



Fifth Gear

December 2024



www.torontoautosportclub.ca

Toronto Autosport Club

2024 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

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
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).

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.

FIFTH GEAR Editors: Nick Beck
280 Ridgefield Cres., Maple, Ontario L6A 1J6
Editorial: phone: (905) 832-8012
Email: fifthgear@torontoautosportclub.ca

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:



Robbie's Letter to Santa

Dear Santa,

How are you? I am fine. I have tried to be a good boy this year. I hope that you and Mrs. Claus are well, and the elves are doing a good job looking after you, the reindeer, and all the presents.

As you may suspect, for my big gift this year, I would love to get a Formula 1 race car - either a Red Bull, McLaren, or Ferrari. Preferably one that has won a race. I promise I would look after it, feed it, and take it for runs. I know it requires a lot of support to keep it happy, but I have a birthday coming up so I will ask for that stuff then.

If that won't fit in your sleigh, then I would love to get my old race car's engine working again. Last time it was out, at Calabogie, there was a problem when the oil level was too low. I don't know how bad things were, but I'm sure it would be easy for you to repair the hole in the block.

I would love to see more cars with manual transmissions. I know double clutch paddle shifters are supposed to be more efficient, but I miss grabbing the right gear, doing some heel-and-toe shifting, and making driving more engaging. Does anyone still make a manual?

It is always fun to play with my toys, but what I really want is someone to help me play with

them. We have a great Ice Race organization in our Toronto Autosports Club, and play well with CASC-OR and our cousin clubs. But I do worry about my cousin's orphan children. We lost our Ice Race director a couple of years ago, and Grandpa Ted helped out a lot, but he is getting old and needs help. Now the Time Attack side of the family is a bit aimless after Uncle Kevin left us. I know the family is pitching in to help, and we'll have a fun time this year.

Now I'd like to put in a good word for Wife Sue. Her 7-Series BMW is getting a bit old, and now has over 300,000 kms on the odometer (though only 180k on the engine). Now her radiator is leaking. She has become a pro at topping up the coolant, but I think she would really appreciate a Tanzanite Blue M5 - but not the new ones with the God awful monster grill. I know she thinks the ride is a bit harsh, but I think she'd get used to it.

And finally, I am also getting a bit old. My knee is always sore. Can I please get a new one for Christmas? I promise I will only use it to kick tires and work the clutch.

Cookies and milk are waiting out in the garage.

Robbie McAuley
Toronto Autosport Club



[Click Here for link to TAC ZOOM Meeting 3rd Wednesday Monthly 8pm](#)
(EXCEPT No Meeting in DECEMBER)

TAC 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

<i>DATE</i>	<i>CATEGORY</i>	<i>EVENT DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>CLUB</i>
January 2025			
15	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
18-19	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race PRE-TECH weekend, Minden	
25-26	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	DAC
31-1	Rally-CRC	Rallye Perce-Neige de Maniwaki	CRM
February 2025			
1-2	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	BEMC
8-9	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	BARC
15-16	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	PMSC
19	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
22-23	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	TLMC
March 2025			
1-2	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	TAC
19	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
April 2025			
16	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
May 2025			
3-4	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack School #1 / Event #1 CTMP-DDT Track	
21	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
31-1	Rally-CRC	Rocky Mountain Rally, Invermere BC	CSCC
31-1	TimeAttack	Ontario Time Attack School #2 / Event #2 CTMP-GP Track	

More events to appear as 2025 Schedules are released.

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



2025 CASC-OR ICE RACE SERIES LIST OF EVENTS

All events are held at the Minden Fairgrounds, Bobcaygreon Road

January 18 - 19	Pre-Tech (non-race weekend)
January 25 - 26	Deutscher Automobile Club (DAC)
February 1 - 2	British Empire Motor Club (BEMC)
February 8 - 9	British Automobile Racing Club - Ontario Centre (BARC)
February 15 - 16	Peterborough Motor Sports Club (PMSC)
February 22 - 23	Twin Lakes Motor Club (TLMC)
March 1 - 2	Toronto Autosport Club (TAC)



2025 CANADIAN RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP (CRC) CHAMPIONNAT DE RALLYE CANADIEN 2025(CRC)

<https://carsrally.ca/crc-info/event-calendar/>
<https://carsrally.ca/fr/simpliquer-dans-2/event-calendar/>

