



# THE Aficionado

The Official Newsletter of the Winnipeg Sports Car Club

Jan / 2025

**2025 Fire on Ice  
Drift & Race Tour**

**2024 WSCC  
Awards Banquet**

**GMP Track  
Resurfacing Project**



**Winter Edition**





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← Cover Photo from Jeremy Paskaruk

## Welcome

The Aficionado contains articles from club directors, members and information from our club forums. Please distribute this newsletter to anyone that is interested in joining, competing, or volunteering with the Winnipeg Sports Car Club.

## Club Information

The Winnipeg Sports Car Club is a non-profit corporation and at 73 years old is Canada's oldest continuously operating sports car club. Since 1952 the WSCC has organized motorsport events in and around Winnipeg. By the 1970's, Gimli Motorsports Park became the WSCC's "home base." These motorsports events are sanctioned by the Western Canada Motorsport Association and include road racing, time attack, autocross, rally, track days, drift, and ice racing. High performance driving education (HPDE) schools are also coordinated to license new racers into the sport.



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[www.wsc.mb.ca](http://www.wsc.mb.ca)



[Forums.wsc.mb.ca](http://Forums.wsc.mb.ca)



[wsccautoslalom.com](http://wsccautoslalom.com)



#wsccracing



@WinnipegSportsCarClub



@wscc\_racing



# Club Meetings

## **Everyone Welcome!**

The Winnipeg Sports Car Club holds it's general membership club meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month

General club meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7pm and is available on-line by zoom and in person (now being held at the Irish Club, 654 Erin Street, Winnipeg)

Please feel free to join our club meetings, hear what is going and take the opportunity for your voice to be heard



### **Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

January 16th  
February 20th  
March 20th  
April 17th



**HAGERTY®** | MotorsportReg

**Don't wait till the last minute!**

**Renew/Apply for your Race License  
before the season starts**

### **License Applications:**

Go to [www.motorsportreg.com](http://www.motorsportreg.com) to get your 2025 licenses and to register for WSCC events.

- Amateur Race License
- Basic Race License (Ice Race)
- Time Attack License
- Annual waiver Hardcard
- Race Official License
- Car Number & Classification

**WCTMA.CA**  
**GO RACING!**

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE Murray Burkett

2025 has begun and a new year of Motorsport adventures. Ice Racing is well underway, planning has started for a great year of Autocross and GMP events. We have a new venue for our regular club meetings starting in February 2025 we will be meeting at the Irish Association club rooms. It is a great facility with an Irish pub on the premises for a social time following the meeting. I look forward to seeing everyone who can make it in person, of course we will be providing a zoom link for those unable to make it in person

Ice Racing is well underway, with two major events remaining. Winnipeg Beach and the Ice Festival at Gimli. Come out and enjoy some action.

For 2025 we hope to move forward with obtaining funding for the upgrading of the Autocross facility. The surface at St Andrews has become challenging and needs attention.

GMP has undergone a major amount of work with resurfacing of the facility. Our club is on plans for a grand re-opening of the facility on Jun 7/8 weekend. We will have sponsor signage up on the buildings and marshall stations. Please join us for Time Attack, Road Race and Drifting. Should you want to try out the new surface, but are not ready for Time Attack, or Road Racing, you can take part in our Lapping day on the 6th and enjoy the week-end activities.

Our Race School is the first event to happen at GMP this spring and registration has been open for some time now. This is a great way to sharpen your driving skills and enjoy some spirited driving. You can sign up on MSR.

