



TEAM MANAGER BRIEFING



VP RACING SPORTSCAR CHALLENGE AT COTA

SAT. FEB 28TH | RACE 1 – 12:25PM / RACE 2 – 6:25PM ET



SERIES CONTACTS

Randy Buck	Race Director	(415) 298-7018
Chelsey Vickery	Race Director	(812) 431-7716
Brian Wilson	Series Manager	(386) 281-9494
Carol Mueller	Member Services	(386) 262-8932
Marisa Ross	Series Coordinator	(386) 293-1474
Cory Posocco	Logistics & Event Ops	(386) 566-8313
David Pees	Timing & Scoring	(386) 308-8866
Scott Ellison	Technical	(734) 621-9130
Holly Langer	Paddock Layout	(386) 871-0241
Johnny Knotts	Pit Lane Supervisor	(813) 763-4669
Paul Walter	Sporting Regulations	(614) 598-6783
Robert Bosworth	Security & HV Safety	(704) 728-8087
Roy Spielmann	Track Services	(414) 702-0905
Ryan McLean	Medical Liaison	(386) 285-6913

[2026 IMSA Operational Contact List](#)



PADDOCK

**PROHIBITED:
ANY ONE, TWO OR
THREE-WHEEL FORM OF
TRANSPORTATION**

**ONLY PROPERLY
PERMITTED VEHICLES ACCEPTED
EXCEPTIONS FOR VESTED MEDIA
AND ADA TRANSPORT**

Motorcycles, drones, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades and other non-motorized transportation, as well as motor scooters of one, two or three-wheels and/or designed to transport one or two persons, are prohibited in the garage, pit and/or Paddock areas with the exception of authorized power-driven mobility devices (ADA requirements - Americans with Disabilities Act), and accredited and vested media personnel.

Pit vehicles must only be operated by an IMSA credential holder. Motorized carts and similar 3- or 4-wheeled conveyances must not be driven into pit lane except pit equipment approved for a Series or as specified in the SR.

Such use in the Paddock must be for legitimate purposes only.

Excessive speed and/or unsafe operation is prohibited. Participants must abide by state laws and Promoter restrictions regarding licensing, maximum speed, helmet requirement and use.

Such conveyances may be prohibited at certain Events or in certain areas of each facility by local ordinance or Promoter limitation.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

For EMS (Emergency & Non-Emergency)

- During hours of operations (daytime), call Security Department at (512-655-6220).
- If no answer, call 911 and provide address: 9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd. Austin, TX 78617
- Provide specifics of need

For Law Enforcement (Emergency & Non-Emergency)

- Call Security Department at (512-655-6220).
- If no answer, call 911 and provide address: 9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd. Austin, TX 78617
- Provide specifics of need

For Fire (Emergency & non-emergency)

- Call Security Department at (512-655-6220).
- If no answer, call 911 and provide address: 9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd. Austin, TX 78617
- Provide specifics of need

VPRC DRIVER COACHES

- New for 2026, Driver Coaches are eligible to participate only in VPRC Practice #1.
- Per VPRC Art. 11.2.2.A:
 - At Sprint Events, a “Driver Coach”, who must only be a currently licensed IMSA WeatherTech Championship Driver holding a Gold or Silver (or Bronze as approved by IMSA) FIA Categorisation, may participate only in the first VP Challenge Practice Session of an Event. The Driver Coach must be properly entered for the Event in MERG (Art. 13.2).
- Driver Coaches denoted on the Entry List with 

TIMING & SCORING

PIT LANE TIMING:

- Live Timing available at imsa.com and results.imsa.com
- No Red Data boxes at this event.

*25.4.3. Non-Functioning Transponder. It is the Competitor's responsibility to ensure that their transponder is operating correctly during all phases of Competition. Competitors must make immediate efforts to communicate any issue to IMSA. IMSA shall use its best efforts to notify a Competitor not registering officially timed laps. **A non-functioning transponder requires immediate stop and repair and may include additional penalties.***

- S/F cannot be seen from Timing / Scoring room which prohibits manually scoring Cars without a transponder.

RACE EQUIPMENT & FUEL TRANSFER REMINDERS

37.3. (SSR) **Fuel Transfer & Refueling**.....**For any transfer of fuel or refueling, Crew must be properly attired per Art. 21**, with goggles worn over the eyes or a visor on the helmet that is down, during the actual fuel transfer or refueling and as detailed throughout Art. 37. A Crew member manning a fire extinguisher must always be in attendance during the transfer of fuel.

37.3.1. (SSR) Refueling and/or fuel transfer in permanent garage structures is prohibited.....Crew must comply with Art. 21 and Art. 37.3.

5.3.4. **Member Responsibility**. All Members are obligated to inspect the facility, safety personnel and equipment and conditions of the racetrack on a continuing basis before, during, and after the Event.....**Members also are solely and directly responsible for the safety of their Race Equipment** and are obligated to perform their duties in a manner designed to minimize to the risk of injury to themselves and others

- ***Race Equipment** means a Car, Car part, engine, engine component, tires, fuel, support equipment and/or any other part or related equipment.*

PADDOCK/PIT LANE OPERATIONS

- Driving in the Paddock deemed dangerous, erratic, of inappropriately excessive speed for the circumstances or established limits and/or in violation of the RULES is prohibited and subject to penalty.
 - Cars must only be driven/operated by an IMSA credentialed Driver or Crew Member. **Passengers and/or loose exterior materials prohibited.**

