



# Midstate Miata Club of New York

## Caravan Rules (Rev. 3/7/2017)

Please follow these tips when traveling as a group:

1. Arrive at the starting point early with a full tank of gas and be ready to leave on time.
2. Have your car clean and "show ready" to make a good impression of our Club.
3. Remember to wear your official Club nametag, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat or visor.
4. Event organizers should have a brief driver's meeting before each drive and go over caravan rules. Handouts with written clear driving maps and driving directions are a must. All should have the event organizer's (leader's) cell phone number in case of emergencies.
5. It's recommended the first and last (sweep) car have Club 2-way radios. Do a radio check before driving. Radios can be obtained from Area Reps. (Please keep radio communication strictly to the event drive, i.e., no unnecessary chatter, please.)
6. While driving, leader and sweep cars will have full headlights on. Participants will keep only parking lights on. It lets others know we are traveling as a group. Wear your magnetic club logo decals on the front fenders if you have them to identify our Club.
7. Stay within posted speed limits. (You know we have to say this.☺) No passing unless waved ahead by the car in front of you.
8. The sweep (last) car should radio "Clear" to the leader when all cars have safely turned any corners or passed through stop lights/stop signs, etc.
9. **IMPORTANT: KEEP UP WITH THE CAR IN FRONT OF YOU.** There should not be a gap of more than one telephone pole between cars or try

- to figure one car length for every 10 mph between each car to prevent non-club cars (OTM: "Other Than Miatas") from entering our caravan.
10. Please maintain appropriate closeness to the car in front of you. All cars are responsible for the cars following behind them so no one gets lost. Do not tailgate and do not lag far behind. This keeps it fun for everyone.
  11. **IMPORTANT:** If you are a slower driver, position yourself near the back of the caravan in front of the sweep car or wave others safely around you and fall back into the pack.
  12. Notify the leader if you choose to drop out for any reason or follow the directions on your own.
  13. When making a turn within the group, use your turn signal early to alert the driver behind you and make sure they can see where you're turning. Do not lose sight of the car behind you.
  14. Leave stop signs and traffic lights quickly to allow others to clear them also. Do quick but safe stops at stop signs.
  15. If you lose sight of the car in front of you, pull over to the side of the road safely and stop with your turn signal on and wait for the rest of the cars and the sweep car to catch up. The sweep car will radio the leader to pull over and wait until the "lost" cars and the sweep car pull safely back onto the road together and catch up with the leader and the rest of the pack after conferring about the directions together. The "lost" cars will pull over safely behind the stopped lead car and the rest of the pack and when it is safe, all cars will pull out together following the leader. Do not block side streets or driveways.
  16. Event leaders should always pull over safely to the side of the road with turn signals on to allow others behind to catch up, if necessary.
  17. Leaders should include a rest stop break no more than a maximum of 1-1/2 hours of drive time.
  18. Optional: The event leader may wish to consider dividing the group into a "spirited/enthusiastic" or "normal touring" driving groups or especially if it's an exceptionally large group, each with an interim leader and an interim

sweep car, preferably with radios. The suggested ideal number for a caravan is 10 cars including the leader and sweep cars.

NOTE: It is not recommended to caravan on Interstate roads unless absolutely necessary. Otherwise, have clear directions where to stop and regroup after exiting the Interstate.