

A Few Reminders and New Things

The Chief of Timing and Scoring must hold a National license only at national races. For Drivers Schools and Regional races, only a Divisional license is required

Car numbers shall be at least 8 inches high, with a 1.5 inch stroke, on a contrasting background. Rear winged Formula cars shall have as large a number as possible on their rear wing side plates. All numbers must meet the approval of the Chief of T&S.

At National races, the GCR calls for 2 separate timing systems. If there is insufficient staff, the Chief of T&S notifies the Chief Steward, who may waive this requirement. This is also suggested procedure for Regional races and Drivers' Schools.

“Any Timing and Scoring system used for a National or Regional race should enable the T&S staff to produce the following information: a set of grids for each race group, a set of time cards for each car from qualifying and the race, continuity tapes, independently prepared lap charts, provisional results, and final results. For Drivers' Schools, the T&S system should enable the T&S staff to produce the time on track for each session and comprehensive time for all sessions for each student, if requested by the Chief Instructor.” [See GCR 5.10 for all Timing & Scoring requirements.]

If it is not possible to run two different systems, you should do AT LEAST 1 of the following:

- Use photocells, hooked into the AMB decoder
- During races, do at least 1 lap chart by hand or independent computer.
- Use 2 different decoders and 2 computers, even if there is only 1 loop. Be sure the different systems are plugged into different circuits, power strips, or outlets.
- Use photocells, hooked into the AMB decoder AND into an electronic timer which prints the times (such as a Chronomix). In the event of a serious problem with AMB, the tapes can be collated with the electronic timer times, and time cards created. (Yes, slow and painful, but still a choice.)

GCR 3.1.7 — Concurrent National and Regional Races: see the complete section, but these items are of particular interest.

C. Separate National and Regional race results shall be produced (combined results may be produced at the discretion of the organizers).

E. Procedures for determining who may participate when a race group is oversubscribed shall be included in the Supplementary Regulations.

Entrants not running for points: “A driver not competing for event/series awards will be listed on the final results in the correct finishing position with a notation citing GCR 3.8.6. No points will be assigned, if any would have been earned. An earned lap record remains intact.”

Results distribution: The organizing region will send Official Race Results to the National Office (printed, photocopied, or via e-mail) within five (5) days of the event. Additionally, for national races, the organizing region will send one (1) copy (printed, photocopied, or via e-mail) of all race and qualifying results to the appropriate Divisional Pointskeeper within five (5) days of the event. Additionally, the organizers shall provide Official Race Results (printed or photocopied) for each entrant either during the event, or mailed or e-mailed at the organizer's expense within seven (7) days after the conclusion of the event. If there is a protest decision or Court of Appeals decision, all entrants affected should be sent revised Official Results within 7 days of the decision.

If e-mailing results, please send final qualifying and race results in PDF format to Janet Farwell at the SCCA National Office (jfarwell@scca.com), and Jim Creighton (jcreig53@mindspring.com).

I recommend keeping GCR 6.7 through 6.10 handy for race stoppage, restarting, etc. It is quoted below.

6.7.1. Methods

When it is necessary to stop a session, the Chief Steward may do any of the following:

- A. Order a black flag with an "ALL" sign at Start (this sign may also be shown at additional stations elsewhere on the course) and a black flag at all other flag stations around the course.
- B. Order a red flag at Start and all other flag stations. Further instructions will be conveyed by officials.
- C. Order the checkered flag to be displayed to the lead car if at least 50 percent of its scheduled time or distance has been completed.

6.7.2. Assistance During Race Session Stoppage

Replenishing or assisting cars is allowed after a practice or qualifying session is stopped and before it is restarted, but not after a race session is stopped and before it is restarted.

6.8. RESTARTING A RACE

If a race is stopped, the Chief Steward may:

- A. Restart in the original starting order. (See 6.7.2.)
- B. Restart the cars single file in the physical order they crossed the control line on the last completely scored lap.

When a race is restarted, each pace lap counts as a race lap. In a timed race, the clock is restarted when the field is dispatched. Any method of restarting the engine is permitted.

6.9. RAIN RACING

If a race is started in the dry, and it starts to rain on all or part of the course, the Chief Steward may use one of the following procedures:

A. If the race has covered half or more of the scheduled distance or time, it may be finished with the checkered flag.

B. If the race has not reached half distance or time, the black flag "ALL" procedure shall be used to bring all cars into the pits, and 15 minutes will be allowed to install rain tires, at the driver's discretion.

The cars will restart single file in the overall order of the cars on the last completely scored lap.

6.10. TIMING LINE; STARTERS, FINISHERS, AND WINNERS

6.10.1. Starting Line for Timing and Scoring

Unless otherwise defined in the Supplemental Regulations, the start line is the control line where timing begins when crossed by a car.

6.10.2. Race Starter

One of the following conditions must be met for a car to be considered a race starter:

A. The car receives a green flag at the start of the race.

B. If the start is aborted, the car crosses the control line.

C. The car is anywhere on the course when the green is displayed, but not in the pits.

D. The car completes the pace lap for the first start.

E. The car enters the race any time after the start before the checkered flag is displayed.

6.10.3. Race Finisher

A. A race finisher is a car that completes half the distance of the overall winner of the race. If the race is an uneven number of laps, divide the winner's laps in half and round down to the nearest whole integer. A car has 5 minutes after the checkered flag to complete its current lap.

B. A car may complete a lap by being driven across the control line in the pit lane only using on-board power (such as the starter motor), but it may not be pushed across the line by its crew or any officials.

6.10.4. Race Winner

The race winner is the car that completes the race distance in the least time, or the greatest distance in the timed length of the competition. If the race is shortened, the leader of the last completely scored lap is the winner, provided the race is completed.

A. Checkered Flag

The checkered flag is displayed at the finish line first to the winner as he completes the race distance or after he completes the prescribed time, and then to the other finishers as they cross the finish line.

B. Checker to Wrong Car

If the checkered flag is displayed first to the wrong car, it shall be continuously waved until seen by the entire field. The race finishing order will be determined by the last completely scored lap.

C. Late Checker

If the checkered flag is not displayed at the scheduled end of the race and the race is one or more laps longer than scheduled, the race is scored as if it had ended at the scheduled length. As soon as the Starter is aware that the checkered flag has not been displayed at the scheduled end of the race, he may show the checkered flag immediately, if both Timing and Scoring and the Operating Steward concur.

D. Winning Car Not Running in Timed Race

If the winning car is not running at the expiration of the timed length, the checkered flag will be displayed to the highest placing car still running. The winner in a timed race is not required to take the checkered flag.

E. Dead Heats

Competitors in a dead heat share the prizes allotted to their finishing positions.

6.10.5 Shortened Races

A. If a race is stopped at less than 50 percent of its scheduled time or distance and is not restarted, it is incomplete; championship points shall not be awarded, and organizers will not be required to distribute trophies or other awards.

B. A race that is stopped at 50 percent or more of its scheduled time or distance, and not restarted, is complete, and results will reflect the order of the end of the last completely scored lap (even if that lap is less than 50 percent of the scheduled distance).

6.10.6. Lap Record

Official lap records are set during races; not practice or qualifying. A driver whose car is penalized for non-compliance in a race may not set a lap record in that race.