Jan-Feb 31-1 31-1 jan-fév	RALLYE PERCE-NEIGE de MANIWAKI www.rallyeperceneige.com https://www.facebook.com/rallyeperceneige Joel Labrecque info@rallyeperceneige.com	Club - CRM Maniwaki, Québec
May-June 30-1 30-1 mai - juin	ROCKY MOUNTAIN RALLY www.rockymountainrally.com Amanda Ann Chair@rockymountainrally.com	Club - CSCC Invermere, BC
June 13-14 13-14 juin	PACIFIC FOREST RALLY www.pacificforestrally.com Paul Westwick paul@rallybc.com	Club - WCRA Merritt, British Columbia 604-617-4132
June 27-29 27-29 juin	RALLYE AUTO INTERNATIONAL BAIE DES CHALEURS www.rallyebdc.com Danny Hudon info@rallyebdc.com	Club - CRAB New Richmond, Québec 518-886-1207
Sept 5-7 5-7 sept	RALLYE DÉFI PETITE NATION www.rallyedefi.ca Organizer Louis Montpellier lmontpellier33@gmail.com	Club - CADO Montpellier, Québec 819-230-8187
Oct-Nov. 31-2 31-2 oct-nov	RALLYE DE CHARLEVOIX www.rallyecharlevoix.com Samuel Tremblay samuel@rallyecharlevoix.com Communications Philippe Brasseur crdc@rallyecharlevoix.com	Club – CRDC La Malbaie, Québec 418-665-5281
Nov. 21-22 21-22 nov	LINCOLN ELECTRIC TALL PINES RALLY www.tallpinesrally.com Bruce Leonard bruce@tallpinesrally.com	Club - MLRC Bancroft, Ontario 416-230-2014
Dec. 5-7 5-7 déc	BIG WHITE WINTER RALLY www.bigwhiterally.com Keith Morison Keith@Morison.ca	Club – WCRA Kelowna, British Columbia 403-510-5689

This schedule is subject to change – November 25, 2024



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ATTENTION PROSPECTIVE ICE RACERS:

If you are a TAC member who wants to try ice racing but don't have a car, the 2025 ice racing season is an opportunity to get on track at the Minden Fairgrounds. This is a great chance to try wheel to wheel racing at the lowest cost.

Thanks to Gail Walker & Malcolm Elston, a SAABARU 92x has been donated to the club. The car is powered by a 2.0 litre turbo with an automatic transmission and all wheel drive.



Street stud tires have been purchased and the car can be entered in the two AWD street stud classes.

The car is being prepared for competition and will be delivered to/ remain at the Minden Fairgrounds for the 2025 season so you can 'arrive and drive' without having to tow.

The cost to use the car is a \$100 contribution to reimburse some of the expenses (which includes race fuel). Members are responsible to obtain their own temporary competition license which is \$25 for a first time competitor or \$50 if you have previously ice raced in the past.

Members using the TAC car must pay their own entry fees for Saturday and or Sunday. Registration and payment are on-line at MotorsportReg.com.

If you don't have your own helmet, most likely a loaner can be obtained with advance notice.

The use of the car is entirely at the drivers own risk and a release of liability is a condition of use.

The season should start Saturday January 25, 2025 and continue for six weekends, the final being the TAC weekend event March 1/2. Also refer to the calendar in Fifth Gear.

Scheduling can be an issue as the weather is uncertain so reservations are essential. Please advise what events you are interested in.

This is a new initiative by the club to encourage active participation. There are more details to work out!

Please contact your Competition Director Graham Tulett by email at ghtulett@hotmail.com if you are interested or have questions.

TAC AWARDS DINNER



TAC 2024 Road-Rally Driver
Brooke Jacobs
Award presented by Rob McAuley

TAC 2024 Road-Rally Navigator
Claire Jacobs
Award presented by Rob McAuley



TAC 2024 Most Active Member
Brooke Jacobs
Award presented by Rob McAuley

COMPETITION DIRECTORS REPORT

2024 SEASON

The 2024 Competition season has mostly finished and does not radically change from the post COVID normal – smaller entries, more expensive costs to competitors and aging organizers.

Ice Racing had a truncated season due to mild weather and only four of the six race weekends were held, fortunately the TAC event was one of them. The most notable occurrence was the lack of entries in the street stud class, down over 40% and impacting the financial viability of the series after the huge increase in track costs. CASC-OR stepped up with reduced fees and license rebates. The two clubs that had to cancel their events made large contributions similar to the amount they would have lost and this reduced the overall financial loss which could have wiped out at least one club. The vacant Ice Race Director position continues to be filled on a temporary basis by the CASC president and the clubs are working hard to turn the series around for 2025.

