

These are just a 'few' tips and thoughts I've often passed along to new drivers prior to or at events that I thought I'd post here. If you find any of it helpful, Super!

Things to do...

Read general rules & determine your class (Download from www.scca.org)

Pre-register for the event: saves time at event

Prep car prior to event: saves time at event

- * Cleanliness (All loose items & trash out of passenger compartment and trunk)
- * Leaks/Fluid levels
- * Safety Devices
- * Battery (unsecure batteries are the most common fail I see...)
- * Drive Belts
- * Steering/Springs/Etc (no excessive free play)
- * Exhaust (secure)
- * Tires/Wheels (adequate tread, All lug nuts secure)
- * Brakes/Clutch/Throttle (proper and free function without any hang-up or binding)
- * Windshield (clean)
- * These are UNOFFICIAL recommendations that I've seen as common failure points, see official rules for a more details...

Have about ½ tank of fuel: not full, not empty, half is about perfect for any car...

Get a good night's rest

Show up early: avoids crowds, 'creates' extra time to prep car & walk course

Go through tech ASAP

If you see someone setting up the event; offer to assist them

Walk the course as many times as possible

Ask for help/advice/assistance as required; if you have a question ASK!!!

Be prompt when it's your turn to work

- * Identify yourself as an inexperienced worker
- * Take your work assignment seriously and be vigilant

Things to bring:

- * Water
- * Tire pressure gauge
- * Comfortable, closed-toe athletic shoes
- * Weather appropriate clothing that is 'layered'
- * Water
- * Sunscreen
- * Lunch & snacks (you may not have a chance to grab something once the event starts...)
- * Good attitude
- * Water

Nice to haves:

- * Water
- * Compact air compressor
- * Painter's tape
- * Water
- * Small tool kit
- * Zip-ties & duct tape
- * Water

Try to be as prepared as possible prior to the event (that you are even here on the forum is a step in the right direction). Familiarize yourself with the general rules & know your car's class, clean out your & make sure you get a good night's sleep. Make sure you have enough fuel for the event and that your tires are properly inflated. There may not be a bathroom 'right there' at the event, so drinking a bunch of coffee/soda/energy drink may not be the best idea until you get the lay of land.

Try to show up early and get yourself registered, car prepped, and Tech'd ASAP. This will free up a lot of time to walk the course which is critical to success. You don't need to act with a sense of panic, but with an understanding that there is quite a bit that you need to get done and there is a limited amount of time to do it in.

If you have a question or are confused about anything, ASK SOMEONE FOR HELP! Anyone with a trailer/trailer vehicle, who is swapping out wheels, or has their own magnetic numbers has probably done this a few times and will almost certainly be happy to assist you, or point you toward someone who can.

Having a lunch with you and some snacks like beef jerky or trail mix is always a good idea I think, because you may not be able to break away to get food. Water is simply a must have; I cannot stress this enough. You cannot bring too much water. True story: I told a buddy to bring water to his first event; he showed up with two sodas and one 12oz bottle of water. FAIL! He brought two gallons of water to the next event and no sodas...

Dress weather appropriate, and in layers. These are all day events, and you will be outside pretty much the entire time without any shade or shelter that you can plan on: wide brimmed hats, sunscreen, etc...are very important things to consider even in the winter. Remember that it's always nicer to have something and not need it than to need something and not have it...

All of the above is done in an effort to help a new driver to the sport be better prepared for their first event (than I was), to make their learning curve a bit easier (than mine was), and to answer some questions they might ask (that I have, or learned the hard way...LOL). If you do none of the above, you will be just fine; in fact I have seen people pull up off the street as the event is underway get

registered, tech'd, and on the course in a matter of minutes, and have a BLAST!
The most important thing is to have fun. As long as you're out there having a great time with everyone else you're doing it right!

Pretty good article I found:

<http://www.tunnellracing.com/advice.html>

If anyone sees a correction to be made, or has anything to add, please do so.

Some things I forgot:

Buy a helmet and become a member sooner rather than later; you'll save a ton of time and money.

Renting a helmet doesn't cost much, but it's not free either. There are also many times when club helmets are in short supply due to high demand, so having your own just eliminates all of that hassle...You don't need to buy a super fancy one, just get one that works; but make sure what you buy fits the current requirements...

Remember:

DOT = Plastic Hat = FAIL! 😞 😞 😞

SNELL = Protects Head = Super-Happy-AutoX-Funtime! 🎉 🎉 🎉

Having a helmet in your car also serves as a GREAT conversation starter...



Becoming a full club member will save time filling out forms at every event and will more than pay for itself every season, and your weekend memberships can be applied toward your full membership (if done within 60 days I believe...always talk with the registrar to verify) so if you don't become a full member after your first event or two you're going to end up spending a LOT of extra money... 😞

Oh, and ALWAYS go to the bathroom before starting a work assignment... 😊
but be quick about it. 😊

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