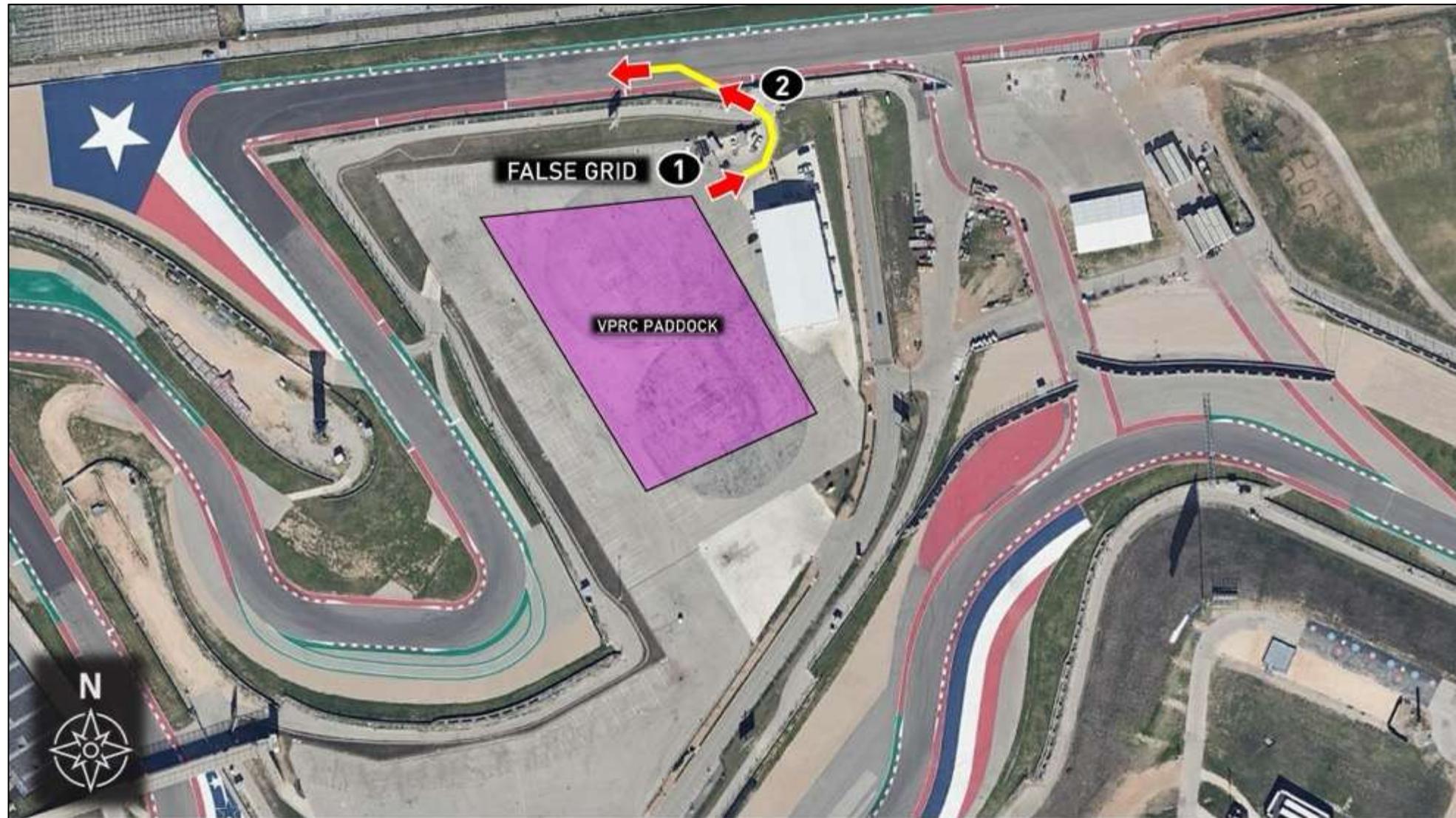


Directions

1. Stage Race Cars in False Grid area
2. Enter track via Turn 12 opening. Follow directions from IMSA Officials

Notes

- **Route to be used by Race Cars only**

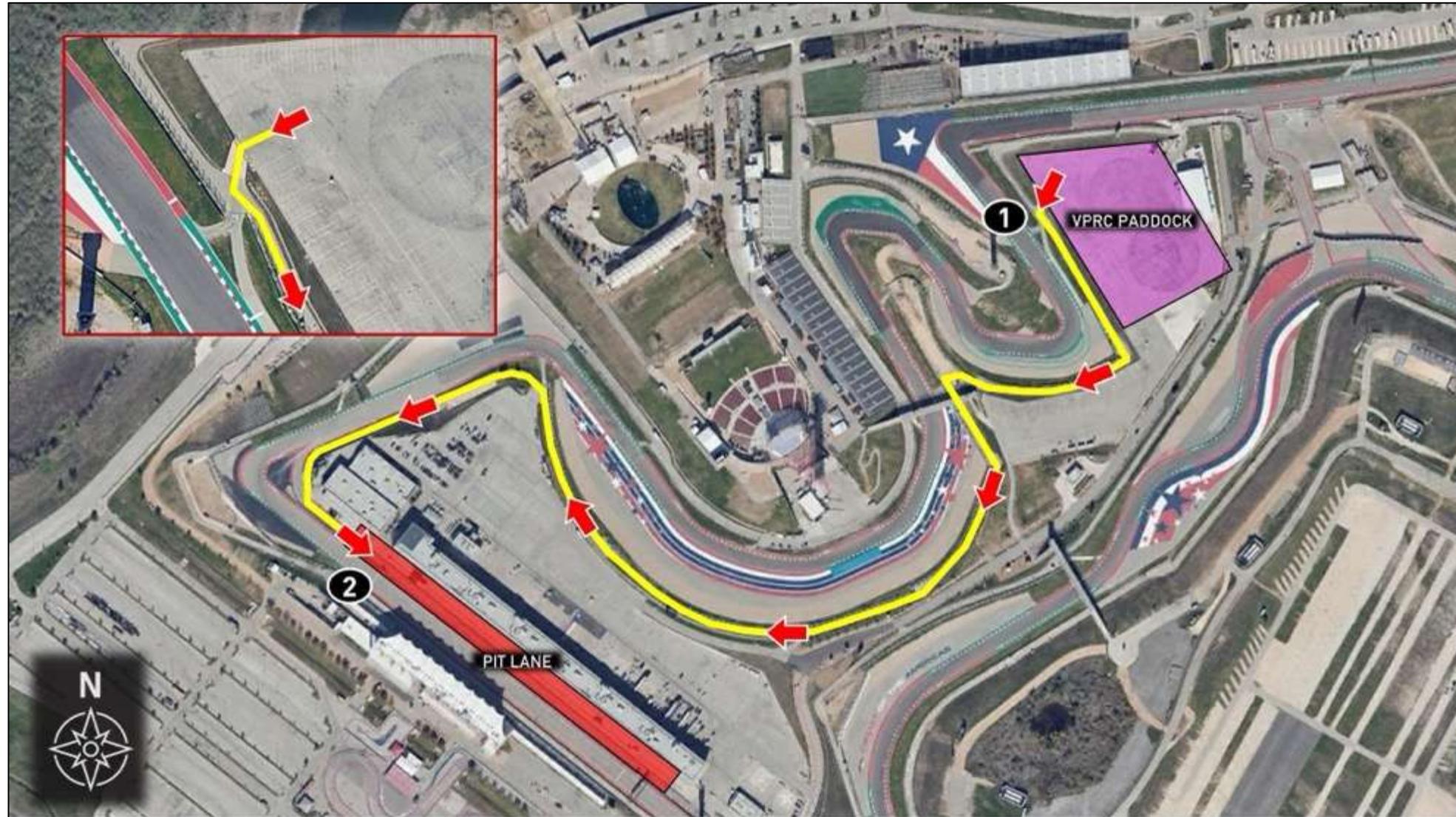


Directions

1. Exit Paddock from Northwest gate (see inset photo)
2. Proceed on Ring Road to Pit Entry / Pit Lane

Notes

- Route to be used by Pit Equipment / Tuggers only

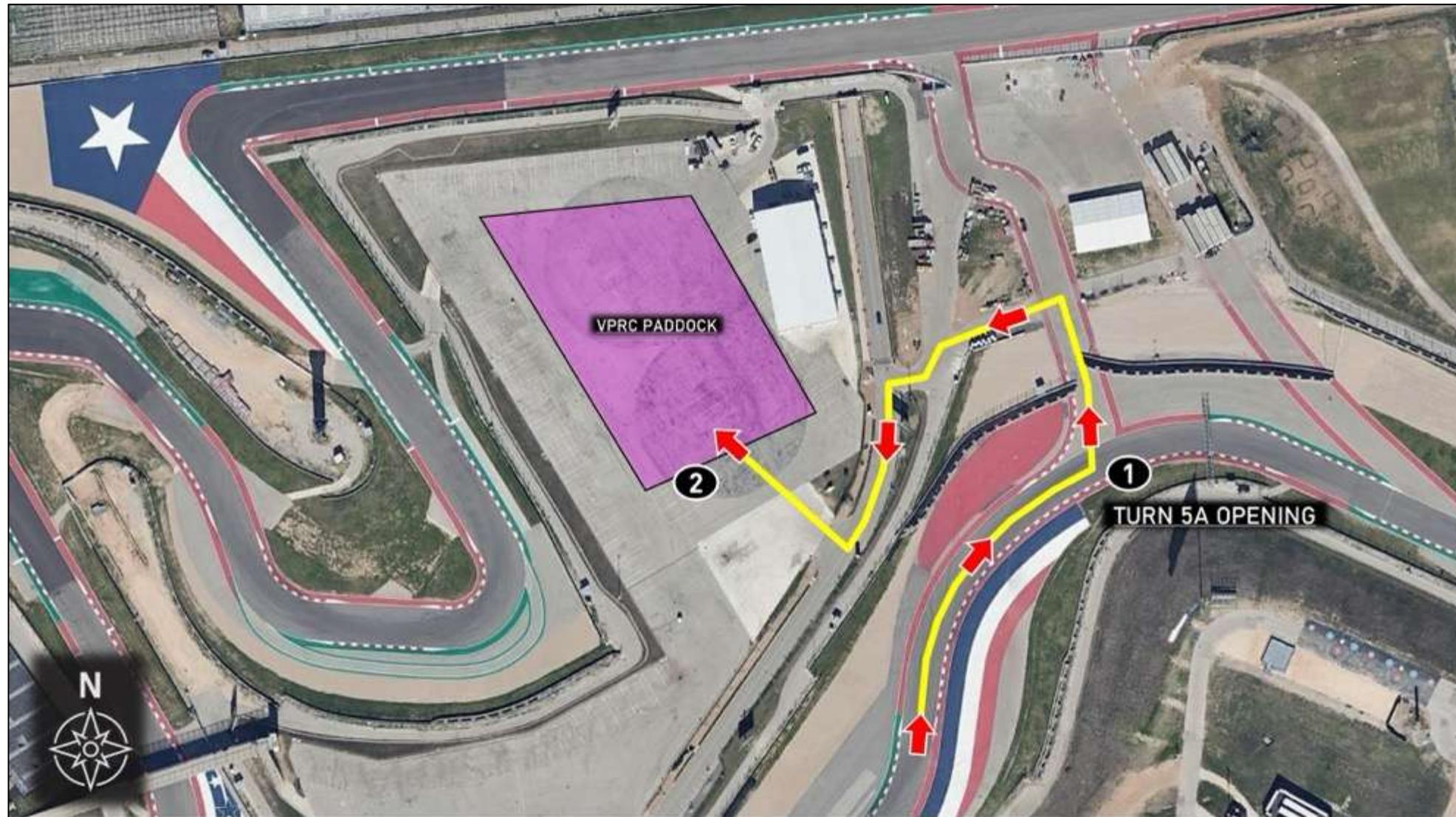


Directions

1. Directly after taking checkered flag on Course, slow and exit Course at the Turn 5A Opening. Proceed on Access Roads
2. Enter VPRC Paddock

Notes

- Route to be used by Race Cars only
- Please use caution on Access Roads and in Paddock area

