# The North Hills Sports Car Club

This guide is intended to give you an overview of how to prepare for and participate in your first event. It covers car prep and working the course.

We will review this information before each event in our novice walkthrough and drivers' meeting, so please feel free to ask questions.

We provide more detailed instructions in our Novice Handbook, located in the forms section of our website.

# Tech Inspection

Helmet must meet club SNELL rating requirements

EVs should not contain gasoline

Remove all loose items from the vehicle

Numbers must be legible and visible

Remove garage door openers from sun visors

Remove floor mats if they are not secured
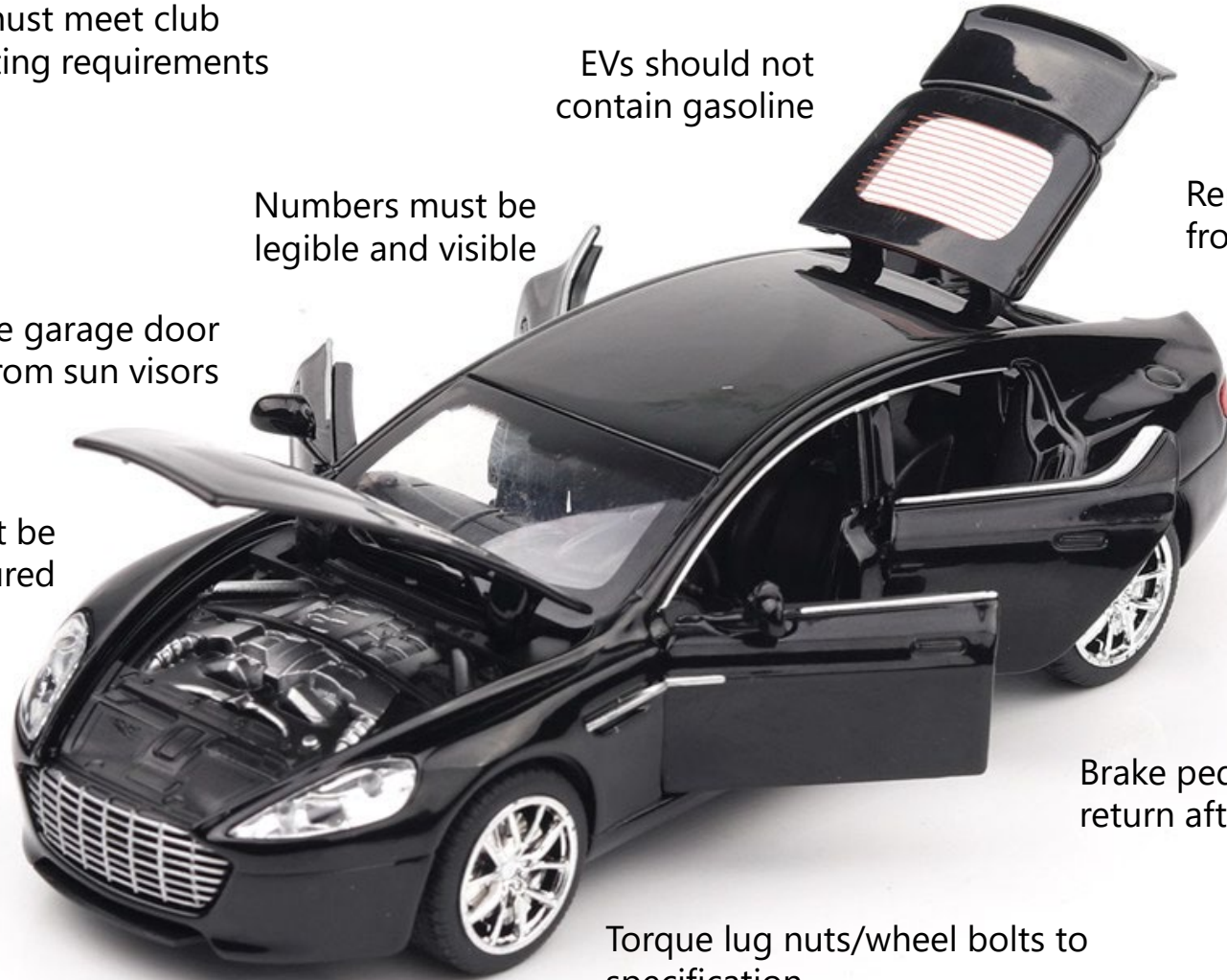
Battery must be properly secured

