





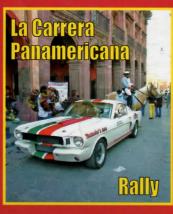




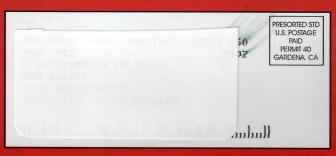
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How to Get Started in Vintage Racing



#04 Pete Sandy, 1959 Austin Healey Sprite; #25 Rusty Tilton, 1976 Porsche 914; and #82 Alan Schorken, 1967 MGB.

-story by Brad Balles

South of Houston almost to Galveston, implanted on former rice paddies, lies the newest concept in social club motorsports racing, the Motor Sports Ranch - Houston. CVAR, the Texas entry in the vintage racing world held its inaugural tryout event in early December and in December its was!!!!!! Cold, cold and very cold, there was not a single overheating incident.

CVAR warriors, 65 strong showed to test and begin the 2007 seasons point series. Just about all classes were represented from tin top sedans to Formula One cars...the most prolific were the formula car groups with Don Blendermen's Speedstar Motorsports clients leading the charge.

The Motor Sports Ranch - Houston's facilities have been expanding its seems by the month with buildings for race management, race related businesses, pit lane garages and administration. All is first class construction with paved entry roads, no more dirt lanes, and expansive paved paddock areas.

The track surface is of course new and is beginning to settle down with only a few bumps. The start/finish tower and gantry extends out over the start/finish line to give racers a bird's eye view of starters signals and visa versa!!!! The track is composed of a variety of long straights to stretch those big horse power legs and at times very strange switch backs and corners. The track was designed for hi performance exotics and road cars in mind. The track management received feedback from CVAR chief of track operations Bob Green on how the course's layout might be enhanced to provide for wheel-to-wheel road racing.

The current layout appeals to Indy Car teams. The course at times is similar to the street racing circuits they face around the world. As we packed up, three Indy Car teams arrived and began unloading for a week of on-track testing of equipment and potential new drivers.

All-in-all those that attended the event enjoyed the weekend and the bird watching!!!



#02 Jay Seligman, Mustang.





#9 Bill Hill, 1969 Merlyn 11A. #186 Lou Marchant, 1959 MGA.



#6 Mitchell Hibbs, 1997 Caterham, and #7 Gregory Hibbs, 1996 Caterham.



Aerial view of Motor Sports Ranch - Houston.



#41 Paul Flanery, 1965 Merlyn Mk6, and #10 Ed Copley, 1973 Lola T340.

RESULTS **GROUP 1 - RACE 1** PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 CP V. Shade/Porsche 911T 1:48.478

2 CP J. Collier/Porsche 911

3 CP P. Sullivan/Porsche 914/6

4 CP G. Kopecky/Porsche 911S

5 CP N. Cullen/Porsche 911T

1 AS J. Seligman/Mustang 1:56.584

1 FIA C. Jones/Shelby GT350 1:58,6422

2 AS D. Schultz/Mustang

1 AP J. Macaulay/Corvette 2:00.769

3 AS M. Jenniges/Mustang

1 BP W. Kuers/Mustang Fastback 2:05.110

4 AS J. Mangham/Falcon **GROUP 1 - RACE 2**

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 CP V. Shade/Porsche 911T 1:50.435 2 CP G. Kopecky/Porsche 911S

3 CP P. Sullivan/Porsche 914/6

4 CP N. Cullen/Porsche 911T

1 AS J. Seligman/Mustang 1:56.067

1 FIA C. Jones/Shelby GT350 1:56.497

1 AP J. Macaulay/Corvette 2:01.093

1 BP W. Kuers/Mustang Fastback 2:00,900

DNF AS D. Schultz/Mustang

GROUP 2 - RACE 1

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 S7 M. Hibbs/97 Caterham 1:52.261 1 FP J. McClanahan/69 MG Midget

