



Fifth Gear

February 2024



Toronto Autosport Club

2024 EXECUTIVE

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2024 COMPETITION COORDINATORS

TIMEATTACK /SOLO-I	Gary Vernon
AUTOSLALOM /SOLO-II	Keith Hui

2024 COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

RALLYSPORT ONTARIO	Graham Tulett	competitiondirector@torontoautosportclub.ca
MEMBERSHIP	Claire Jacobs	registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca
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Club Mailing Address: 148 Tamarack Drive, Thornhill ON, L3T 4X4

The TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB OF TORONTO Incorporated, (known as the "Toronto Autosport Club") is a general interest motorsport club involved in rallying, Solo I, Solo II, ice racing, road racing and social events. Club Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (**except August & December**) at 8:00 p.m. (currently via ZOOM online).

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME !

FIFTH GEAR is the monthly publication of the Toronto Autosport Club. Articles concerning Club members' activities are of special interest and members are encouraged to submit their writings to any member of the Executive or send them to the Editorial Offices. Past issues of FIFTH GEAR are posted for viewing on the club website.

FIFTH GEAR is normally published on the Tuesday preceding the second Wednesday of each month. Certain scheduling changes will be made to accommodate major motorsport events which are of interest to the members.

DISCLAIMER

Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are for entertainment purposes, are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions and views of the TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB OF TORONTO, its Executive members, or affiliated governing bodies such as CASC-OR, CARS, RSO, or the ASN (Canada) FIA.

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Please contact the Executive member(s) directly or through the Club Address listed above, for matters not pertaining to FIFTH GEAR.

Advertising rates (per year) : \$150/full page; \$75/half page; \$25/business card size

Toronto Autosport Club is proud to be affiliated with the following sanctioning bodies:



From The President's Desk

I hope everyone had a great Valentine's Day! I know I did. Wife Sue and I planned our visit to the Canadian International Autoshow - Press & Media Day on February 15th.

The day started with the arrival of Richard Hammond. He drove in with a Rimac supercar. You may recall that this is the same brand of car that he crashed in the season 2 opener of The Grand Tour. The owner of the company was there, promoting a partnership with Toronto's Grand Touring Automobiles. Everyone was a bit nervous to see Hammond behind the wheel!

The specs on this new model are stunning. It is driven by 4 electric motors with an equivalent of 2,000 horsepower. The car costs \$2,200,000 to purchase. It has a top speed of 412 km/hr, though the owner said that is theoretical. It can accelerate from 0 to 300 km/hr in 9.2 seconds, and from 0 to 100 in 1.8 seconds. I don't think the trunk has room for a set of golf clubs.

Next up were the AJAC car of the year awards. They have simplified the competition this year, awarding the Car of the Year, the SUV of the year, and electric versions of these.

The Toyota Prius beat out the Integra Type S and Honda Accord for Car of the Year. The Toyota Grand Highlander beat out the Genesis GV70 and Mazda CX-90 for Canadian Utility Vehicle. But then Genesis beat out the Prius Prime and Ioniq 6 for the top electric sedan. Finally, the Genesis GV-70 once again beat out

the Ioniq 5 and Kia EV9 for electric SUV of the year.

I hate to say it, but when the Prius beats out all others, the judges lead boring lives.

We were escorted around to various displays and premiers. Porsche talked about their Porsche Experience Centre. If you ever wondered what happened to the Pickering airport site, and the rumours of a racetrack being built on it, now you know! Opening later this year, Porsche has laid out a 2 km track, and are building a museum. It sounds like a great place for Porsche-o-files to just go and hang out. They will offer track days, arrive and drive, performance driving lessons, and keep you entertained. This is the 10th PEC in the world, and the 3rd in North America. To celebrate, they unveiled a custom 911 GT3 RS. It is decked out like a Canadian flag, with a base price of \$267,000, plus options worth \$125,000 and luxury tax of \$40,000 plus other dealer charges, it nets out to \$440,000.



Porsche was also displaying a car built to specifications defined by the Gran Turismo racing game designers. The designers were used to taking real cars,

TAC 2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	CATEGORY	EVENT DESCRIPTION	CLUB
February 2024			
17-18	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	TAC
21	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
24-25	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	DAC
24	Rally	KWRC SNATR #1	KWRC
29-02	F1	BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX (Sakhir)	
March 2024			
2-3	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds, RAIN-DATE	
7-9	F1	SAUDI ARABIA GRAND PRIX (Jeddah)	
20	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
22-24	F1	AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX (Melbourne)	
April 2024			
5-7	F1	JAPANESE GRAND PRIX (Suzuka)	
6	Rally-OPRC	OPRC - Shannonville Stages	PMSC
13	Rally	KWRC SNATR #2	KWRC
17	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
19-21	F1	CHINESE GRAND PRIX (Shanghai)	
20	Rally-ORRC	ORRC - Spring Run-Off Rally	PMSC
May 2024			
3-5	F1	CRYPTO.COM MIAMI GRAND PRIX (Miami)	
4	Rally-ORRC	ORRC & SNATR - Blossom Rally	KWRC
4-5	Regional Race	Spring Trophy Races CTMP (Mosport)	BEMC
15	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC

More events to appear as 2024 Schedules are released.