Inflate tires to desired pressures

Caps for all fluid reservoirs must be in place

Brake pedal must be firm and return after being pressed

Suspension and wheels should not have play
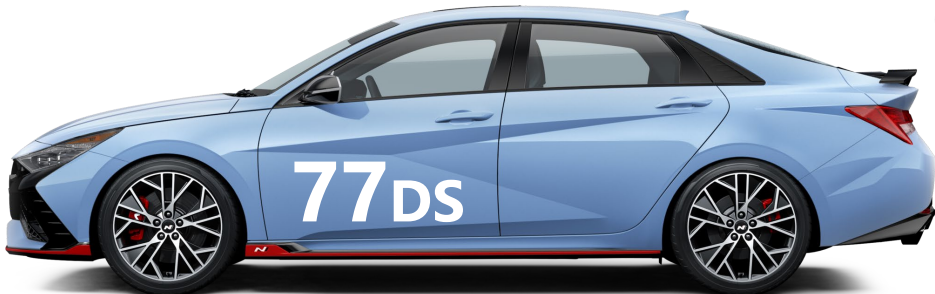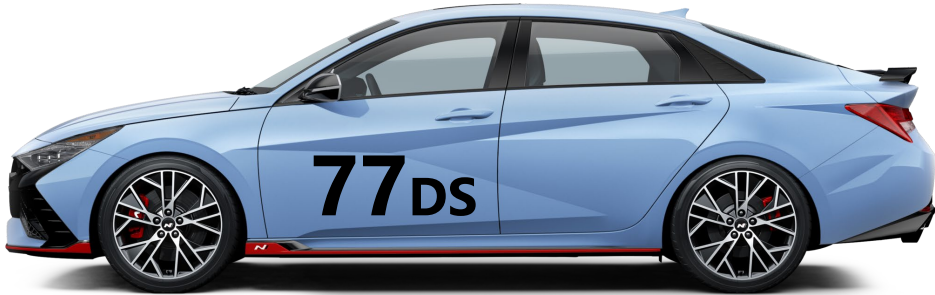*(no worn bushings or tie rods)*

Torque lug nuts/wheel bolts to specification

# Car Numbers



Numbers must be 8" tall x 1.5" wide
Class must be 4" tall x ¾" wide

Colors should be a high contrast to the color of the car
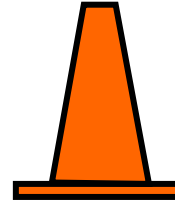
Font must be clear and legible

# Worker Assignments

➢ Most work assignments involve working on the course to replace cones that have been knocked over. (see following pages)

➢ Spotters are positioned near the trailer and help identify cone calls, off-course calls, and safety issues and relay them to the timing trailer crew.

➢ Timing is run by one experienced person who enters cars into the software and operates the timing equipment.  A second person logs all runs on paper as a backup. A third person announces times over the PA and radio.

➢ A worker is assigned to keep cars in numerical order. (Grid Nazi)

➢ Setting up the course in the morning and tearing down the course after the event requires a small number of workers. Please check in with the Chief, based on attendance this may or may not count towards your work assignment.
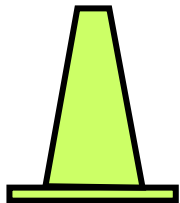
# Types of Cones
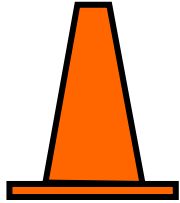
## Course Cones
- Used to mark the layout of the course
- Hitting one will add 2 seconds to your time
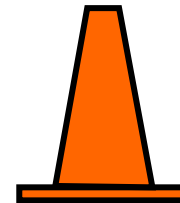- Passing on the wrong side is an off course

