

**RACING MEMO**

**ISSUED:** November 2, 2023

**NUMBER:** RM 23-13

**FROM:** Board of Directors

**TO:** All Participants

**SUBJECT:** GCR 3.7.4. Remove Pro Path from  
2024 Runoffs Qualification Criteria

During the CRB call on October 9, 2023, SCCA Staff presented information to the CRB concerning the Pro Path for Runoffs. It was noted that very few participants had taken advantage of the program since its inception (*in 2023 only 5 drivers participated*), and that an inordinate amount of time was required from staff to gather and correlate participation/finishing information and administer the program. It adds an additional layer of complexity and potential confusion to the Runoffs qualification path. Drivers interested in competing for an SCCA National Championship at the Runoffs may use one of the paths through the club racing program to qualify.

**In GCR Section 3.7.4 please make changes as follows.**

**3.7.4. SCCA Runoffs**

SCCA schedules and conducts an event each year called the SCCA Runoffs, open to all U.S. Majors Tour participants and Division Championship participants who meet the invitation qualifications. A competitor must qualify in the same class(es) in which he is entering the Runoffs, though he may compete in any car eligible for the class(es). The SCCA Runoffs determine the SCCA National Champion in each eligible class. SCCA publishes the Supplemental Regulations defining driver and car eligibility and other event details.

**A. Invitations to the SCCA Runoffs**

Three distinct paths exist for qualifying for a Runoffs invitation. Invitations are issued to all drivers in invited Runoffs-eligible class based on the following minimum qualifications:

**1. U.S. Majors Tour Super Tour and/or Conference Events**

A competitor must meet participation requirements.

**a. Participation Requirements**

Participate on track in a minimum of three (3) separate U.S. Major Super Tour and/or Conference event weekends and have a minimum of three (3) individual race finishes, all in the same class. Events may be a part of any Conference.

A driver may substitute two (2) Regional-sanctioned weekends for one (1) of his three (3) Majors weekend participation requirements. Eligible Regional weekends shall occur between the conclusion of the previous Runoffs and a date not less than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Runoffs or as otherwise specified in the Runoffs supplemental regulations.

*This replaces Majors event participation but not the Majors finish or points requirements.-*

Endurance races are not eligible.

~~Drivers in the following classes may replace participation in up to two (2) Majors weekends with SCCA Pro Racing weekends in the corresponding class. Drivers who substitute one (1) Majors weekend with an SCCA Pro Racing weekend must have three (3) Majors/Super Tour race finishes. Drivers who substitute two (2) Majors weekends with two (2) SCCA Pro Racing weekends must have two (2) Majors/Super Tour race finishes. Eligible Pro weekends shall occur between January 1<sup>st</sup> of that year and a date not less than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Runoffs or as otherwise specified in the Runoffs supplemental regulations. Drivers choosing the SCCA Pro Racing Path must purchase substitute Majors entries through the Member Account Portal of SCCA.com for the number of substitute Majors event weekends (either 1 or 2) by September 12, 2023. SCCA will collect and distribute the fees to the SCCA Regions.—~~

~~GT1—TA—~~

~~GT2—TA2 or TA—SGT—~~

~~T1—TA—SGT or TA—GT—~~

~~T2—TA—GT—~~

~~FA—FRA, Atlantic (FRP), F1000 (FRP)—~~

~~FC—F2000 (FRP)—~~

~~FF—F1600 (FRP)—~~

~~This replaces participation but not the Majors finish or points requirements.-~~

## b. Performance Requirements

A competitor must meet one of the following:

1. Finish in the top 10 of a Conference's point standings in class, or, in classes with more than 20 participants, finish in the top 50 percent.
2. Finish in the top 50 percent of the Super Tour point standings following the last Super Tour/Majors race.

Example: If 100 drivers participate in a class within a Conference or the Super Tour in the current race season, the top 50, who score any points, will receive an invitation.

## 2. Division Championship Events

There are both participation and performance requirements to qualify for the Runoffs through the Division Championships qualification path (if available):

- a. Participation Requirement: A competitor must participate on track in a minimum of four of a single Division's event weekends in the same class. All events occurring between the conclusion of the previous Runoffs and two (2) weeks prior to the start of the current Runoffs held in a single division count toward the participation requirement of four (4) regional/divisional event weekends regardless of whether they are a divisional championship points race.

- b. Performance Requirement: Each Division will determine the events that count as points races in their Divisional Championship point standings. A competitor must finish in the top three positions in his class point standings, except SM and SRF3 where the top five will be invited. Drivers that have qualified through the Majors path or are the Defending National Champion in the class, will not be removed from the Division point standings. Drivers qualifying outside of the Top 3 (or Top 5 for SM and SRF3) will not move up.
- c. Invitations will be extended to competitors meeting the requirements at a period of time two weeks prior to the start of the Runoffs event. This allows Divisions to run programs year round, if desired.
- d. In addition to the Top 3 (Top 5 SRF3/SM) Divisional points earners nationwide, SCCA BoD will allow drivers in the top 50% in the Northeast and Southeast Divisions for 2023 to be eligible for Runoffs invitations on a space available basis.

### 3. Defending Runoffs Race Winner

In addition, a current defending Runoffs race winner, who has not met the Runoffs invitation requirements in 3.7.4.A.1 or 2, may be accepted as an entrant even if he did not meet the participation requirements of 3.7.4.A.1 or 2.

- a. The entry will not be included in the total count of Runoffs invitations.
- b. He may compete only in the class(es) being defended, though he may compete in any car eligible for the class(es)
- c. He will not bump anyone from the field who was invited based on the qualifications in 3.7.4.A.1 or 2.
- d. A driver may not invoke the provisions of this section in two consecutive years in the same class, even if he repeats as a Runoffs race winner.

### 4. Additional Requirements

The driver must hold a current SCCA Full Competition License.

### B. Refusal Of Entry

A competitor whose entry has been refused for the SCCA Runoffs may protest and appeal only the refusal of his entry, and he may protest up to 15 days before the start of the event. (See 4.4.6.)

### C. Invited Runoffs Classes

All classes with a combined two-year event average of at least 4.0 participants in Majors and Runoffs competition will automatically be invited to the following year's Runoffs. Classes not meeting that criteria may be invited as the event format and venue permits. The Road Racing department, in consultation with the Club Racing Board, will determine and announce by January 1 the Runoffs-eligible classes invited to the next Runoffs consistent with the event format and venue. For example: If the two-year period includes 68 Majors weekends and two Runoffs, for a total of 70 events, a class would need at least 280 participants over that period to average 4.0 per event.

1. A Runoffs-eligible class with a minimum of 10 qualified drivers entered who have participated in at least one on track session at the current year's Runoffs will name a National Champion.

2. A Runoffs-eligible class with a minimum of 3 race starters and fewer than 10 qualified drivers entered who have participated in at least one on track session at the current year's Runoffs will name a National Champion but subsequently be on probation for the following year's Runoffs. Should a class on probation at the Runoffs fail to have a minimum of 10 qualified drivers enter and participate in at least one on-track session the year it is on probation, that class may run as a supplemental class but will not name a National Champion. A Runoffs-eligible class that does not have a minimum of 3 race starters, regardless of probation status, will run as a supplemental class but will not name a National Champion.
3. Classes may be combined as needed to limit the number of race groups with a preference for combining no more than 2 classes for any race