



# Fifth Gear

*December 2022*



[www.torontoautosportclub.ca](http://www.torontoautosportclub.ca)

# Toronto Autosport Club

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## 2022 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Rob McAuley	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	competitiondirector@torontoautosportclub.ca
SOCIAL DIRECTOR	Nick Beck	social@torontoautosportclub.ca

## 2022 COMPETITION COORDINATORS

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

## 2022 COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

RALLYSPORT ONTARIO	Graham Tulett	competitiondirector@torontoautosportclub.ca
MEMBERSHIP	Claire Jacobs	registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca
WEBMASTER	Brooke Jacobs	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. (currently via ZOOM online). -

**NOTE- In-Person Meetings Suspended due to COVID-19 limits.**

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## 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

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



# From The President's Desk

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Last month, I said I was going to do 2022 over again, starting with my drive to Florida to drop my mother and her dog off there for the winter.

She didn't want to put her Jack Russell Terrier - Archie - through the difficulties of flying. You may recall that we did this last year, and I managed to break the suspension of Wife-Sue's BMW 7-Series taking a short-cut around Atlanta on the drive home.

This year, Sue said that she was coming with me. She said she had vacation time to use up for work, but you know she really wanted to see what I was doing to her car.

We were a bit nervous, because Hurricane Ian had passed almost overtop of my mother's Florida home 2 months earlier. We didn't have a lot of information about the damage it caused. A few people were back in her mobile home park, and some were complaining about flood damage, but her's was not on any list of destroyed homes.

When we arrived, we saw that damage appeared to be minimal. Her 30 year old roof was missing a few shingles, an eaves trough was missing, and the vinyl siding and skirting were pulled away. Otherwise, all was good! No water incursion, no mold, and the air conditioner turned on.

Next up was hooking up her car battery and starting the car after it had been sitting for 6 months. Hmm. The battery sparks, but it's not turning over. Get out the booster cables. Same result. Nothing. The car is dead.

Also, the interior was "moist". Wet carpet smells, water pooled in spots on the rubber mats. We called the CAA/AAA, and waited for a tow truck. In the mean time, we chatted with the locals. There were reports of 3-4 feet of water on the roads. It came in a flash, and drained away just as quickly. We noticed a high-water mark on the front door that would put it at about 2' deep around the car.

AAA finally showed up at 9:30pm, and we instructed them to take the car to the local dealership to see if how serious the damage was. They were to drop the keys in the Service drop box. The tow truck driver was telling me all sorts of horror stories. "All the flood damaged cars are going to Tallahassee. There are so many, they don't know what to do with them. Are you sure you want it to go to the dealer?"

The next day, we called the dealer. No sign of any car.

We called the insurance. My mother had cancelled all insurance except for Fire and Theft. And her policy was up for renewal. She didn't know if she should call the police to report it stolen, or let the insurance try to find it, or wait for AAA to track it down. All this was happening the weekend before US Thanksgiving.

After many phone calls, and almost 2 weeks elapsed, AAA reported that the car had been found - in the Used Car lot at the dealership. The keys were still in it. Also, Fire & Theft insurance includes flood damage. My mother had almost accepted someone's offer of \$300 for the car. Luckily she checked with us, and we told her to wait for the insurance to sort this out. She should get close to \$10,000 instead.

She has since found out that the flood had washed away the air conditioning ducts under her home, so she only had A/C in the room closest to the outside A/C unit. She was able to get that repaired, but contractors are so busy there are lots of delays, and prices are 50% higher than normal. But the siding was an easy fix, and she is just waiting for her new roof.

Sue and I headed back to Canada. I had told Sue that I was going to show her the Tail of the Dragon - the alternate way home

if you drive through the mountains at the Georgia/North Carolina/Tennessee border. I had raced home after the car repairs last year, so it was a quick drive-by. This year, Sue said "Why don't we stay 2 nights instead of 1, and we can spend the day driving in the area." This is why I love her!

