

2024 General Rules and Regulations Northern Michigan Speedway

Rule Book Disclaimer

The rules and/or regulations set forth herein are designed to provide for the orderly conduct of racing events, at the Northern Michigan Speedway, aka **N.M.S.**, and to establish a minimum of acceptable requirements for such racing events. These rules shall govern the condition of all events, and, by participating in an event at NMS, all participating are deemed to have read these rules and complied with the rules set forth. **NO EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF SAFETY SHALL RESULT FROM PUBLICATIONS OF OR COMPLIANCE WITH THESE RULES AND/OR REGULATIONS.** They are intended as a guide for the conduct of the sport and are in no way a guarantee against injury to, or death of, a participant, spectator, or official. The Race Director, or his representatives shall be empowered to permit minor deviation from any of the specifications herein or impose further restrictions that in his/her opinion do not alter the minimum acceptable requirements. **NO EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF SAFETY SHALL RESULT FROM SUCH ALTERATION OF SPECIFICATIONS.** Any interpretation of or deviation from these rules is left to the discretion of the track officials. **This sport is DANGEROUS under the best of circumstances. It can be deadly under the worst. By signing the pit waiver, it acknowledges that you have read and fully understand the risk you are placing yourself in while competing in motorsports.**

PURCHASING A PIT PASS TO COMPETE, CREW OR SPECTATE MEANS YOU HAVE READ TO AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE FOLLOING RULES:

1. Conditions:

Rule changes or interpretation of rules are at the discretion of track officials – Motorsports Director has final say in all rule decisions.

- A. NO Alcoholic Beverages OR Controlled Substances are to be consumed before or during races by any Driving Teams, including and NOT limited to Drivers, Pit Crews, &/or Team Members.
- B. Drivers must be at least 14 years of age with a birth certificate and have a minor participant form notarized and signed by both parents and or legal guardians.
- C. **N.M.S.** officials reserve the right to reject or allow the entry of any driver or car.
- D. Punishment for deviating from the rules is at the discretion of the track officials, but may include docking of points, docking of laps, docking of starting positions, docking of prize money, being placed at the back of the field, loading your car for the night, suspension, expulsion, and more.
- E. The decision of track officials is FINAL.
- F. **N.M.S.** officials reserve the right to deduct from your prize money any fees owed to the track for any purchases, fees and penalties.
- G. Only track officials are allowed in the tech area: along with Driver and one mechanic.
- H. Dogs are allowed in the pit-area, but must be kept on a leash and must not be left unattended. Dogs are NOT allowed in the grandstands at any time under any circumstances. Walk dogs in grassy areas- clean up and bag up wastes after your dog.
- I. The tower is for Race Track Officials only.

2. Driver/Crew Member Conduct:

- A. Drivers assume **ALL** responsibility for the actions of his or her pit crews and visitors. Drivers may be issued penalties for pit crew and visitor misconduct. Such penalties, if applied, may extend to the car as well as the driver. Penalties may include loss of winnings, suspension and/or expulsion.
- B. Unsportsmanlike driving, rough driving, or unnecessary bumping is prohibit and may result in removal from a race. Flagrant and/or repeated unsportsmanlike conduct on the track or in the pits may result in suspension and/or expulsion. This suspension may span the winter hiatus and be completed in the following season.
- C. Unsportsmanlike, violent, or abusive behavior, use of improper language toward officials, competitors, and/or fans is prohibited and subject to suspension or expulsion.

- D. Whining about another car needing to be teched will result in your car being teched first.
- E. Fighting in the pits or on the racetrack premises at any time is **PROHIBITED** and will be subject to a two week suspension or permanent expulsion. After a two week suspension you will have a two year probationary period.
- F. General misconduct in the pit area may result in penalties.
- G. Exiting your vehicle on the racetrack, unless there is evidence of imminent danger, may result in suspension or expulsion.
- H. Entering another competitor's pit stall to start or settle a dispute at **N.M.S.** is strictly prohibited. It may result in suspension from competition for the individual that entered the other racer's stall. This counts for driver, pit crew, family members, friends or fans. A racer's pit stall is off limits for conflict.

3. Vehicle Inspection/Qualification:

Before any car may take part in any race, it is subject to inspection by Northern Michigan Speedway officials.