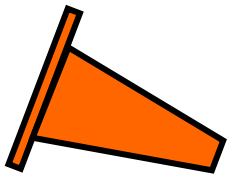## Crossover Cones
- Unique to North Hills Sports Car Club
- Used to indicate travel in two directions
- Hitting one is the same as a course cone

## Pointer Cones
- Used to show the direction of travel
- Hitting one does not add to your time

## Finish Cones
- Used to mark the chute after the finish line
- Hitting one results in a DNF

## Road Cones
- Used to manage road traffic
- Hitting one results in people laughing at you

## Ice Cream Cones
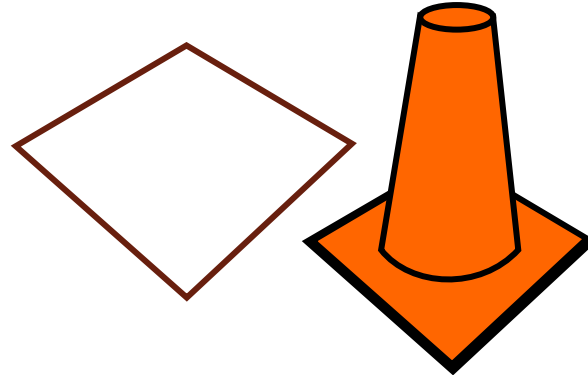- Used to bribe children to clean their room
- Delicious and refreshing
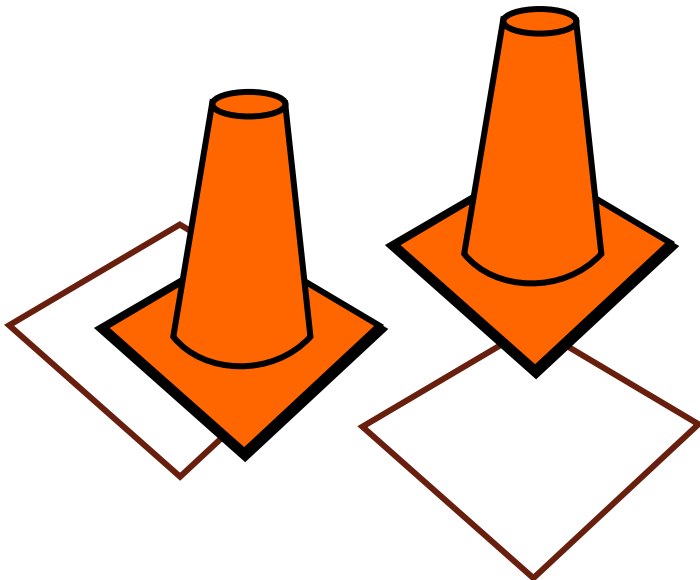- Not to be consumed while driving

# Cone Penalties
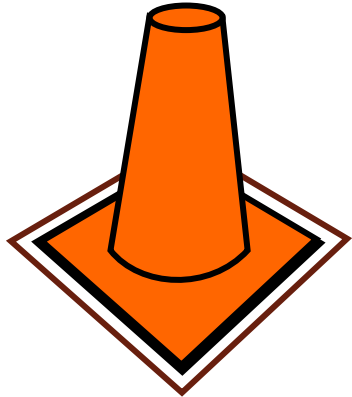
All cones are outlined with a box, usually drawn with yellow chalk.

Cones must remain in their box as cars pass by them or time penalties will be added to the driver.
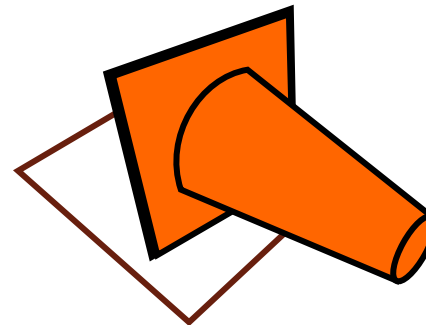
If a cone is hit and remains upright, but is out of the box, it is considered hit.

Make the hit call and return the cone to the box.

