

Street MACHINE **DRA**G CHALLENGE 2024



2024 ENTRANT

PARTY GUIDE

30 OCT - 3 NOV

RODS OUT

1 - 2 NOV

WELCOME TO STREET MACHINE DRAG CHALLENGE 2024

This guide contains everything you need to know to have the very best Drag Challenge possible.

Completing Drag Challenge is the automotive equivalent of climbing Mt Everest; a personal challenge that will put you, your mates and your car to a test that most people would never dream of attempting. It is also the most fun you can have on four wheels!

Drag Challenge has created an amazing community, supporting each other with incredible displays of sportsmanship and a camaraderie not often seen in other forms of motorsport.

Every racer represents this community at the tracks and out on the road, maintaining a high standard of behaviour that means the event will be able to continue for many years to come.

THIS GUIDE COVERS

- What you get and the awards you can win
- How Drag Challenge works
- The important things you need to know

RACERS, START YOUR ENGINES!

Street Machine Drag Challenge exists because we saw how awesome Hot Rod Drag Week was in the US and we knew if we wanted to be able to participate in that kind of event in Australia, we'd have to put it on ourselves. So we did!

10 years later and we reckon Drag Challenge is the most exciting form of drag racing outside of Top Fuel. The crucial difference is that anyone with a tough street car can get involved in DC. We keep rules and regulations to a minimum, which means that racers have the freedom to build and race just about any combination of car they can dream up.

The vibe is impeccable and every racer, crew member and spectator comes away from the event with plenty of stories to tell. Telling as many of those stories as we can is a treat for the Street Machine team and fingers crossed, we might even get to race one of our own cars this year.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the entrants, sponsors, track staff and fans who make it all possible.

Simon Telford, Publisher



WHERE TO STAY

Drag & Drive events like Drag Challenge let us live out *Two Lane Blacktop* for real; racing in one town, cruising through some amazing countryside to the next town and racing again. Fixing our cars when they break and seeing a side of Australia most tourists will never experience.

Accommodation choices range from swags and roof top tents to the luxury of Rydges Pit Lane at The Bend Motorsport Park.

Some racers book their accommodation early, others choose to do it on the fly depending on how the event is panning out for them.

Either way, if you are hoping to have a very relaxed event, we advise to follow the mantra of 'One and Done' - that means getting one solid pass down early in the day, leaving plenty of time to get to the next track.



THROW OUT THE SWAG

Camping is a fun, cost-effective way to do Drag Challenge. Camping at the race track is only available at Heathcote Park Raceway. This will be charged directly by the venue at \$20 per person.

Dragway at the Bend does not allow camping, but the Big4 next door has plenty of powered and unpowered sites up for grabs.

Likewise, there is no camping at Calder park or Mildura, but there are plenty of nearby caravan parks, including:

- Airport Tourist Village Melbourne
- West City Caravan Park
- Sundowner Caravan Park Rockbank
- Big 4 Mildura Getaway Holiday Park
- NRMA Mildura Riverside Holiday Park



WHAT'S IN YOUR PARTY GUIDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: EVERYTHING DRAG CHALLENGE ENTRANTS WILL ENJOY AND WHAT YOU GET!

- ▶ **STREET MACHINE DRAG CHALLENGE PARTY PLAN**
- ▶ **ALL THE COOL THINGS YOU GET**
- ▶ **AWARDS**
- ▶ **AFTER PARTY**

SECTION 2: THE IMPORTANT ITEMS TO BE FAMILIAR WITH HOW DRAG CHALLENGE WORKS

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| ▶ REGO DAY | ▶ CLASSES |
| ▶ YOUR CAR | ▶ WORKING ON YOUR CAR |
| ▶ YOUR TRAILER | ▶ ON THE ROAD |
| ▶ TECH | ▶ ON THE TRACK |

SECTION 3: BURNOUTS COMPETITION

- ▶ **RODS OUT #1 & RODS OUT #2**

ENTRANT PARTY GUIDE 2024



2024 STREET MACHINE DRAG CHALLENGE PARTY PLAN

TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER

Check-in - Calder Park Raceway, 9am-6pm

WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER

Day One - Calder Park Raceway, 9am-3pm

THURSDAY 31 OCTOBER

Day Two - Sunset Strip Mildura, 9am-3pm

FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER

Day Three - Dragway at the Bend, 9am-3pm plus Rods Out #1

SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER

Day Four - Heathcote Park Raceway, 2pm-8pm, plus Rods Out #2

SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER

Day Five - Calder Park Raceway, racing 10am-4pm, plus VIP Grudge Challenge & Chrome Bumper Car Show until 6pm

EVERYTHING DRAG CHALLENGE ENTRANTS WILL ENJOY (AND WHAT YOU GET!)

