

Australian Karting Association Inc

Stewards Committee



Venue: Crowne Plaza, Cnr Arden & Carr Streets, Coogee, Sydney

Date: 21/22 June 2008

Time: 9am

Conference Timetable

Saturday:

9am – Welcome address

9.15am - Conference commences

10.30am – 10.45am Morning tea

1pm – 1.40pm Lunch

3.30pm – 3.45pm Afternoon tea

5pm –5.30pm Finish (please remove any valuables from conference room)

Dinner - own arrangements

Sunday:

9am - Conference commences

10.30am – 10.45am Morning tea

1pm – 1.40pm Lunch

4.30pm Finish

Item 1 (AKA Qld Item 1)

19.18 Driver's Briefing to read:-

Drivers' Briefing will be held prior to commencement of competition including all timed qualifying and racing. All drivers entered must attend.

Reason: Self explanatory.

Item 2 (AKA Qld Item 2)

Rule 4.01(b)

The Clerk of Course to have an assistant/s, to be recognised as "Officials".

Reason:

If Clerk of Course is at a hearing, etc, they need an assistant/s to delegate to monitor proceedings and safety of the race meeting.

Item 3 (AKA Qld Item 3)

Rule 19.31

Should a Competitor decide not to compete in a section of the event for which they have entered, it is a requirement that they notify the Clerk of Course.

Reason: So that the various sections, i.e., Control Tower, Grid Marshall, Engine Measurers, will know in advance who is going to present themselves on the Outgrid.

Item 4 (AKA Qld Item 4)

Rule 19.17 (e) (New rule)

Transponders, when issued, MUST be returned at the completion of racing. Failure to do so within 48 hours will result in a fine of \$50.00, plus the cost of the transponder. The driver will be suspended from practicing, competing in any event or acting as an Official at any AKA licenced track until the penalty has been paid in full (Rules 6.13 & 6.18).

Reason:

Many Competitors now own their own transponders, the second part brings it in line with a suspension.

Item 5 (AKA NSW Item 6)

Rule 17.19(f)

This rule was introduced to allow clubs (at non National or State championships) to introduce a single timed qualifying session if it wishes. This gives the club the opportunity to offer karters an alternative to random/reverse grid draws by taking advantage of the increasing use of transponders.

The discussion between the officials revolved around the question of "What should occur if, for some reason the competitor fails to record a qualifying time?"

Clearly, as this rule is aimed squarely at club race days, it would be unthinkable that the penalty for failing to record a time in the one off session is exclusion from the event. By the same token club race days are usually on a tight timetable and extra timed qualifying is not desirable.

Because R19.17(f) does not instruct regarding penalty, an Official considering such a situation would need to refer to the preceding subsections of R19.17 for guidance.

There, two scenarios are spelled out where the penalty imposed is slowest time plus 1 second. They are for underweight and weaving.

Other possibilities are not clearly addressed, but the officials at today's discussion generally agreed that a driver who does not record a time for ANY reason really should suffer no more than be "sent to the back of the grid." Exclusion from a section of the competition with them then having no way of being permitted to start their heats seems excessive.

The following amendment wording should effectively cover these situations.

19.17

(f) (i) For events or specific races that require qualifying to determine grid positions, other than State and National Championship meetings, the number of qualifying sessions is determined by the Supplementary Regulations with the minimum being one qualifying session. Carburettor and qualifying sessions may be combined if required.

(ii)(a) Where a single timed qualifying session is used and a competitor fails to record a time for any reason, the driver will be penalised with a time penalty of slowest time plus one second. Action will be taken by the issue of a Penalty Notification Form which will be issued without an Officials Hearing and signed by at least one Steward and one other Steward, Clerk of Course or Timekeeper. A complaint / appeal cannot be lodged against this action.

(b) Where more than one competitor has received a penalty of slowest time plus one second for any reason, they shall be placed on the grid at the rear of the field in an order determined by random draw.

Item 6 (AKA SA Item 12)

Re-word rule 19.34(i) to clearly explain when race tyres need to be used for practice / carby sessions.

19.34 Change of Tyres: (Refer Chapter 23 or class technical detail for further information.)

Unless otherwise specified elsewhere in these rules.

- (i) A competitor is permitted to use one set of prescribed dry tyres AND only one set of prescribed wet weather tyres in any class, including all practice from the commencement of the event / competition, at any event.

Amend rule to say;

- (i) **At any race meeting,** a competitor is permitted to use only one set of prescribed dry tyres AND only one set of prescribed wet weather tyres in any class, **including all practice / carby sessions after the commencement of competition for their event.**

For practice / carby sessions prior to commencement of competition for their event, competitors are permitted to use any wet or dry tyres prescribed for their class.

Item 7 (AKA SA Item 13)

New rule to be added as 16.11.(d).(4)

All competitors eligible for a re-start after a red flag stoppage must be allowed one spark plug change if the engine fails to fire after the first attempted re-start. Subsequent attempts will be allowed at the discretion of the Clerk of the Course.

This new rule is necessary to allow competitors who have difficulty re-starting after a red flag stoppage, to resume their rightful position in the re-start of the race.

Item 8 (AKA SA Item 14)

The rule book needs to contain a clear definition of what constitutes “assistance”, with reference in rule 16.08.e.(iv).

In an instance where the progress of any stationary kart is impeded by an obstruction which is subsequently removed other than under its own power, the stationary kart is deemed to have received assistance.

Item 9 (AKAWA Item 8)

Rule 4.06

Alter to allow competitors to officiate at all levels of race meetings when there are less than 20 karters competing (this figure as a starting point for discussions).

REASON – There are many small clubs absolutely struggling for membership and even more so for volunteers to do official duties, so let the competitors do officiating when not racing.