



# MIKES CORVETTE CORNER

12/1/2017

Over the past several months a number of fellow Corvette brothers have asked me about tire issues relating to their Corvettes. And we can't ask Belle Tire to come up with all the answers to our pertinent questions . So I've done some research to a few of their questions and put them in this article. Also I would like to thank Pete Shilland for putting this program together with Belle Tire and hope it continues.

And speaking of articles, I would like to inform all the club members that this will be my last article, primarily attributed to my involvement with another marina and the time and effort required to put things in order.

I will from time to time add to our newsletter in the event I come across an article or information that relates to our Corvettes.

## **Tires 101:**

Choosing Corvette tires is fairly straightforward: buy the best performance tires you can for this high-performance American sports car. Corvette aficionados swear by original equipment (O.E.) tires,

although there are other premium tires that also work well for Corvette models. How do you choose? Here are some suggestions.

### **Year, Model, Performance or Base**

Proper O.E. tire size is determined by options or changes by the manufacturer. This may dictate tire size year-to-year. Next to consider is the model for the Corvette tires you need. Corvette models include coupe, convertible, Z06 and returning, the ZR1.

Now, look at whether your Corvette is the standard model or has the performance handling package. Other considerations include whether you will be driving your Corvette in snow, (please don't) and how important handling, ride/noise comfort and tread wear are in your priorities. These latter are important when considering tires other than O.E. tires.

### **Corvette Coupe and Convertible**

In 2008, Corvette added the new Goodyear Extended Mobility Tires (EMT), also called run-flat tires. The choices for coupe and convertible include standard model and performance handling model, summer or all-season tires. Tire sizes for 2009 Corvette coupe/convertible are: 245/40ZR18 (front) and 285/35ZR19 (rear)

- Standard model summer ? Goodyear Eagle F1 GS-2 EMT (ultra high-performance summer tires)

- Standard model all-season ? Goodyear Eagle F1 A/S-C EMT (ultra high-performance all-season tires)
  - Performance handling summer ? Goodyear Eagle F1 Supercar EMT (maximum performance summer tires)
  - Performance handling all-season ? Goodyear Eagle F1 A/S-C EMT (ultra high-performance all-season)
- Corvette tires that are non O.E. for coupe and convertible include Michelin Pilot Sport PS2 and PS2 ZP, BF Goodrich g-Force TA KDW-2, Bridgestone Potenza RE-11 and Potenza RE050A Pole Position, Firestone Firehawk Wide Oval RFT, Hankook Ventus V11 evo K110, and Kumho Ecsta XS.

#### Z06 Corvette

The Z06 Corvette I believe have Goodyear Eagle F1 Supercar EMT maximum performance tires. Tire size is 275/35ZR18 in the front and 325/30ZR19 in the rear.

Non O.E. tires for Z06 Corvette include Michelin Pilot Sport PS2 ZP, Bridgestone Potenza RE050A Pole Position RFT, Hoosier A6 and R6, and General Exclaim UHP.

#### ZR1 Corvette

Top-of-the-line in the Corvette roster is the ZR1, powered by a 638-hp 6.2-liter LS9 V-8 engine. Tire size for the ZR1 increases to 285/30ZR19 in the front and 335/25ZR20 in the rear. O.E. tires for the 2009 Corvette ZR1 are Michelin Pilot Sport PS2 ZP

max performance summer tires, offering best-in-class cornering and the highest combined wet and dry performance.

I also wanted to inform all my readers that I purchased a set of Flatspotstoppers for my Corvette. I guess I was too lazy this year to lift the vehicle off the ground. I have read many articles on this accessory so I decided to get a set this year and give them a try. I'll let you know in the spring.

If we have enough club members interested in Flatspotstoppers I can call the Corvette Museum to see if we can get a special price.

At this time I want to wish all club members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. All the best for 2018.

As Always, Mike.