

## Got A Name Tag? Let's Wear it!

by Rick Booe

Hi! My name is Rick and I've got a name tag to prove it!

Name tags for club members is such a great idea. We all have them, or should have them. I've been in our club since March 2000 and have made lots of friends. But most of these friends I only see at club events, so that's once a month, but even then, not every month. It is embarrassing for me to talk to someone that I have known for a while, but I just can't remember their name. Maybe it's just "old timers" disease! We have to admit that our average members age is, well, not that young.

I always try to wear my name tag, and Susie does too. We keep ours in the car at all times, that way we never forget to bring them. Maybe I just want people to know my name. It does make it easier for all of us to talk, especially new people to the club. Even if someone is checking your name tag before they speak, that's better than having to ask who they are. I believe it will also make new members feel more welcome when we speak their name when we meet them. Maybe they will notice our tag and remember us next time we meet.

Susie and I have talked this over for a long time and I've finally decided to quit dragging my feet and speak up. So, the next time we meet, let's all wear those name tags and become a closer bunch of fun loving, roadster drivers.

Don't have a name tag? Contact me and I'll make sure you get one.

My name is Rick and I have finally spoken out!

## Tour/Rally Database Suggested

Tom Lewis recently posted the following message at the club's forum page on the internet. He wrote:

"This past year has been particularly difficult for me... incredibly, my work and prioritized personal calendars have conflicted with nearly every single Club driving event that has occurred this year, and consequently I've been able to attend only one event thus far in 2005 (Hiway to Hill - thanks Bob!).

I've really been jones-ing for some open road (and throttle!) driving and would love to have the ability to check out some of the routes I've missed this year. I would understand how the rally masters who worked so hard to put together their routes may feel their planned routes are somewhat proprietary, but it would sure be nice to have on-line access to an archive of past events and the driving directions/routes.

Any possibility of this?"

Well, Tom, our first thought was that you need to change your priorities!

Then we realized that this would be a great addition to our club's resources. Having an on-line database of past routes would be great for our members. The routes would be set up in an Adobe Acrobat PDF form for members to download. Acrobat Reader is free and this would be a format that all would be able to access.

Here's a call to all rally masters.... send your route to Sara J via email (saraj@2cat.com) and she'll change them into a PDF. Your original electronic file is preferable (Word, Excel, Open Office, txt files, etc.), but if you only have the print out, that will work. Send her a copy and she'll scan it. We'll get them posted in a special section of indymiata.org.

Thanks to Tom for suggesting this!



An easy way to know who you are...your name tag.

## Mazda Announces New Racing Series

MONTEREY, Calif., Oct. 16 /PRNewswire

During the Monterey Sports Car Championships event held at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, MAZDASPEED Motorsports Development announced details of the much-anticipated 2006 Mazda MX-5 Cup, Presented by Hankook. The new series will replace the current very popular MAZDASPEED Miata Cup which features first- and second-generation Miatas. In the new series, the all-new third-generation 2006 Mazda MX-5 Miata, equipped with a 2.0-liter, 170-hp engine and six-speed manual transmission, becomes the specified racecar of choice. Details of the scheduled eight-race series will be announced soon.

"With the all-new 2006 Mazda MX-5 as a starting point, it was easy for us to create the fastest, best handling and most comprehensively prepared Spec Miata yet," said Steve Sanders, Manager, MAZDASPEED Motorsports Development. "We tried many different combinations of modifications, but ultimately found the base car to be so good, we really didn't need to change much on the MX-5 to make a great racecar."

This exposure to professional racing venues and teams makes the MX-5 Cup the perfect training ground for aspiring racers. In addition, every race is scheduled to be televised, with professional production and commentary.

The Mazda MX-5 Cup will provide an affordable, entry-level nationwide professional series whereby drivers compete in identically prepared vehicles. As before, all components for the cars will be sold directly through MAZDASPEED Motorsports Development, which also supports the program monetarily with contingency awards to successful drivers.