She found a BnB not far from the Dragon, and we headed there from Florida. While heading up I75, a dozen supercars flew past us. We counted 3 Ferraris, 2 McLarens, 2 Porsches, a Bentley SUV, and more. They all have "Fast Life Rally" and #ReturnoftheDragonRally2 decals.

Sue yells "Quick! Get your phone. We need to get this on video."

They blew past us, so we missed the chance to grab some photos, but I said "I think we'll see them again - tomorrow."

The BnB was super: A large log home, run by a couple from Canada who fell in love with the North Carolina mountains.

The next day, we drove all over. We found the town of Highlands full of boutiques, but the area was really just gorges. The roads were amazing - lots of elevation change and twisty bits as you run along the passes (gaps) between 3 states. We headed for a nice hotel for dinner, very close to Deal's Gap, where the Dragon starts on the North Carolina side. As we pulled into the parking lot, there were all the "rally" cars.

A few people were taking pictures, so we parked Sue's 7er at the end of the line and posed with them. Sue made me move the car before the owners came out.

I had a good chat with the drivers. They do this sort of thing every few months, and had been up this way before in 2019. I mentioned we were driving back to Toronto, and they said that they would love to do a trip to

Canada. I'm not sure they realize how far it is, but I know we could organize a day at Mosport and some drives around the Forks of the Credit, and show them some of our own fun rally roads.

The next day, we headed out, drove the Dragon one last time, and made good time returning home.

My mother ended up having her Canadian Toyota Corolla driven down to Florida, so she will have my sisters drive it back in the spring when she returns. She is expecting me to drive it down next year, with Archie, then fly back. I told her the only way I would do that is if we came down via the Tail of the Dragon. It's time for her to get a BMW.

Rob McAuley  
TAC President



# TAC 2023 EVENTS CALENDAR

<i>DATE</i>	<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>EVENT DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>CLUB</i>
<hr/>			
<b>January 2023</b>			
21-22	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	BARC-OC
21	Rally-ORRC	<b>January Jaunt Rally- See Flyer this issue</b>	<b>TAC</b>
28-29	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	PMSC

## **February 2023**

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4-5	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	DAC
11-12	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	BEMC
18-19	Ice Race-Minden	<b>Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds</b>	<b>TAC</b>
25-26	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	TLMC

## **March 2023**

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4-5	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds, RAIN-DATE	
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*More events to appear as 2023 Schedules are released.*

