

RACE SMART

TAKE IT TO THE TRACK

Race on the streets and you will lose your license, your car, even your life! Dangerous illegal street racing is on the rise across the country. That is the reason that so many cities and states consider street racing an epidemic and are taking a hard line against it. If you're caught street racing, you could face penalties that include: costly fines, your car being impounded (or taken away permanently and crushed), having your license revoked and/or being arrested. Even if you are caught just watching an illegal race, you are subject to stiff penalties for aiding and abetting street racing.

DON'T FORGET

- If you are under 18, check with the track before you pay your entry fee to see what kind of parental permission you need.
- You should go to the starting line and watch before you make your own run. You'll get an idea of how far to pull up to stage, what the staging lights look like and how the starting lights come down.
- Make sure you know where the finish line is, where the track turn-off is, and what is at the far end of the track.
- DO NOT turn on your air conditioner. It will create condensation which will leak on to the track and cause a track official to stop you from making your run.
- You must wear long pants/sleeved shirt when you're making your run. (no nylon)
- Unload any loose items from your car before you make a run.

* Some rules can vary by track so be sure to check the rules at the track where you're going to race – you can find a list of tracks online at www.nhra.com

Some Things to Bring:

- Entry Fee
- Valid Drivers License
- Proof of Registration and Insurance
- A pen to fill out your tech card
- Sweats (no nylon) to pull on if you're wearing shorts
- Folding chairs
- Sun screen

DRAG RACING JARGON

Burnout: Spinning the tires in water to heat and clean them before a run for better traction.

Christmas Tree: The electronic starting device between the lanes on the starting line. It displays a calibrated-light countdown for each driver.

Drag Racing: Takes place on a track (not on the street!)

Elapsed Time (e.t.): The time it takes a drag-race vehicle to travel from the starting line to the finish line.

Pit Area: Location where racers prep their vehicles between races. Also referred to as pits.

Reaction Time: The time it takes a driver to react to the green starting light on the Christmas Tree, measured in thousandths of a second. A perfect reaction time is .000.

Red Light: When a race car leaves the starting line too soon – before the green light, or “go” signal – it activates the red light on the Christmas Tree and the driver automatically loses the race.

Staging Lanes: Numbered lanes where cars line up before moving to the starting line.

Time Slip: A piece of paper that looks like a receipt which provides information about the driver's run. It tells the driver the reaction time, e.t. and speed at various points during the run, including at the finish line. After a run, the driver picks it up at a booth at the end of the track.

THROW A DRAG PARTY

Looking for a new and exciting way to have fun?

NHRA Drags: Street Legal Style presented by AAA are a great way to get your friends, coworkers or employees together for a day of challenging fun and entertainment.

Groups of all sizes are welcome.

- Bachelor/Bachelorette Parties
- Birthday Parties
- Graduation Parties
- Employee Appreciation Day
- Team Building Events

LOCATION

Locate the NHRA member track nearest you at:



www.AAA.com



Official HIGH PERFORMANCE SOURCE of NHRA

National Hot Rod Association
2035 Financial Way, Glendora, CA 91741
www.nhra.com/streetlegal



RACE THE STRIP NOT THE STREET

WHETHER you're a hard-core racing enthusiast or just want to test your driving skills against others, NHRA Drags: Street Legal Style presented by AAA offers a fun and easy alternative to dangerous and illegal street racing. NHRA Member Tracks across the country allow anyone with a street legal car, a valid driver's license, and proof of registration and insurance to race in a safe, controlled environment.

WHAT TO EXPECT

When you get to the track, you'll pay your entry fee and get a tech card. Fill out the tech card and go to the tech area. That's where track officials will inspect your car to make sure you meet the racing requirements. Some of those safety requirements include:

- Seat belts
- Working Headlights and Taillights
- Safe, DOT-Approved Tires
- Secured Battery
- Must wear long pants (no nylon), sleeved shirt, closed-toe shoes and socks when making your run.
- Helmets and additional safety equipment may be required. Contact your local track for specifics.

LET'S RACE

Once you've gone through tech, signed the waiver form and found a pit space, you're ready to race. Follow your competitors to the staging lanes and you'll be directed by track officials into the correct lane and make your way up to the Christmas Tree.

READY

Before you pull up to the Tree, make sure your door is closed, windows are rolled up and your seat belt is on. If the track lights are on, your headlights will need to be on.

SET

When it's your turn to run, remember that the staging beams are about 40 feet before the Tree. Pull forward slowly until the top yellow bulb on the Tree lights up. That means you are "pre-staged." Then, roll forward slightly until the second yellow light comes on. That means you are "staged" and ready to go.

GO

Once you're staged, the Starter will activate the Tree. The lower yellow lights will come on one at a time a half-second apart. Be ready to hit the gas when the last yellow light comes on. By the time you and your car react, the green light will be on. If you happen to red light (meaning you actually do react before the green light) don't worry. It happens to even the most experienced racers.



Make sure you know where the finish line is before you make your run. When you cross the finish line don't hit your brakes too hard. Keep going to the opening in the guard rail where you'll turn off the track. Remember, the driver in the lane next to the turnouts has the right of way, don't cross in front of him. Also, don't turn around on the track.

After you've turned off the track, head to the timing booth and get your time slip. Return to your pit area and look over your slip. If you need help reading it, ask a track official or a fellow racer.

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TRACK

Shutdown Area
1/4 Mile Finish Line
MPH Timer

1/8 Mile Finish Line
MPH Timer

The Tree

Starting Line

Burnout box

