

Zone 7 Autocross Championship Series

By Collin Fat

It is hard to believe that we are more than halfway through the autocross season with the completion of events #5 and #6. **Loma Prieta Region** hosted over 60 drivers for event #5 while **Golden Gate Region** hosted more than 70 drivers for event #6. A huge thank you goes out to **Anne Roth** and **Ed Hunter** and their teams for putting on another great event.

In the Zone PAX competition, **Himanshu Patel**, 2017 PAX Champion, is in first place with 516 points with 3 events to go. Himanshu has a commanding lead in the PAX competition and is followed by **Derek Boyd** (360), **Marshall Frasier** (310), **Andrew Blyholder** (285), and **Ovidiu Predescu** (268) rounding out the top five. There are only 156 points separating Derek from Himanshu and though Himanshu has a commanding lead it could be a tight race to the finish should the PAX leader falter in the run to the championship.



Himanshu Patel

In the ladies PAX competition, **Corrin Vanetti**, has the out- right lead going into the home stretch and leads **Janell Lund-Mann** by a mere 15 points with 3 events to go and this could actually go either way should either competitor fail to make all 3 remaining events. Trailing the two leaders are **Lavergne Thomas** and **Sandy Provasi**. After 6 events, 13 ladies have competed in the Zone series and participation among the ladies has continued to grow over the past few years.

The class competition in almost every Zone class is close as competitors compete for end of the year bragging rights.

In the competition in the highly competitive modified class, **Andrew Bylholder** (M1) holds a slight lead over **Tom Greathouse** and **Steve Nieslony**. With 3 events remaining, Andrew needs to get his points in all 3 remaining events to end the season as class champion.

In class M05, it's a repeat of the battle between **Dave Dunwoodie** and **Ed Hunter**. Dave has 92 points ending into the finish with Dave earning 88 points. I believe both participants will compete in all 3 remaining events so the championship could go either way.



Dave Dunwoodie



Ed Hunter

In the improved classes, Collin Fat currently holds a lead over **Monty Pack** and **Steve Lau** but possibly not for long if Pack enters the last 3 events and takes first in class at the remaining events. In I02 **Grady Carter** has what seems like an insurmountable lead over his competition with 3 events remaining.

In P16, **Derek Boyd** has not missed a Zone event all season and holds a commanding lead over his distant competitors. With 112 points it looks like Derek should cruise to a class win.

In P11, **Phil Snowden** has a 30 point lead over **Doug Brekke**. With only 3 events under his belt, Doug could overcome Phil's lead in the last remaining events with events #6 and #7 taking place at Redwood Region in Santa Rosa. Home court advantage could make it very close.

In P08, **John Brosnahan** (72) has a slim lead over second place **David Schnitzer** (40) with 3 events to go. Should John compete in the final 3 events of the season, it looks like he will get his second class win in P08.

In P05, **Terry Zaccone** (photo below) is running unopposed and needs only 2 more events to qualify for a year end award. Terry is also competing in P02 (street tires) and holds a slim lead against 4 other competitors. Not sure what Terry has in mind as he will have to decide which class he wants to go after with 3 events remaining.



In S14, **Sandy and Tom Provasi** hold commanding leads in class competing in their Cayenne diesel. They have both qualified for year end trophies having already competed in 5 events.



L/R Sandy and Tom Provasi



Sandy Provasi on Course

In S13, the competition looks like it could go to the finish with **Tosh Yumae** (72) holding a small lead over **Weyland Fat** (67) with 3 events remaining.



Tosh Yumae



Weyland Fat

In S12, **Ovidui Predescu** holds a commanding lead over his closest competitors. With 4 events already in the box, Ovidui needs only one event to qualify for a year end award.

P11 has the second largest number of competitors with 11 drivers competing for year end awards. **John Leet** (63) has a commanding lead on the field and with needing only 1 event to qualify for a year end award is the odds on favorite to take his first Zone Class championship.

S07 has 17 drivers competing and is the largest class in the Zone series. **Himanshu Patel** (120) has a commanding lead over **Ed Racer** (77). Should Himanshu not compete in the 3 remaining Zone events, it is mathematically possible for Ed to close the gap.

The last competitive class is S06 where **Darrel Huckabay** (76) holds a commanding lead over **Bruce Berg** (40). In order to qualify for the class win, Bruce needs to do well in the 3 remaining events. Darrel, could claim the title with just one more class win.