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



Sue hoping to blend in

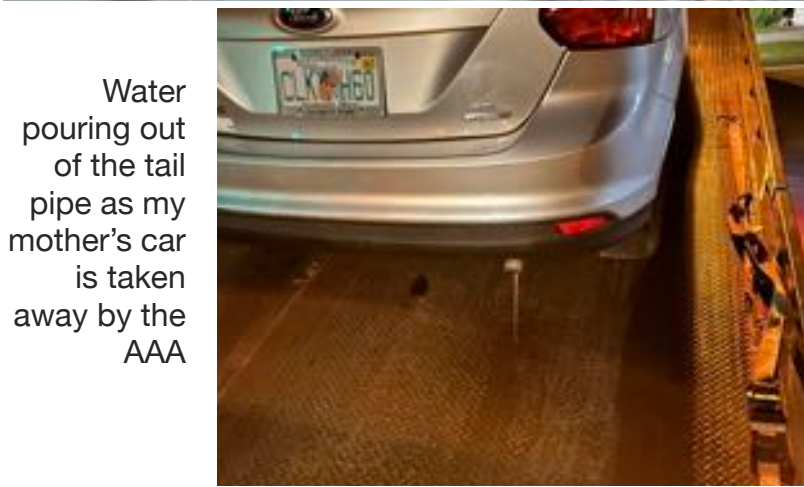


Swapping drivers on the Tail of the Dragon



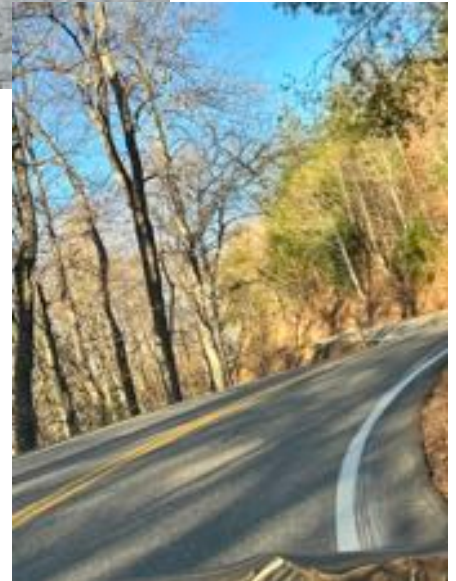
Boats askew at Fort Meyers Beach

On The Cover:  
"A tin dragon"  
(Photos thanks Rob  
McAuley)



Water pouring out of the tail pipe as my mother's car is taken away by the AAA

A pretty twisty road



The Dam along the Dragon gorge



How we found my mother's Florida house

# THE JANUARY JAUNT



Saturday, January 21, 2023

Winter Navigational Car Rally  
for Novices and Experts

Start/Finish:

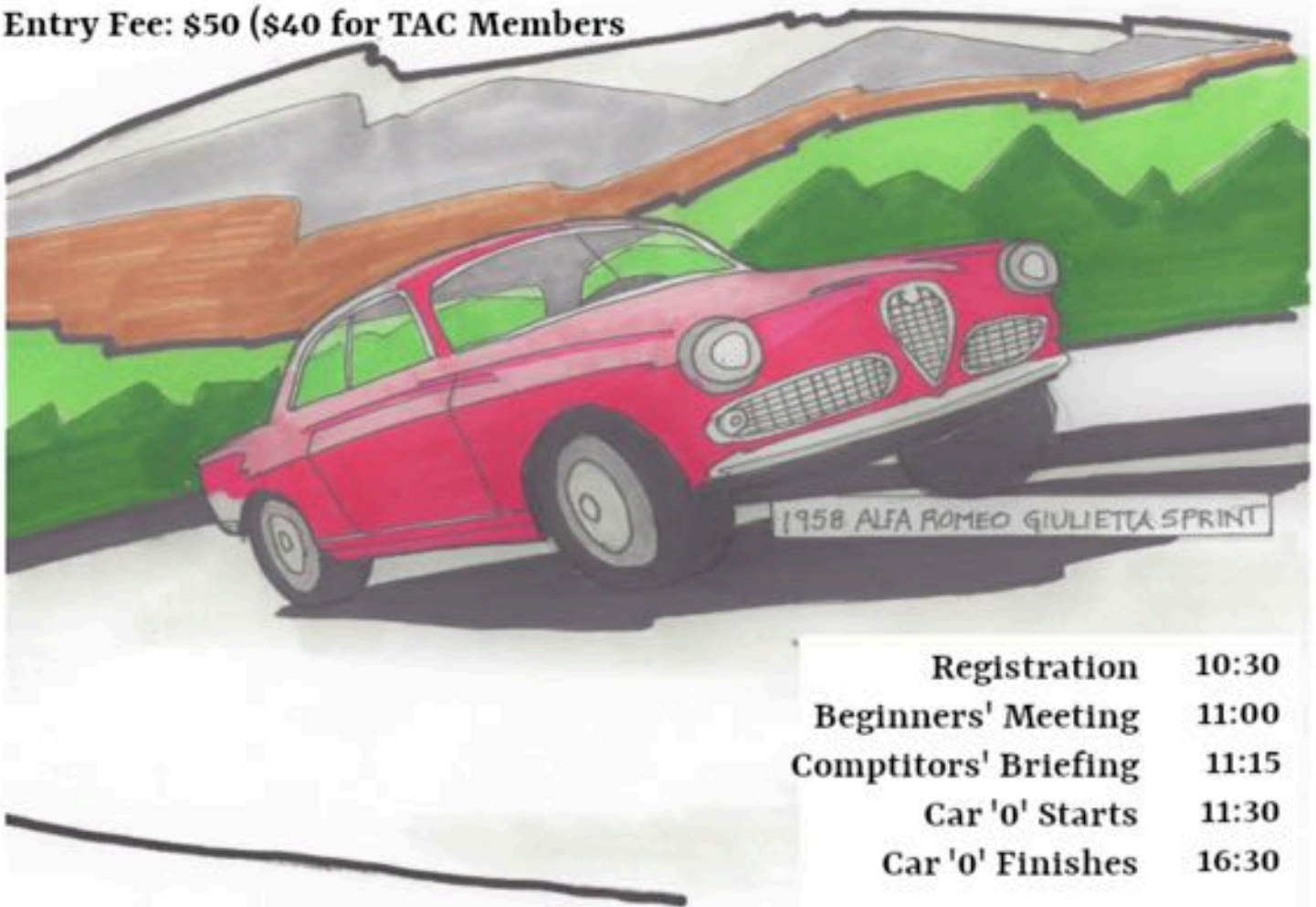
(To be confirmed)

