



Fifth Gear

November 2023



www.torontoautosportclub.ca

Toronto Autosport Club

2023 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

2023 COMPETITION COORDINATORS

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

2023 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:



From The President's Desk

It is hard to believe that we are wrapping up 2023.

We have endured almost 4 years of COVID, and the difficulties it has brought on. We have given up on in-person monthly meetings, and many of us have been scattered to areas outside of Toronto. It would be great to get together again, but I'm not sure how many people would be able to attend in person, and then how we would connect to those who want to join remotely.

Personally, I've taken on 2 jobs. I manage a movie theatre in Goderich, which keeps me at our cottage almost all the time. I'm also working for Statistics Canada - initially as a COVID contact tracer, and now as an interviewer. That job has me working just about any evening that I'm not at the theatre.

It's great to be busy, but it leaves me little time for on-track activities. But still, we managed to pull off some great events. You have likely read about them in your monthly Fifth Gear newsletter. Special thanks to Social Director Nick for putting that together each month.

We kicked off with Kurt & Nick's January Jaunt. This rally opens the RSO season, and always has a great turnout. This year's rally had 19 competitors - the most in quite a while. There were lots of rookies, so hopefully the numbers will remain high.

Our Ice Race, organized by Competition Director Graham, was one of the few that made money this year. We got both our days in, while some other weekends had days rained out. It's wild to see the results of climate change hitting so close to home. I still hope that the Ice Race clubs adopt a model similar to Time Attack's, where the clubs pool the revenues so clubs that draw a bad weather date are not disadvantaged.

Regardless, we run a crack event, with the A Team managing the track, and a great group handling registration, timing and scoring.

Vice President Gary was once again heavily involved in Time Attack, and we are seeing more

events sold out. Their marketing team does great work, and the committee know how to put on a top series.

Treasurer Brooke ran the Discover Ontario Rally once again on the longest Saturday of the year on June 17. There were 11 cars registered, up from last year.

July saw a great picnic at CTMP for the IMSA race weekend. Social Director Nick did much of the planning, and Dan once again brought his amazing barbecue skills to the track, and we enjoyed the new TAC canopies! Thanks to everyone for bringing some excellent dishes to share while we watched the race from our prime location.

This year, we handed our Guru Nanak contract rally back to the charity. They had been asking to take on more of the organizing duties, and last year's route planner, Kurt, worked with the Guru team to have them lay out the route and run the day. I feel like a proud parent, sending their child off into the world to make their own way. We have held their hand for many, many years, and now they are running on their own!

And most recently, Past-Treasurer Rita organized the Zonta contract rally on the best day for fall leaves in Ontario. Rita always comes up with the most creative events, and this year competitors had to take photos - like a scavenger hunt - and post them to a web site to be judged at the end. They raised funds for their charity while having a blast! They are keen to work with us again next year.

We are already planning our events for the new year, with discussions happening about the January Jaunt and our Ice Race. Nick is sorting out a year-end party, and I am very much looking forward to seeing everyone again!

All the best,

Rob McAuley
TAC President

TAC 2023/2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	CATEGORY	EVENT DESCRIPTION	CLUB
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November 2023

15	Meeting	TAC Club Meeting, AGM & Elections, ONLINE by ZOOM, 8pm see Notice	TAC
18	Rally-ORRC	ORRC - Northern Lights Rally	KWRC
18	F1	LAS VEGAS GRAND PRIX	
24-25	Rally-CRC/OPRC	Tall Pines Rally, Bancroft, ON	MLRC
26	F1	ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX (Abu Dhabi)	

December 2023

8-10	Rally-CRC	Big White Rally, Kelowna BC	
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January 2024

17	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
20-21	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	
27-28	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	
27	Rally-ORRC	January Jaunt Rally, Waterdown - See Flyer this issue	TAC

February 2024

3-4	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	
10-11	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	
17-18	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	
21	Meeting	ONLINE: TAC Monthly Club Meeting, ZOOM	TAC
24-25	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds	

March 2024

2-3	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds, RAIN-DATE	
9-10	Ice Race-Minden	Ice Race, Minden Fairgrounds, RAIN-DATE	

More events to appear as 2024 Schedules are released.

