



# Getting Started Racing With The VSCCA

The [VSCCA](#) exists to “encourage the acquisition, preservation, restoration, and operation of vintage sports cars”. Members use their vintage sports cars in a myriad of ways. This is who we are: [Timeless racer](#).

Vintage racing is the club’s most popular activity but members also enter rallies, hill climbs, and enjoy our social events - all the while making lifelong friendships around this common bond we have. Please feel free to come by any of our events to spectate, meet us and get to know more about the club.

## GETTING ON TRACK

Professional racing schools such as Skip Barber are a great way to learn racing, but for vintage racing all US vintage racing organizations still require that you complete their racing school.

All US vintage racing organizations are affiliated with the Vintage Motorsport Council ([VMC](#)) and the VSCCA’s Vintage Racing Drivers’ School is one of the easiest ways to get into vintage racing. After passing our Vintage Racing Drivers’ School, you will be eligible to enter VSCCA track events. Provided you demonstrate sound, clean driving and are not involved in any incidents, after two additional VSCCA track events you will be granted fully-approved driver status. With VSCCA approval in hand, you can participate in other VMC vintage organizations’ events across the country.

The VSCCA Drivers’ School is similar to a full-on race school, but at a fraction of the cost and you can bring your daily driver. You’ll have a great time and will want to return for VSCCA races, hill climbs and rallies.

**If you’d like to get on track, our Vintage Racing Drivers’ School May 3-4, 2024 at Lime Rock Park, CT, offers the path towards becoming an approved driver for vintage races across the USA. [Register here](#).**

## THE VSCCA WAY

Wheel-to-wheel “racing” vintage cars is a special experience. (Racing is in quotes because we practice low-stress, fun track time. There are no trophies to be won.) We race as gentlemen and gentlewomen with special rules in place to keep us and our vintage cars as safe as possible. In addition to racing skills, these are the rules that are taught during our Vintage Racing Drivers’ School.

The cost to race with the VSCCA is usually less than other VMC groups, because we prefer cars that are closer to stock. You’ll save on modifications, gain reliability and you’ll always find cars to dice with in VSCCA events. Besides; regardless of how much you modify your car (usually at great expense), there will always be a faster competitor.

VSCCA race events are usually run Friday and Saturday with many members arriving Thursday for setup and a safety inspection of their car (known as “Tech”). Cars are usually split into three groups, generally according to type and speed. For example, there may be a “pre-war” group (made before 1940), production-based sports cars & sedans and open wheel cars & sports racers. Each group usually gets seven to eight 20-minute sessions with Fridays usually consisting of 2 practices, followed by qualifying and qualifying race sessions. Saturday usually offers one practice and three races and sometimes an all-comers race at the end of the day.

## NOT READY FOR DRIVERS' SCHOOL?

If you're not ready to join us at Drivers' School, please stop by any of our events (free of charge except for the Lime Rock Park Historic Festival over Labor Day weekend) where you'll see first-hand how much fun it is.

**Even better - join us for this introductory event:**

### Driven to Race at Lime Rock Park, May 4th, 2024:

- 2-Hour, run-group format, non-timed autocross session on the new 0.5-mile [Proving Grounds](#).
- 20 minutes of paced laps of the iconic 1.5-mile Lime Rock Park road course.
- [Register here](#).

## RACING DRIVERS' SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS<sup>1</sup>

- A. Drivers' School entrants must have a valid state driver's license and be at least 18 years of age.
- B. **Car:** You'll need a car for the Drivers' School and you can bring your daily driver. We would prefer your [VSCCA-eligible car](#) but if it's not ready, then any car will do. Either way your car will have to pass a Tech inspection. When in doubt, contact Kobus Reyneke at [kobusreyneke@gmail.com](mailto:kobusreyneke@gmail.com) or 201-913-2675. **Cars must be muffled and seatbelts are required- other safety gear recommended.**
- C. **Personal safety gear:** The club requires certain items that you can either rent or buy:
  - a. **Rent:** [Everything you need from Race Suit Rental](#) Make sure you order long in advance!
  - b. **Or buy:** You don't have to spend a fortune because all same-rated garments and helmets offer the same protection. The differences come in weight, features, etc. Read [Victory Lane Magazine's](#) article "[Race Gear for the New Racer](#)", starting on page 16. [Stable Energies](#) in NJ, [Pegasus Racing](#) in OH and [SafeRacer](#) in FL almost certainly stock everything that you'll need.
    - [Click here for a detailed list of requirements](#)

## DRIVERS' SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Approximate times are given. A final schedule will be provided.