Waterdown, Ontario

2023 Ontario Road Rally Championship

Round 1

Entry Fee: \$50 (\$40 for TAC Members)



Registration	10:30
Beginners' Meeting	11:00
Comptitors' Briefing	11:15
Car 'o' Starts	11:30
Car 'o' Finishes	16:30

[www.januaryjaunt.com](http://www.januaryjaunt.com)

[info@januaryjaunt.com](mailto:info@januaryjaunt.com)

@JanuaryJaunt





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# 2022 FIA ECO Rally Cup - The ECO Dolomites GT

Hello to all TAC members,

On November 17th-19th, 2022 we took part in the last round of 2022 FIA ECO Rally Cup at the ECO Dolomites GT in Fiera di Primiero, Italy. This time our team was represented by Piotr and Lukasz Nytko, Piotr as a driver and Lukasz took the spot of the co-driver.

Nytko Motorsport has taken part in FIA Eco rallies since 2013, representing FIA Canada ASN and TAC on this international motorsport stage. I'm sure some members will still remember our victory at the 2014 Rallye Monte Carlo EN in Monaco with our Toyota Yaris Hybrid.

Since 2016, the Cup has changed to electric and hydrogen cars only. This caused significant effort in securing a vehicle for this event and thanks to Daniel Campisi, who lent us his personal Tesla Model X for the rally, we were able to compete in Italy.

Now, some info about the rally; 3 days of a competition were divided into 4 legs, with 4 separate Road Books which were handed out only an hour before the start. The 441 km route was from Fiera di Primiero - Ortisei - Fiera di Primiero, with 17 regularity stages and average speeds between 36 till 41 km/h. Amazing roads with fantastic mountain views which at times distract you during the stages especially when viewed from the helicopter like cockpit of the Tesla. Some road sections were already snow covered adding to the difficulty of the event. The organiser also added some extra excitement by making the transit section a bit short on time so reaching the checkpoints required some creative driving :)

Our performance was very good given being unfamiliar with the car. We were able to achieve second place on one stage and stayed in the top 10 on the rest of the stages. We experienced some technical difficulties at

the beginning of the event when our Terra Trip rally computer lost GPS signal. Quick thinking and the navigational part we did using a spare iPad while Regularity Stages we utilized our Rallymeter app.



Thanks to fantastic organisers and wonderful scenery, this event is on top of our list in the European regularity rally calendar, not to mention fantastic Italian hospitality and family atmosphere.

The event also had a very good number of international entries with 18 top teams from all over the Europe and us from Canada :) It was nice to see our fellow competitors, after such a long time, some of them we have known personally for almost 10 years now.

The final result for us - 1st place in Tesla Class, 10th place in Regularity Classification, 12th place in Performance Index, 13th place Combined regularity and energy consumption.

Special thanks to the organisers of the rally Annalisa Zortea & Mario Montanucci Pignatelli, Daniel Campisi, Stefano Torcellan, Nicola Ventura, all FIA officials and technical support.

