



Fifth Gear

May 2021



Toronto Autosport Club

2021 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Rob McAuley	(905) 399-9374	president@torontoautosportclub.ca
VICE-PRESIDENT	Gary Vernon		vicepresident@torontoautosportclub.ca
TREASURER	Brooke Jacobs		treasurer@torontoautosportclub.ca
SECRETARY	Ingrid Beck		secretary@torontoautosportclub.ca
COMPETITION DIRECTOR	Graham Tulett	(905) 828-0245	competitiondirector@torontoautosportclub.ca
SOCIAL DIRECTOR	(position vacant)		

2021 COMPETITION COORDINATORS

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

2021 COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

RALLYSPORT ONTARIO	Graham Tulett	competitiondirector@torontoautosportclub.ca
MEMBERSHIP	Claire Jacobs	registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca
WEBMASTER	Brooke Jacobs	(905) 764-1833 brooke@brooke.net

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. at "Turtle Jacks Muskoka Grill", 925 Dixon Road (at Carlingview), Etobicoke . **-NOTE- In-Person Meetings Suspended due to COVID-19 limits.**

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 is arranging for their vaccine shots.

This is just taking too long. Ontario has extended their shutdown for another 2 weeks. The logic to keep racetracks shut down is the same as it is for golf courses. People travel to areas away from home to do things with other people. Even though they may be outdoors, and people are able to physically distance from each other, they may ride to the event in a shared car or borrow someone's putter or helmet (gross).

In my other job - of contact tracing for the government - I come across way too many people doing foolish things, so I can see why they just want people to stay home until more people are vaxxed. Unfortunately, with just one shot, people are still getting sick. They are just staying out of the hospital and getting milder symptoms. The virus is still floating around out there.

Funny, Past-Treasurer Rita suggested that we look at masks as TAC gear. At the time, I thought that this virus would have passed us by. I still hope that we can put on our events soon, but I wasn't keen on ordering dozens of

masks to promote the club. Now I wonder. I suspect that masks are a permanent part of our lives, even after things re-open. And TAC masks would be a bargain when compared to some others. McLaren are selling their F1 masks for US\$45 each!

Normally here, I'd be talking-up our next series of events. At this point, everything is on hold. If everyone feels the same way I do, the first events to go will be hugely successful. I just can't wait to get out and do something!

Last year, the early Ontario Time Attack events all sold out. I can easily see the same thing happening this year. There are currently no Autoslalom events booked. Expect them to sell out as soon as they are allowed to be held. People are very keen to do **something. Anything!**

One thing's for sure. When things start up again, I'll be all over the news, and you'll hear it here first!

Stay Safe,

Rob McAuley
TAC President

TAC 2021 EVENTS CALENDAR

Most Schedules are Tentative / Verify with organizing group

DATE	CATEGORY	EVENT DESCRIPTION	CLUB
<hr/> May 2021 <hr/>			
15	INDY	IMS Road Course, Indianapolis	
15	School	Ontario Time Attack School CTMP-DDT	
15-16	Race	Lucky Dog Canada Endurance Race CTMP	LDC
16	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack Event #1 , CTMP-DDT	
19	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
23	F1	GRAND PRIX DE MONACO (Monte Carlo)	
30	INDY	INDY 500, Indianapolis Motor Speedway	

June 2021

5-6	Regional Race	Summer Challenge at SMP	
6	F1	AZERBAIJAN GRAND PRIX (Baku City, Azerbaijan)	
12	INDY	Detroit Race 1, The Raceway at Belle Isle Park	
12-13	Race	Lucky Dog Canada Endurance Race Calabogie	LDC
13	F1	Turkish Grand Prix	
13	INDY	Detroit Race 2, The Raceway at Belle Isle Park	
16	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
17-20	Vintage	Canadian Vintage Grand Prix, CTMP (Mosport)	VARAC
20	INDY	Road America	
26	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack Event #2, TMP	
27	F1	FRENCH GRAND PRIX (Le Castellet)	
30-1	Race	Lucky Dog Canada Endurance Race Shannonville	LDC

July 2021

2-4	Social	TAC at CTMP (Mosport) Sports Car GP Weekend with BBQ (We Hope!)	TAC
4	F1	AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX (Spielberg)	
4	INDY	Honda Indy 200, Mid Ohio	
11	INDY	Honda Indy, Streets of TORONTO	
17-18	Regional Race	Canadian Touring Trophy Races, CTMP (Mosport)	BARC-OC
18	F1	UNITED KINGDOM GRAND PRIX (Silverstone)	
21	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC

More events to appear as 2021 Schedules are released.

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



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OR SHOP ONLINE AT WWW.BICKNELLRACINGPRODUCTS.COM

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).

