

## 2024 THOMPSON SPEEDWAY GENERAL RULES

### 1) Preface

The intent of the Thompson Speedway general and divisional rules is to foster a safe and orderly environment for competitive motorsports and entertainment. The knowledge of, and adherence to, these rules is ultimately the participant's responsibility. No expressed or implied warranty of safety shall result from the publication of, or compliance with, these rules. There is no way a guarantee against injury or death to participants, spectators, officials, or any other individual involved.

### 2) Interpretation and Amendment

- a) Interpretations of the rules contained herein will be the sole responsibility of authorized officials of Thompson Speedway. Their interpretations and judgments shall be final.
- b) These rules may only be amended by the Race Director or an authorized officer of Thompson Speedway. This amendment will be posted on the Thompson Speedway website, [www.thompsons Speedway.com](http://www.thompsons Speedway.com), and may be sent out via email to all registered teams. An amendment is effective upon the date of publication by Thompson Speedway regardless of when a participant receives actual notice.

### 3) Private Property

All actions and activities deemed to be detrimental, including but not limited to, the use of verbal and or physical abuse, profanity, or threats against track management, staff, officials, and or employees will not be tolerated and violators will be dealt with accordingly.

### 3.5) Social Media Policy Conduct

- a) All complaints and concerns are to be shared directly with management and officials, not in a public manner via social media.
- b) Any person who intentionally or maliciously disregards, manipulates, intimidates, threatens or otherwise harasses a track officials, competitors or team members via social media postings, private messages, text messages or in any way electronically that degrades the Track, Management or officials will be subject to Team Disqualification fine, suspension and or other actions determined by track management. Financial penalty to be determined by track management.

### 4) Injuries on Thompson Speedway Property

Any participant involved in an accident while on the premises must report all known injuries to a Thompson Speedway Official before leaving the facility (if the individual is able to make such a report). If the participant is unable to report, the crew chief or parent/guardian shall make such report. The appropriate injury report form must be filled out and returned to Thompson Speedway.

## **5) Safety**

- a) Competitors are solely and directly responsible for the safety of their race cars and racing equipment and are obligated to perform their duties (whether as a car owner driver or crew members) in a manner designed to minimize to the degree possible the risk of injury to themselves and others.
- b) A full fire suit made of double-layered, Nomex material, clean and in good condition is mandatory. Fire retardant gloves and shoes are mandatory and must be worn during all on-track activities. All safety equipment must be SFI rated.
- c) All safety equipment (gloves, helmets, seats, etc.) must be approved by Thompson Speedway Officials.
- d) SA2005 or newer rated helmets are mandatory for all motor vehicle events. Full-face helmets are mandatory.
- e) All cars must have a battery cutoff switch on the driver's right-side crossbar or in the dash board area. It must be within reach of the driver and be accessible to safety crews from both the left and right sides.
- f) An aluminum racing seat is mandatory. The driver's seat must appear as close to stock position as possible and must be securely fastened (bolted, not tack welded) to the roll cage and frame members and not to floorboards. The driver's seat cannot be further back than the trailing edge of the door.
- g) Seat belts must be a minimum five-point, two (2.0) inch wide system with a metal-to-metal central quick release latch. All five (5) points must be securely mounted by manufacturer's specifications and must be approved by Thompson Speedway Officials. Belts must be no older than three (3) years from the date of manufacture or no older than the date of expiration and be SFI certified. Belts with visible wear and/or tears will not be permitted.
- h) A head and neck restraint system (i.e. HANS, Hutchens, or similar) is mandatory.
- i) Smoking is not allowed in the racecar, inspection area, in any buildings, or near the Sunoco fuel station.

## **6) Driver Eligibility**

- a) Drivers must be a minimum of 14 years of age and receive Thompson Speedway approval.
- b) To participate in any on-track activity, a driver must be signed in with the handicapper.

## **7) Rookie of the Year Eligibility**

- a) All rookie contenders must apply for eligibility. Eligibility shall be determined by Thompson Speedway Officials, and all decisions shall be final.
- b) To be eligible, a driver must have competed in less than 30% of the division's races in previous seasons.
- c) When determining the award winner, sportsmanship and cooperation are weighed just as equally as where a driver finishes in the Championship Point Standings.

## **8) Contingencies**

- a) Contingency Sponsors are a valuable part of the Thompson Speedway program.

- b) Contingency stickers must be displayed for either product or monetary consideration. Each division will be notified as to what stickers are required to be eligible for contingency awards. In particular, the decals must be placed on the car so as to be visible from the grandstands as well as in photos of the racecar.

**9) Car Numbers & Decals**

- a) All car numbers must be registered and approved by Thompson Speedway. No three digit numbers will be permitted, nor will letters be approved as part of a car number.
- b) All cars numbers must be at least 18” tall on both doors and on the roof. Roof numbers should be grandstand-facing from the backstretch.
- c) All lettering/decals/signs must meet the approval of the Thompson Speedway Officials.
- d) Thompson Speedway Officials may use their discretion in requesting color changes due to poor visibility and scoring issues.