If a cone is hit but it remains upright and ANY part of the base remains within the box, it is considered safe.
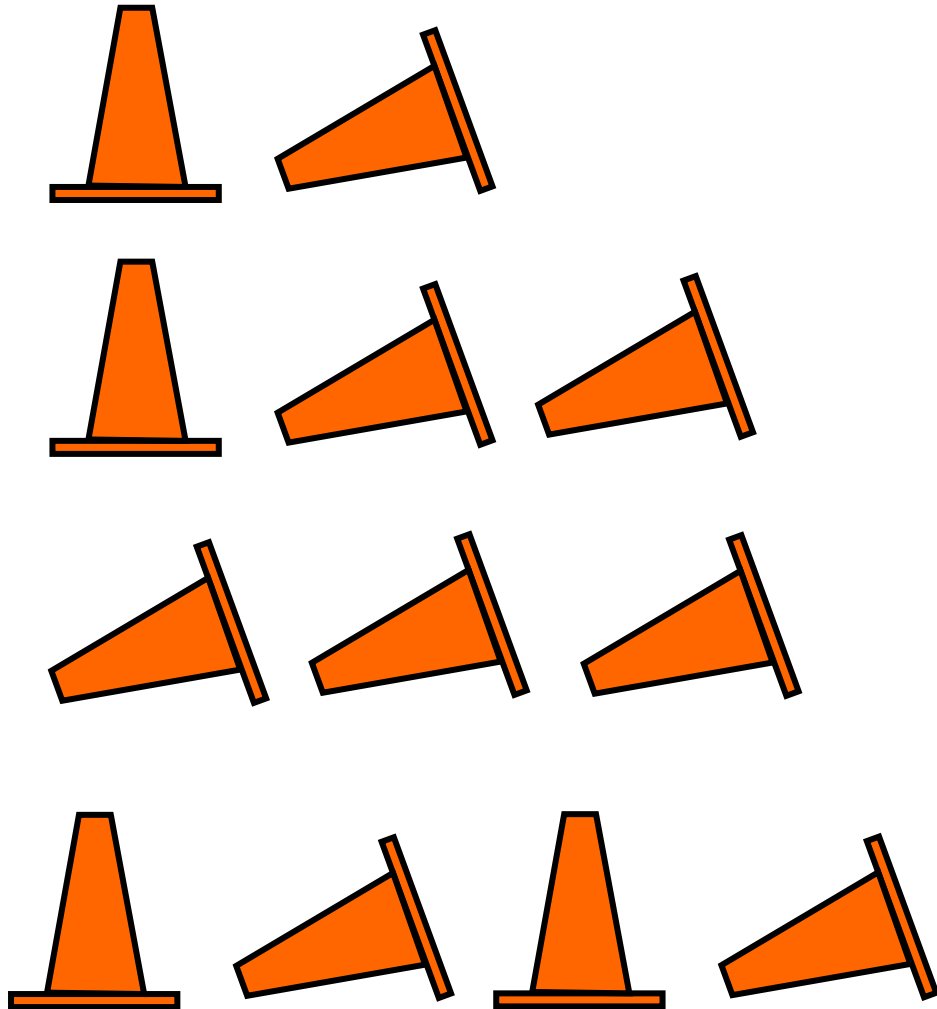
Make the safe call and return the cone to the box.

If a cone is hit and it is no longer standing, it is considered hit, even if it remains within the box.

Make the hit call and return the cone to the box.

