

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Are PCA regions required to open their autocross programs to 16/17 year old licensed drivers who are children of active members?

A: No, this option was created to allow regions who have an interest, to allow fully-licensed children of PCA members to participate in autocrosses, and, as a non-driving navigator in rallies. The decision to do so is a region's decision.

Q: May regions allow licensed 16/17 year old drivers to participate in other PCA driving events?

A: This option is only available for autocrosses. Time trials, driver education events, club races, and rallies/tours (as driver) are not open to participants under 18.

Q: My child has obtained her learner's permit. May she participate in an autocross at my region?

A: This option is only available to fully licensed, unrestricted drivers. Laws vary greatly by state with respect to obtaining unrestricted licenses. Some states place restrictions on young drivers with respect to age, school grades, daylight versus night driving, number of passengers allowed in a car, etc. Additionally, there are active movements in some states to raise driving ages and add restrictions. Any region choosing to utilize the option of allowing younger drivers' participation is responsible for insuring that only fully, unrestricted licensees are allowed to participate. When we say, "unrestricted", we are not referring to restrictions upon a license if the restrictions are being complied with during the event.

Q: As an active PCA member may I allow my licensed 16/17 year old child participate in an autocross if I am unable to attend?

A: No. This program is designed to support family activities in the club and thus the PCA member parent must be present at the event for the entire time the child is participating, and further must sign the special parental insurance waiver available at the event.

Q: Our PCA region permits nonmembers of PCA to compete in our autocrosses as guests. Can our guests bring their 16/17 year old licensed driver children to participate?

A: No. This program is available only to children of current PCA members.

Q: You say, “Children” of PCA members. Can my nephew or niece not participate?

A: No, at this time the JPP is only for children of PCA members.

Q: You say, current PCA members.

A: That’s right, if a parent has allowed his/her PCA membership to lapse, his or her child cannot participate until the parent renews the PCA membership.

Q: We will be attending the National Porsche Parade this year. May my 16/17 year old child participate in the Parade autocross?

A: Eligibility for participation in Parade competition events is defined in the Parade Competition Rules (PCR’s). Currently, only registered entrants (who must be at least 18 years old, among other requirements) can participate in Parade competition events.

Q: My region sponsors driving clinics to teach car control (usually as a precursor to participation in high speed driver’s education events). May I take my 16/17 year old child to participate in such activities?

A: If such events fall entirely within the safety guidelines for autocross as described in the 2001 RPM (page 117-121) then participation would be permitted. Some of these clinics conclude with high speed lapping of a closed race course. Such activity is beyond the scope of this program and therefore such participation in that part of the clinic is not permitted.

Q: Is special insurance required for autocrosses which include 16/17 year old drivers?

A: No special insurance is required. PCA’s national policy will cover such Events, assuming that the normal and proper insurance has been obtained for this event. As for all autocrosses, our insurance carrier must be pre notified for coverage to be in effect.

Q: Should special observer reports be completed for events which include 16/17 year old drivers?

A: The Observer Report Form for Autocrosses will be updated in the next edition (YE 2001), Until that time, observers should note in the comment section of the current form, their observations relative to the special waivers, safety, and conduct.

Q: The 2001 RPM and Guidelines for Autocross, Rally, and Track for 2001 both indicate that drivers must be 18 years old or older. How does this apply?

A: These two PCA publications will be updated to reflect this new option for autocrosses and rallies when they are next published (YE 2001).

Q: The minor's mother/father is deceased or no longer has custody, am I required to obtain their signature?

A: Both parents have to sign the waiver if they are alive. If the parents are divorced or separated, but both are still alive, both parents must sign the waiver. If one parent is deceased, he or she may sign alone (with a witnessed signature), but he or she must represent that the other parent is deceased. If you have any reason to doubt such a representation, you should not accept the waiver form without further inquiry.

Q: The minor's parents are divorced, and not on good terms. However, both have signed the waiver. Do I have to get a new waiver on each event?

A: No, not if the signed waiver specifically lists all events in which the son or daughter will participate. But if it only lists one event, or does not list the event in which the son or daughter will participate, you will need a newly-signed waiver by both parents listing the event.