**10) Official Vendors**

New England Racing Fuel 271 Spielman Highway Burlington, CT 06013 (860) 673-9555	Racing Electronics (Shawn Waddell) 12 Nod Road Plainville, CT 06062 (860) 573-8821
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My Laps America 32 Highlands Parkway, Suite 104 Smyrna, GA 30082 (678) 816-4000	Hoosier Tire East 56 Loomis Street Manchester, CT 06042 (860) 646-9646
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**11) Thompson Speedway Championship Points System**

Drivers will earn points based on finishing position in both the heat and feature races. The number of points earned for each finishing position is listed below.

Heat Races

**Position Points**

1	5
2	4
3	3
4	2
5	1

Feature Races

**Position Points Position Points**

1	55	2	48
3	46	4	44
5	42	6	40
7	38	8	36
9	34	10	32

11 30	12 28
13 26	14 24
15 22	16 20
17 18	18 16
19 14	20 12
21 10	22 8
23 6	24 4

Any driver finishing 25th or after will be awarded two (2) Championship points.

## **12) Paddock & Pit Road Rules**

- a) Jack Stands
  - i) Racing jack stands with flat bottoms are mandatory (Exhibit 1).
  - ii) Jack stands must be used under any vehicle that is jacked up and being worked on, except for routine tire changes on pit road.
- b) Motorized Vehicles
  - i) The use of motorized or non-motorized personal transportation (scooters, bikes, golf carts, etc) is not permitted in the Grandstand, Paddock or Infield areas. Thompson Speedway may grant use of such vehicles for handicapped persons, subject to prior approval and limitations.
  - ii) Motorized (electric or engine) pit or equipment carts are not permitted.
- c) It is the sole responsibility of the participants to dispose of hazardous waste in a way that is environmentally conscious and respectful.
- d) Narcotics and firearms of any kind are not permitted to be brought onto Thompson Speedway property. Additionally, alcohol is not permitted in the paddock area. e) Smoking is not allowed in the inspection area, in any buildings, or near the Sunoco fuel station.
- f) No one is permitted to ride as a passenger inside of, or on, a racecar. Additionally, no one is permitted to ride on the side of a truck or trailer.
- g) Pit Road
  - i) Pit procedures will be in full effect.
  - ii) Cars exiting pit road must obey the instruction of the stop and go official.
  - iii) No fuel or fuel containers will be permitted on pit road or in the infield.
  - iv) No Thompson Speedway Official is permitted to work on a racecar.
- h) Any and all illegal parts will be confiscated and not returned in conjunctions with other penalties. All parts confiscated will be held by TSMP Management.

## **RACE PROCEDURES**

### **1) Electronic Devices**

- a) Cell phones and personal electronic devices are not permitted in race cars.
- b) Recording devices of any type (audio, video, GoPros, etc.) are prohibited without prior written consent by Thompson Speedway Officials. The number

of recording devices and location will be determined by Thompson Speedway Officials.

## **2) Handicapping & Qualifying**

- a) Thompson Speedway will announce the handicapping and qualifying procedures for an event at the pre-race driver's meeting.
- b) If, in the opinion of Thompson Speedway officials, a driver is not prepared to start in his/her assigned qualifying position, officials may re-assign the driver an appropriate starting position.

## **3) Scoring**

- a) All scoring will be done by transponder. Finishing positions will be determined in order of the cars that complete the greatest number of laps in the least amount of time.
- b) Transponder must be mounted in accordance with the diagram in Exhibit 2.
- c) Transponders are required to be always on the cars.

## **4) Scanners**

- a) Two-way radios are not permitted.
- b) Drivers must monitor the race control frequency (464.500) using a scanner, Receiver, or similar device; and comply with all requests from race control.

## **5) Green Flag (Starts & Restarts)**

- a) Once the one-to-go signal has been given there will be no weaving.
- b) The green flag indicates the start or restart of racing conditions.
- c) Thompson Speedway Officials will signify one (1) lap to go, a lap before the green flag will again be displayed.
- d) On the initial start, all drivers must stay in line and not advance position until they cross the start finish line.
- e) All restarts will be double file unless indicated otherwise by race control.
- f) On all starts and restarts, the leader shall have lane choice. The leader must make his/her commitment by the time they reach the start/finish line to begin the one-to go lap. Once a driver commits to a lane, no changing will be permitted.
- g) All starts and restarts shall be made within a designated zone on the racetrack. The leader of the race will control the restart within the designated restart zone. If the leader does not start, or restart, by the time he/she reaches the exit of the zone, the starter will start, or restart, the race.