- Every Drag Challenge entry includes admission for you and your entire crew. That is, as many of your family and friends that you can legally strap into your ride! You'll also get an event t-shirt, sticker, stubby holder and number plate.
- At the track, we have six hours of racing each day, allowing for stoppages for weather or oil downs. Every entrant will need to do one pass at each track to stay in the hunt, but you can also do as many passes as is practical each day.
- When you hand in your timeslip at each track, you'll be given a mandatory route to the next track. We plan each day's route with safety in mind, as well as taking you through breathtaking landscapes and stopping at a fun checkpoint.
- Entrants BBQ on Rego Day and at Day Five After Party

AWARDS

- The first goal of every Drag Challenge entrant is to complete the event and receive the coveted 'I survived Drag Challenge' sticker. This is a badge of honour and undeniable proof that your ride is in fact, a bona fide street car!
- The overall winner of the event receives the iconic camshaft trophy and the adulation of all
- The top three in each class receive a trophy
- New entrants into the Seven-Second, Six-Second, Four-Second and 200mph Clubs receive a hat that is otherwise impossible to obtain
- We also present a stack of highly-coveted awards including: Quickest without a Trailer, Quickest Six, Quickest Holden/Ford/Chev-powered, Quickest Four/Rotary, Quickest Stick Shift, Hard Luck, Longest Distance Travelled and the Spirt of Drag Challenge



AFTER PARTY

- At the conclusion of racing on day five, we'll be holding a VIP Grudge Shootout. This means if you haven't had enough racing after five days of competition, you'll be able to line up against some of Melbourne's toughest street cars until you've had your fill!
- There will be a party vibe in the pits, with food trucks and DJs pumping the tunes as you wind down from five days of action!
- Finally, our high achievers in each class and special award category are recognised at the trophy ceremony.



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DRAG CHALLENGE

- ▶ **How Drag Challenge works**
- ▶ **Rego Day**
- ▶ **Your Trailer**
- ▶ **Tech**
- ▶ **Classes**
- ▶ **On The Road**
- ▶ **Working on your Car**
- ▶ **On The Track**