For more information on any event, please contact the organizing club or sanctioning body directly.

and mapping their performance specs on to game cars. They thought “Wouldn’t it be fun to design a virtual Porsche and add it to the game.”

Then Porsche decided to see what it would look like in real life. It was very pretty, but how you are supposed to get into the vehicle was not obvious.



If you look carefully, you can see the word “Open” and some arrows that may or may not point to a button to open the door.

At this year’s Dakar rally, there were some classic vehicles running, including a fine looking 911. To celebrate, Porsche is selling a model painted with the same livery.



The 911 Dakar will sell for \$329,390, but includes a standard 911 interior complete with cup holder. Not sure who this would appeal to.



Next up, was VinFast. This Vietnamese company had a wide range of what appeared to be low priced utilitarian vehicles. They were also premiering a new truck - The Wild. The demonstrator opened the suicide front/rear doors from an app on his phone, and then lowered the tailgate and folded down the back of the passenger compartment to provide a huge cargo area. The technology was very impressive!



Volvo was next, with their all-electric E90. It is outfitted with dozens of sensors, LIDAR, ultrasonics, cameras, and more. While Volvo didn’t mention “Self-Driving”, it seems like this was the goal. No photo. It looked like a tank.

The final event of the day was a the Pfaff display. They had about a dozen cars, from McLaren's to racing Mercedes to an Audi SUV. James Hinchcliffe was their guest, along with the return of Richard Hammond. James talked about his upcoming season - more racing, commentating for NBC, etc. The panel of 5 guys were asked about the lack of women in motorsports. Pfaff said that they were around. the MC said that women in his family are talking about it more since "Drive to Survive" has gained popularity.

Hinchcliffe said that the number of women engineers has shot up. Richard Hammond noted that he has 2 daughters. One was hosting at a Red Bull rally event that day. He also commented that if women are not hired, we are missing out on half the talent in the field. "If today's problems will be solved, it will be engineers who solve them." He was very passionate about the issue. Hopefully next year, they will have some women on the panel.



Driver and commentator James Hinchcliffe, Pfaff Motorsports Director Steve Bortolotti, Richard Hammond, Pfaff CEO Chris Pfaff, and ESPN Host and MC who shall remain nameless.

Can't wait until next year!

Rob McAuley
TAC President



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Sue was excited to see the Barbie car

Richard Hammond describing what it was like to crash the previous model of Rimac





Miata
CANADA CUP

LOGO CONTEST for the Miata Canada Cup

As I am sure everyone knows, **CASC-OR** is adding a new run group to our regional race weekends this year, the Miata Canada Cup. This is a single marque series for Mazda Miatas/MX-5s.

You can't have a race series without a logo - that's where you come in.

We are having a logo design contest for the Miata Canada Cup. We need something that looks good on a banner, as well as on a decal on the side of a car. Oh, and of course it needs to look cool on t-shirts and ball caps!

We are accepting submissions until 5 pm on Friday, March 1, 2024. We intend to unveil the logo at Motorama on March 9-10-11.

Submissions should be in the form of a pdf, jpeg, or other graphic file. Please send them to office@casc.on.ca

The logo on this message is something I threw together - you can see why we're holding a contest...

Attention Proud TAC Members!

Now you can buy clothes and more with the TAC logo on it, through the Toronto Autosport Club's online store (a partnership with Café Press.com).

Choose from a large selection of shirts, jackets, mugs, bags, even games and toys! Almost anything that Café Press sells, they will sell with the TAC logo on.

Visit the store at

<http://www.cafepress.com/torontoautosportclubgear>



Announcement



N° 2024-03

Subject: CARS President

Issue Date: January 12, 2024

To All CARS members

In November of 2023, the current CARS President, Jean-Francois Guite announced that he will be leaving the role at the end of 2023.

Following a vote by the Board, on January 10th 2024, the CARS Board is now pleased to announce and to welcome, your new CARS President, Chris Kremer. Chris will take up the responsibilities following the CARS AGM that will be held on January 13th, 2024.

The Board would like to thank Jean-Francois for the countless hours and endless dedication that he has devoted to the position over the two years of his tenure. We look forward to seeing Jean-Francois out at Rallye Baie des Chaleurs and helping with projects for many years to come.