1:57.512 2 S7 G. Hibbs/96 Caterham

2 FP S. Rodgers/72 MG Midget

1 BS T. Woodruff/74 BMW 2002 1:58,789

1 EP R. Tilton/76 Porsche 914 2:00.876

3 FP R. Williams/66 A-H Sprite

2 EP A. Schorken/67 MGB

4 FP H. Hilton/MG Midget

1 CS S. Partin/69 Alfa GT Jr 2:04.434 5 FP P. Littlefield/72 MG Midget

3 EP J. Hamilton/65 MGB 4 EP G. Perser/66 MGB

6 FP D. Littlefield/74 MG Midget

DNF FP P. Sandy/59 A-H Sprite

DNF FP R. Roach/66 Datsun SPL311

DNF FP C. Tiras/69 MG Midget

GROUP 2 - RACE 2

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 S7 G. Hibbs/96 Caterham 1:56.174

2 S7 M. Hibbs/97 Caterham

1 FP J. McClanahan/69 MG Midget 1:58.491

1 EP J. Hamilton/65 MGB 2:00.643

2 FP R. Williams/66 A-H Sprite

3 FP H. Hilton/MG Midget

2 EP R. Tilton/76 Porsche 914

3 EP A. Schorken/67 MGB

DNF FP P. Littlefield/72 MG Midget

DNF FP D. Littlefield/74 MG Midget

DNF BS T. Woodruff/74 BMW 2002 DNF FP P. Sandy/59 A-H Sprite

GROUP 3 - RACE 1 PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 FF1 S. Monroe/69 Caldwell D9

1:45.966

2 FF1 S. Smith/72 Merlyn Mk20A

1 FF2 J. Kelleher/72 Tiga 1:51.276 3 FF1 B. Hill/69 Merlyn 11A

4 FF1 A. Brussich/68 Lotus 61 FF 5 FF1 L. Lydick/69 Merlyn Mk11A

1 FV R. Bailey/72 Caldwell D13 1:58.612

2 FV M. Callahan/68 Zink C4

3 FV J. Yule/63 Formcar

4 FV J. Gaudette/69 Zink C4

2 FF2 E. Copley/73 Lola T340

5 FV A. Summerville/69 Zink C4 DNF FA K. Liming/70 Centaur FSV

GROUP 3 - RACE 2

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 FF1 S. Monroe/69 Caldwell D9 1:45.967

2 FF1 S. Smith/72 Merlyn Mk20A

1 FF2 J. Kelleher/72 Tiga 1:51.086

photo: James Salazar

3 FF1 A. Brussich/68 Lotus 61 FF

#7 Dave Peterson, 1972 Zink C4, and

#39 Jeff Wilt, Nash Scambler.

4 FF1 B. Hill/69 Merlyn 11A

5 FF1 L. Lydick/69 Merlyn Mk11A

1 FV M. Callahan/68 Zink C4 1:58.649

2 F2 E. Copley/73 Lola T340

2 FV J. Gaudette/69 Zink C4

3 FV J. Yule/63 Formcar

4 FV A. Summerville/69 Zink C4

5 FV R. Bailey/72 Caldwell D13

DNF FA K. Liming/70 Centaur FSV

GROUP 4 - RACE 1

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 VB M. Orlie/60 Porsche Roadster 2:05.712

1 SFP M. Vecillio/72 MG Midget 2:05.946

2 VB L. Marchant/59 MGA

1 FP R. Yates/72 MG Midget 2:06.309

2 SFP J. McClanahan/MG Midget

3 SFP E. Dick/67 A-H Sprite

4 SFP D. Turner/64 A-H Sprite **GROUP 4 - RACE 2**

PL CL DRIVER/CAR

1 VB L. Marchant/59 MGA 2:09/124

1 SFP J. McClanahan/MG Midget 2:05.935

2 SFP M. Vecillio/72 MG Midget

2 VB M. Orlie/60 Porsche Roadster



#115 Craig Tiras, 1969 Midget, and #112 Jay McClanahan, 1969 MG Midget.



#810 Vernon Shade, Porsche 911T.