

MEMBER HANDBOOK



DATE: 09/14/2021

SahuarO *Miata* **Club**

One of Americas Oldest and Best
Established Miata Clubs.
Founded in 1992

SahuarO Miata Club
P.O. Box 27918
Prescott Valley, AZ 86312
webmaster@sahuaromiataclub.com

Place
Postage
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Liability Release

Any member wishing to participate in activities and events organized by the Club, must agree to release the Club, it's Officers, Organizers, Members, Sponsors, and Vendors from any and all liability for injury, damage, or loss (including health claims) arising from participation or attendance in any Club activity. Spouse, Partner applicant must also agree.

"I agree, as a condition of my participation and in consideration thereof, to be solely responsible for any damage or injury to third parties or to myself resulting from anything connected with the event name above. I agree to fully indemnify and hold Sahuaro Miata Club, its officers and representatives harmless for or in any claim, loss, damage, injury or liability ((including health claims) which may be asserted against them by me or by any third party as a result of my activity. The foregoing covenants of exculpation and indemnity are intended to be and are complete, general and without restriction and include but are not limited to negligence (active or passive) or willful, reckless or wanton activity. I further agree that a licensed driver will operate my vehicle and that the driver will comply with all applicable provisions of the Arizona Vehicle Code. I further warrant that I carry automobile liability insurance on the vehicle to be used in the above named event, that meets or exceeds all Arizona statutory requirements and liability insurance will be in full force and effective on the date of the above named event."



General Notes

The Mission of the Sahuaro Miata Club
Is to increase the fun of driving and owning a Mazda MX-5 Miata. This is achieved by combining fun runs and outings that allow us to take advantage of our roadsters phenomenal performance. Through meetings, meals and activities we meet like minded club members. We share our Miata experiences and develop friendships along the way that makes us all proud to be Miata owners and members of the Sahuaro Miata Club.

Welcome



The Miata MX-5 is Fun! Top down or top up, it handles beautifully, on straight or twisty roads, on the Track, around town, and across the country. Built for Driving, the person behind the wheel plus their co-pilot, will experience as much enjoyment as they can handle. If you value the freedom to choose your own road, breathing fresh air, and the company of like-minded Miata lovers, you have found the right group.

This handbook is designed to answer questions the new and seasoned member may have. Such as:

- ◆ How do I find out about events?
- ◆ Do we have a website?
- ◆ What do I need to know about club “Runs”?
- ◆ Can members host runs and events?
- ◆ How does the club stay safe in the age of Covid?
- ◆ Who runs the Sahuaro Miata Club?

Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this handbook, let us know what you think.

Happy (Zoom Zoom) Motoring,

Your SMC Board of Directors

History & Facts

In June of 1991, a group of 30 Miata owners got together in Phoenix, to talk about forming a common interest owners club. Within a year, the new club was organized, incorporated, and approved as a non-profit entity. We were one of the first chapters of the “Miata Club of America”.

Since then, Sahuaro Miata Club membership has grown to over 250 members dedicated to driving and socializing. Our membership is inclusive and welcoming to all Miata owners only limited to how far a person is willing to travel.

Typically we have four to eight restaurant outings a month and up to four “Events” each month. Those consist of runs all over the greater central Arizona area. Some of them finish the day with a trip back home. Other “Events” consist of over night runs requiring lodging. We have stayed in 1950’s style RV’s and haunted hotels. Arizona offers our club such a diverse number of fun activities, there is always something to please even the fussiest member.

The main purpose of any Miata club is get our members out on the road, with wind in our hair and sun in our faces. We make every effort to be a drivers club first and foremost. One reason that the Miata had garnered such high praise, top ten reviews and intense owner loyalty is the sheer fun factor. Reviewers say “Miata’s are a pure drivers car”.

Our Sponsors

Our sponsor page will be a listing of all current sponsors offering the Sahuaro Miata Club a discount of 10% or more on parts and service. To obtain your discount you will have to contact the corresponding sponsor and tell them you are a member of the Sahuaro Miata Club. You will have to request your discount before any work is started and show the sponsor your official Sahuaro Miata Club name badge for proof of membership. (Can be done during your first visit.) If you have a company your are very impressed with, please feel free to contact editor@sahuaromiataclub.com or call Jeff at 808-269-6693

This page is a work in progress

Berge Miata

385 W. Baseline Hwy., Gilbert, 480-498-5249

Cardinale Way Mazda

8424 W. Bell Rd., Peoria, 623-889-5950

6343 E. Test Drive, Mesa, 480-355-4412

Dent Wizard

2416 S. 19th Street, Phoenix, 888-776-2579

Go Green Body & Paint

304 S. Price Road, Tempe, 480-966-9559

Greene Automotive,

40819 N. 3rd Avenue, Desert Hills 602-697-6680

Horne Mazda-Avondale

10675 Papago Fwy, Avondale 623-748-1242

Smart Shield Protective Film

1515 Deer Valley Rd., PHX. 623-889-0862

3185 N. Colorado, Chandler, 623-889-0862

Board of Directors

Limited to a maximum of two 1 year terms, the Board of Directors consists of seven voting Officers.

