

# 2023 GENERAL RULES, REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES



Published November 21, 2022

THE RULES AND/OR REGULATIONS SET FORTH HEREIN ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FOR THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF RACING EVENTS AND TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH EVENTS. THESE RULES SHALL GOVERN THE CONDITION OF SPEEDWAY EVENTS AND, BY PARTICIPATING IN THESE EVENTS, ALL RACEWAY COMPETITORS ARE DEEMED TO HAVE COMPLIED WITH THESE RULES. NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF SAFETY SHALL RESULT FROM PUBLICATION OF, OR COMPLIANCE WITH THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS. THEY ARE INTENDED AS A GUIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE SPORT AND IN NO WAY ARE A GUARANTEE AGAINST INJURY OR DEATH TO PARTICIPANTS, SPECTATORS OR OTHERS.

References are made throughout these regulations requiring and/or recommending that products meet certain specifications. These products are manufactured to meet or exceed certain criteria and are labeled as such upon satisfying those criteria. Any change to these products voids that certification. Under no circumstances may any certified product be altered from the "as manufactured" condition or such certification is voided.

Changes and additions to the 2022 USRA General Rules, Regulations & Procedures are underlined and highlighted in red. Changes made for grammatical purposes or to improve clarity are not highlighted. All participants and officials are expected and required to be familiar with the definitions and details in the USRA General Rules, Regulations & Procedures and the Rules for the division(s) in which they compete.

The United States Racing Association shall hereafter be simply referred to as the USRA throughout the rules description. USRA official(s) shall include all personnel employed as an official by the participating racetrack.

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## SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 **Racecar:** An automobile designed solely for competition on oval racetracks, controlled from within by a driver.
- 1.2 **Automobile:** A vehicle which carries its own motor and operates on four non-aligned complete wheels, of which two are used for steering and two for propulsion.
- 1.3 **Vehicle:** A manufactured locomotive device propelled by constantly taking real support on the earth's surface whereas the propulsion and steering are under the control of a driver aboard the vehicle.
- 1.4 **Driver:** The person controlling the operation of the racecar. The driver is expected to understand how to operate the mechanisms which control the speed, direction and braking of the racecar.
- 1.5 **Participant:** A person directly involved in the mechanical operation and/or management of a racecar, including, but not limited to, drivers, crew members, racecar owners, sponsors and their family members.
- 1.6 **Event:** A USRA-sanctioned competition between two or more drivers and their racecars. An event shall consist of practice (hot laps) and actual racing contests.
- 1.7 **Official:** An official shall be any person participating in the exercise of authority for enforcing or interpreting these rules. The official may also make judgments concerning the conduct of participants and declare penalties for breaches of these rules, as well as perform technical inspections on any racecar. The combination of officials may vary from week to week and from one racetrack to another.

- 1.8 **Promoter:** An entrepreneur who oversees the operations of the racetrack, either as a tenant or owner of the facility. Furthermore, the promoter is the person responsible for the implementation of rules, hiring staff and financial compensation to participants.
- 1.9 **Cockpit:** The volume of the racecar which accommodates the driver.
- 1.10 **OEM:** An original equipment manufacturer (OEM) manufactures products or components that are purchased by another company and retailed under that purchasing company's brand name. OEM refers to the company that originally manufactured the product. OEM replacement parts are those which have been manufactured by another company to the same specifications as the OEM parts.
- 1.11 **EIRI:** Except in rare instances.