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

TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB INC.
(TORONTO AUTOSPORT CLUB)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND THE 2023 ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS

Notice is hereby served that the
2023 Annual General Membership Meeting
and the **2023 Election of Club Officers**

will take place ONLINE

on **November 15, 2023 at 8:00pm E.S.T.**

TO BE HELD via ZOOM. Call is coordinated by Rob McAuley.

Following Regular General ZOOM meeting.

Email Rob at president@torontoautosportclub.ca if you need information other than by email from the club or assistance for phoning in. Or write to club address below.

It is important that members attend (either “virtually” in-person or by proxy) so that you can have your say in the running of the club to vote on matters properly brought forward and for executive positions up for election

Under the Constitution of the Club, the positions to be filled at the election are:

Vice-President, Competition Director, and Secretary, Each for 2-Year Term

Each of these Executive positions commences immediately after the conclusion of the 2023 elections and runs through until November 2025 . Other positions not up for re-election this year, have 1 year remaining until elections are held in November 2024.

If you will be unable to attend, please fill out the notice of proxy below and submit it to the Club Secretary before the elections take place. The proxy text can be emailed to anyone attending the meeting, brought in-person, or mailed to club address : 148 Tamarack Drive, Thornhill ON, L3T 4X4

NOTICE OF PROXY – TAC MOTORSPORT CLUB INC. 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING and ELECTIONS

I, _____, being a member in good standing of the Toronto Autosport Club, do hereby assign my voting rights at the 2023 TAC Motorsport Club Inc. Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers, to be held November 15, 2023

to _____, who is also a member in good standing.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

THE JANUARY JAUNT



Saturday, 27 January, 2024

Winter Navigational Car Rally
for Novices and Experts

Start:

Tim Hortons

145 Hamilton St N, Waterdown, ON

GPS 43.3350417,-79.9041773

Finish:

TBD

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



Round 1 of the 2024
Ontario Road Rally Championship

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

www.januaryjaunt.com

info@januaryjaunt.com

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2023 Grand Prix Polski Historic Rally

Hello to all TAC members,

On October 18th-22nd, 2023 we took part in the 2023 Grand Prix Polski Historic rally in Poland.

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 historic rally events in Poland since 2012, represents TAC and FIA Canada ASN.

The Grand Prix Polski is the most difficult event for cars produced before 1993, with some exemption till end of 1996. Total distance of this event was 1394km. We started in the capital city of Warsaw, with a very special stage "Karowa" in the center of the old part of the city. This historic stage in Poland, is something like Col de Turini at the Rallye Monte Carlo. After that we did performance stages/time trials at 5 race tracks (Modlin, Slomczyn, Lodz, Kielce and Wyrazow) across Poland. Also, during the route we had Regularity stages, the total number of 24, with very tight

time for transit between RT. Most of them were in south west part of Poland, in a beautiful Sudety mountain.

The final result for us at GPP was 13th place overall. During the last day we got a 15min penalty at the time control due to very tight time allowed, that made us drop from the podium.

Anyway, every rally is a new experience and pointers to improve our performance for the next events in the future.

