

Learn about Ice Racing

The meeting introduced ice racing, highlighting its competitive yet clean nature. Ice racing takes place at the Minden fairgrounds from mid-January to March, with events organized by Ontario car clubs and sanctioned by the Canadian Automobile Sports Club. Participants need a car club membership (\$30-\$50) and a CAC license (\$50 plus HST). Entry fees are \$125 for Saturday and \$85 for Sunday, with additional costs for tires, travel, and housing. The session covered car preparation, including tire choices (street studs or tractionized rubber), safety modifications, and the importance of lightweight vehicles. Volunteers are crucial for event organization, with 22-25 needed per weekend.

Transcript

<https://otter.ai/u/EXfhilgiJGQwBxY0AAQCopR-m3E?view=transcript>

Action Items

- Get a car club membership and CAC license.
- Choose a car and prepare it for ice racing, including removing lights, adding a number sign, and making other required modifications.
- Email the ice race director to get a car number assigned.
- If bringing a child passenger aged 9-13, ensure they have a 4-point harness.
- Disable the car if leaving it at the track between race weekends (e.g. remove battery, wheel, etc.).

Outline

Introduction to Ice Racing

- Speaker 1 welcomes everyone and introduces the topic of ice racing, mentioning the purpose of the session and the segments for questions.
- Elaine Willis introduces herself, sharing her experience in ice racing and her current roles as chief instructor and promotions manager.
- Dustin Brown is introduced as a co-presenter with extensive experience in ice racing and organizing events.
- Speaker 2 describes the harsh winter conditions and the thrill of ice racing, emphasizing the competitive and clean nature of the sport.

Overview of Ice Racing

- Speaker 1 explains the basics of ice racing, highlighting its competitive yet clean nature and the fun it brings to participants and their families.
- The location of the events is mentioned, specifically at the Minden fairgrounds, with a map showing the location.

- The event schedule is outlined, running from mid-January to March, with the first race weekend planned for January 27 and 28.
- The importance of car clubs and insurance for organizing and running the events is emphasized.

Cost and Membership Information

- Speaker 1 discusses the costs associated with ice racing, including car club memberships and CAC licenses.
- Car club memberships range from \$30 to \$50, and CAC memberships cost \$50 plus HST.
- Weekend entry fees are detailed: Saturday entry is \$125, Sunday entry is \$85, and additional costs include car tires, travel, housing, and food.
- Information on where to find more details about the sport is provided, including the Canadian Automobile Sports Club website and the Facebook group "Ice Racing Minden."

Getting Started in Ice Racing

- Speaker 1 reiterates the need for a valid provincial license, car club membership, and CAC license.
- Instructions on how to obtain these memberships and licenses are provided, including the process on the CAC website.
- Dustin Brown takes over to discuss the practical aspects of getting started with a car for ice racing.
- Dustin shares his experience of buying and modifying a car for ice racing, emphasizing the importance of weight over power.

Choosing and Preparing a Car

- Dustin explains the different car classes: rear wheel drive, front wheel drive, and four wheel drive, with examples of suitable cars for each class.
- The importance of choosing a lightweight car is emphasized, with examples of suitable models for each class.
- Dustin discusses the options for tires: street studs and rubber to ice, with details on how to prepare tires for racing.
- The process of getting a race number and the requirements for the number sign are explained, including the need for a white background with black letters.

Safety and Additional Preparations

- Dustin talks about the importance of safety, including the need for a rookie triangle for new drivers.
- The option to have passengers in the car is mentioned, with safety requirements for children.
- A short video is shown with key points on building an ice racer, including covering lights, adding a number sign, and ensuring safety features.

- Dustin provides pro tips on preparing the car, such as ensuring wipers and heat are working well and removing unnecessary parts.

Tech Inspection and Event Details

- Dustin goes over the requirements for the tech inspection, including removing airbags, ensuring brakes are functioning, and adding a rear-facing light.
- The importance of securing any added weight to the car is emphasized.
- Dustin discusses the need for a helmet that meets Snell 2010 standards and the options for disabling the car if left on the track.
- Speaker 1 provides an overview of the pre-tech weekend and the tech form, with instructions on how to find the tech list on the CAC website.

Lay of the Land and Event Schedule

- Speaker 1 describes the layout of the Minden fairgrounds, including the food booth, washrooms, and starter stand.
- The process for parking cars during the event is explained, with details on paddock parking and mock grid areas.
- The registration and drivers' meeting process is outlined, with specific times and locations for these activities.
- An example schedule is provided, showing the structure of the race weekends and the different classes.

Rookie School and Temporary Licenses

- Speaker 1 explains the rookie school, which is optional for temporary licensed competitors and provides guidance from experienced drivers.
- The process for obtaining a temporary license and the requirement to have an experienced ice racer as a passenger is detailed.
- The wrap-up of the season includes an awards banquet to announce the champions of each class.
- Speaker 1 mentions a new class being introduced for 2025, which will be a slightly less modified version of a vehicle.

Volunteers and Organizing the Events

- Dustin discusses the importance of volunteers in organizing the events, mentioning that 22 to 25 volunteers are needed for each weekend.
- The roles of experienced scrutineers, registration staff, and licensed individuals as stewards are highlighted.
- Dustin emphasizes the collaboration and effort required to run the events successfully.
- The session concludes with a reminder of the importance of volunteers and the community aspect of ice racing.