



County Line Nissan

Justin Tang, Co-Director of Motorsports
“Autocross Presentation” July 10, 2013

Meeting Outline

- ▶ Introduction and Background
- ▶ Driving Techniques and Tips
- ▶ Getting Involved and Finding Events
- ▶ Conclusions and Q/A

Background



What is autocross?

- ▶ Also known as “Solo Racing” and “Autox”.
- ▶ Course is denoted by traffic cones, cars are racing for shortest lap time as opposed to wheel-to-wheel, and emphasis on tight cornering instead of straight/high-speed sections.
- ▶ Most autox’s are hosted by the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) or at least follow their rulebook (available online for free at www.scca.com).
- ▶ Can be highly competitive but also social at the same time! Events range from local to regional to national, offering a large pool of skilled drivers to compete against.



Autocross Course Anatomy

- ▶ “Sea of Cones!”
- ▶ Start, Finish, Pointer Cones, Gates, Slaloms



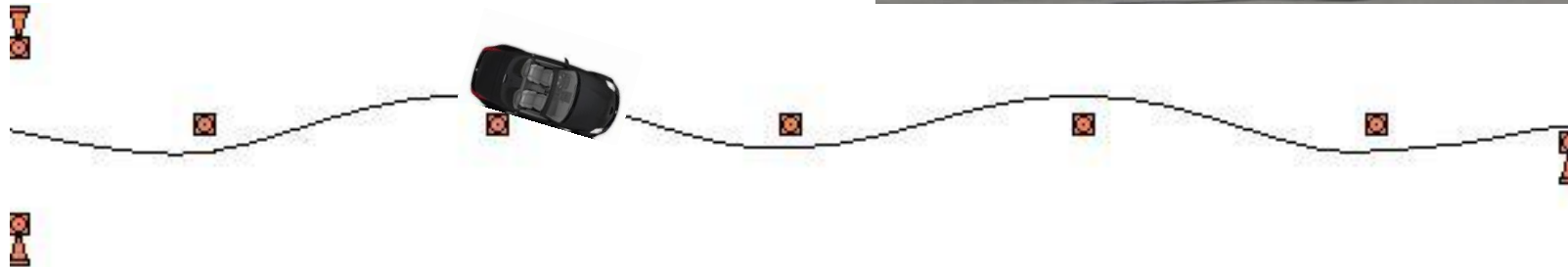
General Tips

- ▶ The combination of having a limited number of runs to hit the fastest lap time and the new course layout every event emphasizes line visualization and adaptability.
- ▶ Only the fastest lap is counted. If you make a mistake early on, continue to drive at full speed to fully utilize your time on course.
- ▶ Smooth is fast. Overdriving the car usually results in slower lap times and inconsistency.
- ▶ Pay attention to the racing line. Pushing the car to its fullest is important, but will only get you so far if the line is not optimized.
- ▶ Get close to cones! Utilize as much track as possible.