## **6) Yellow Flag (Caution Period)**

- a) The yellow flag/light signifies a caution period. The yellow flag will be displayed and the caution (yellow) lights illuminated immediately following any cause for the caution period. ALL CARS MUST REDUCE THEIR SPEED TO A CAUTIOUS PACE, maintain their respective track position independently and form a single line behind the lead car, allowing the caution vehicle to pull out in front.

- b) If a driver's car is damaged and requires assistance to be removed from the racetrack, the driver should remain in his/her car unless requested to disembark from the racecar by an official, he/she is in imminent danger, or if he/she is reporting to the ambulance. The driver of any car being towed off the racetrack must report to the ambulance for evaluation.
- c) There will be no passing the caution vehicle unless instructed to do so by a Thompson Speedway Official.
- d) The lap of record, which was the last scored green flag lap, will be determined by timing and scoring and will be announced during the caution period. That lap will provide the lineup for the restart.
- e) Any car(s), which in a Thompson Speedway Official's judgment, was involved in the caution will be realigned at the tail end of the field.
- f) All cars one (1) or more laps down will be realigned at the tail end of the field, in order of running.
- g) Once the "one to go" signal is given, the field will be re-aligned double file, lead lap cars to the front in the order of running followed by the doubling up of the lapped cars in their order of running.
- h) Once the leader receives the "one-to-go" signal at the start finish line, all cars exiting pit road will restart at the rear of the field. Cars exiting pit road must obey the instruction of the stop and go official.
- i) Cars returning to the race track from the pits during a caution period must wait for the end of the continuous line of cars behind the caution vehicle, unless otherwise directed by the Thompson Speedway Officials.
- j) Any driver causing two (2) caution periods on their own may be parked for the remainder of the event.
- k) Any driver, who in the opinion of a Thompson Speedway Official, intentionally caused a yellow flag, will be penalized one (1) lap.

### **7) Red Flag (Race Stop)**

- a) The red flag signifies that the race must be stopped immediately regardless of the position of the cars on the track. All cars should safely stop in the area designated by race control.
- b) Any car on pit road at the time that the red flag was displayed may be repaired or serviced.

### **8) Blue Flag with Diagonal Yellow Strip (Passing Flag)**

- a) The blue flag with a diagonal yellow stripe serves as a warning to slower cars that faster traffic (leaders) is rapidly approaching the cars being signaled. Cars being given this flag must yield to faster traffic by moving to the bottom of the racetrack.
- b) When two or more cars are competing for track position, and the entire group is given the passing flag, all cars in that group are expected to slow down, get single file, and allow the faster traffic to go by, then they may resume racing.

### **9) Black Flag & Black Flag with White Cross**

- a) The black flag signifies the driver must go to the pits immediately and report to the Thompson Speedway Official at the car's assigned pit area. It does not mean automatic disqualification.
- b) If the driver does not obey the black flag directive after two (2) signals, the driver will then be given the black flag with a white cross at the start/finish line to inform the driver that any additional scoring of his/her car will be discontinued until further notice.
- c) In addition to the black flag, a black flag number indicator, in full view of the driver, will display the number of the car being black-flagged.

### **10) White Flag**

- a) The white flag signifies that the leader has started his/her last lap.
- b) If the yellow flag is displayed and/or the caution lights are illuminated during the white-flag lap, a green-white-checker finish will ensue (even if it carries the race past the advertised distance). The lineup used to align the cars on the restart will be from the last scored green-flag lap.
- c) Cars may not receive any assistance after the leader has received the white flag at the start/finish line except cars making a pit stop. Violation will result in the car not being scored on that lap.
- d) Any driver assisting another driver after passing under the white flag may be subject to a lap or time penalty.

### **11) Checkered Flag**

- a) The checkered flag signifies that the race is completed. When the required race distance has been completed by the lead car, the race will be declared "officially complete" regardless of the flag being displayed.
- b) When the checkered flag is displayed and the race leader completes the race, the balance of the field also completes the race in the same lap. Finishing positions will be determined according to the most laps traveled on the racetrack in the least total time, whether the car is still running or not.

### **12) Inspection**

- a) All race cars are subject to inspection at any time by a Thompson Speedway Official. Failure to cooperate may result in disciplinary action or a fine.
- b) Thompson Speedway will designate an assigned inspection area. Only those designated by a Thompson Speedway Official will be permitted in that area. Each team will be permitted three (3) team members, including the driver.
- c) Thompson Speedway reserves the right to confiscate and retain possession of components.
- d) Thompson Speedway may request a team submit to more in-depth inspection processes (bubbling of engines, compression checks, etc). If so, the participant is responsible for all costs pertaining to reassembling their car following that inspection.

- e) In no way is Thompson Speedway responsible for damage incurred during the inspection process by one of its officials or authorized agents.
- f) Smoking is not permitted in the inspection area.

**Exhibit 2: Transponder Mounting Location**

