

AAP AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PHILIPPINES



THE NATIONAL AUTO CLUB | WWW.AAP.ORG.PH

AAP Continues Creating Safer Streets for All This 2025

In the Year of the Wood Snake, the Automobile Association Philippines' Advocacy Department pushes forward with its mission to create safer streets for all road users. A more impactful 2025 lies ahead, backed by a stronger collaboration that further reinforces its goals for road safety.

AAP Advocacy, in partnership with the Shell Pilipinas Corporation, will continue its BiyaHero Program that instills the importance of visibility on the road. This partnership has engendered projects over the years that help pedestrians be BiyaHero -- heroes on the road.

As of 2023, the BiyaHero Program has benefited 24 barangays, 36 schools, and more than 16,260 recipients providing essential support and opportu-



First members of the Volunteerism Program: Community youth leaders who pledged support to the AAP Road Safety program with AAP Advocacy head Cynthia Reyes (4th from right).

nities to enhance community development and educational growth. A purposeful 2025 lines up the following programs:

- Stay Bright for Kids and Community Leaders Campaign
- TODA na 'to
- Motorcycle Riders

• Kita Kita Ka-Bisikleta
The programs foster a spirit of service and unity that create a positive change in the community. A more responsible 2025 drives the Volunteerism program. AAP Advocacy will continue to engage volunteers in road safety campaigns and



Ford Motor Company BGC employees and AAP Advocacy head Cynthia Reyes (seated, 3rd from right) pose for a photo after the AAP Road Safety and Driver Training Program. This program will continue to promote a culture of responsible driving this 2025 in collaboration with public and private organizations.

advocacy for support that will help to significantly reduce road crashes and promote a culture of responsible driving and pedestrian safety.

The road safety programs emphasize the role of drivers,

that learning to be more efficient and responsible should start with them. A crucial understanding of this role will equip individuals with the essential knowledge and mindset to become



A Road Safety participant, Isabel de Lemos (center), receives her Certificate of Completion from AAP Advocacy head Cynthia Reyes (right) and Shell Pilipinas Corporation's Calapan City Program Officer Maezel Carden during the BiyaHero Community Training on Road Safety at Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro on May 11, 2024. Through a collaborative effort of AAP and Shell Philippines, the BiyaHero Program will continue to instill the importance of visibility on the road in communities and schools.

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AAP Visits Growee Karting Clinic Showdown and Cammus Philippines Season 2 Race

In pursuit of its commitment to promote the local motorsports scene, the Automobile Association Philippines has formed a partnership with Drift Motor Speedway (DMS).

On February 8, AAP attended the Growee Karting Clinic Showdown & Cammus Philippines Season 2 Race at the flagship branch of DMS in Taytay.

The race consisted of three categories: the Bambino category, the Cadet category, and the Intermediate category. Racers as young as three years old competed in their respective categories, proving their karting prowess.

AAP Chief Executive Officer Mark Desales gave a special speech prior to the race, highlighting that the future of the local motorsport scene looks bright. He added a surprise announcement: that AAP will allot two slots for DMS drivers



A Drift Motor Speedway karting driver stops for a photo op before taking to the track.

to compete in the upcoming Sri Lanka FIA Motorsport Championship, set to happen in the second quarter of the year.

In starting DMS, owner and CEO GM Bugayong asked himself this question: What if we

made a facility that caters to the family, and at the same time, creates a competitive environment in a very special manner?

Bugayong has more than 20 years of experience in motorsport. He holds the "2002 Driver



Drift Motor Speedway Owner GM Bugayong (left) and AAP Chief Executive Officer Mark Desales, who delivered the opening speech at the Growee Karting Clinic Showdown. Desales gifted Bugayong AAP's coffee table book FAST LANE which covers the history of Philippine motorsport.

of the Year" title awarded by the Philippine Drag Racing Federation.

Though DMS has only been around for two years, Bugay-

ong is already proud of the fact that they have the privilege of teaching young children the fascinating world of karting. Within those two years, DMS

has already built a successful roster of "wonderkids" who have competed in both national and international races. Just last year, his team placed 5th out of 31 other countries in the T4 National Cup held in Spain.