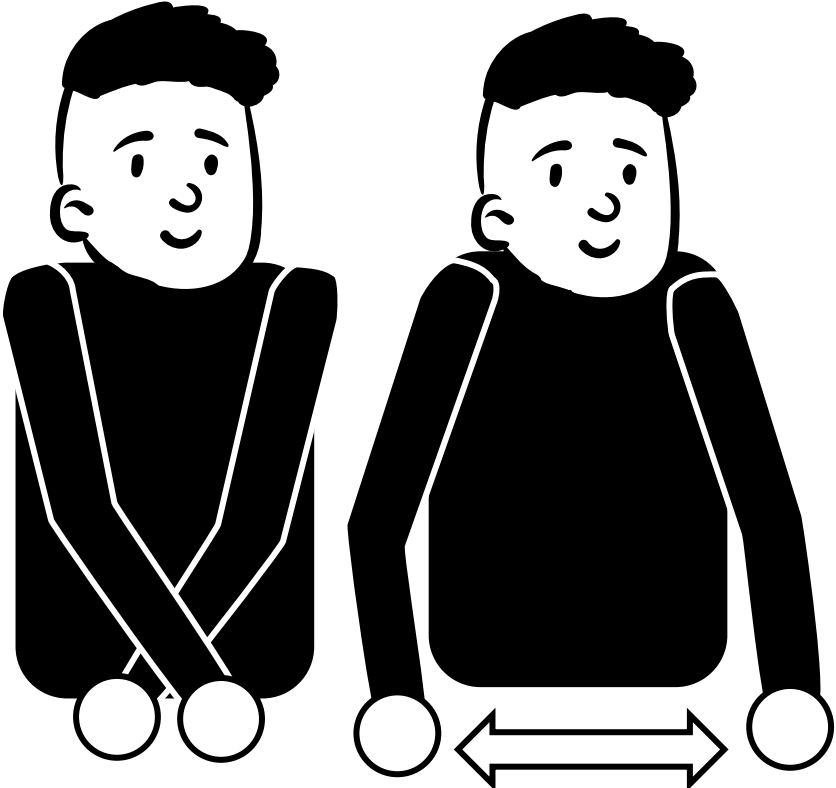# Pointer Cones

- Pointer cones indicate the direction of travel.

- If pointing at a course cone, the car is to travel on the opposite side of the pointer cone.

- If used in a cone wall, they indicate the direction the course is going.

- Pointer cones are only used on the inside (apex) of a corner.

- Pointer cones do not count if hit, but it does make them sad
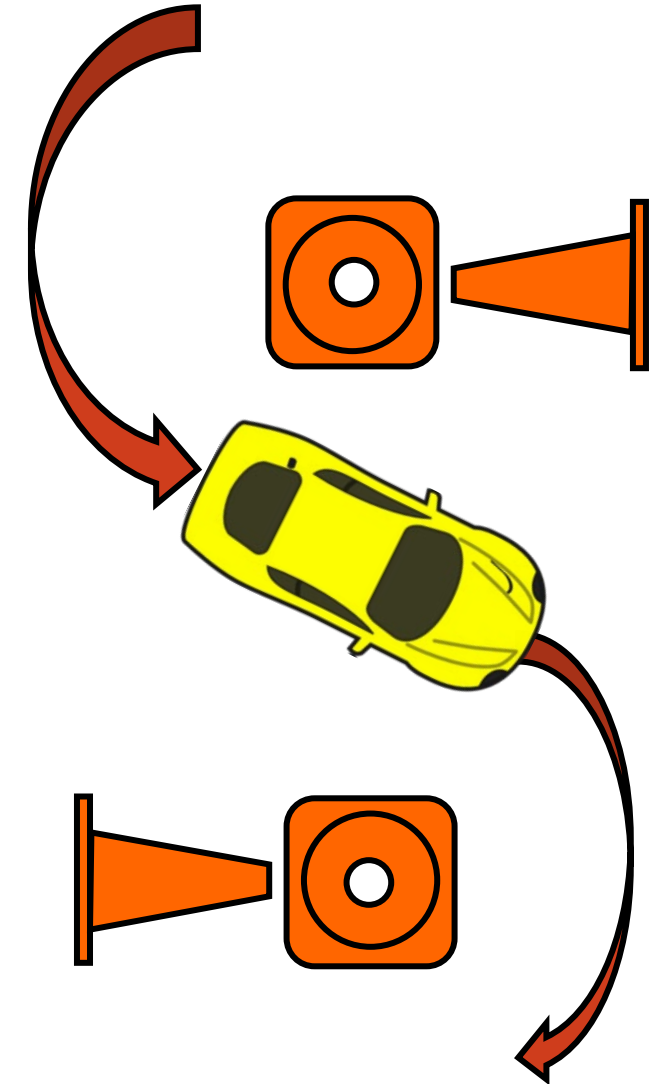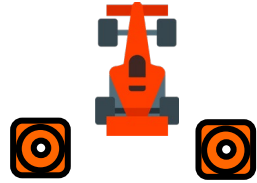
# Cone Calls

Hit

Safe

Off Course

# Is it Off Course?



**NO**
- Went through both gates
- Went on the correct side of each pointer cone

**NO**
- Went through both gates
- Went on the correct side of each pointer cone

**Yes**
- Missed one gate
- Went on the wrong side of a pointer cone

# Red Flag

➢ Red flags are located at each worker station.