I look forward to saying hi to everyone at our events in 2025

-Murray

## 2025 WSCC Executive and Board of Directors

### POSITION NAME

### POSITION NAME

**President** Murray Burkett

**Sponsorship Director** Greg Eastwood

**Past President** Ken Hilash

**HPDE Director** Roland Hufgard

**Vice-President** Jennifer Bell

**HPDE Deputy Director** Darin Wach

**Treasurer** Ron Dallmeier

**Rally Director** Al Marcoux

**Secretary** Brian Wiebe

**Drift Director** Tyler Sawchuk

**Road-Race Director** Mike Demchenko

**Membership Director** Helix Li

**Road-Race Deputy Director** Scott McDonald

**Steward** Miquel Yetman

**Track Day Director** Al Marcoux

**WCMA Representative** Bob Willmott

**Ice-Race Director** Mike Demchenko

**Social Director** Vacant

**Ice-Race Deputy Director** Stephen Leiding

**Publicity Director** Vacant

**Time Attack Director** Roland Hufgard

**Volunteer Director** Dason Wowk

**Autocross Director** Curtis Janzen

**Quartermaster** Shawn Wolk

**Autocross Deputy Director** Valerie Martin

**Webmaster** David Klassen



# BULLETIN



# BOARD

## WINNIPEG SPORTS CAR CLUB

### 2025 WSCC GMP RACE SCHEDULE

MAY 2	- HPDE & OPEN LAPPING
MAY 3-4	- LICENSING SCHOOL
JUNE 6	- HPDE & OPEN LAPPING
JUNE 7-8	- RACE WEEKEND #1
JULY 18	- HPDE & OPEN LAPPING
JULY 19-20	- VINTAGE RACE WEEKEND
AUG 15	- HPDE & OPEN LAPPING
AUG 16-17	- RACE WEEKEND #3
SEPT 19	- HPDE & OPEN LAPPING
SEPT 20-21	- RACE WEEKEND #4
OCT 10	- HPDE & OPEN LAPPING
OCT 11-12	- RACE WEEKEND #5

### 2025 WSCC TIME ATTACK SCHEDULE

Time Attack #1	June 7
Time Attack #2	June 8
Time Attack #3	July 19
Time Attack #4	July 20
Time Attack #5	August 16
Time Attack #6	August 17
Time Attack #7	September 20
Time Attack #8	September 21
Time Attack #9	October 11
Time Attack #10	October 12

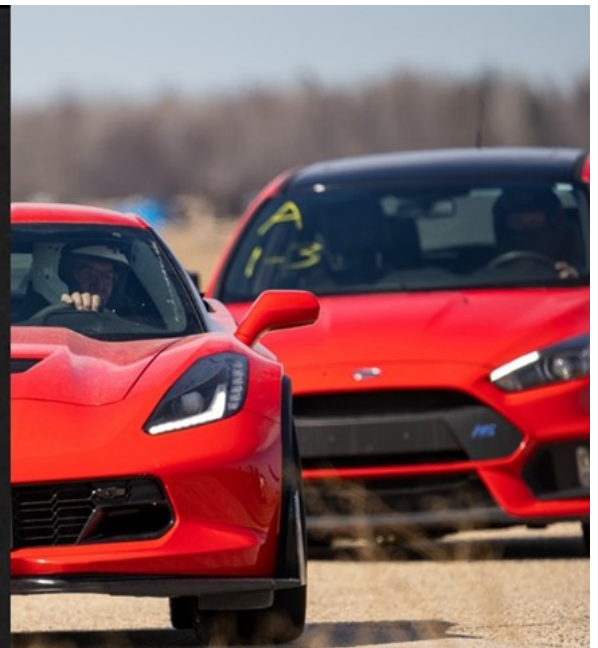
AFFILIATED MEMBER OF THE



CANADIAN AUTOMOBILE SPORT CLUB

WINNIPEG SPORTS CAR CLUB

# RACE SCHOOL & COMPETITION LICENSE



**May 3&4, 2025**  
**Gimli Motorsport Park**

# WSCC AWARDS BANQUET

On November 9th, 2024, club members from all disciplines met at the Cabota Center in Winnipeg to wrap up the year, enjoy dinner with friends and to recognize those that had excelled throughout the season.

