

ANNUAL INSPECTION PREPARATION TIPS 2026

The Milwaukee Region Tech Inspectors want to help drivers get through their annual inspection as smoothly as possible. We have assembled this list of Annual Inspection Preparation Tips to assist in this process.

The car's annual inspection is valid for one year from the date of inspection. The driver's safety equipment does not need to be inspected with the car, but it needs to be inspected within the current calendar year. The driver's safety equipment is included in this list for convenience.

This is not an all-inclusive list but does include the most common issues tech inspectors encounter. **Please remember that you are responsible for reading and complying with the GCR, Fastrack updates, and event supplementary regulations.**

Log Book

- Have the vehicle log book with the car. Make sure the number on the log book matches the number stamped in the roll cage of the car.
- Have the **original** homologation certificate or letter of exemption available if required. A photocopy or picture is not acceptable.
- Any issues noted in the log book must be corrected.
- Have both required, up to date pictures in the log book.
- Locate the log book number and inspection hole on the roll cage. An inspection hole may not be drilled if an ultrasonic tester is used to initially measure the roll cage thickness which should be noted in log book.
- Have the shop manual available—and a means to view it if not printed—if required for the car class.
- Know the minimum weight for the car—how it is calculated for certain classes—and the current GCR spec page number.

Exterior

- Present the car for annual inspection with race tires and all body work securely mounted.
- Body panels are secure, in good repair, and no exposed metal or primer is showing. Fenders cover the tire contact patch. Bring all the body panels for inspection.
- Internal and external mirrors are secure.
- Forward facing camera showing cars & track ahead is required for **ALL** events. Must be readable in an MS Windows compatible viewer. Cameras larger than a 8 oz. must be secured on 2 different sides of the body and must prevent the camera from contacting the driver. GoPro camera mounts have been known to break—a fishing lure leader can be used to help secure it. Putting the car number & class on the camera is recommended.
- **Summit Racing Equipment SCCA Road Racing** stickers are displayed on the front and both sides of the car. **No other sanctioning body decals are visible.**
- Mobility and Impairment Decal, if displayed, is on driver's door on closed wheel cars or adjacent to master switch on formula and sports racer cars.

- Cars using a lithium-ion battery must display the green and black Lithium Battery decal near the kill switch or on the driver's side door near the window opening for cars without a kill switch.
- Car Numbers are at least 8" high with a 1½" stroke and contrast with their background. The distance between numbers shall be as wide as the stroke of the numbers. Car Numbers are on the front and both sides of car or as large as possible on rear wing side plate of formula cars equipped with a rear wing. Any 3 digit numbers **MUST** start with the number "1". Metallic (reflective) numbers and class letters are prohibited.
- Car Class identifications are on both sides of the car. Car Class identifications are at least 4" high with a 1/2" stroke. **Cars running in multiple classes must clearly identify which class and weight are being run for each session.**
- If required, OFF sticker(s) indicate the location of the Master Switch. The off position of the switch should be indicated.
- Circle "E" sticker(s) indicates the location of an on-board fire system. **The circle "E" decal shall not appear on cars which only have a hand-held fire extinguisher.**
- The Minimum Weight of the car is displayed on each side of the car—these just need to be visible—for all classes except classes with a single minimum weight.
- Any car required to run a restrictor **must** display the restrictor size and type and it should be displayed near the minimum weight if possible.
- Check for any additional required markings per class.
- **2" minimum** inner diameter tow eyes or straps, front & rear, do not protrude from the bodywork and must be accessible without removal or manipulation of bodywork. Rigid, OEM-style protruding towing eyes that screw or bolt into bumper covers are prohibited. Removable towing eye carried inside the car is not acceptable, except in formula and sports racing cars. Faired in formula cars shall have access holes for insertion of a bar or strap. Making the towing eyes easy to locate either through color or an arrow indicating location is recommended.
- A red rain light meeting FIA Standard 8874-2019, technical List No. 76, is required on all Formula and Sports Racing cars. It must be mounted approximately on vehicle center line and may strobe. For all other classes, two properly functioning OEM and/or FIA Standard 8874-2019 brake/rain/tail light(s) are required. Brake/tail lights must be red, may perform both functions as long as they have two distinct illumination levels, and may only be covered with **transparent tape**.
- Glass headlights must be taped.
- Windshields and rear windows have clips and straps installed if required. Polycarbonate windshields (Lexan)—if installed—is of the proper thickness & bracing and alternate fastening complies with class.