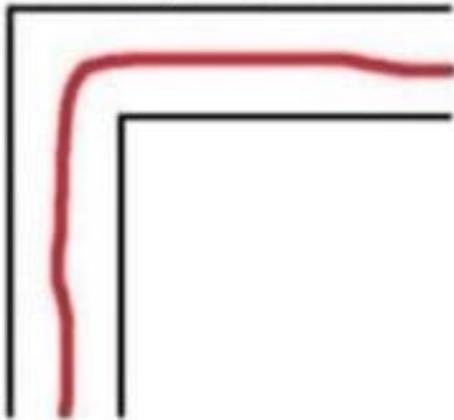
Choose from a large selection of shirts, jackets, mugs, bags, even games and toys! Almost anything that Café Press sells, they will sell with the TAC logo on.

Visit the store at

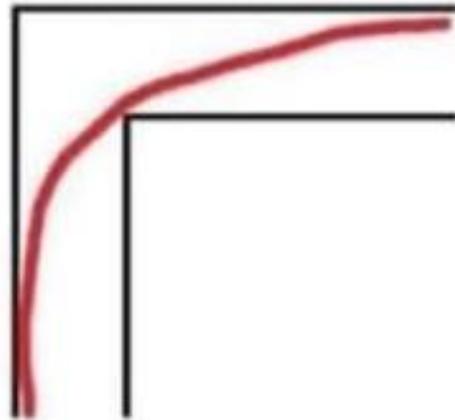
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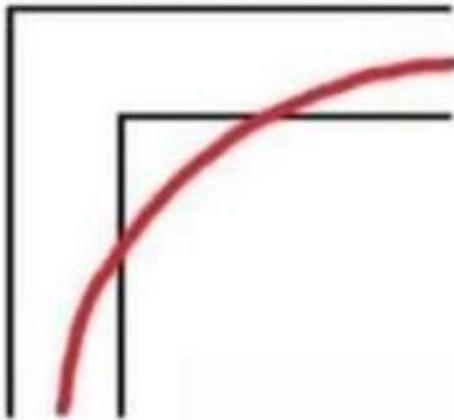
Normal people walking



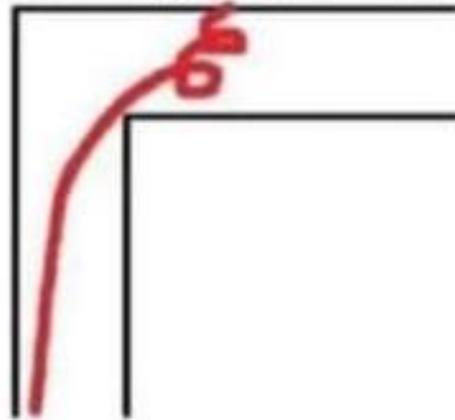
SCCA Members walking



Spec Miata drivers walking



Mustang owners walking



We're sure you could substitute a wide variety of other 'groups' into this 'analysis' so don't take it too personally, well, unless this is really too close to the truth !

Thanks to Paul Moore for clearing up what has been puzzling us for some time.

TIRE DELAMINATION ... Rob Jones

We've all seen those strips of tread from large truck tires lying on the shoulder. Usually they're on the side of the highway, or worse - still on the roadway. (I hope you've never seen one actually come off of a truck ahead of you)! But regardless, if you're like me you automatically assume that it's the result of a poor "re-cap" job on a large commercial truck tire.

But now, I'm not so sure, because I've had one of my own passenger car tires discard its tread! The really surprising thing is that it happened while the car was parked in my driveway. Yes, you read that right. Possibly even more surprising, it happened after the car had been unused for nearly 20 years, and up on blocks since last summer!

How? No, seriously... how?? Well, age and abuse do come to mind, and here's the back story...

Decades ago, I bought a used Mustang and then I took it to a few track days and many (many!) parking lot events over the next 10 years. Of course I modified it now and then (there are some VERY good parts on that car!) and did more events. But it was also my daily driver, so winter tires were needed. (Plus, it's a Mustang, so REALLY GOOD winter tires were needed). Life went on and the miles piled up.

Somewhere along the way, along came a divorce, and I pretty much stopped competing. But every once in a while, I'd show up for fun at an event with whatever tires happened to be handy at the time - which often included ancient worn-out (as in not actually road-legal any more) winter tires.

Then, as generally happens, we both - the Mustang and I - got older and more worn out. And then one morning near the turn of the century, it blew a head gasket and ended up parked in my garage. Not long afterwards, I was in a collision in the (first) replacement vehicle, and was at least temporarily rendered unable to work on the engine due to a badly injured back. So the Mustang sat. And sat. And sat.