Season Championship Awards were given out for the top drivers in Ice Racing, Road Racing, Time Attack, and Autocross. In addition, the club handed out the coveted annual specialty awards and WCMA presented several awards recognizing both achievement and commitment.

The organizer and emcee for the event was our WSCC club president Murray Burkett and each of the discipline Director's handed out awards to their respective recipients.

Big thanks to all our sponsors and club members that supported the silent auction with donations and congratulations to the all the winners.



## Road Racing

### ***Vintage Class***

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Glenn Gordon

### ***IT1 Class***

- 1st place – Yogesh Thakore

### ***IT2 Class***

- 1st place – Al Marcoux
- 2nd place – Mike Demchenko
- 3rd place – Chris Gauthier

### ***GT4 Class***

- 1st place – Bill Langner

### ***GT3 Class***

- 1st place – Guy Dobson



## Autocross

### ***Novice Class***

- 1st place – Josef Catipon
- 2nd place – Vincent Ho
- 3rd place – Rován Braun

### ***Mixed Class***

- 1st place – Allan Ball
- 2nd place – Hishaam Peerbuccus
- 3rd place – Jordan Frank

### ***Modified***

- 1st place – Noel Mattson
- 2nd place – Korey Patey
- 3rd place – Jon Du

### ***Street***

- 1st place – Curtis Janzen
- 2nd place – Rob Rurak
- 3rd place – Louis Martin



## Time Attack

### • ***Rookie of the Year***

Dylan Hesom

### ***T Class***

- 1st place – Nick Balaz

### ***GT Class***

- 1st place – Roland Hufgard
- 2nd place – Kyle Anonychuk

### ***SGT Class***

- 1st place – Tyler Goosen

### ***Mod Class***

- 1st place – Sheldon Fehr

### ***Extreme Class***

- 1st place – Kaycee Coyle



# 2024 WSCC ANNUAL AWARDS

Road Race Points Champion **Al Marcoux**

Ice Race Points Champion **Bryce McDonald**

Rookie of the Year **Nick Ferris**

Best Engineered **Ryan Lysak**

Long Service **Steve Leiding**

Worker of the Year **Brian & Judy Wiebe**

Baler Award (Lawn Maintenance) **Al Marcoux**

Garbage Can (Bad Luck Award) **Guy Dobson**

Metro Motors Driving Skills **-not awarded in 2024-**



## Ice Racing

### Street Safe Class

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Bryce McDonald
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Tim Gordienko
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Mike Gordon

### Studded Class

- 1st place – Dylan Sabatini
- 2nd place – Lee McRae
- 3rd place – Ryan Lysak



## WCMA Awards

### IT1 Class

- 1st place – Yogesh Thakore
- 

### IT2 Class

- 1st place – Al Marcoux
- 2nd place – Mike Demchenko
- 3rd place – Chris Gauthier
- 

### GT4 Class

- 1st place – Bill Langner
- 2nd place – Peter Loewen
- 

### GT3 Class

- 1st place – Guy Dobson





## MANITOBA WINTER = ICE RACING SEASON

The 2025 the WSCC Ice Racing season kicked off with their first event on Jan 4th & 5th in Beausejour at the CPTC race track. For those not familiar with this site it is unique to our ice race calendar in that it is an established permanent race track with man-made ice and a high speed oval track design used primarily for snowmobile racing. It is the only non-road course track on our calendar and with the extra wide track and fast straights it made for exciting racing and drift action.

It was a chilling weekend with a total of 10 Ice Drift cars hitting the track and despite the cold they seemed to enjoy the extra wide oval ice track as they kicked up the snow with some extreme sweeping corners and ice drifting. Some great battles in the Street Safe class saw the top 3 positions changing places often and at the end of the weekend Bryce McDonald took the early season points lead for that class. The extra snow on the track and ice conditions proved challenging for most of the studded tire cars and we saw 3 different winners in the 4 races that were ran on Sunday. In the end the consistency of Greg Eastwood help him take the early points lead for the Studded Class.