Ontario Time Attack has been reported separately by club representative and VP Gary Vernon. The challenge ahead is getting new participants to help organize as the current director moves on after a number of good years. Thank you to Gary Vernon for his continued contribution to the success of the series on behalf of the club

CASC-OR road racing had a full season with marked by a new Miata Cup Canada series with three sub classes with weight limits to keep the competition close for the various generations of Miatas. Some additional help from St-Lac club members made it easier to operate race weekend. I would like to particularly thank Mary McClure and Mike Nilson who have done a tremendous job at scrutineering for longer than I can remember. Regretfully Mary has retired due to severe health issues and her prognosis is not good.

TAC's January Jaunt and Discover Ontario Car Rally (DOCR) continued with Brooke Jacobs & Claire organizing both events in 2024. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to these events. The ORRC has had some reduced entries and is not planning on running the January Jaunt in 2025.

I entered my first RSO Rally X this season. This is an excellent use of an ice racer in the summer and most events for PMSC, MLRC are at Free Flow Motorsport park on the reserve at Shannonville.

As a TAC Club initiative to stimulate participation in competitive events, the 2025 Ice Race season should have a car available to get members to try an event. Thanks to the generous contribution by Gail Walker & Malcolm Elston, the white rabbit SAAB 92X (like a WRX) has been donated to the club to go to Minden for the next chapter. I am preparing the SAABURU for competition, will take it to the track and maintain it for the season. Novice Club members who want to try an arrive and drive will be able to reserve a date, make a \$100 contribution towards the cost of the car expenses and pay their entry / license fees. Please let me know if you have questions so I can get an idea of the demand. More to follow and depending on how this works out it might be repeated for the 2025 Rally X season.

I said it last year and it remains that we need more youth and extra hands. Please get out and participate / volunteer and it will be fun!

Graham Tulett ghtulett@hotmail.com – Competition Director

Ontario Time Attack Report



The 2024 Ontario Time Attack season is now over, and the winners were recognized at the CASC-OR banquet held on November 9. It was an ambitious season, with an additional driving school at the GP track and the addition of two open lapping days at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park, one at the Driver Development Track, and one on the very popular GP track. All in, the OTA season consisted of six competition events, three driver training schools and two lapping days.

Attendance at all events was good, although there were slightly fewer entries than previous years. This seemed to be a common factor in all Time Attack series in 2024, as a for-profit Time Attack series folded during the year, while CSCS, which caters to a slightly different type of competitor, also reported fewer entries. Rising rents and mortgage payments may have been a factor putting the squeeze on some competitors' motorsports budgets. Nevertheless, despite fewer entries, OTA is expected to achieve break-even for the 2024 year, which ends in December. The series remains financially strong and self-sufficient, thanks to continued re-investment of surpluses by the clubs that run the series.

Our club was active in 2024, co-organizing the first school in early May at the DDT with Oshawa Motorsport Club, Events 3 & 4 at Shannonville in late July, and Event 6 at Toronto Motorsports Park in September. It was a busy year for me as your Time Attack representative on the OTA organizing committee. On that point, ensuring that our club can continue as an active supporter of OTA is increasingly on my mind. We need volunteers from the club to come out to help, and to compete. If you have an interest in helping or competing, please contact me directly: vicepresident@torontoautosportclub.ca We need your help and participation!

TAC members, including me, actively compete in OTA, but we can always use more. Matt Di Giovanni ran 3 out of six events, and despite not competing at all events, placed a very respectable 5th place in season points in Grand Touring B-spec with his 2013 Scion FR-S. Matt Clough was also able to get out to Event 5 at the DDT this year in his Mazda Miata.



Planning is now underway for the 2025 season, including work to recruit a new series director to replace Kevin Wong, whose term expired in November. Kevin has done a great job to grow and develop the series and leaves big shoes to fill. I'd like to acknowledge his excellent work and dedication over the past number of years he's been involved in the series as a competitor, Chief Timer and more recently as Director. Many thanks Kevin! You will be missed!