In the meantime, my back slowly got better. And still the Mustang sat. Other things were changing too. I remarried. I got laid off (twice). I bought, and either broke or wore out, a few more cars. And still the Mustang sat. For nearly 20 years, it was always a "someday" project ... as in "someday" I'll get around to fixing it, or "someday" I should sell it, or "someday" I should pull the parts off it to sell them.

Then along came 2020, and I suddenly had a lot of pandemic-imposed free time at home. "Someday" was almost here! So in the summer I made some blocks out of scrap lumber I had on hand, then dragged the project out of the crowded garage to the spacious driveway, and got it settled in it's new home atop them. Next, I spent weeks getting the garage cleaned up and re-organized while the Mustang still sat - only now exposed to the elements. In the end, it turned out that "someday" hadn't quite arrived, so the Mustang sat all winter.

Once the snow melted, I saw that one of the tires had gone flat (no, it was *not* the tire that fell apart - that one still had 30+ psi), so I fired up the compressor and over-filled all the tires to 50psi or so, just so they'd take longer to go flat next time.

And then last week, I was walking past and saw a flap of loose rubber tread, as shown in the accompanying pictures of the VERY old (pre-2000 date code), VERY abused (zero tread) tire on the right-rear corner of my 32 year old baby.

So was it just age? Was it being exposed to the sun? Was it the hard use I had from the tires before parking it back in '02? Was it pushing 55psi into them? I suspect a combination of all those things, and maybe more.

So, the next time you see a peel of tire tread on the highway, remember that it might not be the result of a bad re-tread... it might merely be from a worn-out, 20+ year old tire that's been driven too hard. Not that that's any better!

TIRE DELAMINATION ... The Photos

ON THE COVER
ONE MORE VIEW OF ROB'S
FORMER SNOW TIRE.

MAYBE SOME ICE RACING
STUDS CAN HOLD IT
TOGETHER A BIT LONGER?



TAC GENERAL MEETING April 21, 2021 via ZOOM

Called to order 8:05 pm

Welcomed two new members to our meeting this evening.

President

Nothing much to report with all the shutdowns in Ontario. Lots of events either cancelled or postponed.

Vice President

Welcome to Gary Vernon, our new VP. He is hoping to encourage younger members to join and get actively involved in all forms of motorsport.

111 members: 6 life, 67 primary, 38 family

Treasurer

Tangerine \$ 24,692.24
Chequing \$ 1,541.25
PayPal \$ 48.25

Competition

Time Attack held a zoom open house on Saturday. Discount pricing if paying for an event in advance by Friday, April 23. Season includes 6 events and 2 schools. Due to lock-down first event is cancelled but is looking into an alternative date. Next event is scheduled for June 26 at Toronto Motorsport Park.

Discussion was held as to the difference between Auto Slalom and Time Attack.

Lucky dog - first event was cancelled. Next event is scheduled for June at Calabogie, followed by August event at Shannonville and then late September at Calabogie again.

Chump Car is looking to hold 2 events.

Social

Mosport has cancelled the event. 2 years in a row that we have had to cancel our BBQ. Maybe this year we can have our year end banquet.s
Now have 546 followers on our FaceBook page

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 9:14 pm

Minutes by Ingrid

Toronto Autosport Club - Executive Conference Call Meeting - minutes May 5, 2021

Call time: 8:01 pm via ZOOM

Participants: Rob, Gary, Graham, Claire, Brooke & Ingrid

President:

Insurance was sorted out last week.

The TAC Facebook group has 556 followers. Discussion was held about starting an Instagram account.

Membership: 111 members: 6 life, 68 primary, 37 family

Treasurer:

Account Balances:

PayPal	\$	48.25
Savings	\$	24,697.31
Chequing	\$	274.91

Still trying to link RBC and Tangerine. Insurance still needs to be paid.

Competition:

Competition is on hold until after May 20. Events scheduled prior to the 20 have been pushed back a couple of weeks hoping that the lockdown will be lifted.

Lucky Dog has been rescheduled to May 22/23 at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park.

Time Attack will be ready to go when lockdown is lifted. Currently rescheduled to May 22/23, 2021.

A couple of rally cross events have been cancelled and will not be rescheduled. PMSC & MLRS exclusively run events at Free Flow MX Park

Ice race director position is still available.

Spring Blossom rally was cancelled

Tall Pines is currently still on the schedule.

Auto slalom events are still on hold.

Social - general meeting Wednesday, May 19, 2021, will again be virtual. Mosport has definitely been cancelled for July.

Old Business - Time attack club loan agreement may not be necessary because of revenues generated from the open house.

New Business - discussion on email scam

Adjourned at 9:22 pm

Minutes by I. Beck



Membership Application

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

Email: registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca

- New Members – Single or Family \$50.00
 Renewal Members – Single or Family \$50.00

(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. Check here only if you need a mailed copy

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