I want to express my gratitude to Piotr Kostrzewski, the rally organizers, and all the rally support crew. PS. Micheal Szewczyk, from Canadian Rally Championship, came to support us during the rally :)

More pictures from the rally you can find on our Facebook page in the link below - <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.856889323030200&type=3>

Lukasz (Lukas) Nytko
Nytko Motorsport









Ontario Time Attack Report

The Time Attack season is now in the books for 2023. Competitor turnout was excellent at all events, two of which were sold out, and we continued to be favoured with great weather on our event days. It doesn't get better than that. Our club co-organized the DDT school with Oshawa Motorsport Club (OMSC) at the DDT in early May, followed by Event 1 at TMP in June. We then got a break to do a little competing before organizing Event 5 at the DDT in late August. This past year season saw the implementation of electronic grid sheets, accessible by competitors on their smartphones. It worked well, and there will be further improvements in 2024 that should allow us to reduce the number of volunteers we need to get the cars in the right order during competition, as we're adopting the grid position numbering system used by Ice Racing. Competitors just need to check their phones and line up next to their indicated position. With online registration for events, and the availability of lap times and grid positions available to competitors on their phones, the need to chop down trees to make paper is rapidly disappearing. It's a good thing, as we can reach virtually everyone electronically with continuous updates to the information they need during the day.

In 2023 we had 103 competitors come out to at least one event, and 30 competitors ran at least five events, including TAC member Matt Clough, who placed 8th in the fiercely contested Grand Touring B Class in his Mazda Miata. It's the toughest crowd on the grid, for sure. Congratulations to Matt. Other members who competed include Joel Chin in his Mazdaspeed 3, Matt Di Giovanni in his Scion FRS, Brian Hane in his Civic Si, and Darren Amy in his BMW 128i. I managed to compete in a couple of events as well, despite a (too) busy summer.

Planning for 2024 is now well underway, and the schedule will include three additional lapping days, two at the GP track and one following the season opening school at the DDT. We're trying this to attract new people who might be reticent about competing with us to come out and lap with us so they can see what OTA is about. We're going to do live timing on those lapping days, and we think that once folks experience that, they won't want to go back to having no comparative information, and so come out and join us. If you've been sitting on the fence, wondering, then come and join us on one of our informal lapping days in 2024. The tentative schedule of events was announced at the banquet, but I don't presently have it to hand. It will be published soon, once we have the contracts with the various tracks signed up.

At present there is a lot of activity going on to digest the feedback from our recent competitor's meeting and to deal with the rules suggestions that arose at the meeting. It's expected that the rulebook will be published early in the new year. TAC members who are OTA competitors should be aware that in 2024, there will be a study of the impact of tire and wheel widths on car classification. The intent is to understand if changes to tire and wheel widths (wider than stock) should be considered for Performance Improvement Points (PIP) to keep the playing field level among our competitors' cars, some of which can accept much larger wheel/tire combinations than others, when compared to the stock wheel and tire size. Findings will be discussed in the fall of 2024.

In sum, it's been a busy and successful season for OTA and all three of OTA's organizing clubs. See you at the track!

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Vernon

Ontario Time Attack competition coordinator

Time Attack 2023 Review



Brian Hane
Car 696
Event 2

Matt Clough
Car 83
Event 1



Joel Chin
Car 17
Event 1

PHOTOS

THANKS TO MICHAEL TAN

MORE ON INSTAGRAM

@TANNERPICS

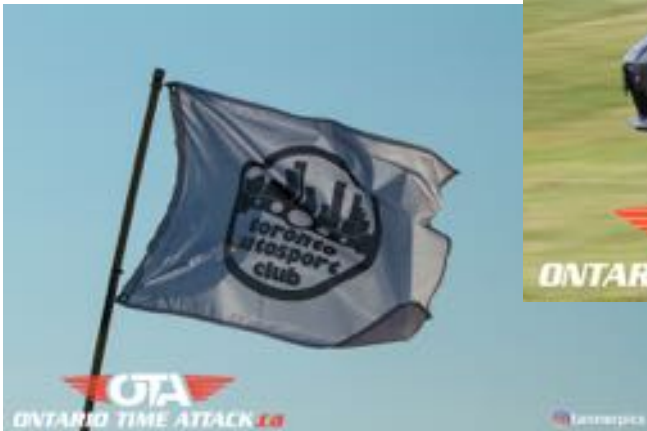
Darren Amy
Car 647
Event 1



Matt Di Giovanni
Car 156
Event 2



Gary Vernon
Car 149
Event 6



TAC at Event 1

Competition Directors Report – November 2023

The 2023 Competition season is pretty much wrapped up and reflected a return to normal, although somewhat a new normal!