Preliminary dates for 2025 include the following:

May 3/4 at CTMP DDT – School 1 (Sat) and Event 1 (Sun)

May 31/June 1 at CTMP GP – School 2 (Sat) and Event 2 (Sun)

Aug 2/3 at CTMP GP – School 3 (Sat) and Event 3 (Sun)

Aug 23/24 at CTMP DDT – Events 4 (two kink) and 5 (one kink)

The 2025 season is a bit less extensive in recognition of the reduced entries we encountered in 2024. There is always the possibility the committee may add to the dates as discussions continue with competitors, track owners and other CASC series such as Race.

With respect to the competition regulations, as part of ongoing efforts to keep the playing field level for our competitors, the Car Classification Committee presented potential rules changes for discussion at the recent competitor meeting related to Tires, Suspension and Safety. As a result of the discussion with competitors in attendance, it's expected that the committee will recommend that tires wider than stock width by more than 10mm be assessed Performance Improvement Points (Pips). Previously, tire size was free. Also, pips for modified springs and shocks are expected to be reduced, as well as negative pips increased for installing a roll bar or a roll cage in order to promote the installation of safety equipment. Stay tuned for the rules revisions in early January. (My next task!)

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Vernon

(Car 149, winter and summer)

**MINUTES OF TAC GENERAL MEETING
November 20, 2024 via Zoom**

Called to order 8:05 pm

Present: Rob M., Rob J., Rita M., Paul M., Nick B., Brooke J., Claire J., Ingrid B., Graham T., Gary V.

President

No one stepping up for Ice Race Director. Position has been divided to helpfully make the work load lighter.

Vice President

100 members: 8 life, 56 members, 36 family

Treasurer

RBC	\$ 25,444.70
PayPal	\$ 0.00

Competition

TAC Ice Race scheduled for March 1 & 2, 2024.

Various rule updates for ice racing.

Competitions for the year are wrapping up.

Social

Annual Awards banquet November 30, 2024. Tickets \$30. Deadline to order Nov. 23/24

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 8:35 pm

Minutes by Ingrid

MINUTES OF TAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Nov. 20, 2024 via Zoom

Called to order 8:40 pm
We have a quorum, 10 members present, 9 proxies.

Last years minutes were reviewed and accepted. Motion by Rob J., seconded by Graham T. No one opposed.

Reports:

President Report - read as published

Vice President Report - as published in Fifth Gear

100 members, 8 life, 56 primary, 36 family

Treasurer - as published in Fifth Gear. Will make update costs for BBQ to include ticket costs to Mosport. Will also update ice race income.

Competition Report - summarized the published report. There will be 4 ORRC's in 2025, 3 out of 4 will count. Further discussion about the TAC Ice Racer.

Old Business - when can we get back to holding in person meetings
- need to update the constitution and by-laws. (ONCA) - Gary has been looking into what we need.

New Business - confirm board members signing authority. Confirm if our bylaws meet the requirements of ONCA
- Claire will be looking into getting onto Instagram to help promote the club to younger members.

Rob J. makes a motion to ratify, sanction, approve and confirm the actions of the board for 2024. Seconded by Paul M. All in favour

Elections: Rob Jones volunteered to be returning officer.

Open positions, President, Treasurer, Social Director.

President: Nominating Committee nominates Rob McAuley. Seconded by Rita M.. No other nominations. Rob McAuley is declared by acclamation as President for another 2 year term.

Position of Treasurer: Rob M. nominates Brooke Jacobs and seconded by Rita M. No other nominations. Brooke Jacobs is declared by acclamation as Treasurer for a 2 year term.

Position of Social Director: No nominations. Position of Social Director will remain vacant for the time being.

Rob Jones steps down as returning officer and hands the meeting back to the President.

Motion to close the AGM by Rob J., 2nd by Graham T., All in favour.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 pm

Minutes by Ingrid

Toronto Autosport Club - Executive Meeting Minutes Zoom Call December 4, 2024

Call time: 8:15 pm via ZOOM

Participants: Gary, Brook & Ingrid

President:

We have 632 followers on Facebook.

Membership:

100 members; 8 life, 56 regular, 36 family

Treasurer:

Account Balances:

RBC	\$	\$ 25,495.95
PayPal	\$	\$ 23.97

Competition:

Discussion was held on whether to offer a 70th anniversary special reduced rate on membership fees for new members. Decision was made to offer a \$5 membership to new members.

New time attack is Giuliano Traetto. Gary is working on updating the Time Attack rules for 2025. Gary would like someone to work with him on updating the constitution and bylaws.

Social - none

Old Business - none

New Business - Brook wants to thank the board for honouring him with the most active member award.

Adjourned at 8:45 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