President-Presides over all meetings, enforces Bylaws, signs contracts and is responsible for carrying out the decisions of the board of directors.

Vice President- Presides over meetings when the President is absent, oversees and approves events and activities. Maintains file of events for future reference.

Secretary- Keeps minutes of official meetings, and provides copies of Bylaws to members upon request.

Treasurer- Signs checks, collects dues, keeps accounts, provides financial reports at monthly meetings, annual accounting of all monies received and spent, prepares and presents annual budget for approval.

Immediate Past President- Serves as Advisor to the President and other Directors.

Membership Chairperson- Maintains membership records, solicits and processes new members, is alert to promotional opportunities to increase membership and the Clubs public image. Coordinates with Treasurer and maintains lists of current and prospective members for the Board.

Merchandise Chairperson- Responsible for maintaining and managing Club inventory of items pertinent to Club membership such as hats, shirts, pins, etc., for sale to members. Reports to Board annually regarding income and merchandise costs.

Non-Voting Board Appointees are: Newsletter Editor, Members at Large, and other appointees as determined by the Board.

All Officers and Appointees are non-paid volunteers.

Events

A wide variety of events are available for members. Some, referred to as “Runs” are focused on entertaining or challenging roads. We try to avoid congested city streets or boring freeways in order to enjoy the power, acceleration, and superb handling of our sports cars on roads less traveled. Some events are organized at closed tracks where enthusiastic drivers can enhance their skills with advanced lessons and/or stretch the limits of their ability with timed runs or competitive driving. These events are known as HPDE or High Performance Driving Events. Usually taking place in the cooler months.

Other events are sight-seeing, social, restaurants, parks, or Museums. A more complete list of our events can be found on Meetup. This includes Annual Car Shows such as the spring “Concours in the Hills” a huge charity event promoting the Phoenix Children's Hospital, and our fall Berge Mazda car show. Including Veterans Day Parade, Holiday Party & Light Tour, Inde Motorsports Track Days, Boyce Thompson Arboretum Tour, Breakfast & Lunch meetings, and weekend excursions such as Devil’s Highway, Sonoita Wine Tour, and the Annual Route 66 Celebration.

Ideas for new events are welcomed from everyone. New and current members are encouraged to get involved by assisting with current activities or suggesting and hosting new ones. Check out the list of past events on Meetup or our Club website. For more information on hosting an event please see page 10 “Hosting an Event”.

Websites

We use three forms of social media to keep our members informed of events. If you ever have difficulty maneuvering around these sites please contact our webmaster at:
webmaster@sahuaromiataclub.com

“Sahuaro Miata Club Website”

- ◆ A wealth of information at your fingertips. Find our about membership, event photos (Most recent photos are found on Meetup) sponsors, handheld radio info, club merchandize for sale and so much more.

www.sahuaromiataclub.com

“Meetup”

- ◆ Meetup is our communications life blood, our social media calendar of events.
- ◆ It’s exclusively opened to all members and is free to use. Find out about current and past events, look up event photos and download the photos you take at our functions. It is a great way to find out what’s going on in the club. Also communicate with fellow members via Meetup mail .

www.meetup.com/sahuaro-mx5-miata-club

“Facebook”

We have two Facebook pages, “Interest Group” & “Buy and Sell”

- ◆ Our “Sahuaro Miata Interest Group” page:
- ◆ Proud Miata owners regularly post topics for varied interests and tastes, such as:
- ◆ Articles and pictures of recent Miata runs and events
- ◆ Announcements of upcoming events
- ◆ Pictures and details on DIY Miata projects

www.facebook.com/groups/sahuaromiatainterestgroup

- ◆ Our “Sahuaro Miata Club Buy and Sell” Page:
- ◆ Looking to sell that special part you no longer need? Looking to buy? This is the place to go.

www.facebook.com/groups/SMCbuyandsell

Membership

A completed Membership Application must be submitted by prospective members accompanied by annual dues payment. Club Membership may be for one or two people, usually a primary driver and a spouse or significant other if applicable. Annual Dues are currently \$25, for up to two people. Your dues cover the calendar year, 1/1 thru 12/31. Dues are payable in advance by 1/1, for existing members, membership lapses if not paid within 60 days of the due date.

New members joining during the last two months of the year, will have their paid dues extended through the following year. You can find membership applications and much more on the membership page of our club website.

www.sahuaromiataclub.com

The image shows a screenshot of the Sahuaro Miata Club's membership application form. At the top, it features the club's logo and website URL. The form is titled "New Membership / Renewal Application" and contains several sections for data entry. The first section asks for the member's name, DOB, address, city, state, zip, phone, and email. A second section asks for the spouse/partner's information, including a checkbox to confirm if their phone and email are the same as the member's. The third section asks for the year of the Miata, its color, and trim. The fourth section includes checkboxes for "Special Edition" and "Anniversary Edition" models, and a field for the emergency contact name and phone. Below these fields is a checkbox for "By checking the box (left) you affirm that you have a valid Driver's License and Insurance." This is followed by a paragraph explaining that the membership roster is maintained on the Meetup site and that access is limited to active members. A "Release statement" follows, where the applicant agrees to release the club and its officers from liability for injury, damage, or loss arising from participation. At the bottom, there are fields for the member's and spouse/partner's signatures and dates. A final instruction asks the applicant to return the signed application to the club's mailing address: The Sahuaro Miata Club, PO Box 27918, Prescott Valley, AZ 86312. A small box at the bottom right provides information about the dues year (Jan-Dec) and payment methods (PayPal, check, or cash).

