

# **AZPCA Driving Tours: Participant Rules, Guidelines, and Expectations**

## **Introduction**

The Arizona Region of the Porsche Club of America conducts many driving tours. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for members to enjoy a relaxing drive to an interesting destination, on a defined route, which typically includes appealing scenery and features great Porsche driving roads. Driving Tours are non-competitive events, meant to provide enjoyment with one's car in the company of other Porsche owners sharing the experience.

What follows is a guide for participants to understand what to expect, and what is expected of them, on driving tours hosted by AZPCA.

In organizing and conducting a tour, the primary consideration is always safety. The principal requirements are that the event: 1) be planned and conducted with safety as a primary concern; 2) be covered by PCA insurance; 3) demonstrate a concern for the safety of entrants and observers in its procedures and instructions.

## **Definition**

A driving tour is an organized event in which participants gather at a start point defined on the PCA event insurance certificate. All participants sign liability waivers and depart in a group or groups consisting of both a lead and a sweep car(s) driving the specified route, ending in a group or groups at the location identified on the insurance certificate. PCA coverage is only in effect for the route defined by the start point and end point on the insurance certificate and driven by the participants who have signed waivers for that driving tour. Participants who intentionally separate themselves from the group are considered to have left the driving tour and may no longer be covered under PCA insurance.

## **Registration**

With very few exceptions, drivers must register for Driving Tours via MotorsportReg.com. Pre-registration requirements, fees, registration deadline, etc. will be included on the MotorsportReg registration site for the specific event. Passenger information may also be required, as specified in the registration parameters for the specific event. Because AZPCA Driving Tours almost always "sell out," registration and participation is ordinarily limited to PCA members and guests riding with them. PCA Test Drive participants are welcome to participate in AZPCA Driving Tours. For Driving Tours, PCA requires that all drivers must be at least 18 years old.

## **Licensing**

All drivers must have a valid state or provincial driver's license.

## **Event Waivers and Insurance**

All persons who will be participating on a Driving Tour, including all passengers, must sign a PCA event waiver. If waivers are not provided, the event is not covered by PCA insurance and must not proceed. If a minor will be riding with a registered driver, a parent or guardian must sign the PCA waiver for minors on behalf of the minor participant.

PCA will issue a Certificate of Insurance prior to the event. The certificate will be made available for review by any participant at the starting point of the event.

The PCA event insurance provides coverage at various limits for participants who are injured at PCA moving car events. The policy does not provide coverage for damage to automobiles participating in such events. Details regarding insurance requirements and coverage may be found on the [PCA website](#) and in the [PCA Region Procedures Manual](#).

## **Event Check-in**

With few exceptions, check-in is required in order for registrants and passengers to participate in a Driving Tour event. At check-in, participants' registration will be verified, drivers and all passengers will sign the PCA waivers\*, and any other details specific to the event (such as driving group assignments) will be provided.

A Drivers Meeting will be conducted just prior to the drive departure. It is important for participants to arrive in plenty of time to check in, sign waivers, etc. prior to the drivers meeting.

\*In some cases, electronic waivers may be signed prior to an event via the SpeedWaiver app. If this is offered/required it will be clearly specified in the event registration process for the specific event in MotorsportReg.

## **Route Plans**

*The event planner will consider safety as the most important consideration when planning and conducting a Driving Tour event.*

When feasible, the driving route will be scouted in advance to identify where road conditions, construction, or other potential hazards may exist.

The duration of a tour will not exceed a level at which drivers will become fatigued. Rest stops will be planned approximately every hour to 90 minutes, if feasible, at locations where adequate parking and services are available.

## Drivers Meeting

The tour leader will conduct a formal briefing for all tour participants prior to the driving tour departure. *Attendance at the Drivers Meeting is required of all drivers.* Though not required, it is strongly advised that all passengers attend as well.

The following will be included in the drivers meeting, as a minimum:

- Ensure that everyone has signed the waiver forms (including passengers!)
- Route Driving Directions
  - Verify that every participating vehicle has a set of Driving Directions. The directions will include:
    - Turn-by-turn directions from the starting point to interim stops and the final destination
    - Mileage between turns or other maneuvers, so that participants know when to be ready for the next direction. Odometer readings identifying direction points may be provided as well
    - Address of interim stops and final destination.
    - Cell phone numbers for Lead and Sweep cars responsible for each driving group.
    - The tour leader will present an overview of the route, identify stopping points, important landmarks that may provide assistance in following the directions, road conditions that may affect the route, and any other information necessary for safe and efficient conduct of the tour.

- Identification of Lead and Sweep cars

A Driving Tour will include a *Lead* and a *Sweep* car (aka "Drive Team") to assist in guiding the group along the route. For events where there is a large number of participating cars, multiple driving groups will be employed; a single group should consist of no more than 15 cars. When more than one driving group is employed, each group will have its own Lead and Sweep cars to help manage that group.

- Emphasis on Safety

All participants will be expected to obey all traffic laws. Drivers should not drive beyond their comfort level; the group will gather up along the way, so there is no reason to drive unreasonably fast to try to catch up.

Posted speed limits and traffic control provisions will be observed during the drive.

Car Separation: Drivers should avoid lagging far behind the car in front of them, to ensure group integrity. But under no circumstances should drivers take unsafe or unnecessary measures to do so. In particular, *speeding through a yellow or red traffic signal in order to keep up with the group is not acceptable.*

- Communication

The Lead and Sweep cars will communicate via mobile phone or other suitable method. Such communications are intended to manage the drive group only. Other participants should contact the Lead or Sweep cars only as necessary (such as to report an emergency or to notify the Sweep car of intention to leave the tour). General banter should be avoided in order to ensure open communications between the Lead and Sweep cars in their responsibility to manage the drive group.

- General Tour Conduct

- Drive with headlights on; it helps the drive team to keep the group together
- If you pass the Lead car you are considered to have left the tour and you are on your own (i.e., no one will be responsible for getting you back on the route should you miss a turn or stop; insurance no longer protects you)
- If you choose to leave the group let the Sweep car know by calling the cell phone number provided on the Driving Directions
- At stop lights, fill all lanes to ensure all cars get through on the green; re-group after passing through the intersection; Do not clog the "fast" lane!
- The Sweep car will assist should a vehicle encounter problems on the route. Emergency or problem procedure: turn on emergency flashers and pull off the roadway in a safe location. The Sweep car will stop to provide assistance.
- The Sweep car will use reasonable measures to get cars back on track (should they make a wrong turn, e.g.)
- Follow the Driving Directions closely. *Do not rely on your car Navigation system to keep on the planned route.* Driving Tours are designed to follow the most interesting, scenic roads, not the fastest way to a destination.
- Be aware that, should you become separated from the group, your car may become the de facto leader for those following you. If you are uncomfortable taking this responsibility, gesture for those behind to pass you, and merge in with the group at some point in front of the Sweep car.

## **Driver Conduct**

Failure to follow procedures detailed in this document, unsafe driving, blatant disregard of traffic laws, passing unsafely, and putting others in danger are reasons to exclude a participant from a tour. Such behaviors should be reported to the event planner, driving group leader, and/or the AZPCA Driving Tour Chair. Should the AZPCA Board of Directors deem that a member's behavior violates PCA or Arizona Region rules and requirements for participation in events, the Board of Directors may impose sanctions, including but not limited to restricting the member's participation in future events.

## **Post Event Report**

A PCA Post Event Report will be filed for every Driving Tour. The event organizer or group leader will be responsible for submitting the report.

## **Observer's Report**

A PCA Observer's Reports will be filed after every Driving Tour. A participant (not involved in conducting the drive) will be asked to submit the report.