



Information Sheet for New and Current Members

08.12.2023

Purpose

"The purpose of this Club is for Chevrolet Corvette owners to promote and share good will and fellowship; to engage in social and competitive events, encouraging favorable interest in the Club and the Corvette; and to support high standards of maintenance and courtesy on the road." (R.A.C.E. Constitution and Bylaws)

R.A.C.E. is a social club that brings together Corvette owners to form friendships and drive Corvettes. We are incorporated and hold tax-exempt status as a social club [501(c)(7)]. We are not organized as a charitable organization. Membership has agreed that club meetings will not be used for personal gain (business advertising, etc). Each year the new slate of officers works to uphold the purpose of R.A.C.E.

Beginnings – Established 2004

February 11	Brian Nelson, Jim Orke, and Dave Kinneberg meet for the first time to discuss the formation of a Corvette club.
March 11-12	Ads placed in Rochester Post-Bulletin (March 11 and 12) and the Mayo Clinic Source (March and April) seeking interested individuals to come to a meeting.
March 15	First meeting held to determine interest in forming a club – 40+ attendees. Much interest indeed!
May 1	First event: Show and Shine at The Hangar, cruised SE Minnesota, dined at The Branding Iron, Preston
May 17	-- Officers approved (President Brian Nelson; Vice President Theresa Gardiner; Treasurer Gil Becker; Secretary Cathy Nelson; National Council of Corvette Clubs Governor Dave Kinneberg) -- Club name chosen: Rochester Area Corvette Enthusiasts (R.A.C.E.) -- Constitution & Bylaws approved
June 21	Bob Curry volunteered to put together a website and to be the Webmaster – www.raceclub.info
July 19	-- Official membership begins – anyone joining in 2004 is a "charter" member -- Formation of an Activities Planning Committee approved, with Walt Gardiner as chair
October 18	Sue Berg is club's Historian
November 15	Logo is chosen from 31 submissions
December 31	By the end of 2004, we have 72 members from 12 communities. R.A.C.E. is incorporated and tax exempt.

Constitution and Bylaws

Please read our Constitution and Bylaws. The document can be found on both the "About" and "Member" pages on our website.

Website – <https://raceclub.info/>

We encourage you to visit our website where you will learn much more about our club.

Meetings

- General Member Meetings: The club meets the third Monday of the month (excluding December), 7:00PM, at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 917 15th Avenue SE, Rochester. Members are welcome to arrive early to visit or dine before or during the meeting. Potential members are welcome to attend our general meeting to learn more about us.
- Executive Board Meetings: Each year the new Executive Board determines dates for Executive Board Meetings. Please refer to the website calendar. All R.A.C.E. members are welcome to attend.

Membership

"Membership in this Club shall be limited to current and former Corvette owners, where former owners are defined as members who owned a Corvette upon entering the Club, maintained their membership, but no longer own a Corvette. These shall constitute the only requirements for membership." (R.A.C.E. Constitution and Bylaws)

Initiation Fee and Annual Dues

The membership year runs from January 1 through December 31.

New Members (single or couple): **NEW MEMBERS MUST OWN A CORVETTE TO JOIN R.A.C.E.** All new members must complete and sign the New Member Application. This form will remain on file for future years as proof of agreement to the following bulleted items as stated on the application form:

- *By signing below, I agree to hold harmless Rochester Area Corvette Enthusiasts, Inc., its officers, directors, agents, employees, for any acts of or omissions which may result in theft, damage, or destruction of my property or injury to me or others occurring as a consequence of this club's sanctioned/unsanctioned events, but not limited to car shows, cruises, tech sessions, or other events wherever located. I have proof of insurance that at least satisfies Minnesota's minimum auto and liability insurance requirements for my vehicle and property, have insurance for my vehicle and property for loss, damage, and liability, and can provide such proof if asked to do so.*
- *By signing below, I agree to abide by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Rochester Area Corvette Enthusiasts, Inc.*

Initiation Fee: Membership in R.A.C.E. Club requires a one-time initiation fee of \$30 per membership (single or couple), in addition to dues for that membership year as follows:

Dues:

- New Members joining between January 1st and September 30th pay \$30 annual dues that cover the remainder of the current membership year (in addition to the \$30 initiation fee).
- New Members joining between October 1st and December 31st pay \$30 annual dues that cover the remainder of the current membership year and the following membership year (in addition to the \$30 initiation fee).