## **SECTION 2: GENERAL RULES**

- 2.1 USRA rules shall apply at all events. All participants are subject to the rules of the USRA and are expected to know the rules. These rules are a guideline as to what is permitted and/or not allowed. If these rules do not explicitly say it is permitted, then you must contact the USRA to identify if the part in question is permitted for competition. An expressed ignorance of USRA rules by any participant will not be recognized as a valid argument for failure to comply with USRA rules. Some tracks may have amendments, additions or other adjustments to the rules for a class. Promoters must make these differences clear, in writing, always posted online and available to drivers. Drivers should verify rules packages with racetrack prior to competing at an unfamiliar venue.
- 2.2 Approval of any racecar by an official shall mean that the racecar is approved for participation in the event and shall not be construed in any way to mean that the inspected vehicle is guaranteed to be mechanically sound or safe. Be it further declared that officials and/or the USRA shall not be liable for any mechanical failure, nor for any losses, injuries or death resulting from the same.
- 2.3 All drivers must be at least fourteen (14) years of age (proof of age required). Drivers under eighteen (18) years of age are required to have a signed and notarized Parental Consent Form. The Parental Consent Form must be signed by a parent or legal guardian and must be received by the USRA prior to participation of the driver in any event.
- 2.4 The USRA may require any driver to undergo a physical examination by a licensed health care provider prior to being allowed to participate in any event.
- 2.5 No equipment or racecar will be considered as having been approved by reason of having passed through inspection unobserved.
- 2.6 All racecars must be able to join the race lineup on demand.
- 2.7 The USRA reserves the right to add to, delete, supersede or modify any rule, exhibit or drawing that the USRA deems necessary for the conduct of events and/or safety of participants. All amendments are effective on the date of publication by the USRA regardless of when a person subject to the rules receives actual notice of the amendment.
- 2.8 Every driver must inspect the racing surface and the track area to learn of any obstructions or other defects which, in the driver's opinion, presents an unsafe condition for competition. The driver shall report any unsafe condition in writing to an official. Any driver that competes in an event is considered to have inspected the track surface and surrounding perimeter to determine that all conditions are satisfactory. If the driver does not feel that the conditions are satisfactory, the driver should not compete in the event. The driver further acknowledges that he or she is aware that auto racing involves risk, and that by competing in an event, the driver assumes these risks with full awareness and responsibility.
- 2.9 All drivers are responsible for registering their racecar for each event in order to ensure their respective starting position in each event.
- 2.10 The USRA and/or promoter reserve the right to refuse to accept the entry of any racecar, driver or participant. Furthermore, the USRA and/or promoter reserves the right to revoke or cancel any entry, or any participant's claimed right to be on the racetrack's premises, if it is determined that a participant's presence or conduct is not in the best interest of the sport of auto racing, other participants, spectators, track management and/or employees of the USRA.
- 2.11 Lighted signaling devices, hand signals or any other equipment or methods used for communication during an event between a non-competing participant and a driver is not allowed.
- 2.12 Officials may require drivers to utilize a one-way radio with no scanning capabilities to enable audio communication from official(s) to drivers only. Furthermore, racecars may be fitted with a timing transponder as supplied by an official. All other radios and any other devices used for transmitting or listening are not allowed on the racecar.

- 2.13 Computers are not allowed on the racecar. This includes, but not limited to, electronic traction control devices. Any driver found to be using traction control will be subject to a minimum fine of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and up to a lifetime suspension from all events.
- 2.14 Decisions of the USRA are final and binding without exception.
- 2.15 These rules have been set by the USRA and are subject to change without notice. All promoters will be informed of any changes to these rules after the date of publication, and those changes should be made available to drivers at each racetrack and/or announced at drivers meeting. The USRA will publish amendments to these rules on the USRA website at [usraracing.com](http://usraracing.com).
- 2.16 Unless specified otherwise by another rule, a driver will earn the minimum show-up points (45 for track and regional, 90 for national) if he or she is disqualified during an event.

## **SECTION 3: CONDUCT**

- 3.1 Participants will conduct themselves as professionals. Any conduct or actions by a participant deemed inappropriate and/or unsportsmanlike by the USRA shall be grounds for disqualification and/or punitive action by the USRA. This will be strictly enforced.
- 3.2 Drivers are responsible for the conduct and actions of their car owners, crew members, sponsors and family members.
- 3.3 Alcohol & Substance Abuse Policy**
  - 3.3.1 The USRA Alcohol & Substance Abuse Policy prohibits the misuse of alcohol, prescription drugs and any other substance used in a manner that affects safety or impacts the integrity of the competition, including, but not limited to, illegal or performance enhancing substances. All USRA participants are responsible for whatever goes into their body.
  - 3.3.2 The USRA may test any participants whose performance at a USRA event potentially affects the safety of themselves, other USRA participants, spectators and/or guests.
  - 3.3.3 Participants are prohibited from using, having in their system, possessing, purchasing, selling and/or participating in the distribution of any drug that is illegal to possess, use and/or distribute by the laws of the United States of America and/or any of its 50 states, regardless of the amount, at any time. Illegal acquisition and/or illegal distribution of any prescription or over-the-counter medication are strictly prohibited at any time.
  - 3.3.4 Violation of this Substance Abuse Policy shall be cause for immediate and indefinite suspension.
- 3.4 Any participant who defies or violates the intent or spirit of the USRA rules shall be considered to have engaged in unsportsmanlike conduct and shall be dealt with accordingly and swiftly by the USRA.