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Interior / Roll Cage / Fire Systems

- Driver's seat is one-piece bucket-type and properly mounted.
- Check roll cage configuration. Make sure all welds are complete. Make sure there are two door bars on each side of the car.
- Open wheel cars, front impact attenuation & side intrusion panels are installed and correct.
- On-Board Fire System (9.3.22.A) required for all classes except T3, T4, STL, SM, B-Spec, C-Spec, & IT. On-Board Fire System must be securely mounted, display Certification label, Capacity, Type of extinguishing agent, & weight/volume. Must be **SFI 17.1** or **17.2**, or on **FIA Technical List No. 16**. Must have at least two discharge nozzles. One nozzle must be located in the cockpit, the second nozzle located in either the engine compartment or over the fuel cell. Nozzles in all three locations are recommended. **Fire bottles without a gauge must be removed and weighed without the valve assembly. Be prepared to remove any panels or the fire bottle as necessary to read the gauge or weigh the fire bottle.**
- Hand-Held Fire Extinguisher (9.3.22.B) where allowed, MUST NOT display the circle "E" decal & be securely mounted with quick release metal brackets. Acceptable extinguishing agent minimum 2 lb. (2.25 L AFFF).
- The Drivers Restraint System (harness) is correct size, configuration, installation, and **NOT EXPIRED**. Is **SFI 16.1** w/exp.date or **16.5** w/exp. date or **FIA 8853/98**, **8853-2016** w/exp. date, or **8854/98**. Harnesses are installed with minimum SAE grade 5 or Metric 8.8 bolts if the manufacturers hardware is not utilized. Angle of harness mount is no more than 20° below shoulder.
- If a head rest is separate from the seat the minimum size is 36 sq. in. by 1 in and the driver's helmet can not get hooked over the pad.
- Window Safety Net—if required—must drop down, be equipped with a quick release, and must be properly mounted to the roll cage, and must be labeled **SFI 27.1** or **FIA J253.11**. Dual acting window nets are acceptable. An inside net is recommended.
- Ballast is the proper type, properly located, and properly mounted. Verify mounting location by class.

Engine / Electrical / Fuel System

- MYLAPS (formerly AMB) or compatible transponder is required. **Verify MYLAPS subscription is current.**
- Make sure the engine compartment is clean and dry. Check for collected liquids, leaks, worn belts, and exposed wiring.
- Verify that there are no holes in the firewall.
- A scattershield or chain guard is installed and of the appropriate thickness if required.
- Verify the exhaust system exit point is properly located.

- Catch tanks are at least 1 US pint for coolant and 1 US quart for oil—and are properly vented/rated.
- A Fuel Sampling Port/Valve/Device is required on all cars. Must comply with Fuel Sample Acquisition 9.3.25.B and have tools & hose to provide sample.
- If required, fuel cell must be FIA FT-3 or SFI 28.3 or higher. Must be properly located, have a positive locking cap, and have a bulkhead between it and the driver.
- The fuel cell vent must exit the car, not vent through roll cage, and verify if a check valve is required. Formula and Sports Racing car fuel breather vent shall exit outside the cockpit, away from exhaust, not necessarily outside of car, and a specific distance from cockpit for some classes.
- A Master Switch is required on all cars, except Touring and B-Spec, and shall cut all electrical circuits but not an on-board fire system. Be prepared to demonstrate that the master switch functions properly and shuts the engine off. **It is advised to test the Master Switch prior to the annual inspection.**
- **All terminals** of the master switch **must be** insulated—tape is OK. Be prepared to remove any panels as necessary to verify that all terminals on the master switch are insulated.
- The battery must be properly located and securely mounted to the frame or chassis, even if inside a marine container. The Positive terminal of the battery **must be** insulated. Wet cell batteries in the driver compartment **must be** in a non-conductive container. Be prepared to remove any panels or container covers as necessary to verify mounting and positive terminal insulation.

Driver's Safety Equipment

- Helmet is Snell **SA2015/SAH2015** or later, **FIA 8859-2015**, **FIA 8860-2010**, or newer, or **SFI 31.1/2015 with printed year**. SFI labeled helmets must have a year printed on the label to be valid. **Driver's name must be on the helmet.**
- Balaclavas are required for drivers with facial hair and must be of fire resistant material.
- Head and Neck Restraint System label is visible and **SFI 38.1** or **FIA 8858-2002** or **FIA 8858-2010**. There is no date requirement.
- Driving suit is **FIA 1986** Standard w/fire resistant underwear, **SFI 3.2A/1** w/fire resistant underwear, **SFI 3.4** w/fire resistant underwear, **FIA 8856-2000**, **FIA 8856-2018**, or **SFI 3.2A/5** or higher.
- **Only the new Official SCCA Logo or SCCA Pro Racing patches are allowed.** Preferred placement is on the right breast of the drivers suit.
- The socks, shoes, and gloves are required and must be made from fire resistant material and in good condition.
- Arm restraints are required for drivers of open cockpit cars, including targa tops, sunroofs, and t-tops.