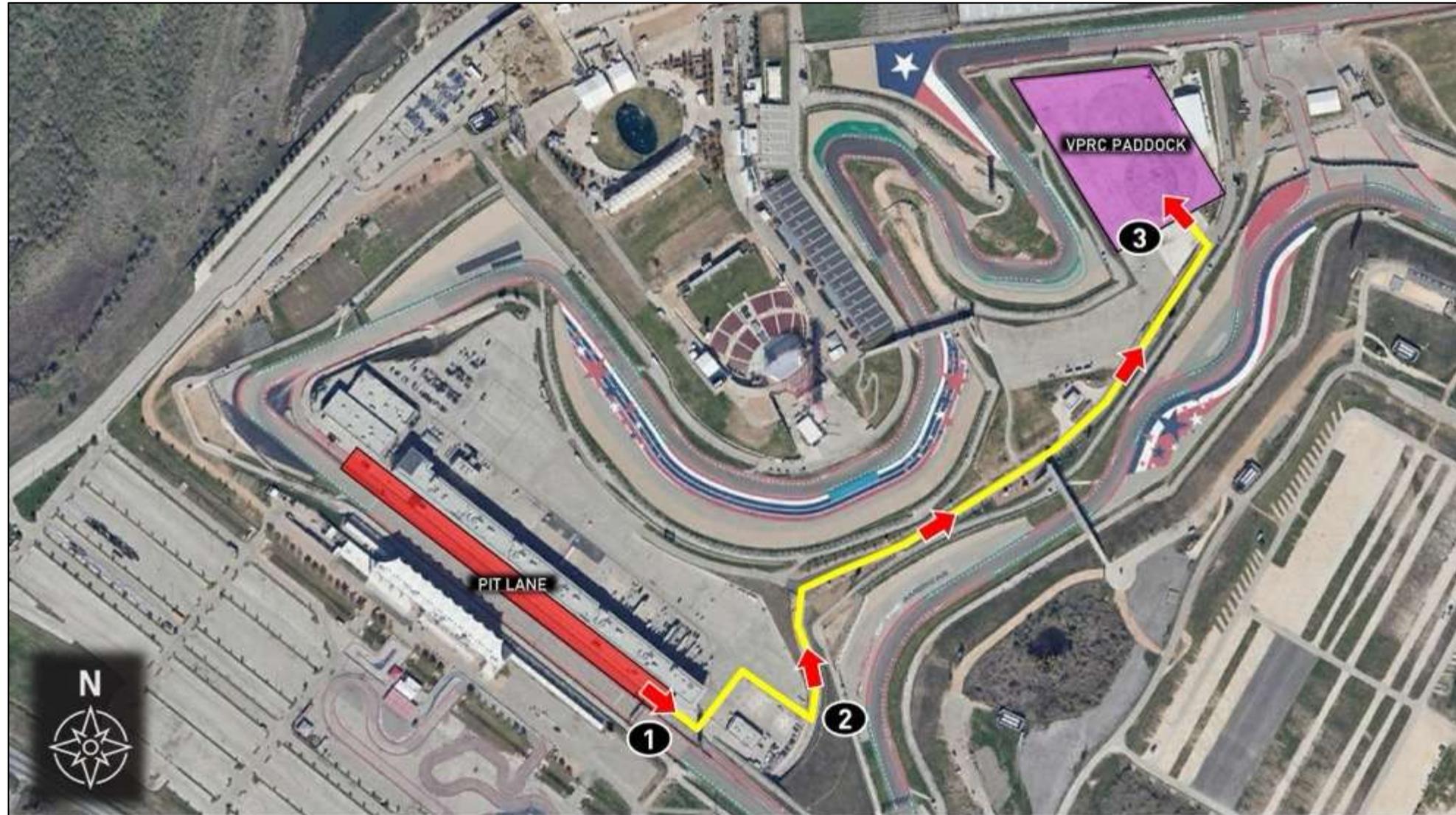


Directions

1. Exit Pit Lane into NASCAR Paddock
2. Turn left onto Access Road and proceed to VPRC Paddock
3. Enter VPRC Paddock

Notes

- Route to be used by Pit Equipment / Tuggers only



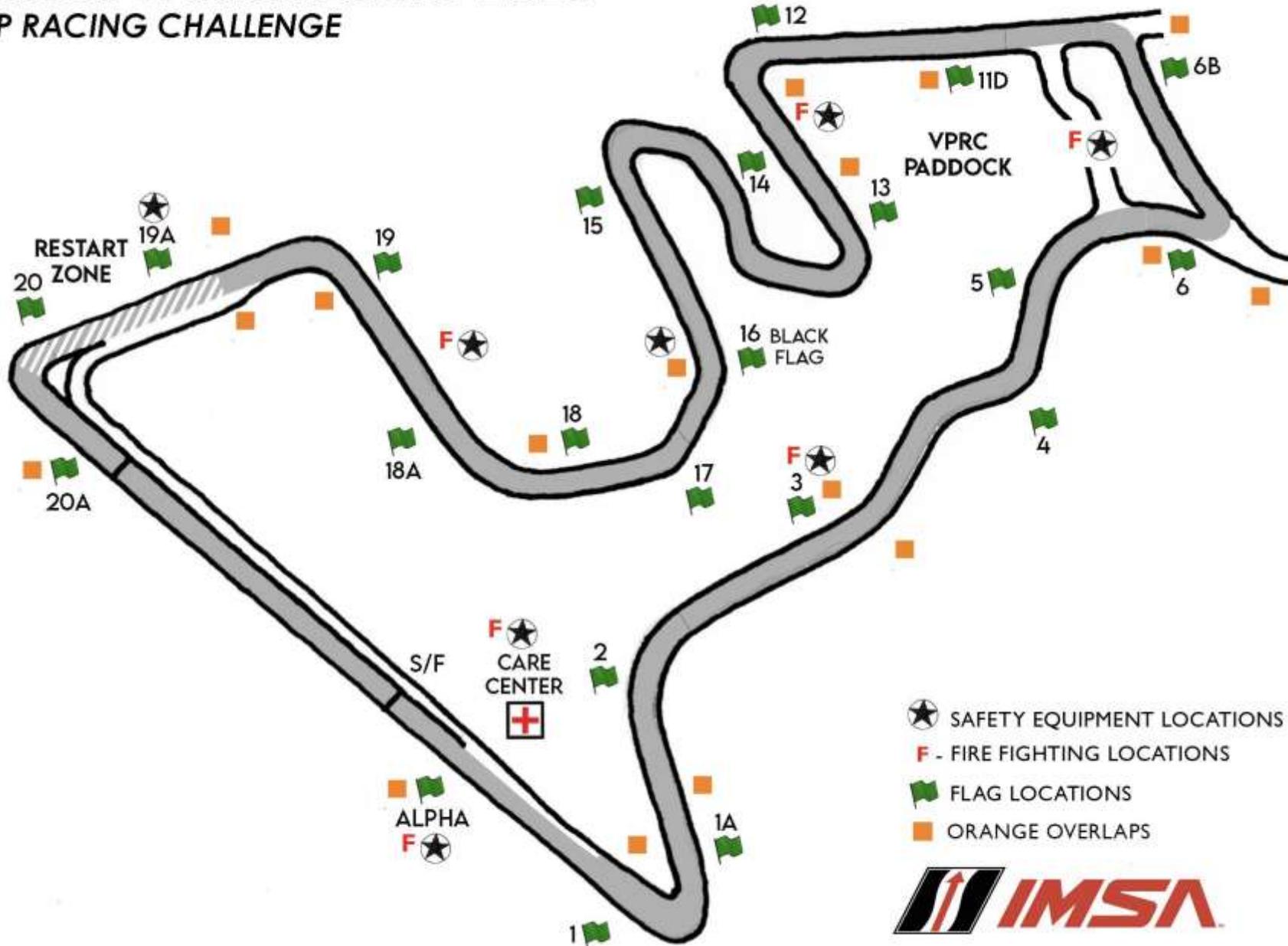
TRACK SERVICES

ON-TRACK ASSISTANCE

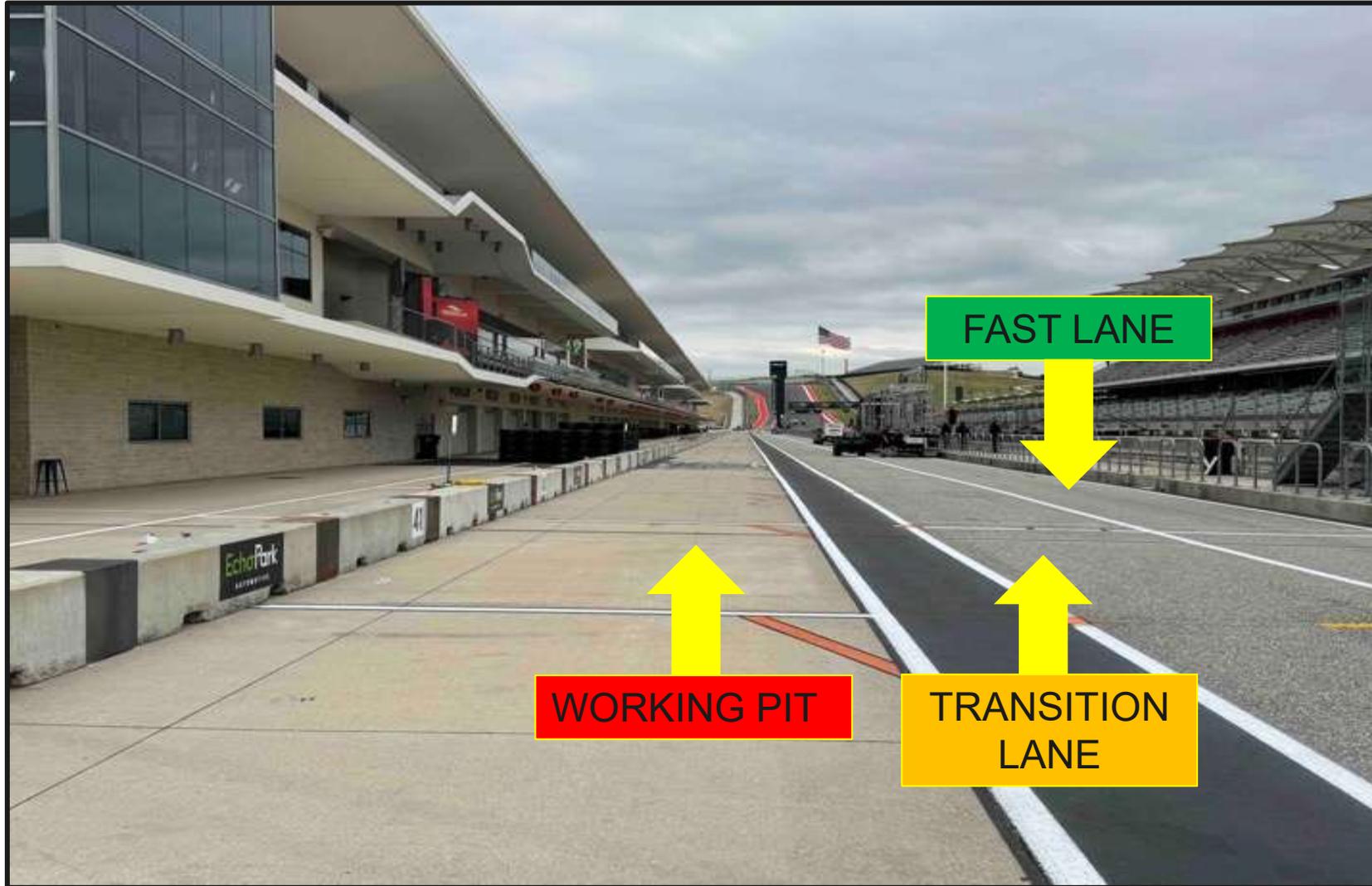
- IMSA Track Services on site, using alternative vehicles and working closely with local Track Services personnel.
- If a Car needs recovery after contact with the wall or another Car, Driver must go to Infield Care Center.
- Chase 2 will not be on-site. Drivers are transported using track ambulances.
- Follow direction of on-scene Track Services personnel.
- Maintain safe speed and distance around on-track incidents where Track Services personnel are present.