## **SECTION 4: TECHNICAL INSPECTIONS**

- 4.1 For all classes at all events, the first four (4) finishers in the main event—and any other racecars as instructed by officials—are required to report to a designated area after the completion of the main event where post-race technical inspections will be performed.
- 4.2 Each racetrack is required to have a USRA-certified technical inspector at each event. It is recommended that each racetrack employ a second tech official to assist during inspections.
- 4.3 At the discretion of officials overseeing an event, any participant may be disqualified by the official(s) for violation of any USRA rule, equipment and/or conduct deemed to be hazardous to other participants or officials.
- 4.4 All racecars are subject to inspection by an official at any time. Any driver who refuses to allow any inspection by an official, or terminates an inspection in progress, shall be subject to a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000), suspension from all events for fourteen (14) days, loss of all points earned to date for the current year and forfeiture of all cash and/or awards earned at the event.
- 4.5 Any illegal part discovered through inspection any time after the driver signs in to compete in that event can be confiscated by an official and forfeited by the driver. Any driver's racecar that is caught with any illegal part during pre-race inspection is subject to the same associated penalties and will not be entitled to any refunds of any money. Driver discovered to be using illegal parts of any kind shall be subject to a **cash** fine, suspension from all events, loss of all points earned to date for the current year and forfeiture of all cash and/or awards earned at the event. Confiscated parts may be sent to manufacturer for inspection. Failure by the driver to surrender any illegal part for confiscation shall result in a separate penalty, in addition to other applicable penalties under this rule.

- 4.6 All measurements must be made with the racecar as-is after exiting the racetrack while the racecar is stationary on a surface which is as close to flat and horizontal as permitted by the terrain of the space, with front tires straight and driver remaining in the racecar.

## **SECTION 5: AWARDS & DECALS**

- 5.1 Approved USRA sponsor decals must be displayed in required locations on the racecar for the driver to participate in any prize money, points funds and/or contingency awards which require specific decals and/or decal placement for eligibility.
- 5.2 All decals shall be distributed by the USRA or racetrack, along with a description of each sponsor's program, decal placement requirements and contact information.
- 5.3 In order to be used in competition by a driver in any event and/or be eligible to earn points or points funds, all racecars in all classes must display the approved decals in the required location(s) as described in the USRA Decal Placement Guide.
- 5.4 Driver may be required to submit a photograph of his/her racecar in competition during an event to the USRA to be eligible for contingency awards.

## **SECTION 6: LICENSES & POINTS FUNDS**

- 6.1 All drivers competing in an event must possess a valid USRA license. The purchase of a USRA Competitor License provides supplement insurance coverage above covered medical expenses.
- 6.2 The cost of a USRA Competitor License for the 2023 calendar year is \$130 for Modifieds, \$110 for Stock Cars, \$100 for B-Mods, \$100 for Hobby Stocks, \$110 for Late Models, \$100 for Limited Mods, \$100 for Factory Stocks and \$60 for Tuners. There are no refunds for any license purchase. All licenses fees will increase by \$20 beginning [March 6, 2023](#).
- 6.3 Alternatively, drivers may purchase a USRA Temporary License for \$10 which is valid for one (1) event only. Drivers opting to purchase a USRA Temporary License will earn the same points as those with a USRA Competitor License. The purchase of a USRA Temporary License does not apply toward the cost of a USRA Competitor License if one is purchased later.
- 6.4 USRA Competitor Licenses must be purchased directly from the USRA by calling (515) 832-6000 or online at [usraracing.com/register](http://usraracing.com/register). Racetracks are only authorized to sell USRA Temporary Licenses.
- 6.5 To be eligible for national points funds, a driver must have competed in a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the events held at any one USRA-sanctioned racetrack which hosts a minimum of eight (8) events during the 2023 calendar year.
- 6.6 To be eligible for track points funds, driver must have competed in a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the events held at that racetrack for which the points funds are being awarded.