How to Host an Event

All members are encouraged to volunteer to host an event that interests them, one that has been done in the past, or something new and different. New events are welcomed since they expand group experiences and interests. A Host can be one or multiple individuals, depending on the activity and its complexity. (Consider asking another member to co-host or help plan the event) Begin by contacting the Club Vice President and Events Coordinator at:

vpevents@SahuaromiataClub.com

You can discuss your Event/Idea with our Vice President & Event Coordinator. He or She will assist you to develop it, and post your event to Meetup. The more details you can provide the more professional your event will be. Who, What, Where, When, How & Good Photos, makes for an excellent Meetup write-up.

- ◆ Event/Activity Title
- ◆ Date, Time & Duration
- ◆ Location, Address, Route and/or Maps
- ◆ Highlights, Activities, Details
- ◆ Instructions; RSVP start and close dates, Attendance limits if any
- ◆ Necessities, Hats, Water, Sunscreen, Apparel, Radios, etc.
- ◆ After the Event, submit a summary of highlights & photos if any, to our Editorial Assistant at:
events@sahuaromiataclub.com Send any run issues or suggestions to: vpevents@sahuaromiataclub.com

Remember, the more interesting you can make your event, the more people will want to participate. Tell them why you think it will be Fun, how much Fun they'll have, and why they won't want to miss it.

Run Event Guidelines

Follow the "Rules of the Road" Use Common Sense and Be Courteous

- ◆ **A**rrive at the Start Point on time, with a full fuel tank, correct tire pressure, and a capable vehicle.
- ◆ **I**f you have a two-way gmrs radio set, make sure it is fully charged, (Or carry spare batteries for those battery powered models) keep the antenna vertical, and as high as possible. At the beginning of your run your event host will tell you what channel to use.
- ◆ **I**f you are meeting the group enroute or leaving early, notify the Run Leader in advance.
- ◆ **P**ay close attention to the Run Leader during the Drivers Meeting, for last minute updates and instructions.
- ◆ **T**he lead vehicle will set the pace, keep up if possible, but not faster than your comfort level. Let those behind pass if necessary, and pass those in front going too slow, when safe and legal to do so.
- ◆ **K**eeep the vehicle behind you in sight, not just the one in front.
- ◆ **O**ur line of vehicles should not dominate the road, If others need to pass, let them.

One driver will be designated as "Sweep" who will be the last car in line watching out for disabled or problem vehicles. The "Sweep" will be the only Miata with headlights on so the leader can make sure our group is all together, (unless traveling after dark). The sweep maintains radio contact with the leader or other drivers to relay messages as needed.

Two Way Radio Info

Many members use radios (walkie-talkies) to enhance run safety and enjoyment. They are used to report road conditions, route changes, emergencies, and maintain contact between the Run Leader, Sweep, and Drivers in the group. The recommended style is a GMRS/FRS since it has both high and low frequency channels. They are easy to use, reasonably priced between \$50-\$70 a pair.

They are available from retailers such as Amazon, Best Buy, Cabelas, REI, Walmart, and others. Popular brands are Midland and Motorola. Many consider them essential especially during a run. A more detailed discussion is available on the Club website you may also ask other members for their suggestions. www.sahuaromiataclub.com/gmrs-radio-information



Our Newsletter

Our bi-monthly newsletter is an invaluable tool. It is full of useful information such as:

- ◆ Member Biographies
- ◆ Tech Tips from our members and around the web
- ◆ Latest club merchandise and limited edition items
- ◆ Event recaps with “full color” photos
- ◆ Messages from our Board of Directors
- ◆ Sponsor information
- ◆ Member articles designed to keep you on the edge of your seat.

Every new issue is announced to the club when it is made available. You may also find our newsletters on our website under “Newsletters”.

www.sahuaromiataclub.com/newsletters

- ◆ Please send your Biographies to:
- ◆ Editorial Assistant:
- ◆ biographies@sahuaromiataclub.com
- ◆ Please send your past event recap info to:
- ◆ Editorial Assistant:
- ◆ events@Sahuaromiataclub.com
- ◆ Please send your Tech Tips info to:
- ◆ Editorial Assistant:
- ◆ techtips@Sahuaromiataclub.com

Everything else newsletter related goes to our editor:
editor@sahuaromiataclub.com

We are looking for photos of your vanity license plates, member photos from your youth, special interest stories, cartoons and especially any “Dog with Miata” photos.