

DE Flags Explained

If you are going to participate in Drivers' Education events, you NEED to understand what the flags mean. The flags are the way we communicate with the drivers while they are on the track.

	Green Flag - Used only by the starter at the starting line in the grid. The green flag is the only signal or permission, under any circumstances, for a driver to enter the track. A driver can never enter the track unless signaled by the starter with the green flag.
	Yellow Flag - The yellow flag is used to indicate there is a hazard ahead, some reason to proceed with caution. It means slow down and proceed with caution. There are two ways the yellow flag is displayed to the driver. Waving - The driver should exercise more caution, but keep moving. For example, a car has stalled on the track or is off the track in a hazardous location. Standing Yellow (not waving, held still) - The driver should exercise a large degree of caution, but continue to move on the track. The flag is displayed in this manner if there is a hazard that drivers have seen before but continues to be on the track.
	Passing Flag - This blue flag with a yellow diagonal stripe is used in DEs to alert a driver that he/she is obstructing traffic. Faster cars may want to pass or the driver is not slowing enough to allow equal speed cars to pass. At the first opportunity, the driver is to allow passing in the designated passing areas. In racing venues it is used to indicate that a faster car is approaching you and will be passing.
	Debris Flag - This yellow flag with orange vertical stripes indicates there is debris ahead on the track that could create a hazardous situation, such as oil, car parts, dirt, cones, etc.
	Black Flag - The black flag may be displayed open or furled and signifies something is wrong with the car, the driver has violated track etiquette, or for some other reason the starter wants to see the driver in the pits. The driver is to slow down , finish the lap, and enter the pits. He/she is to then see the starter to find out why he/she was black flagged. This flag is only used at the direction of Control.
	Yellow and Black - When both these flags are displayed it means to slow down and exit the track. There has been an incident and we need to clear the track.
	White Flag - Used in DEs to indicate 5 minutes left in a session. In racing events it is used to indicate a slow moving vehicle is on the track.
	Red Flag - This flag is displayed waving only . It may only be displayed on the call of the "Control". The red flag means there is an obstruction of traffic on the track and the situation is hazardous, such as fire or possible injury. The driver should stop on the track as soon as safely possible, watching for other traffic in his/her rear view mirror. He/she should move to the shoulder or off the track if possible rather than stop in the middle of the road.
	Checkered Flag - Used only by the starter at the starting line in the grid. This flag is used to indicate the groups track session is over. The driver should complete the lap at a slower speed to cool the car and the brakes and proceed to the pit area..