Current Members Renewal (single or couple): Annual dues are \$30 per membership. Renewing members' dues for the next years are due at or before the November regular Club meeting. Dues paid after the November regular Club meeting until December 31st must be sent by mail to the current Club Treasurer. (There is no December regular meeting.) Provided a signed Membership Application is on file, there is no need for current members to complete a Membership Application form each year.

Late Payment of Dues: Members who have not paid next year's annual dues by December 31st will be removed from the email list and the Club member roster. Those members may renew by sending \$30 dues to the current Club Treasurer before March 31st (considered a 3-month grace period). After March 31st you would have to join as a New Membership. See (Sec 2.) above.

Roster

The R.A.C.E. roster is for MEMBER USE ONLY and may not be shared with anyone outside of R.A.C.E.

Communication and Email Distribution List

All communication of club business will be done via email. Club members are encouraged to provide a personal (not work) email address. Please be respectful of the use of the club's entire Google group email distribution list for casual conversations.

Facebook Page (Closed Group)

R.A.C.E. has a closed group Facebook page managed by a club member. Only R.A.C.E. members will be allowed access. Members that leave the club will be removed from access. Member participation in the Facebook page is optional. Email notice of events and information remains the primary mode of communication.

Activities Planning Committee (APC)

The purpose of this committee is to facilitate and encourage the organization of club events by any of its members. Membership in the Activities Planning Committee is open to volunteers at any time. At the November annual meeting, the APC will reconstitute and elect a chairperson. The chair of this committee will be a non-voting member of the Executive Board.

Planning an Event – Any Member Can Do So

It is not necessary to be a member of the Activities Planning Committee to plan a drive or event! **All club members are encouraged to plan drives or events.** The Activities Planning Committee is available to provide assistance if you desire. Please contact a member of the APC before finalizing the date of your event to make sure there will be no conflicts. For entry on our website calendar, provide details of the event to Cathy Nelson (catherinen24@gmail.com) or John Milton (bjmilton@gmail.com). Notify the membership of the event by sending an email using our Google group email distribution list.

For helpful event planning information, including a planning checklist and copies of routes/drives that have been enjoyed in the past, go to the “Members Area” and choose “Planning Drive and Dines/Events” on our website.

Event Supplies / Maps

Members are allowed reimbursement of up to \$10 for expenses related to planning an event (photocopying maps/driving directions, etc) without pre-approval of the Executive Board. A receipt is required. If expenses will total more than \$10, bring your request to the Executive Board, as any activity considered that impacts the club treasury will require club approval.

Banners

The club owns a R.A.C.E. logo banner. In addition, we have a banner thanking our U.S. veterans for use at events such as the Memorial Day parade. Contact a member of the Activities Planning Committee for use.

Event Etiquette

Please.....

--Wear your name badge.

--Respect the plans that the organizer has made.

--Welcome new members by making conversation, sitting with them for dinner, etc.

--Bring suggestions for improving events to the Activities Planning Committee (not the person that organized the event – they may feel discouraged and never organize one again).

--Show courtesy on the road:

- Listen to the organizer's pre-drive instructions.
- Stay with the group.
- Members don't pass members.
- Slow down after making a turn to make sure those behind you continue to follow.
- Show courtesy to those behind you at stop signs – there may be loose gravel that could be thrown on acceleration.
- Some like to drive slower, some faster – if you prefer faster, choose to be last and you will naturally get to go faster to keep up.
- For large groups, consider breaking up into 2 or 3 groups with a leader heading up each group.
- Our drives are not races.
- Non-Corvettes please stay at the back of the pack.

--Have fun, go with the flow, sometimes things don't go as planned – accept (not expect) the unexpected.

--Follow up an event with a thank you note or email to the organizer – planning an event takes time and effort for **your** enjoyment.

ENJOY – you happen to belong to the best social club there is!!

Guest Member for the Day Designation

Guests may be designated as a “Guest Member for the Day” in recognition of a special event, etc. This designation replaces the former honorary member designation for guests or departing R.A.C.E. members.