➢ Red flags are used to bring cars on course to an IMMEDIATE STOP

➢ If, as a course worker, you see anything that could be a safety issue, wave your red flag. *(car stopped on course, person walking on course, debris..)*

➢ If you see another red flag waving, wave yours. Be aggressive and make sure the car sees it.

➢ The cars on course will get a re-run, better to be safe than sorry.

# Typical Course

**Crossover**
Yellow/green cones indicate that you will pass through this element more than once.

**Gate**
Any two cones place opposite of each other indicate a gate to drive through.

**Start**
Timer does not start until the car crosses the timing beam

**Pointer Cone**
Always on the inside or apex of a corner

**Cone Wall**
Visual marker to indicate the direction of travel

**Course Workers**
Be aware, they move around, if you see one in your path, **STOP**
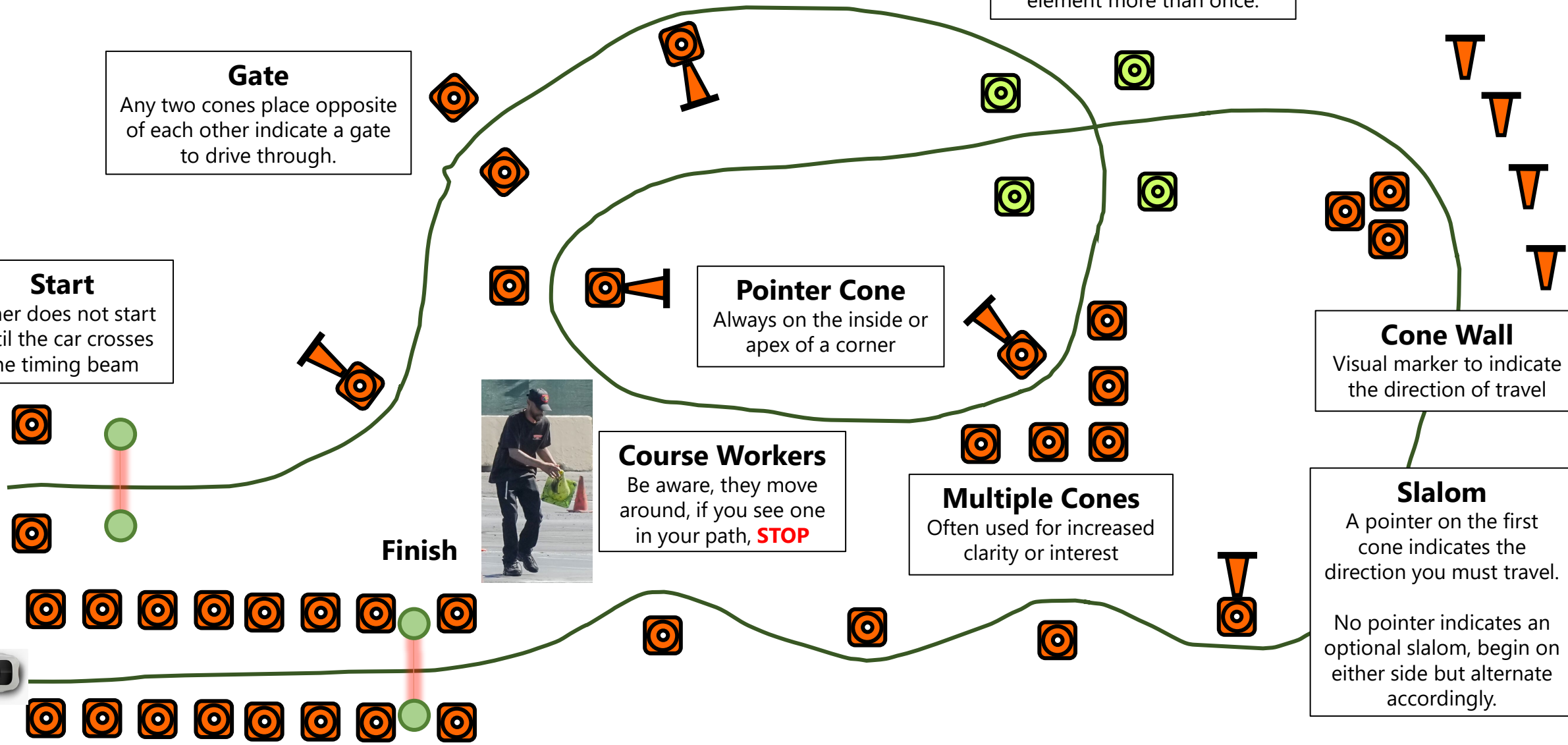
**Finish**

