



Welcome to the FUN N SUN ZOOMERS R/C Car Club

Won't you come join the 

December 8, 2016

FUN N SUN ZOOMERS R/C Car Club Sign-up

Name: _____

FUN N SUN Lot # _____

Other Encore Park/Lot #: _____

Full Time Valley Resident: YES ___ NO ___

Local Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

EMAIL: _____

Membership Types:

General Membership (No Dues) _____

Full Membership (Single \$25) _____ Full Membership (Family \$35) _____

General membership in the ZOOMERS RC Car Club is free and allows access to the club track at any time with the exception of scheduled competitive racing events. These events are normally held on Sundays from 1PM to 4PM during the FUN N SUN Winter Season in January, February and March. ***Please Note*** ... While dues are not required to belong to the ZOOMERS RC Car Club, they do help with track upkeep (Dirt replacement, barriers and other track improvements).

Car numbers are only issued to dues paying members. Only dues paying members can participate in the clubs competitive racing program:

Club Membership Dues:

Single member: \$25 per year

Family (2 or more members in same household): \$35 per year

A car number is required to participate in the competitive racing program of the club to facilitate the accumulation of lap counts, times and the compiling of class competition points towards the end of season championship awards.

A car transponder is required for lap times and counting. If you own more than one car it is recommended that you have a separate transponder for each car.

Racing Note: Participation in the "LAST CAR STANDING" car race is open to all FUN N SUN and Encore Park residents. This race is for "BRAGGING RIGHTS ONLY". No points are awarded. No dues, car number or transponder are required to participate in this race.

See next page for ZOOMERS contact information

Club President:
Paul Sterkowitz
Lot T403
630-204-0195
pss67@comcast.net

Race Director:
Ken Renicker
Lot P-160
281-732-6731
krrenickersr@yahoo.com

Club Secretary:
Bruce Nelson
Lot T414
956-399-8505
bruce@studio221.net

Track Steward:
Carl Thoene
Lot M-177
419-204-2218
Butley1@gmail.com

Club Treasurer:
Leesa Dodd
Lot F-23
713-208-5959
Leesa.j.dodd@cebridge.net

Club Records:
Bob Ross
Lot V-26
956-276-0948
Bobross37@gmail.com

➤ For information on car transponders cost and where to purchase:
Club President, Secretary, Race Director or Track Steward

➤ For a car number assignment:
Club Records

➤ For club shirts, hats and car # stickers contact either:

Lesta Theone
Lot M-177
419-204-2218

Butley1@gmail.com

Ginny Herman
Lot CJ-226
956-456-4744

42travel8132@sbcglobal.net

➤ FNS ZOOMERS Web Site:
www.zoomersrccarclub.com

➤ **FUN N SUN ZOOMERS Car Club Sponsors:**

HOBBY TOWN ... Brownsville, TX
3457 Old Highway 77 #180
956-621-3457

www.hobbytownrgv.com/#!/brownsville-hobby-town/spo61

NEW SUN RACING ... Harlingen, TX
Valle Vista Mall
2000 South Expressway 83 #E07
956-444-2303

<https://www.newsunracing.com/>

A Brief History of the FUN N SUN

Zoomers RC Car Club

Around December of 2014, Bob Ross started an RC Car Club, the *Zoomers*. The club would be restricted to FUN N SUN Residents and their guests and residents and guests from other Encore Parks.

For the next several months a number of us purchased RC cars and trucks and ran them in the streets and grassy places in the park but mostly in the main parking lot by the registration and activity building. We used a painted-on track that was used in the Encore Games for the slow-bike race.

The then current Park Manager, Tony Ortiz, told Bob that if he could get at least 10 “SOLID” members, the park would supply space and material for an RC track. Bob got significantly more than 10 members. There were over 20 within the first several months and the current roster for April of 2016 is over 80!

In May of 2014 the park purchased lumber for an elevated driver’s deck, 360 feet of landscaping timbers, 600 feet of corrugated plastic drainage pipe for lane barriers, assorted fasteners and spikes and several truckloads of river dirt.

Volunteer residents supplied all the labor except for electrical work done by the park electrician. Many of the volunteer residents were not even club members. No history of the *Zoomers* would be complete without mentioning that the construction of the driver’s deck and of the ADA ramp and deck the following year was done under the direction of Mike Green and aided by many of his buddies from the FUN N SUN *CRAB* Motorcycle club as well as by resident *Zoomers*.

In January of 2015 the club purchased an “Ilaps” lap counter setup and the individual members purchased transponders for their cars. We used a freeware program, “Flipside racing” and started regular Sunday afternoon races. By the end of March we managed to have 8 Sunday races.

Realizing that we were going to have maintenance and track improvement costs we instituted \$25 annual dues.