Due to a not so unusual Alberta Clipper and serious wind chill temperatures that rolled in on Friday January 17th we were forced to postpone our second event at Lake Shirley and reschedule it to Jan 25th & 26th. The typically tight road course track design of Lake Shirley is much different than the CPTC oval and resulted in lots of tight door to door racing and wild ice drift action. The tow truck was kept busy all weekend long as many were caught out on the slippery track surface and hard banks. With moderate temperatures 10 ice drift cars and 13 ice race cars provided a great show to the huge row of spectators that lined the lake's parking and viewing area. As usual the racing action was broadcasted to the warmth of people's vehicles by our ice race announcer Dave Evans. At the end of the day the Studded Class points lead was taken over by last year's season champion Dylan Sabatini and Bryce McDonald retained his points advantage in the Street Safe Class.

Event #3 on our calendar was initially scheduled to be held at a brand new location in St Adolphe however at the 11th hour of planning there were some unresolved logistical concerns that unfortunately forced us to change plans and relocate the scheduled event with the hopes that we can establish a race event there in 2026.

**For all info on how to get started in  
Ice Drifting and Ice Racing, visit:  
[wscc.mb.ca/ice-racing](http://wscc.mb.ca/ice-racing)**



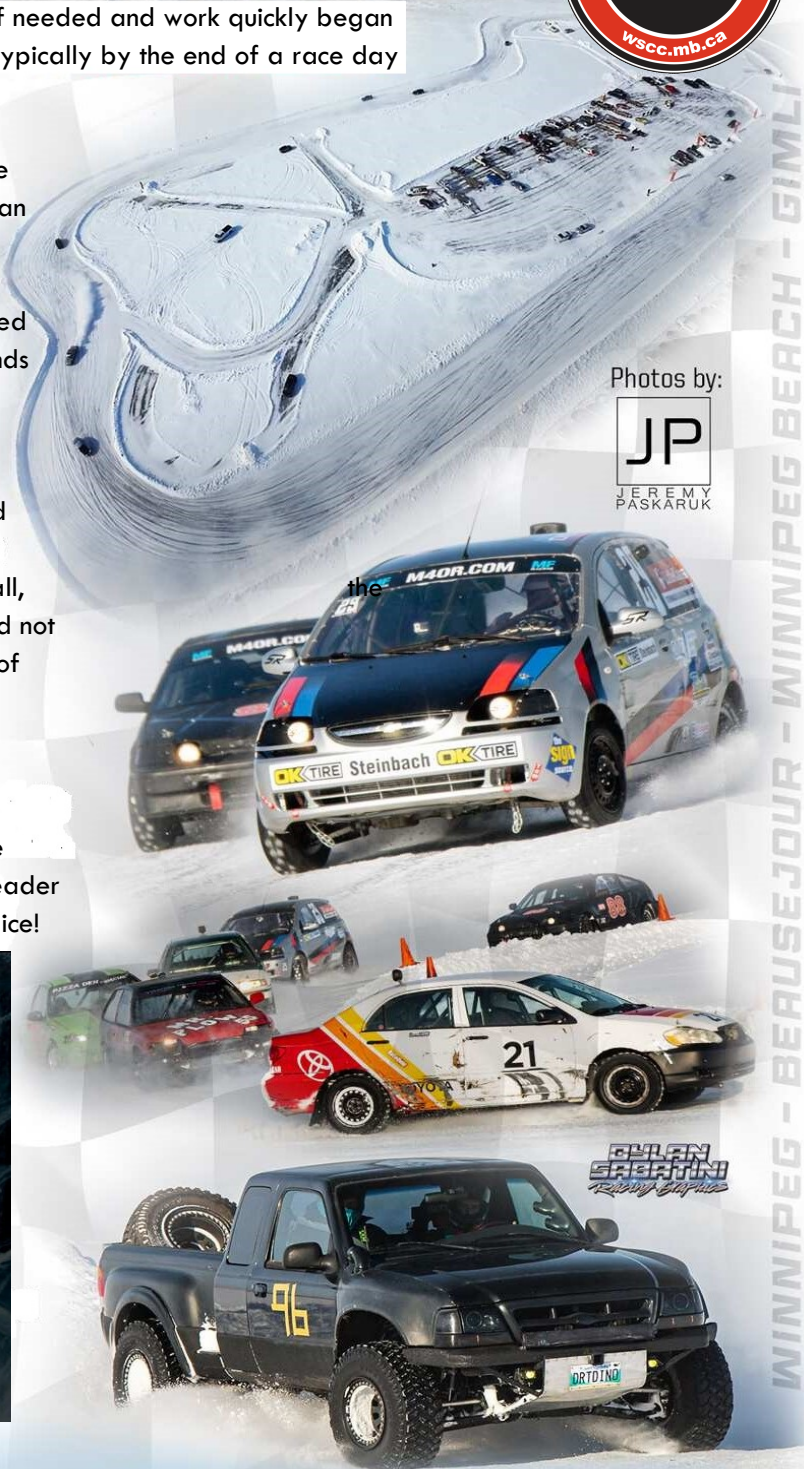




Fortunately we have access to Lake Shirley for additional events if needed and work quickly began to prepare it for another race event for the following weekend. Typically by the end of a race day the group of studded cars with their aggressive tires have carved deep ruts into the ice surface that make the track unusable for a second day without completely moving the track location. The