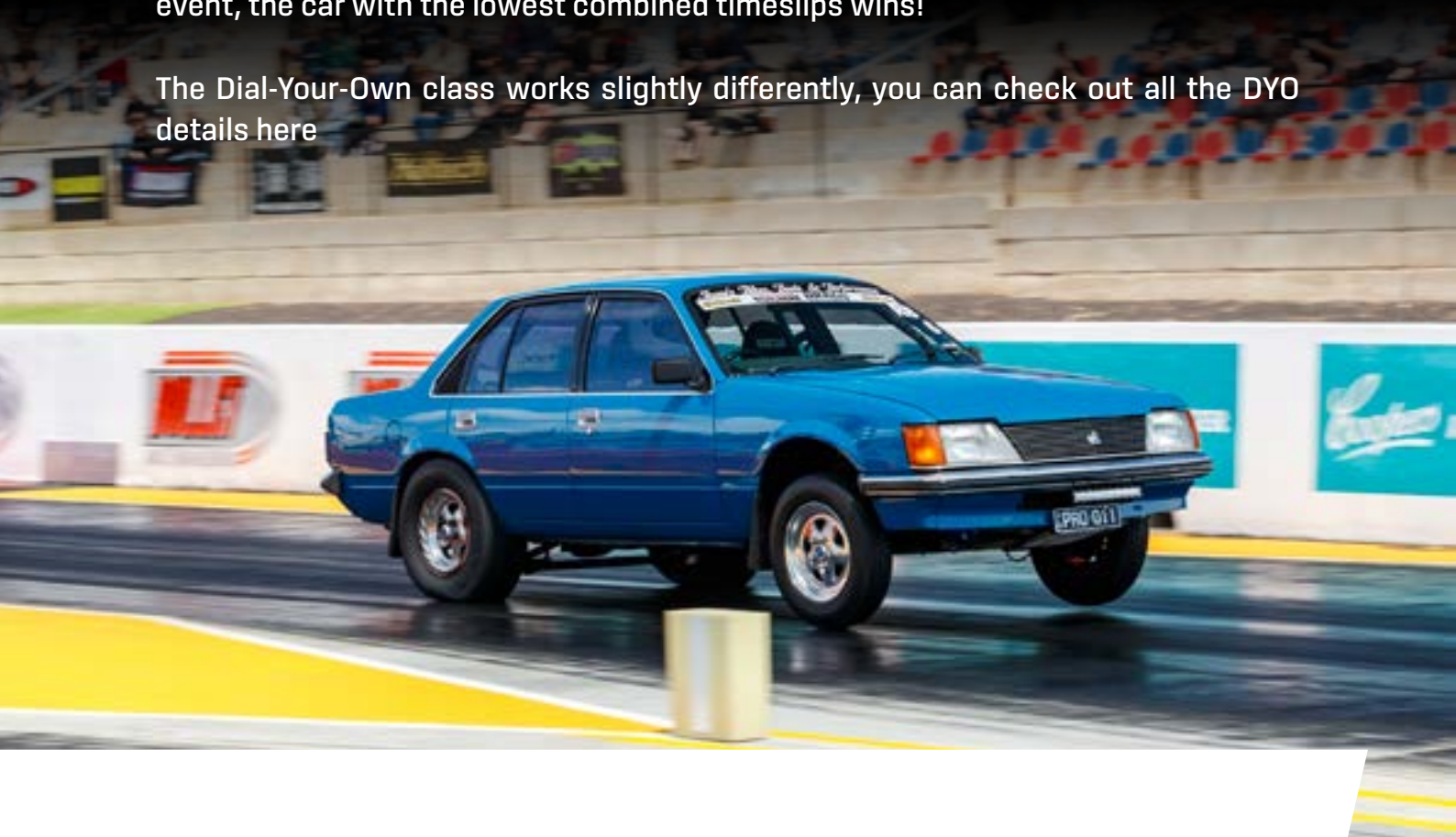
HOW DRAG CHALLENGE WORKS

The crux of Drag Challenge is that it requires entrants to race five times in five days and drive from drag strip to drag strip in the same car that they race

All entrants must make the 1300+km drive without the aid of tow trucks, car trailers, campervans or support vehicles and must follow the mandatory route

Each day, entrants must hand in one timeslip to stay in the hunt. At the end of the event, the car with the lowest combined timeslips wins!

The Dial-Your-Own class works slightly differently, you can check out all the DYO details [here](#)



REGO DAY

Rego day is one of the highlights of the event! It gives entrants a chance to check out the competition and catch up with racers from all over the country.

- Competitors are required to sign in and get their car scrutineered at Calder Park Raceway on Tuesday the 29th, from 9am until 6pm. There is no scrutineering on the 30th, that's race day!
- At scrutineering, you'll receive your entrant pack, including your t-shirt, event stickers, stubby holders and number plates.
- We'll host a BBQ for entrants and we'll take a group photo of as many of you as possible at 2pm in the area leading up to the staging lanes.
- Towing your car to Calder Park for check-in day is fine, but once competition starts on Day One, your trailer and tow rig will be locked up securely in the Thunderdome for the duration of the event. You will be unable to access the trailer until the end of competition on Day Five - unless you pull out of the event early, then we will arrange access.



PRESENTING YOUR CAR ON REGO DAY

Our mantra for Drag Challenge is to have as few rules as possible, but here are a few important points to keep in mind to keep the event safe and awesome for our sponsors

- The top of the vehicle's windscreen must be clear for event sponsors' stickers.
- Drag Challenge competitor vehicles should be void of large sponsorship signage. Lettering or logos must be less than 150mm tall on the side or front of the cars and are limited to a single sponsor, company or name
- Signage on competitor vehicle's rear windscreens, trailers and roof racks is open, but should not bring the event into disrepute or attract the wrong kind of attention.
- The competitor must race the vehicle they have entered. If you show up with a vehicle that wasn't on the entry form, we reserve the right to refuse entry.
- Current licence and vehicle registration are required. No dealer plates allowed.
- Competition vehicles must have functional headlights, tail-lights, brake lights, turn signals, a horn and a rear-view mirror while driving on the road. Headlights must be of OE-type design.
- Any type of fuel may be used, but if it's something exotic you'll have to find some way of carrying extra fuel safely (maximum of 200 litres to be carried, plus the car's tank capacity)
- All competition vehicles must run competition tyres (slicks or drag radials) on the track. No hard-compound street tyres are allowed (maximum treadwear number of 100 allowed) - this is to preserve the track preparation. Vehicles found on non-competition rubber in the staging lanes will be disqualified immediately.

