INSTRUCTOR'S CORNER

"SLIP"

THE NEW DRIVING SKILLS EVALUATION FORMAT

In 2014, we introduced the first test of a different Student and Instructor Evaluation system. The system is from Driving Evals.com. This system utilizes an on-line evaluation to be completed after the event, and makes the evaluations available to both the Student and the Instructor for future reference. The response was really good. Both the evaluation completion rate and the feedback were great.

Last year, in the tests, we used the traditional Tarheel format for establishing both the Attitude and Awareness skills, and the Technical Skills, using a numerical scale (1-5 for Attitude and Awareness) and (1-12 for Technical Skills).This format has been in use for a long time, and we are all kind of comfortable with it. But is it as good as it could be?

The Tarheel Chapter has a very long history of focusing on Driving Education and skill building, not just providing track time. A very important part of that focus is the Student Evaluation process and how it informs the student of their progress and their areas for improvement.

Phil Antoine led a discussion with Driving Events Committee, who spent a great deal of time evaluating our current evaluation method, and the opportunities to make improvements to give better quality feedback to the Student (and to the Instructor). This was a follow up to last year's test.

The DEC then worked with Driving Evals.com to tailor their standard Skill Rating System to closely match the Tarheel HPDE Skill Set by Run Group, which has been on our website for years. The Driving Evals system puts the Skill sets description in the evaluation form itself, omitting the need to remember or check the skill sets by run group format.

After crossing all the T's and dotting the I's the DEC decided to adopt the Skill Level Instruction Program (SLIP) as modified.

Briefly, the new SLIP format defines Skill Level-(the overall level of skill) in seven distinct groups. These would be comparable to our previous D, C, B, A, A Solo and Instructor skill groups.

SLIP format then defines SLIP criteria in considerable detail-the skills we should expect to see at each skill level. These are in detail dialog, not simple numbers.

The SLIP system allows Instructors to more accurately and consistently evaluate student's progress by providing very specific criteria for each driving skill, sorted by Skill Level. We believe this will improve the communication between the Instructor and the Student, as it is so specific. Rather than "I gave you a 6 on this skill", we can check the box that says "Does not crab in. Tracks out, but leaves excess room to a wall or berm." That just seems so much more useful to the student. We also believe that the system, because it uses constant and specific skill descriptions, will help us to get to evaluations that are more consistent from Instructor to Instructor.

When you first look at SLIP, it may seem very complex, but when you actually use it, it all makes sense, and you can go over the evaluation with the student at the track if you wish, then complete the online form when you get home.

The chapter plans to offer training sessions on the format, so that we can make the transition as comfortable as possible. These training sessions will be managed by Phil Antoine, who will be in touch with all Instructors with dates and times in the near future.

CONTACT US:

Please do. We want to hear what you want to say on the subject of Instructing

Contact us at scottmeyer400@gmail.com