narrow confines of Lake Shirley makes this difficult so instead a plan was devised to flood the front and back straight areas of the track and move just the two end hairpin corners. On the day prior to the weekend we were able to organize a work party. We drilled some holes into the center of the lake and pumped 10's of thousands of gallons of water onto the track to fill in all the ruts. As well, the banks at both ends were opened up and relocated resulting in nice smooth extra wide corners. Given the -28C forecast that night we were fairly confident that the flooding would freeze solid by the next day. Safe to say lessons were learned as we found several small patches of fragmented ice in a few locations. All in all, the patches actually smoothed out throughout the weekend and did not get worse so the crisis was averted. Once again a great number of people became club members for the day just to watch the action as the drift group and race cars put on a fabulous show.

See below the season points standings results following Event #3.

At the time of this article the plans are being put into place for the final 2 events of the season at Winnipeg Beach and the double header season ending race weekend in Gimli. Hope to see you out on the ice!



Photos by:



## 2025 ICE RACING CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

February - 2<sup>ND</sup> LAKE SHIRLEY WATER SKI PARK - EVENT 3

### STREET SAFE DIVISION



### STUDDED DIVISION

ENTRANT	CAR#	POINTS
BRYCE McDONALD	42	74
STEPHEN LEIDING	47	59
MIKE DEMCHENKO	88	58
TIM GORDIENKO	179	45
AL MARCOUX	2	44
PASCAL TETRAULT	30	20
RON THERIAULT	74	18
AYDEN WADE	4	6

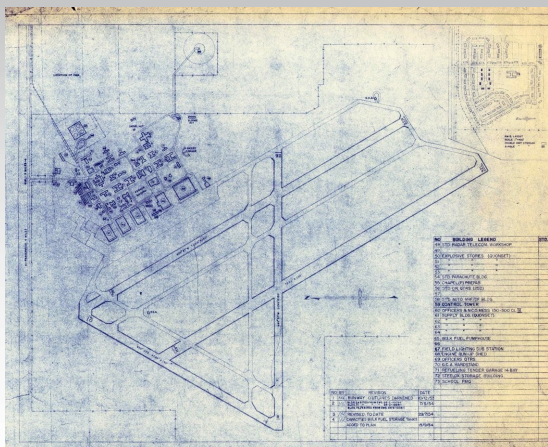
ENTRANT	CAR#	POINTS
DYLAN SABATINI	29	89
DAMON SURZYSHYN	55	62
GREG EASTWOOD	66	60
RYAN LYSAK	05	49
MIKE DEMCHENKO	88	30
JESSICA JAKABEK	36	14
AARON STUMPF	56	13
MARLENE JAKABEK	37	11