More pictures from the rally you can find on our Facebook page in the link below - <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.603975641654904&type=3>

-Lukasz Nytko-

# ECO Dolomites GT

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Photos thanks  
Lukasz Nytko

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*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>



**TAC GM November 16, 2022 via Zoom**

Called to order 8:04 pm

**President**

596 FaceBook followers.

**Vice President**

108 members: 6 life, 62 primary, 40 family

**Treasurer**

Tangerine	\$ 20,655.02
RBC	\$ 1,508.71
PayPal	\$ 183.29

**Competition**

Everything seems to be under control for the ice races. Looking into revising the rule book. Drivers meeting at the CASC office Nov. 27 in the afternoon.

Need radio operators for the Tall Pines.

**Social**

Awards Dinner at Santorini Estiatorio in Thornhill on Dec. 3. See flyer in Fifth Gear

**Old Business** - some members would like to start in person meetings again  
- suggestion to organize a bus trip to Montreal for next year.

**New Business** - none

**Items for Sale** - none

**Items Wanted** - none

**Loonies in the Bus** - on hold until we meet again

Meeting adjourned 8:15 pm

Minutes by Ingrid

## **TAC AGM Nov. 16, 2022 via Zoom**

Called to order 8:20 pm

We have a quorum, 7 members present, 6 proxies.

Last years minutes were reviewed and accepted.

### **Reports:**

#### **President Report** - read as published

Gary and Rob and Graham attended CASC AGM. Licenses will be multiyear licenses, new part time person doing a spectacular job, reducing amount of work they do - no more involvement in insurance. They are cutting the activity and giving back some fees. Reducing costs that will be passed on to the clubs. Competition schedules are pencilled in for about everything.

#### **Vice President Report** - as published in Fifth Gear

108 members, 6 life, 62 primary, 40 family

#### **Treasurer** - as published in Fifth Gear.

#### **Competition Report** - summarized the published report.

Rob Jones made a motion to ratify, sanction, approve and confirm the actions of the TAC executive for 2022. Seconded by Elgin. All in favour passed unopposed.

#### **Old Business** - none

**New Business** - when can we get back to holding in person meetings  
- need to update the constitution and by-laws. (ONCA)

#### **Elections:** Rob Jones volunteered to be returning officer.

Open positions, President, Treasurer, Social.

**Position of President:** Nominating Committee nominates Rob McAuley. No other nominations. Rob McAuley is declared by acclamation as President for another 2 year term. Nominated by Nick and seconded by Graham.

**Position of Treasurer:** Nominating Committee nominates Brooke Jacobs. No other nominations. Brook Jacobs is declared by acclamation as Treasurer for a 2 year term. Nominated by Rob M. and seconded by Nick.

**Position of Social Director:** Nominating Committee nominates Ingrid Beck. No other nominations. Nick Beck is declared by acclamation as Social Director for a 2 year term. Nominated by Rob M. and seconded by Graham.

Motion to close the AGM by Ingrid, 2nd by Rob Jones, All in favour.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm

### **Minutes by Ingrid**

## Toronto Autosport Club - Executive Zoom Call Meeting Minutes December 7, 2022

Call time: 8:00 pm via ZOOM

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

### President:

Great awards dinner.

We have 595 followers on Facebook.

### Membership:

108 members: 6 life, 62 primary, 40 family

### Treasurer:

#### Account Balances:

PayPal	\$	231.23
Tangerine	\$	21,680.09
RBC	\$	867.90

### Competition:

Annual trophies have now been found and will be awarded soon.  
Final award winners are now being determined.

January Jaunt will be Jan. 21, 2023.

Tac Ice Race weekend is now Feb 18/19, 2023

CARS annual meeting is on Jan. 14, 2023. Will be virtual.

Social - Awards dinner was successful. Would have liked to have more guests.

Old Business - none

New Business - none

Adjourned at 8: pm

Minutes by I. Beck



# Membership Application

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

**Email:** [registrar@torontoautosportclub.ca](mailto: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](http://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