Farewells to Members

Departing members are reminded that they may continue as members should they no longer own a Corvette (as stated in the Constitution and Bylaws) or move a great distance. Any club member may schedule a drive, dinner, or event in honor of another member leaving the club. The host member has the option to “foot the bill” for the tab or seek contributions for the event. The club will not pick up the honoree’s tab.

Advertising (private advertising at club meetings and/or on our website)

Membership has agreed that club meetings will not be used for personal gain.

Club Meetings – A table will be identified for displaying items or announcements of goods or services for sale. These are to be member-endorsed items, cars, or businesses. This gives members an opportunity, should they choose, to learn about items or services of interest that other members are familiar with or involved in.

Corvettes/Accessories for Sale – Our website may be used to sell cars/accessories belonging to members only. The “For Sale” menu on the website is viewable by the public.

Charitable Endeavors

As noted under “Purpose” above, R.A.C.E. is incorporated and holds tax-exempt status as a social club [501(c)(7)]. We are not organized as a charitable organization. The following guidelines have been established in order to: a) adhere to the purpose of our club, b) maintain our tax-exempt status, c) protect our members from solicitation for potentially an unlimited number of favorite charities, and d) allow our members, as they choose, to hear about opportunities outside the purview of the club.

1. Events **not involving** Corvettes: R.A.C.E. members may share information about a charitable event to interested members after the club meeting has adjourned by bringing their request to do so to the president before the meeting. At the end of the club meeting, the president will announce to the membership that a fellow member will be sharing information about a particular charitable event after meeting adjournment at a table separate from the main meeting area. Member willingness to listen and participate is strictly voluntary.
2. Events **involving** our Corvettes: R.A.C.E. members may bring forward to the Activities Planning Committee a request to plan participation in a charitable event that involves our Corvettes, typically organized by another organization (e.g., Annual Cruise for Camp Jornada). Member participation is strictly voluntary. No funds may flow through the club's treasury.

Decals and Name Badges

Two name badges and two window decals come with each paid initiation fee. Additional name badges can be purchased for \$6 each plus shipping; additional decals can be purchased for \$2 each. Decals should be placed in the lower righthand corner of the windshield on the passenger side.

Screen Printing and Embroidery (Logo Apparel)

This business has our logo on file:

Superior Screeners, 25 9-1/2 Street SE, Rochester, 507-282-4124

Treasury

- Where practical, club purchases should be considered from pricing from two or more vendors.
- Any activity considered that impacts the club treasury will require club approval.
- Members are allowed reimbursement of up to \$10 for expenses related to planning an event (photocopying maps/driving directions, etc) without pre-approval of the Executive Board. A receipt is required. If expenses will total more than \$10, bring your request to the Executive Board, as any activity considered that impacts the club treasury will require club approval.
- The Executive Board may spend up to \$100/month, not to exceed \$300/year, of club funds without club vote. Expenditures will be reported in the Treasurer’s report.

Website Committee

The purpose of this committee is to develop, organize, and maintain R.A.C.E.'s website in order for potential members to learn about the club and for current members to keep current with club activities, meeting minutes, etc. The chair of this committee, the Webmaster, will be a non-voting member of the Executive Board.

Condolences, Get Well Wishes, etc

The following guidelines have been established in order to be sensitive to privacy:

Get well wishes, etc: The Executive Board will no longer take responsibility for sending get well cards. If a club member so desires, he/she should obtain permission from family members before notifying club members of a member's illness, life issue, hospitalization, etc. It is then up to individual members to send a card if they choose.

Death of R.A.C.E. member: The Executive Board, on behalf of the club, will send flowers or a memorial (whatever is appropriate up to \$150) at the time of a funeral of a club member. This expenditure is for members only (not for member's relatives).

Motions and Decisions Historical Log

This document can be found on the website: member's area/bylaws/motions and decisions. It is a chronological record of motions and decisions, organized by category, that have been made by the club over the years. Reading this document is highly recommended for officers and those in other committee/volunteer positions.

R.A.C.E. Executive Board

Elected Voting Members
President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Non-Voting Members
Activities Planning Committee Chair
Website Committee Webmaster

R.A.C.E. Volunteer Positions

Activities Planning Committee
Facebook Closed Group Page
Historian
National Corvette Museum Ambassador
Website Committee

Contact Us

Links to contact us are provided along the bottom border of our website.