Ice Racing had essentially a full season except the final day of the last event was cancelled. The season ended late with both the rain dates in March being used which is pretty rare. Track rental costs escalated and five of six clubs lost money. Towards the end of the season the organizers were advised that the track builder was not prepared to continue with the black rocket street stud tire due to track wear. Ultimately a new Ice Race Director was confirmed and a single, mandatory spec street stud tire, the Nokian Hakkapellita 10 for the 2024 season was announced very recently.

Ontario Time Attack had another good season with lots of participation, very close competition and new track records. The series is well organized and marketed and has prospered financially to the point where it is largely self-sufficient. Some TAC members did very well. 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 some participation by other race groups such as SPC from Quebec. Breakout times for SMP long track were adjusted as the paving improvements appear to have made the track faster. Field sizes were generally improved and there are some nice race cars out there. There were lots of scrutineers available most weekends but grid and pit marshalls are in shorter supply and volunteers are often scarce.

TAC's January Jaunt and Discover Ontario Car Rally (DOCR) continued with larger entries than 2022. Thank you to Kurt S and Brooke J for their continued commitment to these events. The ORRC has one event remaining and it looks like TAC will finish the club challenge in second place this year after last year's win. There are some close races for TACies to win so this will come down to the wire.

Overall, there are some dedicated competitors and volunteers making racing happen, but we need more youth and extra hands to make lighter work for the old timer. Please get out and participate and it can be fun! Maybe try something different in 2024.

Graham Tulett

TAC Registrar's Report for November, 2023

Claire Jacobs

Membership increased this year over last and has brought us up to the 2022 level again.

TAC currently has 113 members, up from 108 in 2022. This consists of 6 life members, 64 members and 43 family members. We have already had some members renew for 2024.

TAC Treasurer's Report for November, 2023

Brooke Jacobs, TAC treasurer

At the beginning of the fiscal year we had \$22,315.77. Currently we have \$23,885.80, an increase of \$1,570.03.

There was a reduction in membership numbers over last year, however membership fees were collected this year and not last.

TAC has approximately \$11,000 in equity in Ontario Time Attack that is not represented in the above numbers but it bears noting.

The Guru Nanak rally was not run by TAC this year. The Zonta rally brought in \$474 after expenses.

Two ORRC rallies were organized and both had profits. January Jaunt generated \$468 while Discover Ontario had a modest profit of \$121.

TAC is in good financial health this year as we continue to ramp up activities and memberships post-Covid.

Social Directors Report 2023

With a continuation of online monthly meetings over Zoom, there have been fewer in-person social opportunities for TAC members than in past years.

We had a successful 'TAC at CTMP' get together for the Chevrolet Grand Prix, featuring the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship. Weather cooperated this year and there was a good turnout. Thanks to Dan and the whole team for another great BBQ.

In the past few years, we have not had a great attendance for the TAC Annual Awards dinner, held usually near the end of this month (November). We prefer a private room so that awards and any prizes can be displayed and presentations made, without disrupting the dining by other patrons of whatever establishment we meet at. To be able to reserve such a space, we find that a group of at least 20 persons is required and this number has been difficult to guarantee.

As a result, no reservation has been made for 2023, pending feedback from members regarding their desire to attend. TAC will provide some sort of subsidy for each diner, that offers attendees a reduced cost over what you would pay for a typical dinner there.

If you would be inclined to attend an awards dinner this year, either November 25 or December 2 (Saturdays), Please respond by email with a short YES vote (with number of persons interested) to fifthgear@torontoautosportclub.ca No obligation is implied.

Further details to follow,

Nick Beck, Social Director

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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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