**Multiple Cones**
Often used for increased clarity or interest

**Slalom**
A pointer on the first cone indicates the direction you must travel.

No pointer indicates an optional slalom, begin on either side but alternate accordingly.

NORTH HILLS SPORTS CAR CLUB · PITTSBURGH ·

# Timing Trailer

**Distractions**
The trailer crew is VERY busy running the timing software and logging runs.

Please do not ask questions or interrupt them during runs. Find a chairperson or club member.

**Course Visibility**
The trailer crew needs to be able to see cars on the course and cone calls from course workers.

Please do not block visibility from the rear of the trailer

**Grid Visibility**
The trailer crew needs to be able to see cars approaching the line to enter their car number into the timing computer.

Please do not block visibility from the sides of the trailer
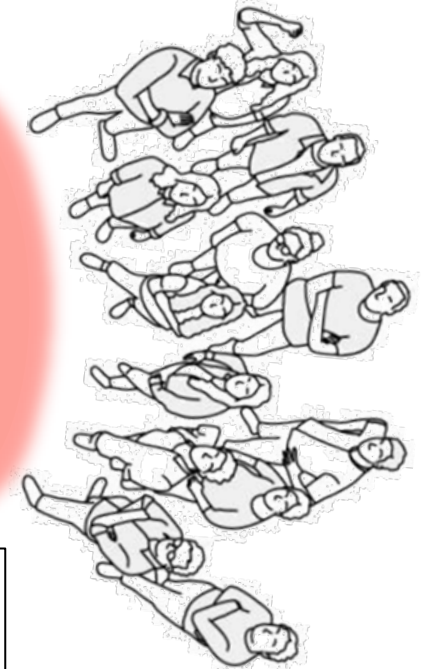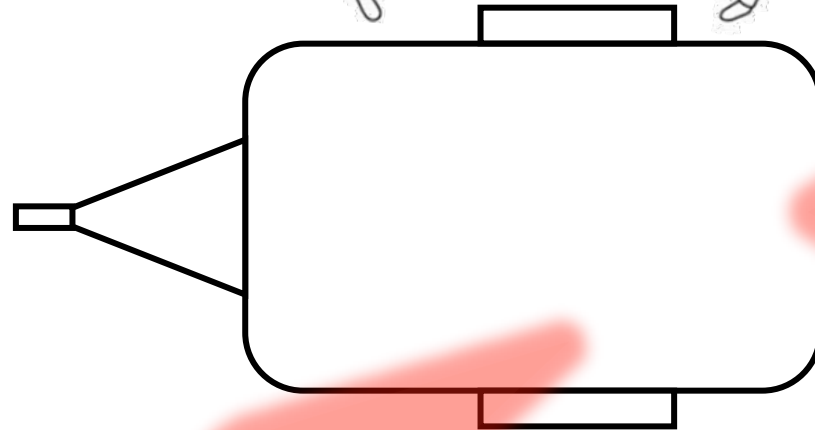
**Gifts**
You are permitted to leave gifts to the timing gods in the trailer such as cash, food, tools, precious gems, gift cards, etc. The NHSCC will be sure to send them along for you.