Chris has been the Rally West director for eight years, and brings a great deal of knowledge, experience and well-honed skills to the position. We all look forward to working with him as we move through this transition and beyond.

TAC GENERAL MEETING Jan 17, 2024 via Zoom

Called to order 8:10 pm

Present: Rob M., Rob J., Nick B., Graham T.

President

CARS had their AGM. Martin Loveridge carried our proxy.

Some issues with procedure. Nothing impacting TAC

Email from Canadian motorsport archive website. Collecting back issues of Fifth Gear. Can scan if necessary

Vice President

59 members: 6 life, 25 members, 28 family

Treasurer

Tangerine	\$ 23,142.91
RBC	\$ 941.62
PayPal	\$ 722.53
Total -	\$ 24,807.06

Competition

Jaunt on track ready for Green Crew

Brooke is taking in on from Kurt due to family illness.

KWRC is also making Leg-B a SNATR event.

Ice Racing probably will start this weekend Suddenly cold and snowy.

Graham to be helping scrutineer.

There is a stud-spec tire list now, with one tire approved.

Some volunteers needed for TAC race weekend.

Need a place for the Saturday TAC dinner. Graham will scout out places.

Social

July 12-14 Chevrolet GP - TAC BBQ

perhaps fun rally weekend after.

Spring event & fall event to consider too

Old Business - none

New Business - none

Items for Sale - none

Items Wanted - none

Loonies in the Bus - on hold until we meet again

Meeting adjourned 8:49 pm

Minutes by Nick

Toronto Autosport Club - Executive Meeting Zoom Call Minutes - February 7, 2024

Call time: 8:30 pm via ZOOM

Participants: Rob, Gary, Brooke, Claire, Nick & Ingrid; regrets Graham

President:

Lost two weekends of Ice Racing so far due to weather. It's supposed to be cold next week and snow so it should be good for next week. Number of competitors was low last weekend.

We have 613 followers on Facebook.

Membership:

64 members; 6 life, 30 regular, 28 family

Treasurer:

Account Balances:

RBC	\$ 967.08
Tangerine	\$23,188.97
PayPal	\$ 761.07

Competition:

January Jaunt was a success. Done in conjunction with KWRC. Had 12 cars. Thanks to Brooke and Claire for organizing and all the volunteers that helped that day.

Time Attack schedule is out. The rule book is ready. Meeting tomorrow night where the new pricing will be set. Sponsorship for at least one of the events.

Social - planning on doing quarterly events, possibly a fun rally, go-kart night

Old Business - none

New Business - none

Adjourned at 9:00 pm

Minutes by I. Beck



Membership Application

Mail: 148 Tamarack Drive,
Thornhill, Ontario, L3T 4X4

Email: registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca

- New Members** – Single or Family \$40
 Renewal Members – Single or Family \$30 or \$25 Early

(You may PAY ON-LINE or by Cash or Cheque; Please see below...)

- TAC Membership includes CASC-OR (Race, Solo) & RSO (Rally) affiliation for the year
- Family rate is limited to family members domiciled at the same mailing address.
- Renewals : Indicate membership number [#] (if known)
- Assigned membership numbers will be reserved until February 1st.
- All memberships and affiliations expire December 31.
- Please be aware that membership data may be shared with CASC-OR and/or Rallysport Ontario.

Date _____

1st Member _____ [#] email _____

Address _____ Home Phone (____) _____

_____ Bus. Phone (____) _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____

2nd (Family) Member _____ [#] email _____

3rd Family Member _____ [#] email _____

4th Family Member _____ [#] email _____

5th Family Member _____ [#] email _____

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash Cheque # _____ PayPal Other TOTAL \$: _____

To pay by PAYPAL/Credit Card, please visit the Club website at: www.torontoautosportclub.ca.

This Application Form must also be filled out and submitted so we have your information.

You should begin receiving the FIFTH GEAR newsletter by email within 2 months.

FIFTH GEAR is also available on the website.

TAC works only because volunteers make autosport happen!

So that we know *your* interests (and where you can help out) and can therefore plan the right mix of events – please complete the information checklists below ...

Please indicate your autosport interests for the coming year :

- TimeAttack (Solo 1)
- Autoslalom (Solo 2)
- Navigational rallying
- Performance rallying
- Road racing
- Vintage Racing
- Ice racing
- Karting

Please indicate three areas that you can help with this year :

- Solo (1/2) organizer / worker
- Road Rally/Ralliette organizer
- Contract Rally organizer
- Rally Checkpoint/Green-crew
- Social Event Organizer
- Ice race organizer / worker
- Event timing / scoring
- Performance Rally organizer