



Willamette Valley Miata Club

## Rules of the Road

The goal is to have an enjoyable day driving your Miata. Driving with a group of cars is different than driving by yourself. Following a few simple guidelines will enhance everyone's fun.

### **General Items**

Arrive at the starting point on time with a full tank of gas and be ready to leave on time.

Unless it's an emergency situation, stay behind the leader and ahead of the sweep car. Anyone that passes the leader or falls behind the sweep car has officially dropped out of the run and is on his/her own.

If you have a problem, get the attention of the sweep car, who will attempt to stop, (if this can be done safely), assist, and notify the lead car.

If you need to pull over, turn on your flashers and pull off the road. The sweep car will stop behind you.

Our line of cars should not dominate the road. If other cars are trying to pass us, let them.

Use turn signals. Your signal acknowledges to the car in front you see the turn coming and signals the car behind you a turn is coming.

When we are making a turn and there are two turn lanes, or when we are going straight through an intersection that has two lanes, use both lanes. We will re-group after the intersection.

When we pass through a congested area, we will stop as soon as safely possible to re-group.

When pulling back onto a road, from a re-group point for example, everyone should pull out in unison when the sweep car does so AND you think it is safe to pull out. This is safer, faster and keeps the group together. Watch your rearview mirror for the sweep car to move out into the road so you will be prepared to move out all together - but make sure it is safe for you, in your own area, to pull out.

Accelerate slowly when in loose gravel. Take care not to throw gravel or splash water in the path of the car behind you.

Drive with your parking lights on. This makes it easier for the leader to keep track of all of the cars on the tour.

Pass only when legal and safe. Do not pass on double yellow lines or on curves.  
No commercial advertising while participating in a club event

### **Speed**

Stay within the posted speed limit. (The yellow speed signs on curves are advisory speeds.)

Do not go faster than you are comfortable driving—you won't get lost if you are slower.

Drive at your own level. If the Miata behind hurries you, wave them around and let them pass. Allow enough space between your car and the car in front of you to allow you to enjoy the drive and not to worry the driver ahead of you or about how good your brakes may be. Use the three second rule to be safe.

The lead Miata will establish the pace for the group, but it is each driver's responsibility to KEEP THE MIATA BEHIND YOU IN SITE AT ALL TIMES. This is especially important when making a turn, ensuring that the Miata behind you sees the turn. (Breadcrumbing)

Be careful of your speed especially in populated areas. Traveling together, we attract attention from children and law enforcement. Always observe local speed limits.

This is a fun run, not a race. Drive safely and do not intimidate other drivers.

### **Emergencies**

Turn your lights on and/or flash your high beams if you need to stop. Pull over and we will help you. If you see the Miata behind you with its lights on, turn on your lights on to pass the signal up to the leader or the next Miata with a radio to communicate the situation to the leader.

Unsafe driving that endangers the group will result in the leader ending the event.

Have fun and enjoy the event!