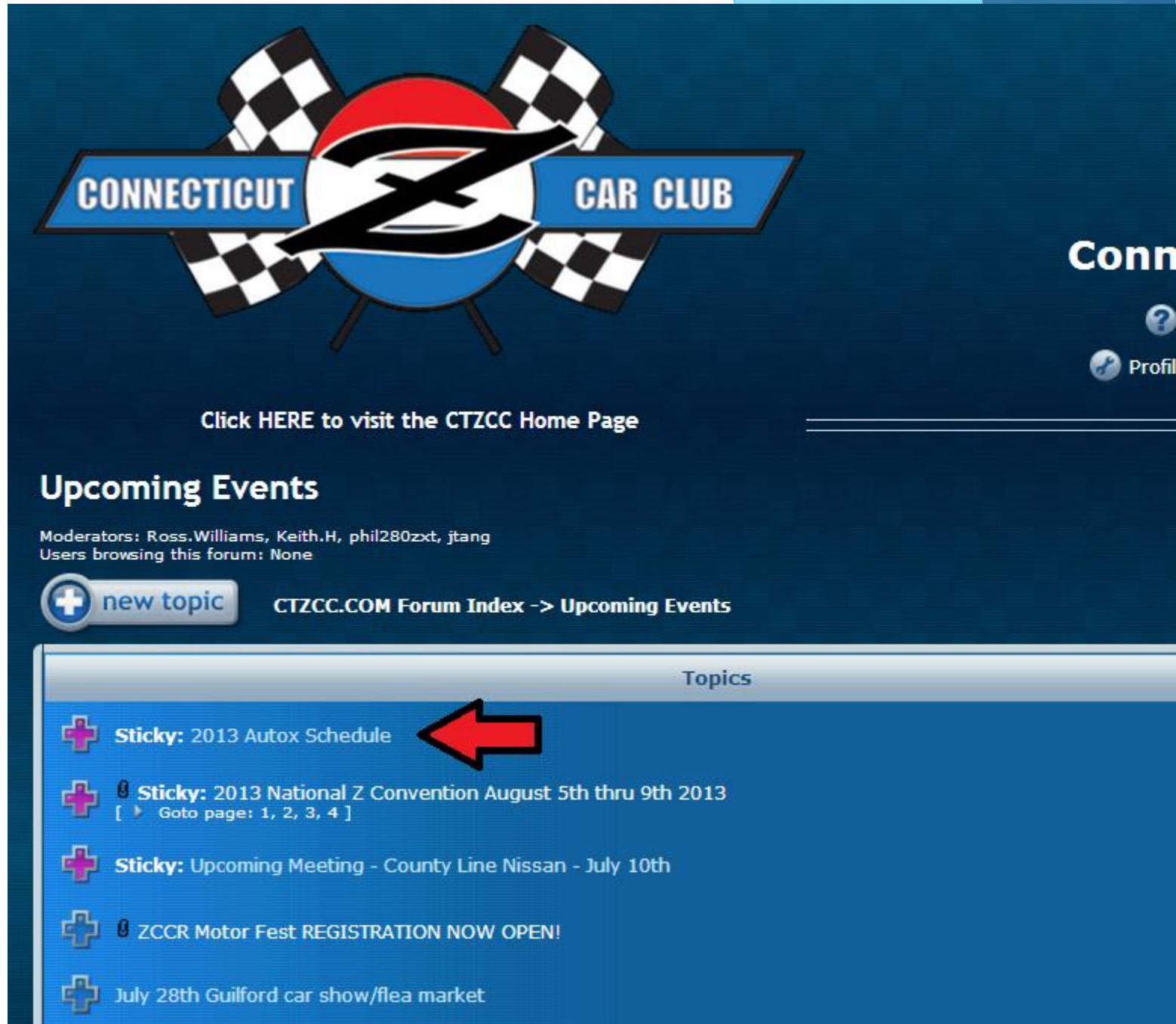
Attacking Slaloms

- ▶ Minimal steering input is best.
- ▶ Approach slaloms down the middle if possible. Beginning a slalom offset on either side will require you to cover more lateral distance during the slalom (more steering angle needed).
- ▶ Turn early. Try to clip the slalom cones with the rear tire as opposed to the front tire.
- ▶ Pay attention to slaloms during course walk—check to see if the slalom is offset (either for you or against you) or if the slalom is increasing or decreasing or if it is straight or curved.



Getting Started

- ▶ 2013 Schedule on stickied CTZCC Forum post with most autox clubs in the area included.
 - ▶ <http://forums.ctzcc.com/viewtopic.php?t=7482>
- ▶ Find the club website who is hosting the event you are interested in (FCSCC, C.A.R.T., NER SCCA, NNJR SCCA, etc.) to find specific schedule/rules/directions. Most clubs will provide contact info to event organizers if you have more questions.
- ▶ At the event: arrive early; arrive prepared; and ask lots of questions!



CONNECTICUT CAR CLUB

Click [HERE](#) to visit the CTZCC Home Page

Upcoming Events

Moderators: Ross.Williams, Keith.H, phil280zxt, jtang
Users browsing this forum: None

[+ new topic](#) [CTZCC.COM Forum Index -> Upcoming Events](#)

Topics

- [+ Sticky: 2013 Autox Schedule](#)
- [+ 0 Sticky: 2013 National Z Convention August 5th thru 9th 2013](#)
[[Goto page: 1, 2, 3, 4](#)]
- [+ Sticky: Upcoming Meeting - County Line Nissan - July 10th](#)
- [+ 0 ZCCR Motor Fest REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!](#)
- [+ July 28th Guilford car show/flea market](#)

Technical Inspection

- ▶ Full technical inspection list available in SCCA rulebook.
- ▶ Most important and frequently checked items:
 - ▶ Car is emptied of any loose items (spare tire, tool kit, floor mats, etc.).
 - ▶ Battery is secured. Must have some kind of hold down mechanism.
 - ▶ Wheel bearings and suspension has no play. Will conduct a tire-shake test.
 - ▶ Helmet is DOT approved to club's specification (usually M2005/SA2005 or newer, but depends on the hosting club's rules). If you do not have a helmet, some clubs offer rental helmets (FCSCC offers them for free!).

Video

- ▶ Go here for a list of on-board footage of me (updated as I race more):
- ▶ <http://forums.ctzcc.com/viewtopic.php?t=7490>

Closing Thoughts

- ▶ Is autocross safe?
- ▶ How expensive is the sport?
- ▶ Does my car need to be fixed up to be competitive?