

## A New System For All Drivers: Club Class

On the surface nothing is wrong with ladies classes, but as we examine the data and its place in greater context we should consider a change, one that recruits and supports women drivers without isolation, and serves us all.

### Negatives of Ladies Class

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Autocross is one of the few motorsports that still separates women into a ‘Ladies Class’</li> <li>● Exclusionary to the broad membership of competitors</li> <li>● Limits women's mentoring, support and data sharing from diverse and top drivers</li> <li>● Will never “fade away on their own” due to contingencies paid out to women only</li> <li>● Forces a choice by gender and cosigns exclusivity</li> <li>● Contributes to the narrative that women aren't as good and need special classes</li> <li>● Leads to women feeling they must “qualify” to run Open</li> <li>● Causes "Poaching" from Open</li> <li>● Creates unrealistic expectations of winning and ill prepares for combined competition</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Data shows a tiny fraction of women win most contingencies</li> <li>● Created in the 70's, not current with progress and societal growth</li> <li>● Ladies class participation is diminishing</li> <li>● Causes men to “solicit” women drivers to win contingencies for them</li> <li>● Restricts women's potential</li> <li>● Segregation that creates conflict between drivers, limits competition, isolates the women in Open</li> <li>● Indexed ladies classes results in women "cleaning off the course" 1st Heat</li> <li>● Trends show women are leaving for Open</li> <li>● "Funneling" to Ladies class via expectation, peer pressure</li> </ul> |
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### Positives of Ladies Class

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allows 4 drivers in one car</li> <li>● Camaraderie</li> <li>● Helps recruitment of women</li> <li>● Helps with logistics such as childcare, car changes, etc.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Contingency</li> <li>● Class choices (open or ladies)</li> <li>● Mentoring from women</li> <li>● Helps keep up membership numbers and allows more drivers to participate</li> </ul> |
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### **Tiered system of Open class (unchanged) and Club class (indexed)**

● Allows 4 drivers in a car	● Retains membership numbers and allows more drivers to participate
● Option for less intense drivers or newer drivers to compete	● Recruitment-welcoming environment
● Class choices (Club or Open)	● Camaraderie
● Contingency possibly paying deeper in Open classes	● Helps with logistics at events-such as childcare, car changes, etc.
● Club class name and inclusive approach-helps attract incoming drivers	● Trophies in Club, Jackets and contingency in Open
● Mentoring-create mentoring programs and increase diverse representation	● Indexed groups of classes as Ladies classes are in ProSolo

Club makes national events more rewarding for both men and women, novice and experienced drivers... everyone. Switching to classing that divides by choice and away from dividing by gender will encourage membership, facilitate a coming together within the SCCA and allow this organization to move forward together for the betterment of us all. What do you think? What are your ideas?...