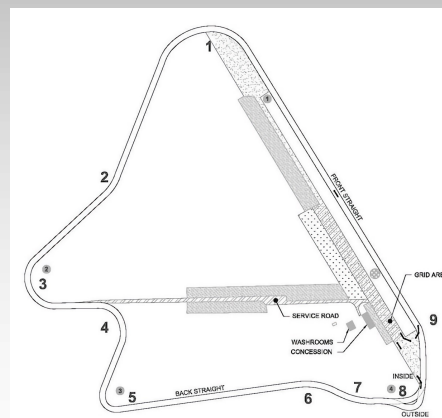


## GMP Resurfacing Project



Gimli Airbase 1953 site plan

The GMP road race track was designed in 1972 by three people: George Chapman (an original founder and first president of the WSCC, also the 1966 Canadian Racing Driver Champion and inducted into both the Canadian Motorsport Hall of Fame and the Manitoba Motorsports Hall of Fame), Bob Hanna (at the time the CEO of Canadian Automobile Sport Clubs) and Ron Lyseng (at the time the WSCC Race Director). Two government officials, Barry Waller from Manitoba Highways and Bob Gemmel from the Gimli Industrial Park, were also there to offer advice and approve the design.



Present track site plan

Since its original construction over 50 years ago, the Gimli Motorsport Park road course was certainly showing its age in many ways. The well worn asphalt surface was rough and portions of the track were undulating and very bumpy. It had become very questionable to open wheel and vintage race cars for side by side racing.

In 2018, the club started a GMP asphalt resurfacing project which resulted in resurfacing being completed for turns 1 and 3. 2019 and 2020 also brought more repairs with some surface patching and some curb development. Following further fundraising and also with the successful application for a matching funds government grant, the WSCC was now in a position to carry out significant track improvements.

Unfortunately, the 2020 pandemic put a pause on most everything and with changes occurring to the municipal council, further negotiations were required to ensure the security of our proposed financial investment. In 2024 those concerns were finally resolved and work began immediately to secure a contractor and begin work before the end of the season.

Specifications were developed for the proper 5/8" stone asphalt mix, asphalt thickness, track milling and surface preparation. This required over 18,000ft of crack routing and seam sealing, several 2ft wide cross track mill cuts and several hundred feet of 2" deep surface milling between turns 2 and 3 and from exit of turn 5 through turn 8 before any new asphalt could be laid. Then, new 2"-2 1/2" thick asphalt resurfacing was applied, 30 feet wide, for over 3000 feet of track.





We now have a smooth racing grade asphalt track from entry of turn one to exit of turn 9. We were unable to raise the necessary funds in time to resurface the 1260 foot front straightaway but 5 mill cuts with asphalt repairs and 3700 feet of seam repairs were carried out there. Work to raise the necessary funds to resurface that straightaway continue.

A volunteer track edge repair call went out to the membership and over 20 volunteers showed up with shovels, wheel barrows, 4-5 front end loaders and 2-3 vibratory compactors. 80% of the new track surface was edged with the old millings and tamped down. Great work by all.

2025 will bring additional track improvements such as track and paddock painting, registration and concession building upgrades, additional curbing so keep your work belts handy.

We should note here that the motorcycle race crowd, the MRA , have also contributed over \$20,000 to these track improvements and they are also providing funding to ensure the track painting project is in line with FIM specifications.

You GMP Track Improvement Committee has planned an official opening ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, with local dignitaries and all race club and MRA members. So, plan to be there with your race car, let's have those grids full and put on a real show as we celebrate our improved track surface.





# VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

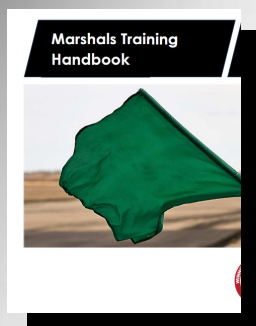
Want the best seat in the house to see and experience the track action close-up?

Join our team of volunteers where you actively participate in supporting our race events.

No experience necessary/training provided

Club perks , lunch and appreciation always provided to our awesome volunteers.

**WSCC TRAINING PROGRAM & DEVELOPMENT** - With new racers, and new volunteers joining the club every year, the WSCC provides not just initial training, but ongoing meaningful training to ensure that everyone knows their roles and flags and how to keep everyone safe.



Thanks to the generous support of **Neovation Learning Solutions**, the WSCC has access to the latest training technology with OttoLearn gamified microlearning.

With the OttoLearn platform, learners take short 2-minute sessions to master what they need to know. As learners complete activities, to exercise their knowledge of key concepts, the platform identifies individual knowledge gaps and personalizes training to fill them. New members no longer have to figure out how they will master things like the proper meaning of flags; the platform helps them get there.





# Autocross / Autoslalom

Experience the most accessible, educational, and dynamic grassroots racing in Winnipeg. Autocross is a timed motorsport competition that rewards intense concentration and finely tuned car control skills. Drivers navigate one at a time through a course defined by traffic cones, usually on airport runways or in large parking lots.



# Drift - Asphalt & Ice

The Asphalt and Ice Drift divisions provide a safe environment for those that want the excitement of drifting on a skid pad, race track and purpose built ice track with their daily driver, track toy or winter beater. This is a non-competitive class designed for all makes and models of streetcars and trucks to drift in solo and tandem.



# Time Attack

Time Attack is a fastest lap competition on a real racetrack, using everything from street-driven cars to full-blown race cars. The competition is against the clock; with the aim being to record the fastest lap. Time Attack, also known as Superlap originated in Japan in the 80s as a proving ground for street-tuned cars built by tuning companies.



# Open Lapping

Get ready to experience a track day with your street car. No timing and no pressure. Just you, the track and lots of other driving enthusiasts to meet. Most cars are eligible. If you are new to WSCC and Gimli Motor Sport Park, the High Performance Driver Education event is highly recommended to attend.



# Ice Racing

The "Fire on Ice" Racing group is divided into 2 classes - Street Safe and Studded Class. The newly formed Street Safe Class is an entry level race class that utilizes DOT winter tires, minimal car preparation and a tighter track design while the Studded Class includes caged race cars with spec made studded tires for high speed racing action.



# Dirt X

Similar to Autocross DirtX takes place on a 1-2km course on various loose surfaces. This is a timed solo activity where drivers can expect to hit speeds of +/- 80 Km/h. Each event will feature 3-4 runs to record the fastest time. As long as your car is well maintained, complete and wider than tall it should be permitted to participate.



# Road Racing

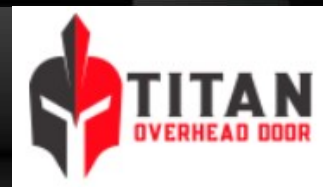
Need the challenge and excitement of door to door action that only legal, sanctioned racing can provide? Build your own race car to meet Western Canada Motorsport Association regulation and race with us. Tune yourself and your car and pass your competition as you head for the checkered flag. There is no better rush!



# THANK YOU

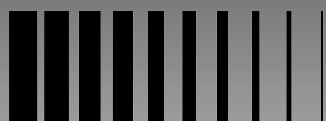
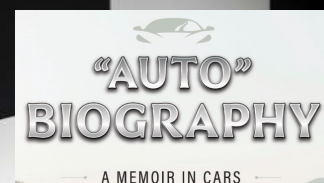


# MINUS FORTY RACING





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**GET IN THE  
AND DRIVE CLUB  
ALL YEAR LONG!**