Roy Spielmann / Senior Manager IMSA Track Services (414.702.0905)

CIRCUIT OF THE AMERICAS 2026 VP RACING CHALLENGE

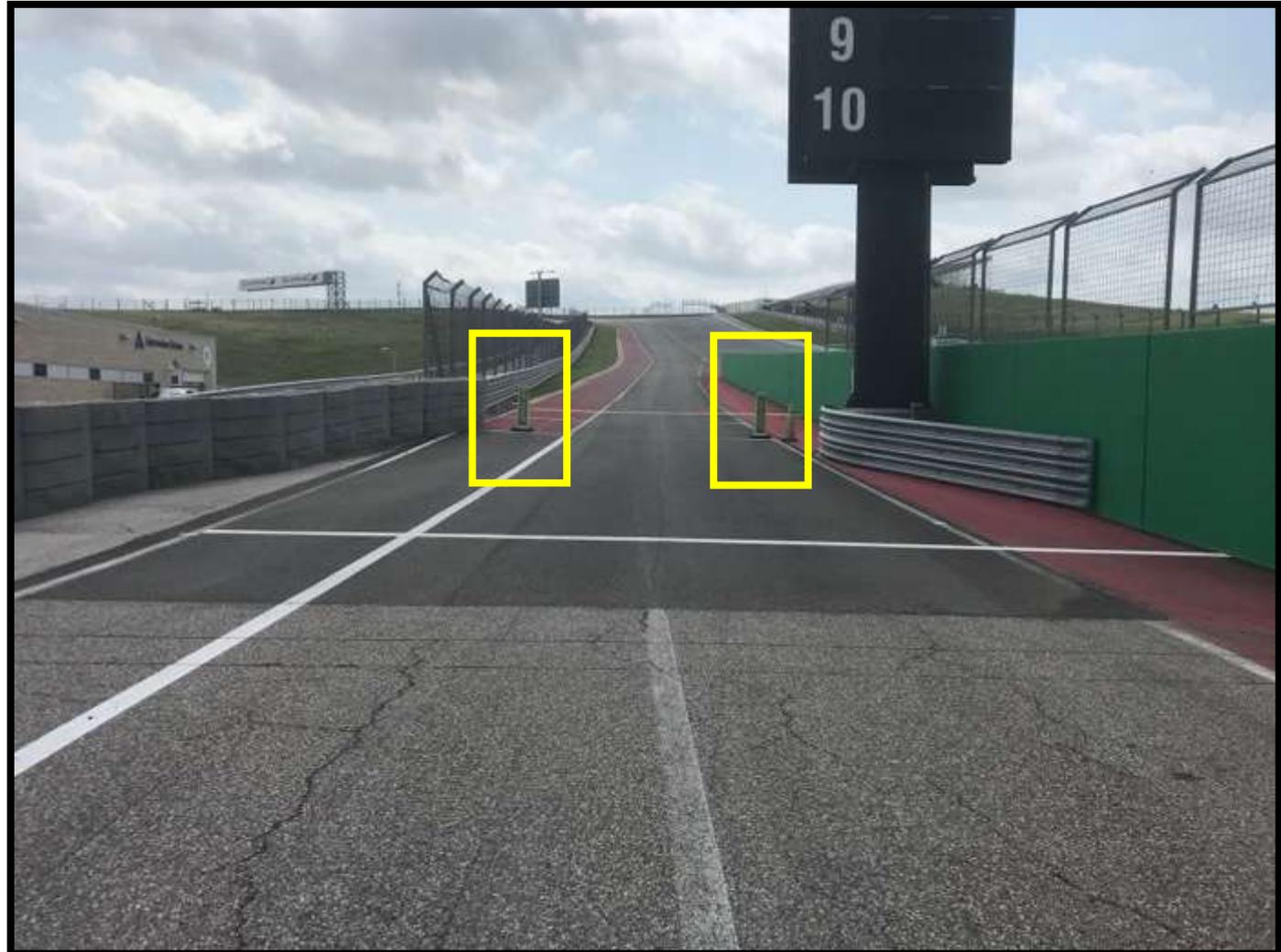


PIT LANE PROTOCOL



PIT EXIT / PIT LANE SPEED ENDS

- Pit Lane Speed Limit ends at Green pylons.
- Penalty Box located Driver's left at Pit Exit.



PIT EXIT

- Cars exiting the Pit Lane must remain FOUR wheels to the left of the blend line until it ends in Turn 1.
- Cars on track must respect the speed difference of those in the Pit Exit merge lane.



SHORTCUT (CORNER APEXES)

- Violation: All four (4) tires inside the **RED and WHITE CURB AT THE APEX OF CORNERS** (NOT green and white paint) is outside track limits.



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TURN 6



TURN 6



TRACK LIMITS (CORNER EXITS)

- Violation: All four (4) tires outside the GREEN and white painted surface AT THE EXIT OF CORNERS is outside track limits.



PIT LANE SPEED LIMIT

- Pit Lane Speed Limit begins at Red pylons.



ORANGE OVERLAPS

- Overlaps are marked throughout the circuit and are indicated on the Official Track Map.
- Competitors with disabled Cars are requested to exit at these locations when unable to continue to the pits.



