

NASCC Winter Driving & Ice Race School Information

The Northern Alberta Sports Car Club (NASCC) Winter Driving & Ice Racing School is open to all who have a driver's license, or a learners with permission from both parents. It is a required school for those who wish to ice race, but do not have a current license from the past two years. It is also a school for those who wish a chance to improve their winter driving schools for the street, and who wish to gain some experience in high speed driving under near-friction free conditions.

The information below is intended for those taking the school for Winter driving experience, for those taking it to get a race license we recommend you read the NASCC Ice Racing Tutorial for rookies, also called Ice Racing 101. It has the same information, plus a lot more about racing, race cars, classes, sources of equipment, etc.

Registration

The preferred method of registration and payment is using the MotorsportReg website that lists all or Club events and membership options.

<http://nascc.motorsportreg.com/>

In the Find Events search bar type "NASCC" and all our current events and membership options will show up.

The School

An ice racing license is earned at this School, but you can also just take the school for winter driver training.

6pm Friday for Registration; 6:30pm classroom starts. Location of the mandatory Friday evening classroom session will be announced on the club website ice race school page, and by email. The classroom session provides technical discussion on taking a corner at speed (turn-in, corner apex and corner exit, slip angle, friction circles and the like), some emphasis on aspects of competition (safety, flags, the rolling start), and a little information about car preparation.

8:20 am Saturday Track Session at the Lake: The evening session is followed by an on track session on the Saturday, at a lake that is usually identified 48-72 hours in advance. It consists of various exercises. 1: Braking, accelerating, turning - pylon type course, 2: low speed ice driving - short twisting course, 3. full track - regular highway speed driving with instructor in the car. (These vary depending on ice conditions) You will be in your car most of the day.

What you need:

Vehicle: Any street car in the form of sedan, sports car or hatchback with winter tires can be used to take the school. All season tires will work very poorly in general. Very heavy vehicles such as full sized SUV's and pickup trucks are highly discouraged, but compact versions (like a Toyota Rav4 or Ford Ranger) are acceptable. If you are going racing, then bringing your new race car to the on-track session is a good idea, but bringing any car will do. Installing a seat for your instructor is important though, if the car is race prepared, and if you can't install a seat you should think about bringing a car your instructor can sit in. Your car and trunk must be empty of material that may fly around.

Requirements on-track:

You require a vehicle, **meals**, warm clothes - you will be standing outside on occasion and should dress in layers, so you can adapt to conditions.

You will need a **helmet** – motorcycle or Motorsports SA style for the school. But to race you need a Snell SA2020 or SA2025 approved helmet, not a motorcycle helmet, so you might as well just get one in advance if you are planning to race. (If you will not be racing you can use a motorcycle helmet with a DOT approval indicated by DOT on the helmet, or any of the Snell SA helmets dated 2005 or newer) Your car and trunk must be empty of material that may fly around.

Cost in 2026: \$250 for School Registration with an early bird discount until mid December, including 1-day NASCC membership. See the Rookie package info below for another pricing option.

The Ice Racing Rookie Package: You can sign up and pay for the Rookie Package in order to save substantially (more than \$250) over the course of the season. There are two options you can select from when registering by Motorsports Reg, a single class option and a two class option. Note most Chevette racers run in two run groups, making package 2 their preferred option.

The Rookie package fee covers the Ice Race school, club membership, and five race days, in either one class or two classes. (The WCMA race license fee is not covered.) Refunds will be provided if the club has to cancel races and is not able to set up alternate dates, so that fewer than 5 races are run. Refunds will be provided at driver's request for race dates missed, at the end of the season.

If you are planning on going racing please be sure to read the NASCC Ice Racing Tutorial for rookies, also called Ice Racing 101. It has the same information, plus a lot more about racing, race cars, classes, sources of equipment, etc. This version updated to January 2026.