In May of the following year, 2015, the Park supplied material for a ramp and drivers deck for disabled persons. Again, Park residents supplied the labor. Also in May of 2015 the club purchased 100 feet of additional lane barriers, and a truck load of dirt to refurbish the track.

In 2016, the park added night lighting to the track and we initiated “*FUN*” racing on Saturday evenings.

At the end of each racing season we generally replenish the dirt and reconfigure the track layout. Each year the track becomes more and more “interesting”.

The track is open all year and the club meets informally from May thru November and formally from December thru April. “Practice” racing starts in December. Our “Championship” race series starts at the beginning of January and last thru the end of March. In 2016, we generally had over 20 drivers racing before a crowd of 80 to 100 or more spectators.

Much of the history of the *Zoomers* RC Car Club is and the FUN N SUN Speedway is documented and illustrated with pictures and videos on the clubs web site, <http://zoomersrccarclub.com>

Track use Policy and Guide lines

- 1 ... The Zoomers R/C Car Club and the Fun n Sun Speedway are open to all Fun and Sun residents and their guests and to residents of other Encore Parks. Park badges should be worn. You do not have to be a member of the club to use the speedway. You do have to be a member to participate in the racing program.
- 2 ... Electric powered 1/10 scale cars/trucks only. Maximum Battery size: NiMH up to 7 cells or 2s (cell) 7.4v LiP0. No Gas or Nitro.
- 3 ... 1/10 scale or equivalent and smaller.
- 4 ... All drivers should stand outside the track, preferably on the drivers platform. No driving from inside the track.
- 5 ... Drivers should agree to take turns as turn marshals.
- 6 ... Only turn marshals shall be on the track during scheduled racing sessions.
- 7 ... Only closed toe shoes on the track. No sandals or flip flops.
- 8 ... The track lanes are all one-way, Generally a counter-clockwise direction. (From time to time the direction might be reversed, in which case a directional arrow may be posted adjacent to the track.)
- 9 ... Lipo batteries should be charged in charging bags or an equivalent container.
- 10 ... No littering ... recycling and garbage receptacles are available.
- 11... Club members will assist in the maintenance of the track.
- 12 ... The sport entails a great deal of unintentional colliding. Drivers are not responsible for damage caused unintentionally to another r/c vehicle.
- 13 ... N0 DUI! Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the track, the Drivers Platform nor the area by the drivers platform except during club social events. Intoxicated persons will be asked to leave!
- 14 ... Controllers should not be left unattended.
- 15 ... Please use opening at Turn 1 to drive your car onto the track. Do not place car on straight away lane in front of drivers stand.
- 16 ... All minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. At no time should children be left at the track by themselves.
- 17 ... Safety is our first priority. If you see something you think is unsafe, please report it to the club officers.
- 18 ... **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY;** No use of foul language, arguing with track officers and fellow competitors or yelling at Turn Marshalls.
- 19 ... Feel free to use lights after dark but please respect our neighbors by turning them off by 10PM on weekdays and 11PM on weekends.

INFO & TERMINOLOGY:

About R/C ... <http://rcvehicles.about.com/>
Beginning RC ... www.beginningrc.com/
Everything RC Cars ... www.everything-rc-cars.com/
Information Links ... <http://rcracingusa.net/links.htm>
RC Handbook ... [http://teamassociated.com/pdf/cars and trucks/shared/RC HandbookV2.pdf](http://teamassociated.com/pdf/cars%20and%20trucks/shared/RC%20HandbookV2.pdf)
RC Nitro Talk ... www.rcnitrotalk.com/rc-terms/
RC Racing USA ... www.rcracingusa.net/rcterm.htm
RC Universe ... www.rcuniverse.com/community/glossary.cfm
Tower Hobbies ... www.towerhobbies.com/intros/introductory.html

R/C CAR/TRUCK ON-LINE SEARCHES:

Amazon.com: RC Cars RC Off Road Cars
EBAY: R/C Cars R/C Off Road Cars
GOOGLE: Off Road Radio Controlled Cars R/C Cars Radio Controlled Cars
R-C Batteries R/C Car Magazines RC Off-road

ON-LINE STORES:

FNS ZOOMERS SPONSOR ...

