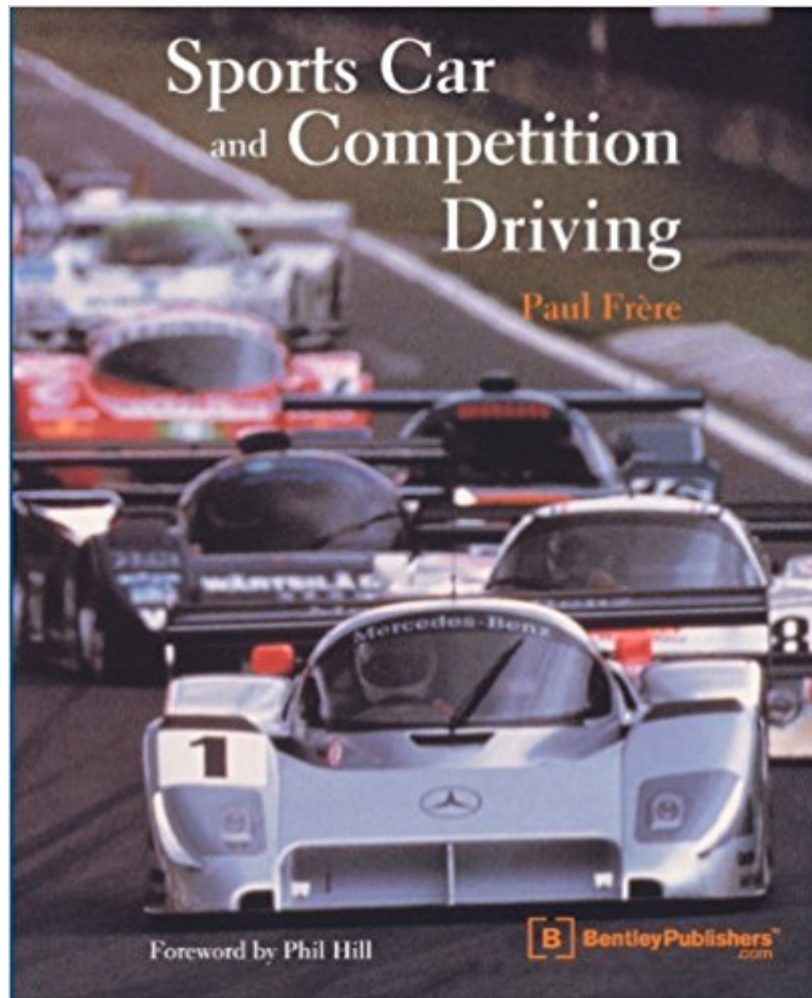




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Sports Car And Competition Driving



Synopsis

Paul Frère - Le Mans winner, Grand Prix driver, and Road & Track magazine's European editor - has prepared a new edition of his classic, Sports Car and Competition Driving. First published in 1963, Sports Car and Competition Driving sold tens of thousands of copies, establishing it as a standard reference on driving. In his revised edition, Frère builds on the strengths of the original by explaining how to meet the new challenges posed by radical new developments in automotive technology. What separates Frère's book from other driving texts is his unique blend of theory and practice, based on a career as racer and trained engineer: Memorable observations on how to go faster combined with sophisticated discussions of the physics that govern a car. With 78 photographs and illustrations, Sports Car and Competition Driving is required reading for all those interested in racing or in becoming a more masterful road driver.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

What separates Frere's book from other driving texts is his unique blend of theory and practice, based on a career as racer and trained engineer: Memorable, resonant observations on how to go faster combined with sophisticated discussions of the physics that govern a car at speed. With 78 photographs, illustrations and diagrams, Sports Car and Competition Driving is required reading for all those interested in racing or in becoming a more masterful driver on the road.

Some interesting insights but really dated. Apparently you should not wear seat belts so you can be

thrown clear of the wreck. Never knew that.

Used book, condition as advertised. Reasonably quick ship. A fine read by a good writer, but actually a sort of supplement to Piero Taruffi's "The Technique of Motor Racing". Not much really had changed since Taruffi's day that needed to be accounted for in driving, except a little aero downforce, so this book has no tremendous revelations to the aspiring driver.

From the first glance, I liked that book much! It is written in a very friendly tone, clear language! It begins with a large chapter about the driving position; there are lots of photos with the right and wrong poses, with analysis of each case. The evolution of the correct driving position is also exposed. Then goes a chapter about power, torque and when to change the gear to achieve different goals: fuel economy, engine lifetime, maximum speed. After that there is a section about the correct braking and pedaling. The author has dedicated a large topic of this book to quick and safe cornering, explaining the forces and vectors that act upon the axes and wheels; about the oversteer and understeer, about slipping, sliding and skidding. There are very simple and clear formulas to calculate the total adhesion of a wheel with the road. The rest of the book is about the sport events: how to prepare and how to perform. Should the generic reader be aware of the contests, right? The detailed reading of the book has shown some arguable points. For example, the author is glorifying the ABS in one chapter and writes about controlled slide in another chapter, not mentioning the controlled slide is hardly possible with ABS. It seems that the textual fragments which were added in the second edition of the book about the modern whistles-and-bells like ABS are not well aligned with the rest of the book (that's why four stars only) which Paul Frere has published in the first edition, and this original text about physics of cornering is just brilliant! However, if you liked a better book about cornering and not filled with much information about sport events, I would have recommended numerous textbooks by Professor Tsygankov, who has even a separate textbook about the correct handling of the steering wheel. This subject is almost overlooked by Paul Frere.

This is a thinking person's book, from a great world class driver. Eloquently written and clear advice combined with basic level formulas, photos, and illustrations to get the messages to the reader on multiple planes of communication. Approaching fifty years since it was first released, the immensely practical advice in this book is timeless. Frere provides not just "tips" to drive fast, but concepts and tools to develop your own thinking and analytical skills to learn how to handle all manner of

challenges on the road and track. It promotes "safe" as much if not more than fast, and that is all the more reason to have, read, study and practice the lessons it provides.

Excellent insights both from both competition driving and technical experience. A must read for those serious about sports car and competition driving.

It provides solid info for an aspiring driver and is both interesting and very useful. It has some interesting history that shows how the cars have improved and some theory that gives good advice on all aspects of track or road racing. Any aspiring racer would appreciate and use the information in the book.

Paul Frere is a genius and he transfers that knowledge to the reader in a simple and straightforward style. A very informative read.

I bought this book expecting to find instruction on how to drive. I got a physics text. Don't waste your money.

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