



APRIL 2005 ~ NEWSLETTER

Gearing up for 2005!

If you want some excitement in your life, feel the need for speed, or just want a fun family event to enjoy for the weekend...here it is! Join us and hundreds of novice and expert drivers alike as we begin our 4th season of exciting, adrenaline-rushing autocross events at the Deschutes Fair and Expo Center in Redmond.

Beginning April 23rd and 24th hearts will begin to thump, adrenaline start to rush, as drivers from all over the northwest wait on deck to be motioned to the start line. Finally, it's their turn, they pull forward, their fingers tighten and loosen as they concentrate on relaxing, eyes fixed on the course ahead that they replay in their minds, the flag goes up, the clutch goes in, ears listen intently as the engine revs, the flag races down through the air, and the peddle is on the floor...they're off! The autocross season has officially begun.



Throughout the season drivers fine-tune their skills and dial in their cars performance trying to beat their previous best times of the day and at each event new racers join in the fun adding new elements to the competition.

On May 21-22, our second race weekend, Central Oregon Police Stampede (COPS Event) local law

enforcement personnel come out to challenge one another on our grueling courses. Big Brothers-Big Sister of Oregon and our friends at the Special Olympics are once again invited to attend this fun event.

"It's a blast," say Peggy Wodtli, "My husband and two teenage sons race and my daughter and I come to cheer them on. I love it because it ties our family together. We'd love to see more young adults out here pushing their driving limits, testing their car's abilities, getting rides in cool cars, and tips from experienced drivers; the whole experience is a real adrenaline rush!"

You won't want to miss our grand finale in early October as our season comes to a close with the Oregon Shootout Invitational where all champions and first runners up in each category from the six autocross clubs in Oregon are invited to compete for honors of "Top Dog". It's exciting every year! We hope to see you and your family at the races!



Event ~ Publicity Update

We had a great turnout for the Cascade X-Games and fundraising auction event for Cascade Middle School. It was held at the Athletic Club of Bend. Several brave people will experience autocross for the first time, as they put bids in on taking rides in various cars at our next autocross event. **ACCO helped raise over \$300.00!** Thank you to the members that brought their cars and to others that offered rides but were unable to attend the event. Thank you to Carl Natter from Aero-cam, our professional photographer, for providing photos of our cars free of charge! Thanks to Morgan Smith for sharing this opportunity to represent ACCO in our community. Good job guys!

Flyers have been sent out to all the Police Departments announcing this year's COPS Event. This year we are hoping that there will be challenges issued between officers and police departments. The Special Olympics Oregon Region and Big-Brothers & Big-Sisters of Oregon will join us once again for the excitement of the **Central Oregon Police Stampede on May 21st!**

Event posters have been posted at most auto parts stores and some other local hot spots. If you need a poster for your business, please contact us!

Peggy Wodtli, Curtis Hagner, Chris Hibbits, Jack Gassaway, Tim McGinnis and Sid Widmer invite you to join our **Publicity Team**. Whether you want to help with sponsorship, deliver flyers, or other PR activities we welcome you. And, we always need people to provide articles for ACCO's newsletter!

Contact Info

For autocross and club info visit www.autocross.org

For event location directions call
1-866-800-EXPO or visit
www.expo.deschutes.org

Professional photographer
call Carl 541-312-2116 or visit
www.aero-cam.com

Floor Decor

**Scandia Plaza ~ Bend
541-383-2286**

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Sponsorship Info
Peggy 383-2865

Or visit our website
www.autocross.org



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Member to Member

This section gives members a means of communication with each other. Please feel free to write on any topic regarding autocrossing.

Dear Members,

I would like to expand on my comments concerning a rule for the Shootout for possible inclusion in the club's newsletter. There is a debate about whether or not to allow competitors to qualify for the shootout in one class with their car and modify it to be eligible for a slower, better PAX class for the shootout. I feel pretty strongly about my opinion on this and would like to "air" it out to the membership.

Here goes:

"As most of you know the club is debating a rule change proposal for the Oregon Shootout Invitational. During one of the last meetings of last season it was brought up that some members had concerns about competitors running a particular car in one class, qualifying in that class but, removing modifications that put it there and competing in the Shootout in a better PAXed, slower class with the same car. They feel this creates some kind of unfair advantage. One attendee compared it to bicycle racing where a racer is strong enough to run in a higher category but prefers the easy pickings of his less fit competitors. I don't see where there is an unfair advantage or how this seemingly "sandbagging" will help in the Shootout.

For one thing, it is likely that this person was not fully prepped in the class he qualified with or he wouldn't bother. The PAX index is supposed to equalize the performance potential between classes and the last two Shootouts have been won by a Prepared class car anyway. That's two or three levels beyond Stock as it is and requiring extensive modifications that most local competitors are never able to complete. Unlike bicycle racing, staying in a lower prep level class does not equate to some kind of performance potential PAX-wise, it just means you are abiding to a set of rules that permit fewer modifications.

When you create rules, you have to think about the ramifications or consequences. I know a lot about this from my years on the SCCA Street Touring Advisory Committee. I can see one consequence of this proposal being that if a competitor cannot move his car to the lower prep level but his buddy has a car in that class, he'll just co-drive that instead. One of the attractive things about the Shootout for folks coming from out-of-town is the ability to compete in any class, not just the one you qualified in. This way, they can car-pool or otherwise share the expenses of traveling here. You would have to take that away to ensure a competitor stays where he qualified.

My opinion is to let any car compete in any class for which it is eligible to compete, regardless of the class it may have qualified for the Shootout in. Simply, it's relatively easy to enforce, and fair.

Good luck and see you soon,

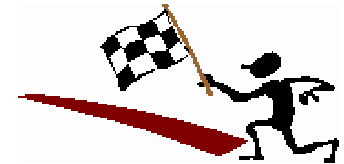
Steve Wynne, #96 HS"

2005 Club Officers

The following people were chosen or volunteered for club positions for 2005.

President - David Boyd
(541) 385-5971 Evenings
Secretary - Aren Shank
(541) 420-6140
Competition Directors (2)
David Boyd
Jack Gassaway
Tech. Inspectors (4)
Marvin Wodtli
Creig Kleckler
Steve Rall
Mike Shofstall
Publicity Director - Peggy Wodtli
Publicity/Newsletter/Advertising
Jack Gassaway
Curtis Hagner
Chris Hibbitts
Tim McGinnis
Sid Widmer
Registration - Frank & Cindy Cardiff
Insurance Waivers - Steve Shank
Worker Coordinator - Platt Green
Rookie Coach - Steve Wynne
Safety Steward - Morgan Smith
Results - Tim McGinnis
Timing Equipment - Jeff Neal, Steve Shank

ACCO IS A MEMBER OF TEAM SAFETY



*See Article Next
Month!*

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