In the long run, Bugayong aims to continue training children as young as three years old, and strives to be one of the most notable grassroots training facilities for motorsport in the Philippines. "I hope to see my students eventually graduate to different motorsport disciplines. I strongly believe that it is key to nurture this talent—mixing it with passion." Bugayong says.

You can check out the lineup of events that Drift Motor Speedway is offering on their Facebook page @driftmotorspeedway. Visit their flagship branch at Valley Fair Town Center, Ortigas Avenue Ext., Taytay.

JOSEPH MICHAEL LIM SETS NEW DRAG RACING RECORD WITH A 7.974-SECOND RUN

The Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) announced the achievement of the fastest time recorded in the country's drag racing history.

Veteran drag race driver Joseph Michael Lim, steering a Honda Civic AWD, achieved an official time of 7.974 at 186 mph during the 1st Round of the 2025 National Drag Racing Championship – Northern Series held at the Clark International Speedway.

This historic performance represents a remarkable milestone in the sport, making Lim's Honda Civic AWD the fastest car in the Philippines. Lim's prior run in the same round, held the day before he recorded his fastest time, was at 8.072 which he beat in less than 24 hours.

Ahead of Lim's record-breaking runs of 8.072 and 7.974 seconds, the fastest time officially recorded in the National Drag Racing Championship Series was 8.46 seconds, set many years ago.

"The dream was to run 7s. I always talk to my suppliers and mentors abroad about this, and they said it's going to be difficult but not impossible. We just have to know how to do it, know how to tune up the car properly," said Lim. "We were able to prove it. We debunked



All-gearred-up veteran drag racing driver Joseph Michael Lim beside his winning car.

the common belief that this is impossible to achieve in the Philippines."

AAP Steward Fil Gulfin verified the record-breaking finish, certifying Lim and his team's place in drag racing history.

Lim has been joining AAP-sanctioned racing activities in Bacolod and Cebu since the 2000s. He started drag racing in Manila in 2019 and since then has tirelessly pursued his dream of achieving a 7-second run, culminating in this momentous event.

Lim shared his hopes for the sport, saying, "I believe that this achievement will inspire more

drivers to aim higher and push beyond their limits. Breaking the 7.9-second barrier is a historic first for the Philippines, and even Thailand has yet to achieve a 7-second record in drag racing. This proves that with determination and the right approach, anything is possible."

"This is an excellent milestone as this achievement solidifies the country in the world map of drag racing," said Rikki Dy-Liacco, Head of AAP Motorsports. "My huge congratulations to Joseph Michael Lim and his team who have put their heads together to focus on this goal. They should be proud and we join them in celebrating this remarkable feat."

Philippine motor sport icon Mandy Eduque, AAP Trustee and Chairman for Motorsport, conveyed his congratulations: "On behalf of AAP and its Board of Trustees, I would like to congratulate Joseph Michael Lim for his record-breaking run of 7.974 seconds in last weekend's first drag race of the year. His accomplishment is a tribute to his dedication and hard work which is worthy of emulation by all motor sport competitors. Congratulations again, Joseph Michael Lim!"



Driving his Honda Civic AWD, Joseph Michael Lim achieved a record-breaking run of 7.974 seconds.

A NEW "FOR AAP MEMBERS ONLY" OFFER: PRE-OWNED PRESTIGE

AAP Members already enjoy a plethora of benefits and member perks: 24/7 Emergency Roadside Assistance, 24/7 Ambulance Service, discounts from AAP's Lifestyle Partners, and e-coupons for the AAP Grand Raffle, wherein members get the chance to bring home a brand new car.

Here's something new for 2025: the National Auto Club has added another benefit to its membership program

called 'Pre-Owned Prestige'. This new program is in partnership with the Radiowealth Finance Company, and powered by Ton Cars, a quality second-hand automotive dealership

AAP Members may now enjoy an exclusive, special rate when purchasing vehicles from Ton Cars. These quality, pre-owned vehicles are all Autocare-certified, meticulously checked by AAP to verify their

roadworthiness and market value.

Check out the official AAP page @aaphilippines on Facebook to learn more about Pre-Owned Prestige, and to take a look at the first five vehicles posted under this program. Make sure to also check out AAP Autocare's official website at <https://autocare.aap.org.ph/> for more details about the available vehicles.

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