

# PCA Zone 8 DE/TT Event Preparation Checklist

Welcome to our upcoming driving event. I am sure you are excited about getting your car out on the track so we put together a basic checklist to help you prepare for a safe and fun event.

- 1. Before you go to the online registration site**, you first need to make sure your car has been entered in the Z8 car classification tool. This will help organizers place you in a run group and spell out the safety equipment you will need. To class your car, go to the menu and register with your name and a password. Now you can log in and add your car. Next you will need to add any modifications and basic details like tire sizes. If your car is bone stock this will be very quick and easy. Walk through the tool with a list of your tire sizes, tire wear ratings, and other modifications handy. If you know this info the process will only take a few minutes. Once completed you will have car classification assigned with safety gear highlighted. You can also print a copy of the tech sheet pre-filled with this information. Print a copy of this and keep it with your registration info. The car classification tool, tech inspection stations, and complete Z8 rules can be found here: <https://www.zone8.org/events/rules/current.php>
- 2. Now you can go to the online registration site** armed with all the information you need about your car for registration.
- 3. Next** have a look at your car. Check over everything in advance of your tech inspection so you can get things fixed before it is too late and you have time to order anything that isn't in stock locally. Everything that you need to examine is listed in the rule book, which you can find here: <https://www.zone8.org/events/rules/current.php>
- 4. Within 2 weeks prior to the event**, call and schedule a pre-tech inspection with one of our PCA selected tech inspection shops from the rules page. Most but not all of these shops offer pre-tech inspections at no charge to active PCA track drivers so thank them for their generosity and if your car needs additional prep work or repairs, we encourage you to give them the business. If for some reason a particular shop is swamped, short-handed or is any way unable to accommodate you, don't get upset just kindly choose another shop. These guys are in business to make a living, are doing us a favor, and must always put their paying clients first.

You will need to bring your car, a filled out tech inspection sheet, a copy of your car classification page with list of required safety gear; and your helmet, gloves, and driving suit if needed for your class. The entire process typically only takes about 15 minutes and confirms that your car meets minimum safety standards for PCA driving events. Remember this is a quick safety inspection and there is no way a technician can discover every possible issue with your car. Be your own best advocate regarding safety issues as it will ultimately be **you** sitting in the driver's seat. If everything checks out your tech inspector will sign and stamp you tech sheet and you are good to go!

5. **One Day prior to the event**, charge your personal transponder if needed for TT, top off your fluids, do final prep on your car, and load it with track day gear including: hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, at least a  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon of water per day, helmet, long sleeve cotton shirt, long sleeve cotton pants (or approved racing suit) close-toed/flat soled shoes with leather uppers, cotton socks, registration materials, log book, driver's license, signed tech sheet, car classification sheet, event schedule, track map, duct tape, tie wraps, painters tape, spare parts and tools and anything else you think you will need.
6. If we are using an event hotel and conducting a **novice ground school** on the evening before our event, check the schedule and get there early. For first time drivers, ground school is mandatory. No ground school means no track day. We will often have a final tech inspection available at the hotel for those unable to complete tech at one of our authorized shops. Waiting until now is a risk because if you do not pass tech, you do not drive. It's always best to get tech done before arrival.
7. **The night before an event**, don't party til dawn. Turn in early, get as much sleep as you can, and plan for an early rise with a light breakfast.
8. **The morning of the event** Rise early, grab a light meal and head to the track. Here is a typical event schedule but check with your final run group schedule for specifics:

**6:30 Gates open** (find a place to park your car and unload your gear)

**7:00 Registration and final tech open.** If your car has been tech'ed already, you win! Take your signed tech form, log book, driver's license, reading glasses if needed, and proceed directly to event registration. If you still need to have your car inspected, you must go to tech first. The tech line is guaranteed to be long and slow and if you cannot get through it before the drivers meeting, you may miss your first run group. It is wise to tech early.

**7:45 Drivers meeting All drivers must attend.** Here we will walk you through basic safety procedures, passing zones, safety flags, and any cautionary warnings about weather or track conditions. We will also do student/instructor assignments.

**8:30 Track hot**

**Noonish**, depending on run schedule we will hold a lunch break and a possible low speed track tour if we have a volunteer to handle signups in the grid. Eating lightly on track days is a good plan.

**12:45 TT Meeting only for those doing timed runs**

**2:30 pm Begin Timed Runs if we are running a Time Trial Event**

**5pm Track cold** Once the event is officially over if everyone pitches in a little to pick up cones, and load the event trailer we can all go to dinner or home early and your kindness will be remembered by those who work hard to organize these events. Thank you for playing.

**The Next Day** If you enjoyed your experience, if you thought it was well organized, if you had an outstanding instructor, please share this with the event organizers in a short email. They usually only get to hear the bad news so a little well deserved praise will make their week. Until next time...