

Waiialae Subaru Driver Training

By Colin Sato

Nathaniel Hasegawa entering turn one and aiming for the apex of the corner.

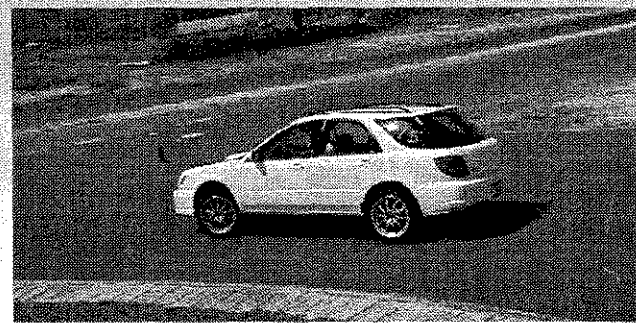


Although this was not a regular SCCA event, we were asked to provide instruction and logistical support for this all-Subaru event. Chris Morley the General Manager at Waiialae Subaru organized the event and rented the track for the day in order to provide his customers with an opportunity to flex their cars potential in a controlled environment.

As usual, the morning exercises consisted of a Slalom, Threshold Braking, Emergency Lane Change Manuever and a Kidney Bean Skidpad. The participants were split into two groups with one going to the main straight to work on the slalom, lane change and braking. The other would explore the skidpad.

After a wonderful catered lunch courtesy of the DRIVERS Foundation (**D**iving **R**esponsibly **I**n **V**ehicles for **E**nhanced **R**oad **S**afety). The participants were split into two groups for timed runs though the short course with a few modifications. In order to make sure the event fell within the SCCA Solo II rules, our Safety Steward needed to approve the track layout, and several chicanes were installed to slow the cars down and limit the top speeds. The track was too long to walk,

Chris Morley in the WRX wagon was the early pacesetter, ultimately finishing 4th.



so a lead-follow introduction lap allowed the participants to get a feel for the track layout. After two practice runs with instructors in the car, the first group went out to for their four times runs. Despite the urgings that this was not a competition, a trend started to emerge. Chris Morley emerged from the first round with a 53.098. As the next group started, it was obvious they had been watching the earlier runs since they were immediately quicker. Bob Nakamura ran consistent 51s and 53s finishing with a best of 50.912. This

Earl Huang in his new WRX equipped with Audi wheels and set the 3rd fastest time of the day.



would stand till the last run when Alan Vidao cracked a 50.789 on his last pass! (you can see all the times on page 6) Thus taking the Top Student honors.

If you want to join us for our regular monthly autocross the schedule is on page 7. On behalf of the SCCA, we hope that all the participants learned something about the capabilities of their machines and had some fun in the process.

The Instructors Play too!

After all the students had their fun on the track, the volunteers got their chance in the spotlight. All the course workers, cone chasers, and instructors took their cars out for a spin to show 'em, "how the pros do it." Out of approximately 35 workers, 5 of them broke into the 40's. The top times went to Arian Yee (WRX) with a 49.530, Panos Prevedouros (Mazda Miata) with a 49.366, Earl Huang (WRX), with a 48.942, Colin Sato (Honda S2000) with a 48.470, and Curtis Lee (Datsun 240Z) leading the pack with a 46.211.

The day was a success thanks to the wonderful generosity of all our volunteers. Mahalo to the SCCA, I-Club, DRIVERS Foundation, and Waiialae Subaru for making this driving school possible...and lots of FUN!!!

- Jennifer Lee