



March 2018

LSCBMWCCA (Lone Star Chapter, BMW Car Club of America)

This is a set of guidelines the Lone Star Chapter of BMW CCA is encouraging all members to adhere to when participating in sanctioned tours. It is very important that we drive **safely** and friendly as we briskly move along our tours.

1. Maintain approximately one quarter mile distance between the Tourmeister and the second car. The Tourmeister may have to make a sudden stop or turn. If another car is following too closely, it is difficult for the Tourmeister to stop or turn safely and still let the other cars know what is happening. A large gap also gives the Tourmeister time to warn the other drivers of oncoming turns, road hazards, traffic problems, hay in the road, loose livestock, radar traps, etc.
2. Maintain a minimum of three [3] seconds interval between your car the one in front of you. Expand this gap to avoid rocks on the road being kicked up for loose-road surfaces or in construction areas.
3. Find out who is ahead of you and behind you. Get their names and identify yourself. In addition to making the trip more enjoyable, it reduces confusion. When talking to someone on the CB radios, typically channel 24, address them by name, otherwise the entire group will assume you are talking to them. CB radios are invaluable in helping the group move smoothly through rolling road blocks or letting everyone know a 'nature break' is coming up at the closest clean gas station.

(The order may get scabbled after a lunch, gas or nature stops. So, check again to see who is in the front of and behind you.)

4. In heavy traffic situations, such as construction zones or metropolitan areas, save the idle chatter and leave the CB channel open for the Tourmeister or Navigator and Tail Gunner to provide road conditions, turns, etc.
5. Please, do not interrupt the Tourmeister when he is giving directions or warnings.
6. When passing slower (i.e. non-BMW club members) in traffic, realize that our activities may intimidate or anger the other driver. To help abrogate this, please use care and courtesy when passing (passing in passing zones). If multiple cars are passing the same vehicle, the first car should pull back in the lane before the second car pulls out to pass.
7. In Texas, it is illegal to pass more than one car at a time, on a two lane road. You must pull back into the right lane after passing each car.
8. Not everyone in the group likes to drive as quickly as others. Please discuss with the Tourmeister and Tail Gunner to find a comfortable location in the group.



(Novice, first time tour participants, will be instructed by the Tourmeister where to line up in the tour group. Generally, novice tour participants will be near the front with the Tourmeister.

9. If you have deviations from the group itinerary, please tell the Tourmeister or Tail Gunner.
10. The Tail Gunner is at the back of the tour group to communicate information to the Tourmeister, provide assistance if required by a tour participant and generally keep the group together and headed to the correct destination. So if a tour participant has car troubles, the Tail Gunner will stay behind as required to assist in getting the participant back on the road.
11. When the Tourmeister is making a turn, make sure you:
 - a. Turn your turn signal on for each turn
 - b. Watch for the car behind you to make sure they see where to make the turn as well. This may require you to lag behind a few seconds to ensure the group remains together and all cars make the correct turns. This will become second nature after you have participated in a few tours.
12. In metropolitan areas with traffic signals, the group will get separated but the Tourmeister will coordinate with the Tail Gunner to find an appropriate place to regroup. This may be parking lots, shoulders or slow speeds further down the route.
13. When pulling to the side of the road, please use your hazard lights for the safety of the group and to signal to other drivers that we have stopped moving. Additionally, when stopping, make sure that you can see the road behind you (i.e., don't stop at a blind curve).

General notes:

The Tourmeister typically sets a brisk pace with the anticipation we may encounter some law enforcement with a protective eye towards their section of the state. It has always been the unspoken agreement that should the Tourmeister or Tail Gunner receive a 'performance award', the cost of such award will be equally spread across the group for reimbursement to the Tourmeister and/or Tail Gunner.

To date, the Tourmeister has not received any such awards and so no cost has ever been passed on to any club member.

However, given the limited number of guardian angels appointed to protect the Tourmeister and Tail Gunner, at some point, along some lonely stretch of Texas ranch road, a well-deserved



performance award may be received. In that instance, it is expected by the Tourmeister and/or Tail Gunner that the cost of said award would be shared by all who are participating in the tour to the best of their ability (donation not mandatory).

BMW CCA requires all tour participants to be paid member in good standing in addition to having current inspection, registration and insurance for their vehicle. Proof of any of these items should be available for inspection by the Tourmeister.

In closing, these tours are organized by our local chapter and endorsed by the BMW CCA, so that we can enjoy driving BMW's the way the designers and engineers in the Motherland meant for them to be driven!

Thank you for joining us on tour and plan on having a great time with your BMW and swapping stories with your fellow participants from all of our current and past Tourmeisters: Leo Newland, Harry Moulter, Michael D. Nied, Mark Leediker, and Raymond Mimick.