***YOUR* TRAILER**

- Each competition vehicle may tow a single-axle trailer no more than 190cm high (measured from the ground to trailer top vertically at the axle centreline). This includes the height of anything carried on top of the trailer.
- Trailers may not contain any components that contribute to the cooling, charging, oiling or fuelling of the competition vehicle while the trailer is in motion.
- It is up to the entrant to make themselves aware of all road rules (including capacity limits) pertaining to safe loading and towing of trailers.



TECH

If you do not have an ANDRA or IHRA license, Drag Challenge will shout you a complimentary day license that covers the entire event



CLASSES

- We have deliberately kept the class structure at Street Machine Drag Challenge very simple, with just six tyre classes, two index classes, a Six Cylinder Class and one dial-your-own handicap class. Our ethos is 'run what you bring' with the rigours of street driving and track conditions helping to level the playing field.
- Each entrant may only compete in one car and one class. Rego Day is your last chance to change you class, class changes are not allowed after the first day of racing

OUTLAW BLOWN

For any turbocharged, supercharged or nitrous-assisted car running radials wider than 275, or slicks of any size. There are no limits to blower size, turbo size or how many stages of nitrous you'd like to run. You can even combine all three, if you are that crazy!

OUTLAW ASPIRATED

For any naturally-aspirated car running radials wider than 275, or slicks of any size.

RADIAL BLOWN

For any turbocharged, supercharged or nitrous-assisted cars running a 275 radial or narrower. Again, there are no limits on turbo size, blower size or nitrous.

RADIAL ASPIRATED

For any naturally-aspirated car running a 275 radial tyre or narrower.

235 BLOWN

This 235 radial tyre classes for those guys keen to run on a small tyre! In previous years we've had heaps of competitors running smaller than 275 tyres competing in Haltech

Radial blown so we wanted to give them an even playing field to be competitive in.

235 ASPIRATED

Like 235 Blown, it's for all cars running a smaller 235-size radial tyre. In the past we've had heaps of guys like Nathan Ghosn in his crazy little Capri running quick times on 235-tyres so this opens up a whole new ball-game for them.

SIX-CYLINDER

We're seeing more and more fast six-cylinder cars as Drag Challenge grows. Tough Barras, screaming RBs and mental 2JZs are all part of Drag Challenge and now they can compete against one another in the Six-cylinder class. It's open to any six-cylinder car running a 275 or smaller radial tyre.

8.5 & 9.5 BLOWN

These are index cars for cars running on radial tyres 275 or smaller

DYO

If you don't wish to compete in the tyre classes, you can run in Dial Your Own.

SPONSORS:

BOOSTLINE RADIAL BLOWN, TUFF MOUNTS 235 BLOWN, SPEED PRO SIX-CYLINDER, PSR RADIALS 8.5 & 9.5 BLOWN, HARE & FORBES DYO

ON THE ROAD

The roadtrip part of Drag Challenge is awesome, but it is also the most visible part of the event to the general public. Every racer is an ambassador for the event, so please act accordingly. Here are a few points to consider, but make sure you check out the rules in detail [here](#)

- People caught doing burnouts or engaging in any threatening or anti-social behaviour that brings the event into disrepute will be disqualified. There will be no warnings. If you are caught doing something illegal or dangerous, you will be disqualified and prevented from entering future events.
- The on-road drive is part of the Drag Challenge competition and following the specified route is mandatory. Traffic, potholes, wet weather, wildlife and winding roads should be expected. Drive accordingly and be safe at all times.
- Each day's drive has at least one mandatory checkpoint. Each entrant is required to take a photo of their car at the checkpoint and show it to Drag Challenge officials when they hand their timeslip in. Please take your photo and move on so other entrants have space to take their photos.
- Vehicles may not be led or followed by support vehicles of any kind. A support vehicle is one used to: supply anything to help or rescue a competitor's car, or carry anything for a competitor including luggage, tools, fuel, repair parts, spares, marquees, sleeping bag or swags, and helpers or crew. Vehicles towing just-in-case car trailers are also not allowed.
- We understand friends and spectators will want to follow along, but crew/helpers may not lead or follow in separate vehicles. Everyone in a Drag Challenge vehicle will get an armband and anyone seen helping a car without an armband will disqualify that vehicle. All Drag Challenge crew must travel in an entered vehicle for the entire trip.
- All vehicles must be driven under their own power during the entire Drag Challenge competition and may not be towed, trailered or pushed by another vehicle any time. The only exception is in the event of an emergency where a vehicle needs to be removed from the roadway, or a dangerous situation [e.g. beside a busy road]. In this case, assistance may be used to move the car a short distance to a safe area.