### Thursday:

- Tech inspection available starting late afternoon. Start time to be advised.

### Friday:

- Mandatory registration and Tech are usually 7:30-8:00 AM.
- Mandatory drivers' meeting at 8:15 AM. (Class starts right after the drivers' meeting.)
- Rest of the day is usually spent alternating between classroom and track sessions.
- End-of-day happy hour and barbeque where you can meet and mingle with members.

### Saturday:

- Morning is usually spent between classroom sessions and student races.
- If you brought an appropriate vintage car, you may be able to join the two VSCCA races in the afternoon.

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<sup>1</sup> Commercial links are provided for information only and are not intended to suggest the requirement or approval of a specific product or vendor by VSCCA Inc.

## FOR THE TRACK

- A. School is on, rain or shine.
- B. Ensure that your car has been serviced and is safe.
- C. No passengers except for approved instructors with proper safety gear.
- D. Bring with you:
  - a. All your personal safety gear.
  - b. Comfortable clothes and shoes to wear between driving stints.
  - c. Sunscreen, umbrella or rain gear, cooler with lots to drink.
  - d. Completed [car tech inspection sheet](#).
- E. Pack masking tape that contrasts with your car's color. All loose items must be removed from the car, so do yourself a favor and leave stuff at home. When you get to the track, empty the car completely - everything from the glove compartment, trunk and interior such as mats, loose items, etc.
- F. Arrive an hour before the drivers' meeting to clear your car, add a number with masking tape (12" high on both sides of the car), clear tech inspection, set up, meet folks and check out some of the cool cars.

## AFTER DRIVERS' SCHOOL

If you don't have a VSCCA race car, please don't feel obligated to run out to buy one. ([More about our race cars below.](#))

There are plenty of opportunities to join in the fun with a non-VSCCA car, including one of our best events hosted at Lime Rock Park: **The Empire Cup** which includes both "wheel-to-wheel" vintage racing and "Track Day" sessions. The array of cars is breathtaking and the track action fantastic.

If you bring a regular sports car, you'll join a "Track Day" group where passing is only allowed on the two straights. Experienced drivers only, as no instruction is available. Register here or [mail application](#).

## WHERE TO STAY

Unabashedly cribbed from the Lime Rock Park website: “There are a great many wonderful inns and hotels to suit a range of tastes and budgets within an hour radius of Lime Rock Park. Many are independently owned, one-of-a-kind establishments that only add to the unique experience of visiting Lime Rock Park. And because many of the hotels and inns are smaller, they can fill up fast. So, we urge you to do your own research and plan ahead. There are also many private homes, carriage houses and rooms in the area available through one of your favorite vacation rental sites.”

To get started, [check out Lime Rock Park’s suggestions](#).

## VSCCA DRIVERS’ SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- A. Please send Kobus an email at [kobusreyneke@gmail.com](mailto:kobusreyneke@gmail.com) notifying him that you’re interested in the Drivers’ School.
- B. Register for the Drivers’ School:
  - a. First register yourself and add your car(s) at [MotorSportsReg.com](http://MotorSportsReg.com). (It’s free and easy.)
  - b. Then enter the May 3-4, 2024 VSCCA Vintage Racing Drivers’ School:
    - i. [Register here](#).
    - ii. Current VSCCA members save \$50 by entering by April 21!
    - iii. Non-VSCCA members automatically receive Associate Membership by applying for the Drivers’ School. **Your entry includes the school event, \$100 first year dues and a \$30 membership application fee (which includes a club grille badge)**. Associate Members do not vote in club elections, and do not receive a roster. They can become full members by submitting two letters of introduction from members and approval by the membership committee at any time for no additional cost.
    - iv. Select the car that you think you’ll be driving at the School. (If you bring a pre-1966 classic and pass the school, you may be allowed to run in the Saturday afternoon races.)
    - v. Leave fields empty where you don’t know the answer.
- C. Complete the Driver Qualification form, Tech sheet and optional Medical form and study the rest:
  - a. [Driver Qualification form](#) (complete and email to Charles Bordin at [cbordin123@aol.com](mailto:cbordin123@aol.com))
  - b. **Medical form**: Only required if you’re bringing a VSCCA car and plan to race Saturday afternoon.
  - c. [VSCCA Tech Sheet](#) (complete and bring to tech)
  - d. [VMC Guide to Flags](#)
  - e. [Let’s go Racing](#)
  - f. [Watch your Mirrors](#)
  - g. [Lime Rock Track Map](#)
  - h. [Lime Rock Turn by Turn](#)