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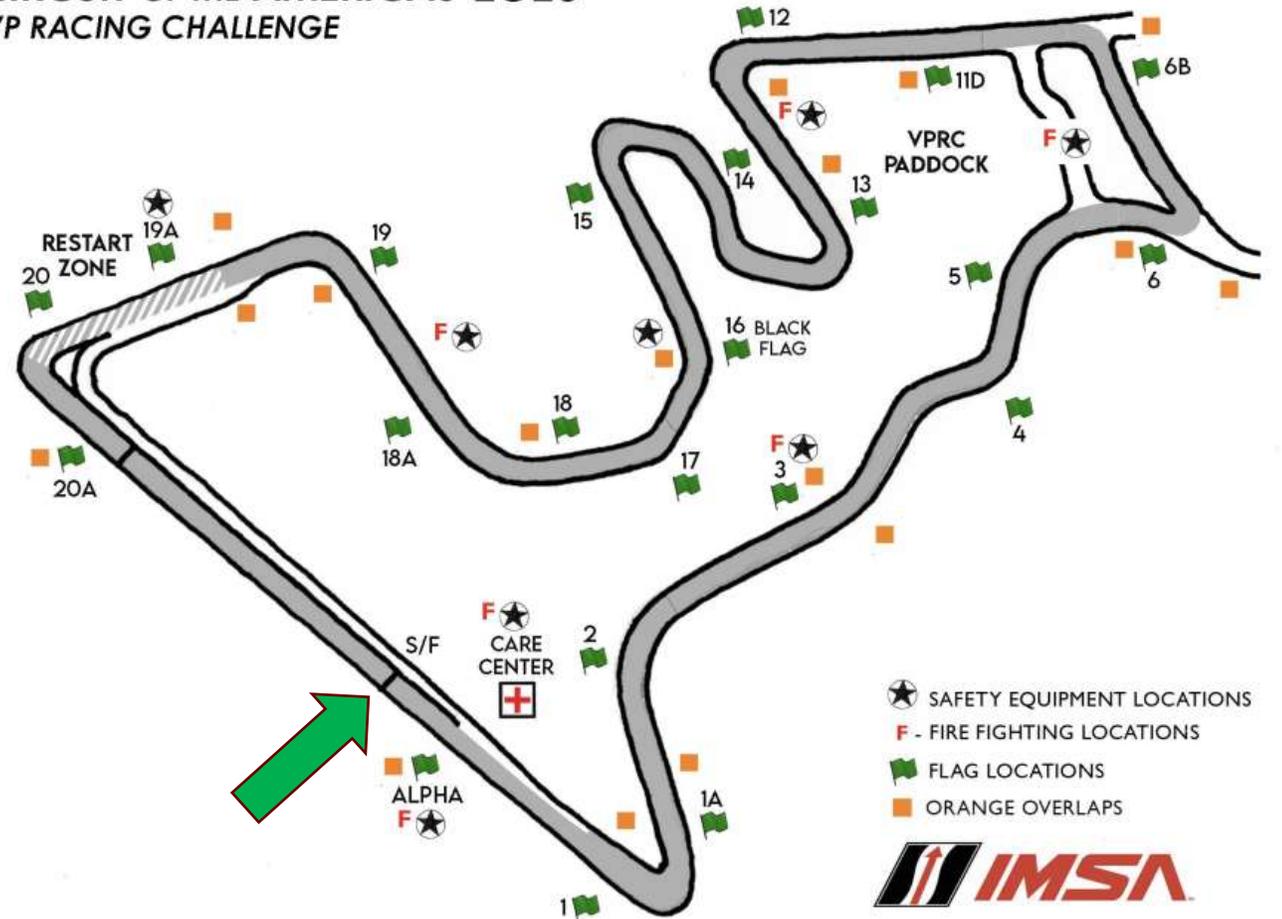


GREEN & CHECKERED FLAG POSITIONS

All Flagging is at the Start/Finish line near Pit Out (2nd flag post)

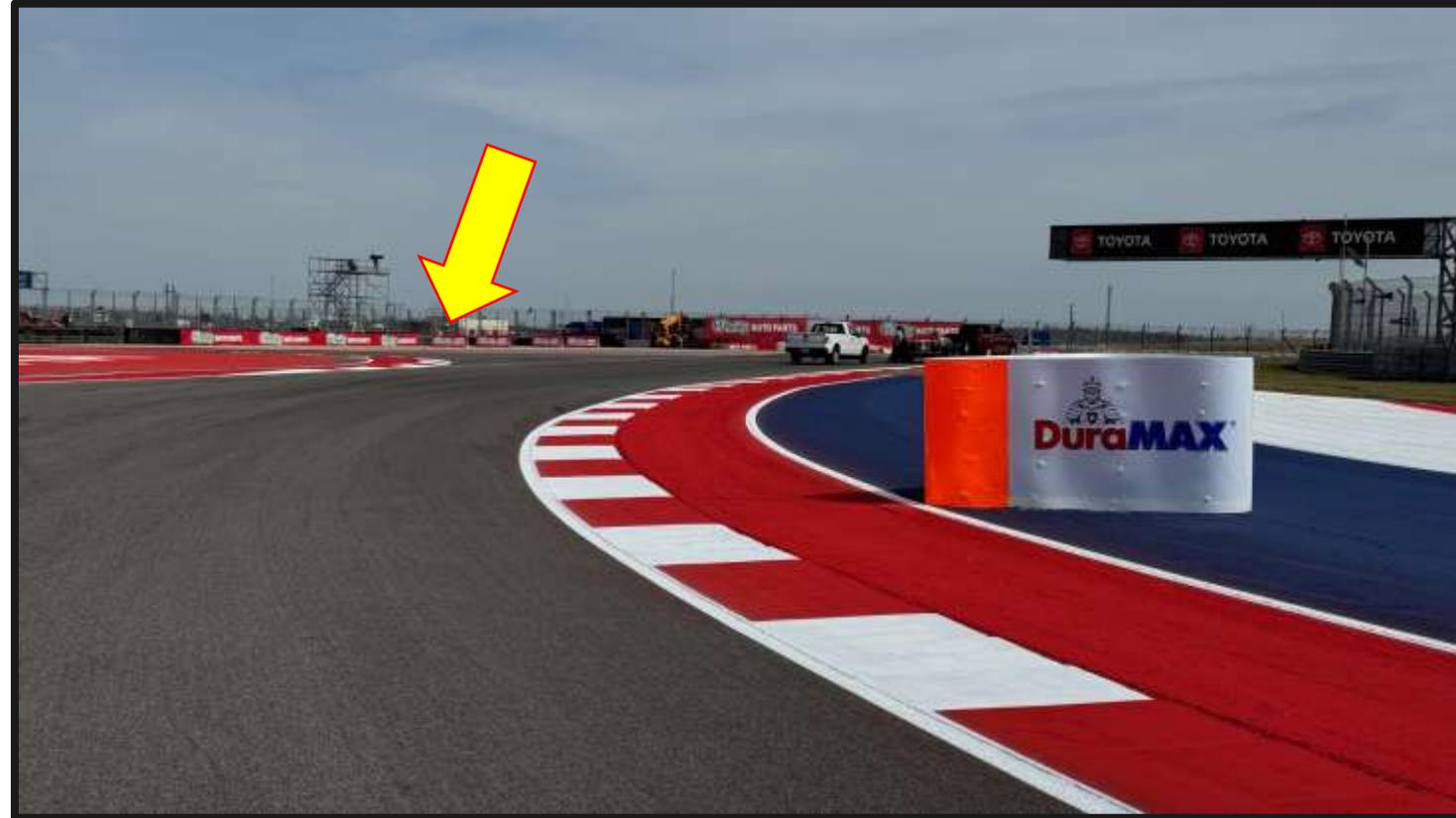
Timing is at S/F line near Pit Out (2nd flag post)