## **SECTION 7: POINTS SYSTEM**

- 7.1 Drivers competing in an event may be eligible to earn track, regional and national points for the class the driver is competing in at the event. Points are awarded to the driver only (no driver substitutions).
- 7.2 A driver may register a one-time-only "provisional" start by paying a \$50 fee to the racetrack prior to the event. Upon receipt of the fee, driver will receive credit for attendance and earn the minimum track, regional and national points for entering the event. If using a provisional, driver is forbidden from competing as a driver in any auto racing event whatsoever on that day. If it is discovered that the driver competed in another event, that driver will lose all USRA points accumulated to date.
- 7.3 Points will only be awarded to drivers at events held and officially reported to the USRA by the promoter. The promoter is solely responsible for submitting event results in a timely manner.
- 7.4 To earn points in an event, driver must, at minimum, be in full uniform and participate by being in the racecar and on the racetrack during warmups (EIRI).
- 7.5 Except during the Summit USRA Nationals (see Rule 7.8.7), points are awarded at USRA-sanctioned events from [January 1, 2023, through October 29, 2023](#).
- 7.6 Track Points**
- 7.6.1 Track points are awarded at all USRA-sanctioned events designated as such by the racetrack promoter.
- 7.6.2 Track points will be awarded to each driver in the main event as follows: 1st - 100 points, 2nd - 95 points, 3rd - 91 points, 4th - 87 points, 5th - 84 points, 6th - 81 points, 7th - 78 points, 8th - 76 points, 9th - 74 points, 10th - 72 points, 11th - 70 points, 12th - 68 points, 13th - 66 points, 14th - 64 points, 15th - 62 points, 16th - 60 points, 17th - 58 points, 18th - 56 points, 19th - 55 points, 20th - 54 points,

21st - 53 points, 22nd - 52 points, 23rd - 51 points. All other drivers that start the main event and finish below 23rd are awarded 50 points. All drivers that fail to start (take the green flag) in the main event are awarded 45 points.

## **7.7 Regional Points**

7.7.1 Regional points are the cumulative track points earned within a region (no maximum number of events).

7.7.2 Regional alignments will be published prior to [March 3, 2023](#).

## **7.8 National Points**

7.8.1 National points will be awarded to each driver in the main event as follows: 1st - 200 points, 2nd - 190 points, 3rd - 182 points, 4th - 174 points, 5th - 168 points, 6th - 162 points, 7th - 156 points, 8th - 152 points, 9th - 148 points, 10th - 144 points, 11th - 140 points, 12th - 136 points, 13th - 132 points, 14th - 128 points, 15th - 124 points, 16th - 120 points, 17th - 116 points, 18th - 112 points, 19th - 110 points, 20th - 108 points, 21st - 106 points, 22nd - 104 points, 23rd - 102 points. All other drivers that start the main event and finish below 23rd are awarded 100 points. All drivers that fail to start (take the green flag) in the main event are awarded 90 points.

7.8.2 One (1) bonus point is awarded to each driver for each position advanced in the main event from the actual starting position to the official finishing position. (*Example: start 10th, finish 2nd = 8 bonus points*)

7.8.3 Bonus points equivalent to the total number of drivers in a division are awarded to each driver competing in each class, with a maximum of twenty (20) bonus points awarded to each driver for car count.

7.8.4 National points are awarded to each driver based on his/her best twenty (20) points-earning events.

7.8.5 In the event of a tie for first place in the final track, regional or national points, the champion shall be the driver with the most wins. Should a tie still exist after wins are counted, the next determining factor(s) shall be top-5 finishes, and then top-10 finishes, and then total number of events entered, and then the highest finisher in the most recent event(s) until the tie is broken. Drivers that are tied in any other finishing positions shall remain tied. Points funds, if any, for drivers that are tied shall be divided evenly between the drivers that are tied.

7.8.6 National points will not be awarded for any "invitational" or "limited entry" event that restricts a legitimate driver to enter and compete in that event.

7.8.7 During the Summit USRA Nationals from [October 3-7, 2023](#) (dates subject to change), no USRA track or regional points shall be awarded in any division. National points will be awarded at the Summit USRA Nationals only. Drivers in each division at the Summit USRA Nationals earn 100 bonus national points.

## **SECTION 8: ROOKIE ELIGIBILITY & PROCEDURES**

8.1 Cash, trophies and contingencies designated for rookie competitors shall be awarded to drivers who fulfill and meet all minimum requirements for eligibility.

8.2 Rookie of the Year awards will be awarded to drivers in all divisions. National points shall be used for rookie points determination.

8.3 Driver may have participated in a maximum of ten (10) USRA events in division prior to the current year to be eligible for rookie status. B-Mod and/or Limited Mod drivers may have participated in a maximum of ten (10) Late Model or Modified events in a prior year. Hobby Stock competitors may have participated in a maximum of ten (10) Late Model, Modified, Stock Car, B-Mod or Limited Mod events in a prior year. Hobby Stock and/or Factory Stock competitors may have participated in a maximum of ten (10) Late Model, Modified, Stock Car, B-Mod and/or Limited Mod events in a prior year. Tuner drivers may have participated in a maximum of ten (10) events in any other USRA division in a prior year.

8.4 Drivers must designate their eligibility for rookie status when registering for their USRA License.

8.4 Official decisions regarding rookie eligibility are final, binding and not subject to appeal.

## **AMENDMENTS**

None.

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