including the start/finish infrared eyes and the time display screen at finish. Others on site may be delegated to assist with tent and course setup, but should be kept to a minimum to reduce risk. Masks are optional for any setup outside the tent, but you must maintain a 6-foot distance from each other.

TECH

The tech inspector is responsible for ensuring that cars are safe to drive during the event. They will examine the cabin and trunk for loose items and test that the battery is secure. They will check for excessive wheel play, make sure the brake pedal is firm, and look at the tire condition. They will also verify that you have numbers placed on both sides of the car.

We run a roving inspection, meaning that a tech will be walking through paddock looking for cars that need inspection. If your car passes, the tech will place a signed and dated sticker on your windshield. You are not required to be present, but the tech may have questions. The tech inspector is required to wear gloves while inspecting vehicles and a mask when communicating with drivers.

CHECK-IN

Check-in generally begins around 8:30-9:00A. As a safety measure, we are piloting a self-service station instead of face-to-face interaction. This table will be set up at the entrance to the main parking lot. Wear your mask and line up 6 feet apart while waiting and during the check-in process.

There will be a worker attending the check-in station, but they are not responsible for guiding you through the process. Signs will be posted with directions for each step. The check-in worker is required to wear a mask at all times.

First, you will need to sign waivers for both Ripken Stadium and BMC's insurance provider, K&K. Parents/guardians will need to sign a separate waiver for minor drivers. It is highly recommended that you bring your own pen, although a limited number of take-and-keep pens may be available. Take a green wristband once you have signed both waivers.



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Next, find your name in the check-in binder. Anyone who preverified their information via email can simply sign off to confirm attendance. Those who did not must confirm their information in the binder and show the check-in worker their license. Everyone should tear off their run group/work assignment reminder slip and take a checkered wristband.

If you have made any last-minute changes to your information, including new modifications to your car that would change its class, this is your last opportunity to inform the check-in worker. They will communicate via radio with the event chair to handle.

The check-in worker is responsible for officially checking drivers into the computer system and entering changes. Instructions are provided.

COURSEWALK

After checking in, spend some time walking the course to familiarize yourself with the layout. It is advised to walk the full course from start to finish, imagining you are in the driver seat of your car.

Due to social distancing concerns, we will be unable to offer a guided coursewalk. You are permitted to walk the course in groups, and novices are encouraged to ask questions from experienced drivers. However, you must stay 6 feet apart and/or wear masks (preferably both) if walking the course together or talking to anyone not in your immediate household.

DRIVERS MEETING

The course will close for walking around 10:00A. At that point, novices are invited to attend the on-site drivers meeting. The event chair will provide instructions and safety rules for driving and working the rest of the event. This meeting is open to novices ONLY. All attendees are required to wear masks.

All other drivers should review our Virtual Drivers Meeting document or watch the prerecorded video. The document is available on our website, and the video is available on our YouTube channel. Novices should review these items before the day of the event and also attend the live meeting.

EVENT FORMAT

Drivers are divided into three groups (A, B, C) based on car class. Each driver races during one group, works during the next, and has the third free to spectate. To minimize handoff between workers and drivers, the event will be run as a single heat, meaning that you will take all your runs in one session. Then you will spend the next session at your work assignment. For example, if you are assigned to run group A, you will drive first, then work B, then spectate during C. Drivers assigned to run group C work during run group A.



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Driving generally starts around 10:30A and wraps up by 4:30P. The course is typically 40-60 seconds long, and we aim for 6 runs per driver if time permits. Each run group takes approximately 1.5-2 hours. You will receive your run group and work assignment a couple days before the event. If you are concerned about your ability to manage your work station for this length of time, please notify the event chair in advance or ASAP after you arrive.

DRIVERS

You are not required to wear a mask while in your car. You are required to wear a mask and/or stay 6 feet apart while socializing in grid.

We WILL NOT have loaner helmets available, as they are nearly impossible to clean between uses. You must bring your own helmet. Any good condition Snell M rated motorcycle helmet or SA rated automotive helmet dated 2005 or newer will suffice. Let us know before the event if you have concerns about whether your helmet qualifies.

Two-driver cars are allowed ONLY if both drivers are from the same household. Ridealongs are prohibited for anyone not from the same household. This includes instructor ridealongs and instructor-driven runs. We know and apologize that prohibiting instructors is a challenge for novices, but the cabin of a car is too close quarters to minimize virus risk.

More detailed driver information is provided via the virtual and live drivers meetings.