## OUR TRACK CARS

For the Drivers' School any reliable, safe car will do, but you'll need an event-eligible car to race with us.

*It's important to distinguish between "VSCCA logbook" cars and ones that race at our speed events. Generally we accept VSCCA logbook cars, as well as "cars through the early seventies with logbooks from other VMS organizations or the SCCA and in some cases cars without logbooks. To check eligibility, check each event and contact the [Event Chair for each event](#).*

### VSCCA logbook cars

The VSCCA issues logbooks only to a fairly narrowly defined group of cars, including Pre-war, Post-War and VSCCA Specials. Bugattis are welcome, but we love inexpensive rides like Triumph TRs, MGAs, Minis, etc. This forms the core of VSCCA racers and several of us drive our cars to and from track events.

### Non-VSCCA cars

These cars are welcome at VSCCA events and generally fall into two groups:

- Race cars with log books [issued by other VMC organizations](#) that event chairs have the option to accept. This considerably broadens the list of cars to choose from.
- "Preservation" cars (pre-early seventies) that haven't been performance- or race-modified and can be entered in hill climbs, rallies and on the track in a group that doesn't allow wheel-to-wheel racing.

**If you decide to buy a race car, you need to make sure it will be accepted at our events. It may seem complicated, but with guidance the search can be fun and very rewarding.**

You certainly don't need an expensive vintage race car to get on track with us. At the low end a good racer can be had for as little as \$15,000, but budget at least another \$10-15,000 to make it reliable and race-ready.

We strongly recommend that you talk to several VSCCA members, sit in their cars (maybe take them for a drive) and ask lots of questions. Educate yourself and you'll quickly figure out what your ride will be.

You'll need to consider how you'll get it to the tracks and what you'll do for support during a race weekend:

- A few of us drive our cars to and from the track and rely on our own tools and help from fellow club members - who are overwhelmingly friendly and helpful. Of course to do so you'll need a reliable, street-legal car. Add a trailer when going to faraway tracks.
- On the other end of the spectrum you can have one of several race shops do the storage, maintenance, transportation and track support for you. Most will offer an à la carte menu to choose from when - for example, you'd like to store and transport your car but have track support (and a catered lunch).

To educate yourself, you can obtain guidance from one of the reputable race shops - who can then also provide support, storage, repairs and service. Here are some VSCCA "regulars"<sup>2</sup>:

- [GMT Racing](#) in Newtown, CT, 203-270-8441 ask for JR.
- [Vintage Racing Services](#) in Stratford, CT, 203-377-6745 ask for Tim.
- [KTR Motorsports](#) in Ayer, MA 978-772-7800 ask for Bob.
- Vintage Machine Works in Bethel, CT, [vmwllc@gmail.com](mailto:vmwllc@gmail.com) or 203-205-0500 ask for Mark.
- [KTR European Motorsports](#) in Ayer, MA, 978-772-7800 ask for Lynne Rivers

***Start the conversation by contacting Kobus Reyneke at [kobusreyneke@gmail.com](mailto:kobusreyneke@gmail.com) or 201-913-2675.***

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**Examples of cars that are accepted for VSCCA logbooks - and not:**



**Eligible:** 1965 Porsche 912



**Not eligible:** Porsche 911, wings, etc.



**Eligible:** MGA with stock body, original sized wire wheels, treaded tires and engine with only period type of modifications.



**Not eligible:** MGA with ineligible modifications: i.e. spoiler, flared fenders, wider than stock wheels, racing slicks, lowered suspension and likely highly modified engine for SCCA racing.

## VSCCA EVENTS

Go to our [website for a list of events.](#)