

## **Tour Etiquette and Rules of the Road (Reused with permission from Pacific NW Region PCA)**

**TOUR RULE #1: A tour is not a competitive driving event!** However, tour planners attempt to conduct as much of a tour as possible on winding, secondary/back (paved) roads to enhance the driving experience as well as maximize the scenery. **Safety is paramount!**

**WAIVERS: EVERYONE must sign the waiver form prior to tour start.** This will be done after arrival at the tour start point and will be monitored by the tour/group leaders. Minors riding with their parent/guardian, under the age of 18, must sign a separate waiver form, which is also signed by their parent/guardian.

**PARTICIPANT SAFETY MEETING:** Plan to arrive at the time at the advertised time and make sure to sign the waiver of liability form and attend the participant safety meeting. The tour leader will distribute route maps after confirming the waiver of liability has been signed. All drivers must have a current driver's license and automobile liability insurance.

**REST STOPS:** Rest stops will be taken every 60-90 minutes. Pull ahead slowly to the farthest parking space to allow all cars to get parked, and depart in an orderly and efficient manner. Do not depart the tour route without notifying your group leader. **Once you depart the published tour route, you are no longer considered part of the tour and may not be covered by PCA liability insurance.**

**GROUP SIZE:** We try to limit the size of each groups for safety and logistics reasons. Groups depart at 5-15-minute intervals as determined by the tour leader.

**CONGESTED AREAS/SEPARATION:** Be especially cautious traveling through congested areas and obey all traffic signals and speeds. (Always obey all traffic signals and speeds on group drives) If you get separated from your group, follow your route directions, do not try to speed to catch up.

**SPEEDS and PASSING:** Do not drive at excessive speeds or pass using poor judgment. Observe speed limits and traffic laws. Do not pass on **solid yellow lines** in your lane, **double yellow lines, on blind curves, in school zones, etc.** Don't weave in and out of traffic to catch-up to your group. Frequently, other cars will get mixed in with our group. If you need to pass other drivers, **be courteous**, and remember that we are representatives of the Porsche club and all of its members. With all the smart/camera phones out there, we/you are not invisible and locals will not hesitate to "document" a situation they deem unsafe or annoying. **When passing non-motorized vehicles (bicycles, horses, pedestrians), pull over far enough to pass safely but DO NOT step on the gas and pass at a high rate of speed or under full acceleration! Pass at a conservative speed, then accelerate when well past.** Drive with your headlights ON to increase visibility to other vehicles.

**DO NOT PASS THE TOUR/GROUP LEADER:** **Passing the tour/group leader is not allowed.** The tour leaders have traveled the route numerous times in preparation for the tour, know when to use caution and will dictate the speed at which the tour progresses. If a tour member passes the tour leader, that member will be considered as having left the tour and not be allowed to rejoin. If you need to leave the tour early, notify your group leader and sweeper and leave at a rest stop or regrouping point so that other cars behind you do not follow you by mistake. Once again, **if you depart the published tour route, you are no longer considered part of the tour and may not be covered by PCA liability insurance.**

**EMERGENCIES:** **Pull over and make sure you are safely out of the way of other cars. Raise the hood on your car and turn on the emergency flashers.** The sweep will stop do what they can to assist.

## **GUIDANCE FOR DRIVERS:**

- Show up on time (no later than 30 min prior to departure of first group) to sign the waiver and attend the participant's safety meeting. **Everyone must attend, not just the driver!**
- Show up at the meeting point with sufficient gas to complete the route. Don't expect the group leader to stop the whole group just because you don't have enough gas.
- Listen up during the safety meeting
- Make sure you get the driving directions after signing the waiver of liability form
- **Reset odometer/trip meters to "zero"** before starting the route and after pit stops or other locations noted on your route map
- Use the "tagging technique" of making sure you can see the Porsche behind you at every road change/turn. This makes sure no one gets lost.
- Do not drive faster than your comfort level. **If you feel uncomfortable with the pace of your group, drop back to the end of the group at the first rest stop and/or ask to change to another group.**
- Don't "tailgate" the car in front of you, especially on curvy roads. It is unsafe and leaves no reaction time if the car in front must suddenly slow down/stop. Ask to change groups at a rest stop if you feel your driving style (and experience) does not match the group you are with.
- **Don't drive in a manner that upsets the locals.....BUT** sometimes when you are in the last group and the locals just saw three other groups of Porsches pass by, they may have "had enough" for one day! Be respectful!! Wave!! Smile!!
- **Make note if any local resident along the route seems irritated (about anything) as you pass by. Note time and location.** Notify the tour group leader at the next rest stop. **THIS IS AN IMPORTANT POINT** as locals have been known to contact local media and the police if they think they observed unsafe driving practices by tour groups.