- A. During Tech Inspection and throughout the night, different things could be checked on different cars at the officials' discretion. The argument that you have to check every car if you are going to check mine does **NOT** apply. We normally look at different things per night, per car in each division.
- B. Starting positions may be determined by time trials, handicap system, last chance race, points, or by draw.
- C. Car/Driver must meet minimum weight and percentages on the scale at inspection.
- D. Technical inspection is intended to assure minimum compliance with the rules. Where compliance is not met, **N.M.S.** officials may direct that repairs or alterations be made before being allowed to qualify. Officials may reject the entry of a car into the program when appropriate alterations cannot reasonably occur in the pits.
- E. No crew members are to touch their car while it is in tech without the permission of officials. This includes both pre-race and post-race tech inspections. Car may be required to run to steer onto and off the scales.
- F. Once a car has cleared tech, it must conform to all the rules at any time while the car is staged for qualifying, during and after qualifying, staged for any race, and during and after the race. If it is determined by a **N.M.S.** official that the car has been intentionally altered (including, but not limited to, moved or removed weight, raised quarter panels, or moving the spoiler back) **N.M.S.** officials reserve the right to disqualify the driver for the night with no money or points for the entire night.
- G. Hoods and deck lids must remain on the car after the tech inspection and prior to qualifying attempt. No cars shall be jacked up during this period. If a car does not arrive at the track by the time qualification begins, **N.M.S.** officials reserve the right to place the car at the back of the heat races and any feature race.

4. Vehicle Specs:

- A. **No mirrors or radios allowed**
- B. Lead Ballast Only (NO other type of Ballast allowed) it must be painted white with the driver's # on it. Must be bolted to the car, and welding is unacceptable.
- C. One driveshaft hoop on forward half of shaft. (2 hoops recommended)
- D. Driveshaft must be painted white.
- E. All cars must be equipped with a working starter.
- F. No Driver/Crew operated adjustable devices of any kind allowed while car is on the track. Exception: Brake Bias
- G. Traction control is **ILLEGAL**. Any driver caught running with traction control, or any components for traction control mounted in their vehicle, will lose all points and money for that event and that driver will serve a minimum 2 race suspension. If found during Tech, you will be instructed to load up your car and that will be considered your first week of suspension.

5. Tires:

- A. Hoosier D800 race tires only are allowed in rwd divisions.
- B. No recaps
- C. No softening, soaking, conditioning, siping, or grooving of tires. **SOAKING OF TIRES IS PROHIBITED AND STRICTLY ENFORCED!** (This rule applies to ALL tires in the pits, on the car, in the trailer or hauler, ALL TIRES) Tires may be checked at any time.

1. First soaking violation results in a 4-week suspension. Loss of points to date for the season.
 2. Second soaking violation results in a season long suspension. Loss of points to date for season
- D. Officials reserve the right to test any tire suspected of tampering.

6. Racing Rules:

- A. At no time shall any non-competing member, crew member, owner, or other person associated with a race car be permitted on the racing surface following the start of a race and prior to the final lap without the express permission of a **N.M.S.** official. Violation will result in the car being disqualified. This rule is in place for your crew members safety.
- B. **N.M.S.** officials reserve the right to request a doctor's release at any time.
- C. Drivers are permitted to race in more than one division on any given night. Drivers may race in two divisions. Teams must be completely prepared to have both cars ready for both events without the drivers assistance. The transition between divisions must be seamless and not affect the racing program in any way. Drivers running in a different division, either higher or lower, must follow the tire rules pertaining to that division.
- D. All repairs or adjustments to cars must be made in the pits. This includes portions of the race run under yellow or red flag conditions. Violation will result in the car being placed at the rear of the field.
- E. Cars may only exit the track from turn three and enter the track from the track entrance.
- F. Only approved electronic communication devices are allowed within the car during racing events.
- G. Any driver that does not obey the Flag Rules, Raceceiver, and/or Lights will be subject to disqualification.
- H. Under a Yellow Flag a car will be placed at the rear of the field if a restart is delayed by a driver or crew member, the car leaves the racing surface or the car or cars that were the cause of the yellow flag. If you are the cause of a Yellow Flag in the Heat race you will go to the pits. If you are the cause of a Yellow Flag in a Feature race twice then you will go to the pits.
- I. If a car has to scratch they will have to line up in their position first. Then enter the track and drop to the back and if it is an odd number of cars leader will pick top or bottom. The car that scratched will have to take the opposite position of what the leader didn't take. The line that they pulled out of will just go forward.
- J. Under a Red Flag a car will be placed at the rear of the field if a restart is delayed by a driver failing to take his position in the car, or if a driver refuses the official's order to take a certain position on the track resulting in a delay of the race, he/she will be Black flagged and/or disqualified.

