Sports Car Club of America

SCCA Runoffs Penalty Guidelines

Effective 9-23 thru 10-1-2023



The following are the suggested penalty standards for the SCCA National Championship Runoffs. The guidelines are established for consistency in similar situations outlined below. Unique circumstances may justify the modification of suggested penalties.

On Course Driver Conduct

- 1. Failure to control your car resulting in contact with another car. (GCR 6.11.1.) [NOTE: Safe, consensual drafting among cars in same class may be forgiven.]
 - a. Investigation by Race Director/Assistant Race Director to determine circumstances.
 - b. Driver injury or significant body damage to one or both cars, or only one car continues – CSA/RFA position penalty to ensure car finishes behind car that could not continue.
 - c. Clearly identified at fault driver, no injury or body damage CSA with one or two position penalty
 - d. Multiple contact by same driver in same session –Chief Steward's Probation – 1 to 3 weekends based on circumstances or an RFA for further investigation.

2. Improving position during the pace lap (GCR 6.5.2.C.)

- a. Out of position at green flag-penalty, number of positions gained plus one position,
- b. Regaining position on pace lap(s) & full course yellow **Obvious and well recorded** Open Black Flag with stopand-go.
- c. Regaining position pace lap(s) 45 seconds added to the driver's total race time, **if stop-and-go not served.**
- **3. Entering a yellow flag zone** Failure to slow significantly (GCR 6.1.1.B.) as discussed and defined in the Driver's Meeting.
 - a. **Qualifying** Loss of qualifying times for that session.
 - b. Race Five (5) second penalty
- 4. Passing Under a Yellow Flag (PUY) (GCR 6.1.1.B.) For verified PUY [NOTE: A safe, inadvertent PUY followed by a giveback may be forgiven.]
 - a. Test Days Open Black Flag, session ended for competitor, one race probation, second offense – loss of remaining test day time and sessions.
 - b. Qualifying Closed Black Flag, loss of qualifying times for that session.
 - c. Race Closed Black Flag, penalty three positions or laps
 - d. **Spin under yellow** Car not under control, same penalty as a race PUY
 - e. **Contact/Injury during a PUY**: Open Black Flag, end of session, possible disqualification, or suspension
- 5. Assistance During Race Session Stoppage (GCR 6.7.2.)
 - a. Race Restart at end of grid
- **6. Failure to obey Black, Checkered or Red flags (6.1)**Same penalties as PUY

Participant Conduct

- 1. Acts of physical violence between event participants, (drivers, crew, officials, volunteers, and spectators) (GCR 2.1.8.)
 - a. The Race Director may remove the participants from their assigned positions or competition, maintain order as necessary until an initial evaluation of the incident has been completed.
 - b. The Race Director will immediately notify the Division Executive Steward, by phone if not onsite, or in person if onsite.
 - c. The Race Director will notify the Race Chairman.
 - d. The Race Director will initiate an RFA.
 - e. The SOM will process as any other action utilizing the penalty guidelines outlined in GCR Sections 7.1. through 7.6.
 - f. The Race Director and/or the Chairman of the SOM will notify the participants of potential further action by the Division Executive Steward if warranted.

Car Compliance Situations

- 1. Car not in Compliance (GCR 9.1.)
 - a. Prior to the Race: If found after qualifying, loss of Qualifying times
 - b. Post-Race: A non-compliant car shall be moved behind compliant cars.
- 2. Car not in Compliance (GCR 2.1.2. and 2.1.3.) For deliberate, substantial, non-compliance.
 - a. Disqualification and disallowed from 2024 Runoffs: Probation, or Suspension
- 3. Failure to report to Impound (GCR 5.9.3.C.)
 - a. Qualifying Loss of times for that session
 - b. Post-Race Disqualification, 6-month suspension, disallowed from 2024 Runoffs
- 4. Sound (GCR 5.7.2.)

Competitors must not exceed 103 dB. Below are suggested actions.

- a. First reading over limit Sound Board and Closed Black
- b. **Second reading over limit** Sound Board and Closed Black
- c. Third reading over limit
 - i. Test Days Open Black, may continue after repair
 - ii. **Qualifying** Black flag, loss of qualifying times for that session. May continue after repair.
 - iii. Race May be Black Flagged, will be considered non-compliant.
- 5. Fuel Testing SCCA on site test (D.C., color, & tracer): (GCR 9.3.25.A.)
 - a. Qualifying loss of qualifying session times
 - b. Race Disqualification plus 6-month suspension, disallowed from entering 2024 Runoffs

Additional Thoughts: If a driver is disqualified from an entire event, the following statement should be added to the CSA/RFA/Protest form: 'The driver will receive no event participation credit for the event.' Alternatively, the CS/RD/SOM may disqualify a driver from the competition (i.e. session). Please note that awards in the competition or event are automatically forfeited.