

# SOVREN'S Novice Program

For new drivers wishing to obtain a SOVREN Competition license, SOVREN membership and participation in the Novice Program are mandatory.

SOVREN has developed the Novice Program with the following goals:

- To make sure new members are properly prepared to compete in vintage motor racing.
- To be assured that their cars meet SOVREN's tech standards for safety.
- To expose new racers to the "vintage spirit".
- To have a fun and safe vintage racing experience.

Once you have joined SOVREN and read the rules and requirements, it is recommended that you get your race car together early. Any racer will tell you that it takes longer to get a car properly equipped than expected.

Prior to the Novice Program weekend you will need to complete all the provisional licensing requirements (see licensing section) and purchase your safety equipment.

Each year, the mandatory Novice Program is held one day prior to the Spring Sprints. At this program novices will go through tech inspection, receive instructions on flagging and race procedures, have practice starts, and a practice race. At all times on the track experienced drivers will observe novices.

All drivers of purpose-built race cars (formula or sports racers) must use those cars during the Novice Program and it is strongly recommended that all drivers participating in the Novice Program use the car they intend to race. For non-purpose built cars (production,

historic, etc.), if the regular race car is unavailable, the driver must participate in the same type of car; for instance, roadster, coupe, or sedan in the Novice Program.

In order to participate in the Novice Program, the driver must obtain a SOVREN Provisional License. A provisional license requires that the driver satisfy the following criteria. All forms are available on the website: [www.sovren.org](http://www.sovren.org)

- Join SOVREN
- Pass a physical exam and submit the VMC medical form with license application
- Attend and fully comply with the requirements of either a multi-day school **or** racing club school/one day school (details follow)
- Complete and submit a Car Registration Form well in advance of the Novice Program
- Send a copy of the completed physical exam form, race school documentation, and a completed Vintage Racing License application with appropriate fees

## Prior Competition Experience

All experienced drivers are strongly encouraged to participate in SOVREN'S Novice Day to meet the requirements for a SOVREN Competition License. In certain cases, prior but recent racing experience under an accredited Competition License from another sanctioning organization may be accepted. Such exceptions will be on a case-by-case basis and solely at the discretion of the Novice Committee and the co-chairs of the Competition Committee.

# Race Schools

Driver must attend and pass the requirements of a recognized multi-day driving school or a racing club/one day school. Recognized schools are listed below. The multi-day programs are comprised of two or more full days of instruction and include in-car/on-track training on both days. School participation must be completed no more than 14 months prior to Novice Day. The classroom and on track sessions given for many social club lapping days will NOT be accepted as meeting this requirement.

In addition, it is suggested that the driver take two (2) full lapping days, track days, or club lapping days prior to Novice Day and should be fully signed off by the track steward for the day. Drivers of purpose-built race cars must use their cars for at least one of the two lapping days. School participation and lapping days must be completed no more than 14 months prior to Novice Day.

## Recognized Race Schools

The following race schools are recognized by SOVREN. Other schools may be added at the discretion of the Novice Committee and the co-chairs of the Competition Committee. If you intend to use a school not on this list, please contact the Novice Committee to confirm acceptability. SOVREN has no affiliation with these schools, nor does it endorse any specific school or otherwise warrant the activities of these schools.

- **Bertil Roos Racing School** various tracks, (800) 722-3669, [www.racenow.com](http://www.racenow.com)
- **Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving** Phoenix, AZ, (800) 842-7223, [www.bondurant.com](http://www.bondurant.com)
- **ProFormance Racing School** Pacific Raceways, (253) 630-5130, [www.proformanceraceschool.com](http://www.proformanceraceschool.com)
- **Pro Drive Racing School** Portland Intl. Raceway, (503) 285-4449, [www.prodrive.net](http://www.prodrive.net)
- **The International Conference of Sports Car Clubs (“Conference”) associated clubs.** ICSCC Member Clubs, IRDC, Portland SCCA 2-Day drivers school. See their associated websites for more information.

## What the Club expects from you at Novice Day:

- Your car is ready and is the one you intend to race with us.
- You are fully trained and have provided validation from an accepted racing school.
- You are healthy and have submitted the right paperwork.
- You bring the correct vintage racing attitude.
- You complete all on-track sessions without incident.

## What you can expect from the Club:

- A friendly, welcoming attitude.
- A frank and helpful evaluation of your driving skills by experienced vintage racers.
- A thorough explanation of SOVREN’s expectations of our drivers.
- A clear path towards obtaining your racing license.
- All your questions answered to your satisfaction.

## Completing the Novice Program

To obtain a Competition License, the novice must meet the following criteria within the same year:

- Complete the Novice Day Program.
- Without incident, complete five races in current year
- Complete all Novice Program paperwork and send in for review. Novice Chair will finalize and notify Licensing Chair.
- Volunteer one race day sometime during the same year in order to gain better insight into all aspects of vintage racing. Coordinate this with the Competition Chair.