7. Safety:

- A. It is mandatory that a driver's helmet meets **SNELL 2010** series or more recent standards. Approved race car helmets only. No motorcycle helmets; No M-designated helmets.
- B. Drivers must wear double-layer suits of fire resistant material or single-layer suits that effectively covers the body from neck to ankles and wrists without holes.
- C. All cars will be equipped with a minimum 5 point seat belt harness constructed from 3" wide belts. Belts must have a crotch strap, two piece shoulder harness and metal to metal central release. Restraint system must also be securely attached to the roll cage structure. Belts may not be older than three years.
- D. A drivers side window net with quick release is required.
- E. Safety Neck Restraint. Hans, Hybrid are highly recommended.
- F. All fuel cells must have two straps. (1"solid by ½")
- G. All foot boxes must be enclosed for fire protection.
- H. Tethered fuel cell caps are **MANDATORY**.
- I. Racing alcohol is **NOT** permitted in any regular **N.M.S.** division.
- J. On-board fire suppression system with a minimum 5 pound extinguisher is recommended. A 5 pound fire extinguisher mounted in the car is required.
- K. An OBERG vacuum style or ball type fuel shut off placed on top of fuel cell at the point fuel exits the cell is recommended.

8. Flags:

Any driver who does not obey the flag rules and/or lights will be subject to disqualification.

1. Green: Start Race
2. Blue Flag/Yellow Stripe: Move over LOW TO THE BOTTOM OF THE TRACK, the leaders are over taking you. Hold your line.
3. Yellow: Caution, go slow and hold your position. Listen for direction and/or lineup order on **Raceceiver** (frequency 454.000)
4. Red: Danger, race stopped. Stop your car in a safe manner, no matter where you are on the track immediately.
5. Black: Pull off the track for consultation.
6. White: One lap to go.
7. Checkered: End of race

Northern Michigan Speedway Rules to know that may be different from your home track:

- A. We are a mandatory Raceceiver facility. The track frequency is 454.00.
- B. If a yellow flag is displayed, **N.M.S.** allows 5 laps for **visibly** flat tires only. Driver is fully responsible to ensure Speedway officials are aware they are asking for 5 laps for a **visible** flat. The lap count begins when you reach your pit stall. You will be allowed on the racing surface again, by the pit chute official, while the track is under yellow flag. If you cannot re-enter safely the steward will hold you until the next available safe condition. You will not be allowed to return to the racing surface under green flag conditions. Driver is fully responsible to ensure **N.M.S.** officials are aware they are asking for 5 laps for a flat.
- C. When feature cautions occur, we will do a Single/Double restart.
- D. We use raceceivers. In order to save time, we may forgo white flag laps. When the green flag is about to occur be ready to race when the light turns green.
- E. Upon conclusion of a feature event, Top 4 finishing positions always report to the scales. If you are unsure where you finished report to tech anyway. Tech will direct you from that point on.
- F. Upon green flag races are allowed one minute for each lap. If excess cautions take place, your race time may be shortened. You will be notified by Raceceiver if this is about to occur.
- G. Black flag circumstances. If a car is smoking, putting liquid down, has a flat tire, has equipment hanging that could come loose as a safety hazard, could impale another driver or track worker or numerous other infractions. If you are black flagged, it may be disciplinary, or it may be for equipment. Exit the racing surface in the safest manner possible. Having your Raceceiver in working condition will inform you, and the other competitors on the track why the flag is occurring and what to be on the look for.
- H. The finish line is an arbitrary line, physical and defined plane from the flag stand towards the infield, from the flag stand to the opposite side of the track. A car may finish the race, while sliding in any direction and as long as is crosses the plane first. After the white flag is displayed the next lap is considered coming to the checkered. A competing car crossing that plane, on the final lap, completes that race.
- I. No Gap sticks. No signaling devices to show lead separation or lap time variation. No mechanical crew assistance in determining lap speed or distance from competitors while under racing conditions.
- J. Cars in parade formation, that have not taken the green flag, have not completed a lap. They will not be scored for points in that respect. If you have not "started the race, by taking the green", you do not accumulate points.