CIRCUIT OF THE AMERICAS 2026 VP RACING CHALLENGE



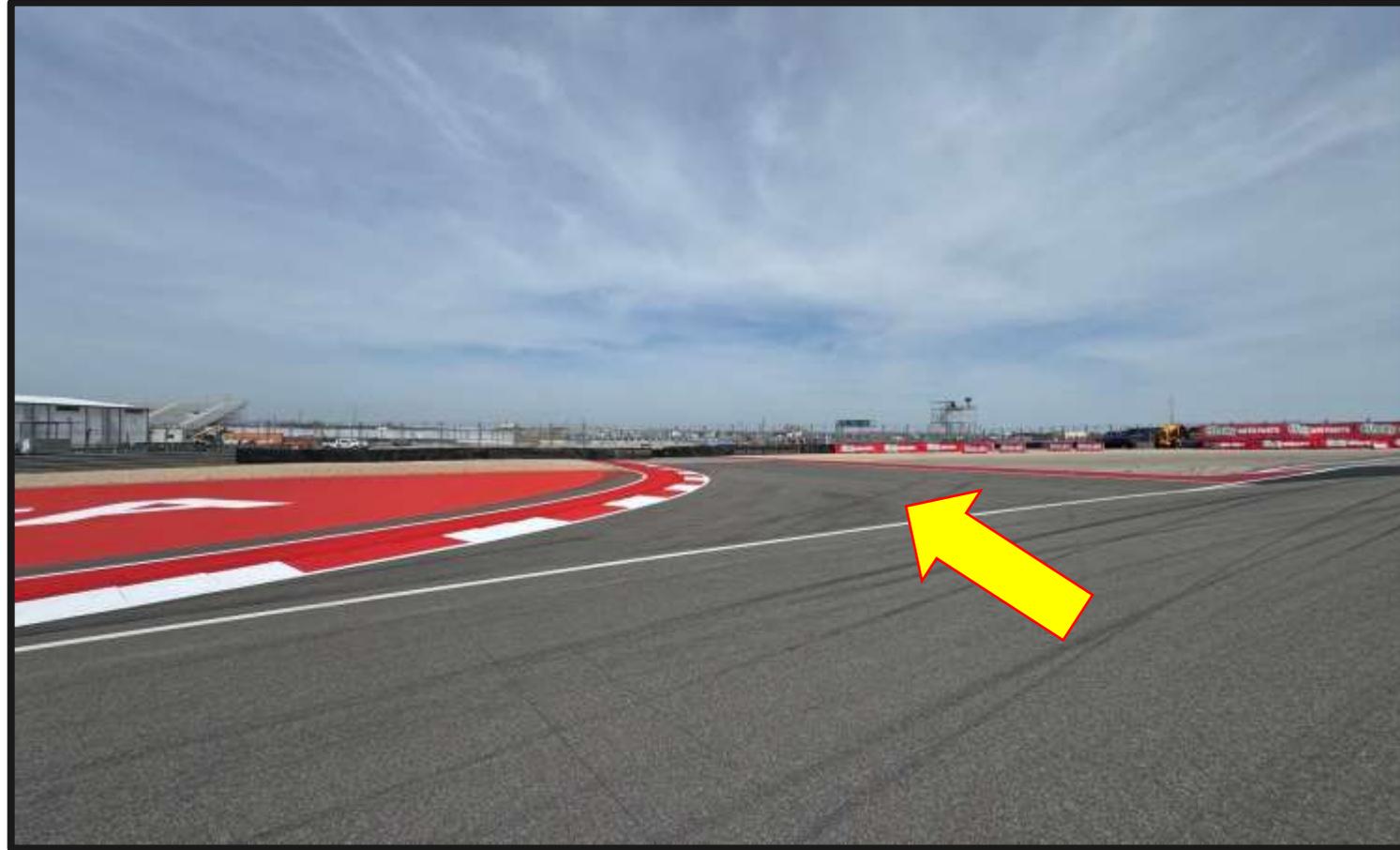
EXITING TRACK POST SESSION

- Directly after taking the Checkered Flag, all Cars must exit the track at Turn 5A Driver's left.
- **Slow down and respect any marshals or equipment that may be on track to direct Cars to the exit at turn 5A.**
- Yellow flags at T3-5.



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EXITING TRACK POST SESSION

- Directly after taking the Checkered Flag, all Cars must exit the track at Turn 5A Driver's left.
- Use caution when negotiating return road.



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- Directly after taking the Checkered Flag, all Cars must exit the track at Turn 5A Driver's left.
- Use caution when negotiating return road.





Let Racing Force help you plan for your upcoming racing season with OMP, Bell and Racing Spirit Products!

Racing Force is one of IMSA's longest standing Partners, with more than 15 years as one of IMSA's Proud Partners.

For 2025 Racing Force is offering a **30% discount** on all Racing Force Products to IMSA competitors and teams. This discount can be applied by confirming your participation in an IMSA sanctioned series with the Racing Force Team.

To order Racing Force Products or for more information, please contact:

Kenji Yrey

Custom Products & Logistics Coordinator

Kenji.yrey@racingforce.com

786-479-4722





RACING OPTICS®

Looking for windshield tear-offs?

Racing Optics, a Proud Partner of IMSA, is the industry leader in multilayer, laminated tear-offs, and is proud to offer their product and installation services to IMSA teams and competitors.

For those looking to purchase product away from the track, Racing Optics is excited to offer IMSA teams and competitors a special **20% off promo code** for Racing Optics windshield tear-offs on Pro-Tint's [online shop](#).

Use code **"IMSA20"** at checkout to receive your discount.

To schedule an install or for more information, please contact:

Chris Colton

Applications Engineer / Sponsorships & Corporate Relations

C.Colton@racingoptics.com

980-439-6485





Preventative Maintenance | Repairs | Evaluations | Upgrades

To schedule at-track support, please email:

tracksupport@evolvetransporters.com



STAY*FROSTY[®] PERFORMANCE COOLANTS



Stay Frosty[®] Race Ready is a proprietary VP Racing Fuels coolant formulated for high-compression, high-heat racing engines. It contains a specialized blend of heat transfer agents that drastically improve coolant's ability to transfer heat away from high temperature cylinder heads. Temperatures of engines are reduced by up to 30°F compared to conventional glycol-based coolant.

100% Water-Based Glycol-Free Formula

Reduces Engine Temps Up to 30°F

Blended with Chemically Stable Reverse Osmosis Water

Ready-To-Use – Just Pour In (Also Available in Clear)



OFFICIAL PERFORMANCE COOLANT

***Lower Temps.
More Power.***



VP RACING CHALLENGE

THANK YOU



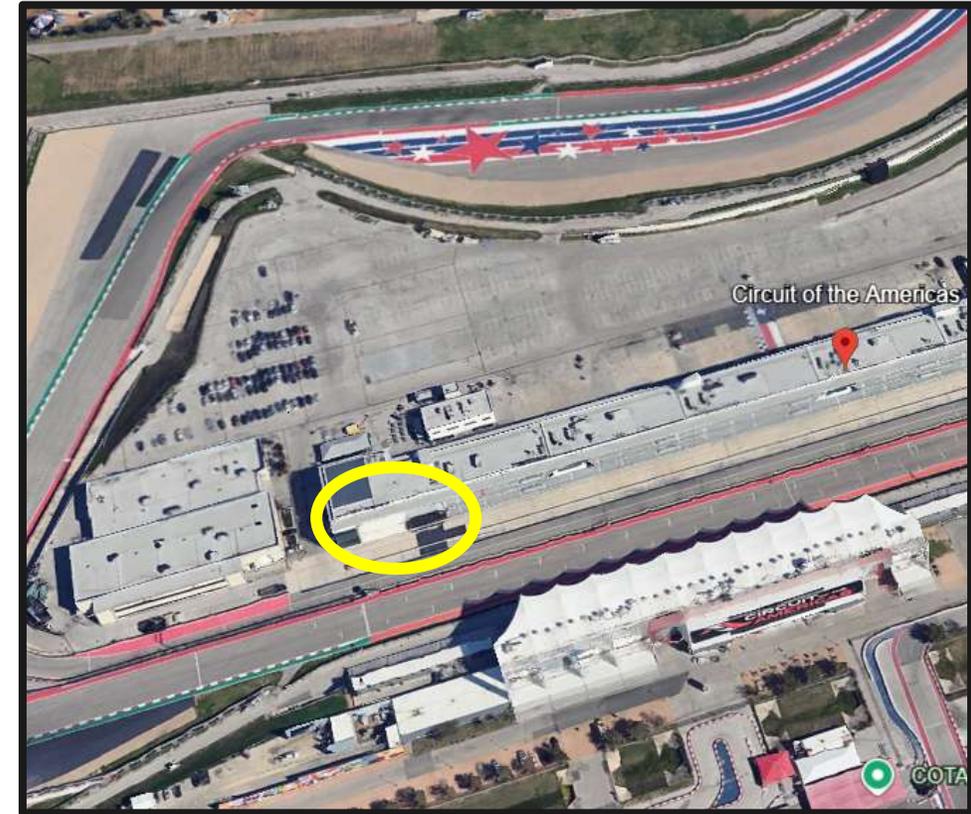
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DRIVER & TEAM MANAGER BRIEFING