COURSE WORKERS

You are not required to wear a mask if you are working at a station on course, but you MUST stay at least 6 feet apart. Wipe down the radio and flag when you arrive and leave the station. Don't put anything foreign in the station bucket – no phones, water bottles, etc.

In order to minimize face-to-face contact, course worker check-in is not required, but there is still an honor system. Working the event is the responsibility that follows alongside the fun of driving. If we find out that you skipped work or left early after taking your runs, we will discount your runs.

More detailed worker information is provided via the virtual and live drivers meetings.

TENT WORKERS

There are a few key roles for event administration in each run group. More detailed instructions are provided on the day of the event directly to each tent worker, but below are basics and safety measures required for each role. All tent workers should check in with the event chair.



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The two grid workers are responsible for directing traffic as cars enter and exit the parking lot and course throughout the run group. The car queuer (posted at the head of grid) is strongly encouraged to use their own smart device to manage the system queue, but a tablet is available if needed. The grid runner (posted at the entry/exit point of the main parking lot) is issued a radio so that they can inform drivers of any reruns announced by the tent. Masks are optional for each grid worker during normal duties, but must be worn when approaching a driver or the tent. Wipe down the radio and tablet with the disinfecting wipes provided at the tent both before and after your shift.

The starter manages the start line and the flow of cars on course. They also double check that each driver has everything needed in order to run. The starter is issued a flag and radio so that they can communicate with the tent and course workers. Disinfect both pieces of equipment with the provided wipes before and after your shift. You are required to wear a mask or stand 6 feet away from cars. Do not lean into the driver's window to talk to them.

The four timing workers and the event chair are the ONLY people who should be under the tent. Timing workers are responsible for entering penalties and making sure that the system properly records run times. The event chair resolves timing issues and makes control decisions. If you're working under the tent, you will be required to wear a mask at all times unless we can figure out a way to keep 5 people each 6 feet apart under a ~15 foot tent area. You should use your own pen and disinfect the laptops, computer mice, and any other shared surfaces before and after your shift. All others must wear a mask when approaching the tent.

SPECTATING

Per Maryland and Harford County Departments of Health, amateur motorsports events must be closed to the public. Therefore, we will not be allowing anyone unaffiliated with BMC on site past the paddock area, which is required to remain open because it's not reserved for our exclusive use. No unaffiliated persons should be allowed in the main parking lot. If you spot someone who shouldn't be there, notify the event chair to deal with the situation.

Drivers who are spectating during their off group should stay 6 feet apart while watching and socializing. Ridealongs are prohibited for anyone not from the same household. Bringing non-driver members of your household is STRONGLY discouraged.

Indoor plumbed bathrooms are available in the stadium. You must wear a mask while inside the facilities. NO smoking or alcohol is allowed on site.

We will not be offering a water bottle cooler, and we don't offer food even under normal circumstances. Please bring your own lunch and eat it during your off group. Food is NOT allowed at any work station. We recommend bringing a lot of water. No, more than that. Passing out from dehydration and sunstroke is strictly forbidden!



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CLEANUP

After the last car in run group C has finished, the tent will call an end to the day. Flaggers should wipe down the flags and radios with disinfecting wipes before bringing the buckets back to the trailer. Cone runners can stack the cones in their area and leave them on course. Tent workers should wipe all equipment down one last time before leaving the tent.

Everyone is responsible for pitching in to help clean up, but minimize touches on shared items and maximize distance apart. There will be designated cleanup workers to pick up cones from the course, break down the tent, and reload the trailer. Cleanup workers are required to wear masks and gloves. Only one worker is allowed in the trailer at a time.

The event is not officially over until everything has been cleaned up. You are expected to stay on site and help out until it's done.

RESULTS

Each competition run is timed, and the lowest individual raw time for each competitor is used to score their rank within each class. We also utilize PAX scoring to weight raw times and determine the fastest driver across all classes for the day. Live timing results and class ranks will be available online only via the provided link throughout the day. Results will not be available at the tent, so don't come looking for them. We will hold you off with a 10-foot pole.

In order to avoid crowds, there will not be a results announcement/trophy meeting at the end of the day. Final results will be distributed via email and posted online within a few days after the event. After the season is over, we will arrange a date and place (or several if needed) where all winners can pick up any physical trophies they earned across all four events.

We normally hold a year-end club dinner to award the season's top driver in each class as well as overall PAX winner. Anyone who attends at least two events with us is put in the running. If we're able to safely hold one this year, event trophies can be picked up then as well.