WORKING ON YOUR CAR

Some competitors will complete Drag Challenge without having to do much more than check their tyre pressures and keep the car full of fuel. Others will need to get very busy indeed! Here's the basics of what can be done and by whom:

- Drag Challenge competitors may borrow or buy parts, tools and supplies from each other and may help each other with manpower.
- While you can't have a team of helpers following along, you can enlist the help of professional businesses along the route - for example, RACV for roadside assistance, or perhaps a local transmission shop, but they will have to work on the car where it is. Where a car has broken down, you can remove parts and get a lift (Uber, taxi or a fellow competitor) to a place where the parts can be repaired, or a mobile mechanic can come to you.
- If an entrant breaks down and cannot complete the event, they can attend each day as a spectator free of charge. If they manage to repair their entered vehicle, they can possibly make exhibition passes later in the event - at the race director's discretion. If they continue the journey in the entered vehicle or switch into another entered vehicle, they can help other racers. If they switch into a non-entered car and become spectators, they cannot help other racers.
- Ordering parts or fuel and having them delivered to hotels during Drag Challenge is allowed, but this will have to be organised by the entrant. There are no fuel deliveries allowed to the tracks.
- Swapping engines so that one is used for the drag strip and another for on-road drives is not allowed. The same engine block is to be used for the entire competition.

ON THE TRACK

- Competitors may be scrutineered at each drag strip before running. It is up to the entrant to ensure their vehicle will pass tech inspection at each track for their ET and speed capabilities.
- Competitors will be allowed to make as many passes as they wish each day on a first-come, first-served basis, until the race director announces the staging lanes are closed. Drag strip sessions may be divided into run groups. Times and details will be announced at the daily drivers' meeting and may change from day to day, depending on conditions.
- Each competitor must complete each track day within the specified times to remain in the competition. To complete a track day, a competitor's car must stage under its own power and take the green light. Entries that take the green but are unable to complete a full drag strip pass will be given an ET of 20 seconds (and a speed of 50mph) for the day. If a competitor misses a track day and is out of the running, they may be able to make exhibition runs during the remaining days of Drag Challenge if time allows.
- Any entrant who was unable to make a pass because of rain or other issues outside the control of the entrant (this does not include car breakage) or race director, but made it to the staging lanes before the planned competition time cut-off, will score an automatic 20-second time. If the day is rained out before three-quarters of the field has made one pass, we will eliminate the whole day's competition and move on to the next track. If more than three-quarters of the field has made a pass, the results will stand.
- It is the competitor's responsibility to hand in their timeslips to the specified Drag Challenge official before the nominated cut-off time each day. We will not chase your timeslip. If we do not have your timeslip at the end of the day, you will be disqualified. Once a timeslip is handed in, no other timeslip for that competitor will be accepted that day.
- Route maps to the next track will be provided once a competitor has handed in their timeslip. We do not supply route maps to non-competitors, or entrants who haven't handed in their timeslip.
- If a day of racing is rained out, competitors are still required to drive the entire route, make their mandatory stops, and must check in during the specified hours at the drag strip in order to remain in competition. Here they will also receive additional information about the schedule and driving directions to the next track. If the final day is rained out, the results will be calculated from the previous days of racing.

BURNOUT COMPETITION: RODS OUT 1 & 2

For the very first time, we're adding two massive burnout competitions to the Drag Challenge program. Taking a leaf out of the Sick Week events in the US, the concept is to bring a real party atmosphere to the event and give our spectators a massive day of entertainment.

Both comps will offer \$15,000 prize money apiece, and a Pro Burnout Series qualifying ticket to Street Machine Summernats 37 will be up for grabs at each event!

For Rods Out #1 at Dragway at the Bend on 1 November, burnout competitors can arrive anytime during the day to take in the Drag Challenge racing and get their cars prepared. After Drag Challenge racing wraps up at 3pm, we'll have five hours of action on the pad from 4pm until 9pm.

For Rods Out #2 at Heathcote Park Raceway on 2 November, we'll run the burnouts simultaneously with the racing from 3pm to 8pm. This format worked perfectly at the Summernats Slam Top Fuel meeting in 2022, and we reckon the vibe will be impeccable!



***ARE YOU
READY TO JOIN
THE JOURNEY
TO FIND
AUSTRALIA'S
TOUGHEST
STREET CAR?!?***

**We're pumped to see you all at Calder Park Raceway,
29 October for rego day! In the meantime, you can keep
up with all the Drag Challenge news and gossip in our
Facebook Group [here](#)**



THANKS TO ALL OUR 2024 PARTNERS