PODIUM / POST-RACE

- Both Podium and Non-podium Cars must complete the cool down lap to pit lane.
- Crew members must be on hand, **with a helmet**, to drive any Podium Cars back to the Paddock from Pit Lane via the racetrack as directed by IMSA Officials.
- Podium Drivers proceed directly to victory podium for award presentations.
- Driver access to the podium is through the stairwell inside Garage 1.



RACE

One (1) FORMATION lap

Stay with Safety Car until Safety Car enters pits

Pack up on the way to T12 / Pair up in T16-18 (No more tire scrubbing after T16)

Acceleration Point (Polesitter)

Gap between P3 group and GT group

Jump/False start Reviews

- Gaps
- Timed/Early Acceleration
- Out of Line
- Column Passing – Passing Cars in your column is PROHIBITED until across the S/F line

Official Race start is FIRST time by

FULL COURSE YELLOW

Failure to maintain proper Safety Car speed and correct gaps between Cars, or otherwise initiate manipulative action to gap Cars, is prohibited and subject to penalty.

Race Control radio, in-car lights, trackside lights, double yellow flags displayed

Response vehicles may begin to move as soon as FCY is announced

Leader to Safety Car speed, all Cars pack up – respect the area of incident/Track Services personnel

- RC instructions regarding track condition over radio
- SC dispatched from Pit Exit

RESTART

- Maintain SC speed, let SC get away, *no more tire scrubbing after T16*

RESTART ACCELERATION ZONE – EXIT OF Turn 19

- Passing on display of green flag

RESTART ACCELERATION ZONE

Restart Acceleration Zone is after the exit of Turn 19.

Passing is permitted when the Green Flag is displayed.



ON-TRACK CONDUCT

LOCAL YELLOW FLAGS (SEE ARTICLE 27)

- No passing from point perpendicular to yellow flag to the point perpendicular to the following green flag

BLOCKING (SEE ARTICLE 30)

- Movement in reaction to the trailing Car
- Defending increases responsibility

CONTACT/INCIDENT RESPONSIBILITY (SEE ARTICLE 30)

- Review with Driver Advisor in RC
- Incidents under review announced by Race Control

COEXISTENCE

- Multi Class Racing
- Maintaining awareness lessens margin for error, regardless of responsibility

COMMUNICATE REVIEW REQUESTS TO PIT OFFICIALS

- Must provide TIME OF DAY, LOCATION, and description of action to be reviewed

ON-TRACK REVIEW / EXPECTATIONS

Daytona Review

- Car damage – Balance desire to return to pits with following directions from Track Services

COTA Specifics

- Turn 1 starts
- Turn 3 speed - potential for crashing
- Turn 6 – National Short Course
- Brake zones and multiclass racing – speed differentials, awareness
- Turn 12, 19, 20 Track Limits



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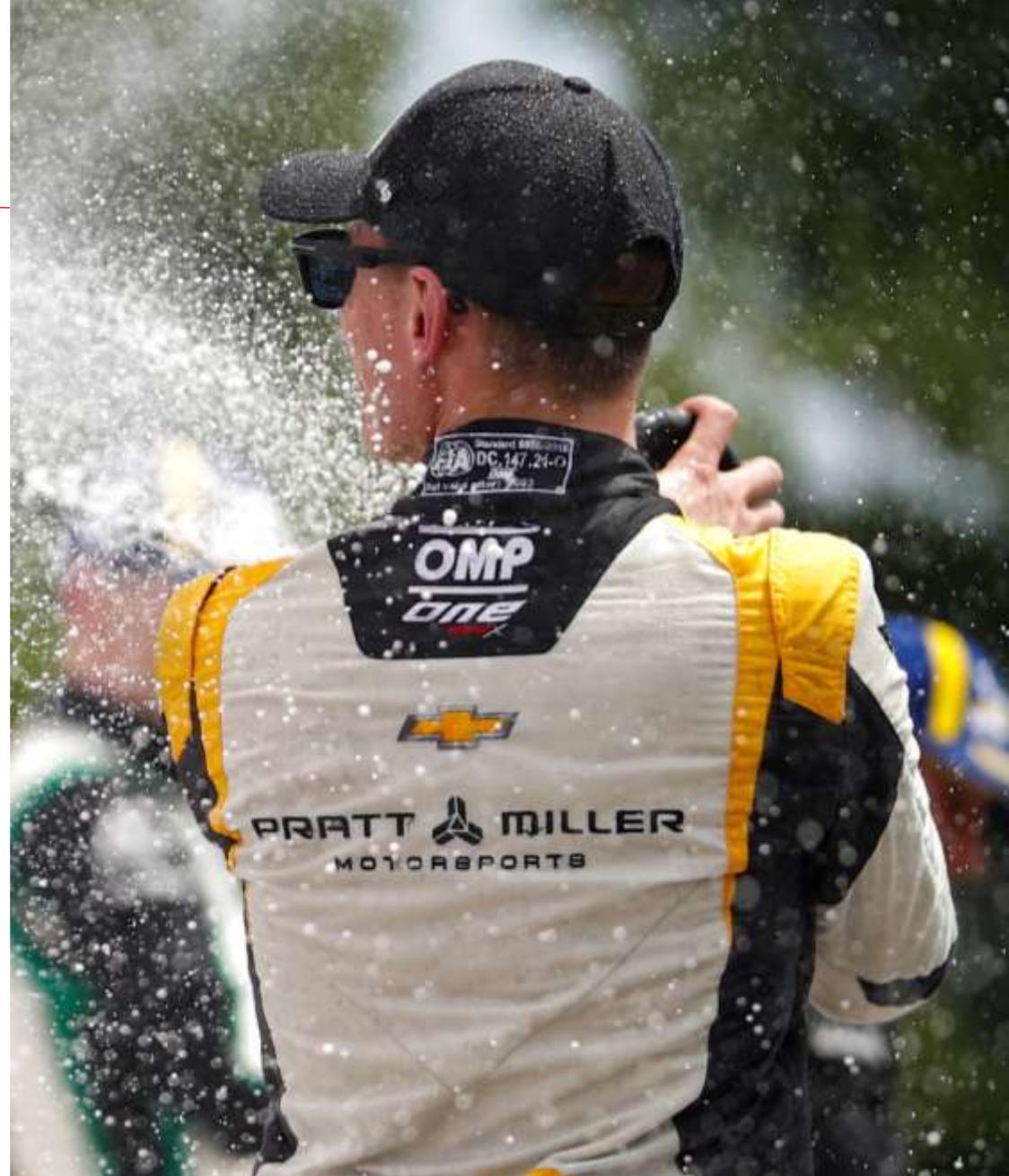
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