Hobby Town, Brownsville, TX ... www.hobbytownrgv.com/#!/brownsville-hobby-town/spo6l

New Sun Racing, Harlingen, TX ... <https://newsunracing.com/>

A Main Hobbies ... www.amainhobbies.com/
Atomik RC ... www.atomik-rc.com/
Hobby Partz.com ... www.hobbypartz.com/
Hobby People ... hobbypeople.net/
HPI-Racing ... <http://www.hpiracing.com/>
Hobbytron ... www.hobbytron.com/
Hub Hobby ... <http://www.hubhobby.com/shop/32/cars-trucks>
Nitro RCX ... www.nitrorcx.com/
Omni Models ... www.omnimodels.com
RC Hobbies ... www.vgracing.com
RC Mart ... www.rcmart.com/
RC Planet ... www.rcplanet.com/
RC Superstore ... www.rcsuperstore.com/
Simply RC Toys ... www.simplyrctoys.com/
Tower Hobbies ... www.towerhobbies.com/

MANUFACTURERS:

BRP ... <http://brpracing.com/>
Corally ... <http://www.corally.com/>
HPI ... <http://www.hpiracing.com/>
DuraTrax ... <http://www.duratrax.com/>
Kyosho ... <http://www.kyosho.com/eng/>
Losi ... <http://www.losi.com/>
Ripmax ... <http://www2.ripmax.net/>
Team Associated ... <http://www.teamassociated.com/>
Tamiya ... <http://www.tamiyausa.com/>
Traxxas ... <http://www.traxxas.com/>

So Now you are Ready to Purchase a RC Car

Q & A

What do I need to get started?

An RC Car ready to run, a NiMH or Lipo battery and charger

Who is permitted to drive cars on the track?

The track is for use by Fun N Sun Residents, and residents of other Encore parks. Park badges should be worn at all times.

2WD (2 Wheel Drive) or 4WD (4 Wheel Drive)?

2WD cars tend to be less expensive and take a little more time to learn to control. 4WD cars generally have a shorter learning curve but are more expensive. The Zoomers have racing classes for both types of cars.

Brushed or Brushless Motor?

RC cars with a brushed motor are less expensive than a brushless motor. Brushed motors will require some maintenance. Either of these will work well.

Traxxas or Other Brand Trucks?

The majority of Zoomers have purchased Traxxas cars. This is mainly because Carl keeps a supply of parts on hand and they tend to be reliable cars.

What Scale Car & Battery Pack Size?

The Zoomers require a 1/10 scale car and a battery size no greater than a 2s (2cell) 7.4 volt, Lipo battery or a 7cell 8.4 volt, NiMH battery. The cars we race are short track 1/10 scale cars with the tires that are covered by fenders. Cars with open tires will not be allowed to race with the other cars. (See the race director for more details about a special class being created for the 2016/17 season).

NiMH vs Lipo Batteries?

Most of the cars come with NiMH batteries which are generally less expensive. These will work fine but many of us have switched to Lipo batteries for longer battery life and require more care during charging.

How do I safely charge my batteries?

Care must be taken when charging any batteries. Never leave a charging battery unattended. Please check our web site at www.zoomersrcclub.com for more information on safe charging. *(Click on the "Fixers Tips" tab at the top of the screen)*

What happens if my car breaks down?

Carl is a good source for advice on what it will take to get your car up and running again. He stocks many parts and does repairs at reasonable prices.

Will my car be damaged by other cars on the track?

Chances are you will be making contact with other cars on the track. Keep in mind that the paint on your shiny new car is on the inside and the cars can handle quite a bit slamming around before they suffer damage. Luckily the repair parts are inexpensive and you can check with Carl about obtaining parts and making repairs.

What is the best way for a beginner to start learning to drive?

On Mondays and Wednesdays between the hours of 10AM to 12 Noon the track is reserved for newer drivers. The slow bike lanes in the main parking lot is where many of us started to learn how control and steer our cars. It's easier to see what your car is doing and you don't have to climb up and down the drivers stand to turn it over if it flips.

What is Zoomer Track Etiquette?

Don't leave your car sitting on the track at any time Marshalls are not present. Walk your car over to the track entrance and place it outside and drive in. We have had several damaged cars from people setting their cars down in front of the drivers stand in the center of the track.

Don't leave your transmitter on the drivers stand if you need to go to retrieve your car during practice. Transmitters have been used by mistake and again the results are not pretty. Please see track use and policy guidelines in this booklet for more details.

What is a Track Marshall?

A **Track Marshall** is that person or persons designated to right any flipped or stuck vehicles and return them to the track facing in the direction of travel. In the event of a disabled vehicle, the turn marshal removes the vehicle from the track. No children under the age of 12 are permitted to be turn marshals.

I am not sure I want to race at this point, what else can I do?

Your help would be greatly appreciated as a Track Marshall, Race day helper, and on Saturday night social evenings.

Ok, now I want to participate in racing – Now What?

First off you will have to become a paid member which allows you to choose a number. Then you will have to purchase a transponder from Hobby Town in Brownsville for \$40 cash. See our Race Director Ken Renicker for more information. Another packet will be available that discusses racing rules for our club.

Where can I get more detailed information than is available here?

The internet is a great source for information, especially "YouTube". The Zoomers officers would also be happy to answer questions you might have.

How can I volunteer to help this club succeed?

Attending meetings is great first step to understand what the Zoomers Club is about. We need volunteers for special events and to serve on committees.