



GENERAL RULES 2017

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Preface

The rules and/or regulations set forth herein are designed to provide for the orderly conduct of racing events and to establish minimum acceptable requirements for such events. These rules will govern the condition of all events and by participating in these events all members are deemed to have complied with these rules. No expressed or implied warranty of safety will result from the publication 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 or death to participants, spectators or others.

VRA reserves the right to amend by addition or deletion any rule by notifying members, in writing or posting at the track office same changes, at least seven days prior to implementation of said addition or deletion. Rules involving safety may be imposed immediately.

Rules will be imposed as written. It is your responsibility to be familiar with all rules. Official's decision shall be final in all cases.

All members and participants shall be subject to the rules and regulations of Ventura Racing Association, herein referred to as VRA, as hereinafter set forth and such rules and regulations as may be promulgated during the season. A driver, car owner, mechanic, competitor, official or contestant when duly licensed and registered by VRA is then a member of VRA until the end of the current calendar year or until otherwise notified.

1. LICENSING

- 1.1 All drivers, car owners and officials must be licensed by VRA before taking part in sanctioned events. VRA license must be carried at all times and presented on demand to any official. Violators subject to fine or suspension. All drivers must be in good standing prior to the close of the season in order to collect or participate in post season awards.
- 1.2 There shall be an annual license fee for all drivers and general members to be determined at the beginning of each season. Car number registration \$20.00. All required paperwork for driver or owner must be completed and turned in to Raceway prior to members 2nd event of the season. Failure to do so shall result in loss of points and purse for any event until all paperwork is submitted.
- 1.3 Car registration applications must be filed along with license application by the car owner.
- 1.4 VRA reserves the right to approve or reject any and all license applications.
- 1.5 No license will be issued until a fully completed and signed license application has been received.
- 1.6 One (1) replacement license may be issued to VRA members for a cost of \$5.00. A second replacement license will be issued at the full cost of the license applied for.

- 1.7 Only VRA members in good standing and non-members holding proper pit credentials will be allowed in the pits. Driver may only be on track while engaged in competition. Crew may go onto track area only with permission of Raceway officials. In the event of a red flag, all crew members must remain off the track until the track is declared open by the VRA official at the track entrance gate. Anyone forcing their way onto the track without permission shall receive a fine of no less than \$100 and loss of pit privileges for the remainder of the event and be placed on probation for the remainder of the year.
- 1.8 Any VRA Driver who allows any person to use, or attempt to use, his license or event pit pass in any manner, shall be subject to the loss of 250 points, fined \$100.00 and suspended for two races. Non-driver member shall forfeit their membership.
- 1.9 VRA members are not employees of VRA and are independent contractors, and assume and take all responsibility for all charges, premiums and taxes, if payable on any funds they receive as a member of VRA.
- 1.10 A record of earnings will be kept by VRA according to car number and credited to the individual registered owner. The registered car owner should sign for all monies won and all checks will be made out to him/her. The Internal Revenue Service requires that prize monies (in excess of \$600.00) be reported to them annually.
- 1.11 No person serving as an officer, official or employee of any other racing organization, not specifically approved in writing by VRA is eligible for licensing by VRA.
- 1.12 If proof of driving ability is deemed necessary, tests may be conducted by and at the discretion of VRA officials. Their decision shall be binding on applicant.
- 1.13 If and when deemed necessary, VRA officials shall have the authority to request a physical examination of any applicant or license holder. Failure to comply with such request may result in application for membership being denied and applicant, if a driver, not being allowed to compete.
- 1.14 All cars taking part in VRA events must be registered by the licensed owner.
- 1.15 Car numbers will be assigned by VRA only in the order in which applications are received. Whenever possible requested numbers will be assigned, but VRA reserves the right to issue all numbers in order to prevent duplication and maintain proper records.
- 1.16 In the event a car is owned by a partnership or corporation, license will be issued to one person only.
- 1.17 An owner of a registered car may transfer number to a replacement car upon sale or destruction of original licensed car.
- 1.18 When a licensed car is sold, a new owner must file a car registration application and new license and car number will be issued, unless it is a replacement as in Rule 16.
- 1.19 No car may be sold or transferred for the express purpose of circumventing a suspension to that car. Any car under suspension may not be raced even if the car has been sold and ownership transferred. Suspensions must be served and fines paid prior to the end of the season. If not, they carry over into the next season. No car may be registered with outstanding penalties from the preceding year.
- 1.20 **No duplicate numbers may be registered in same class.**
- 1.21 When a number other than that officially assigned is used, VRA assumes no responsibility in event of error in scoring, point tabulation or purse payment.
- 1.22 No person under the age of sixteen (16) may be allowed in the pit area, with the exception of licensed VRA drivers **or visiting sanctioning body drivers** at that event or minors with prior VRA approval. Any driver under the age of 18 must have a parent or legal guardian fill out and sign a minor release form. Failure to do so will result in suspension for a minimum of two events.
- 1.23 No car number may be changed on Raceway premises except to avoid duplication by order of VRA Race Director.
- 1.24 All cars must carry their assigned VRA numbers before entering the Raceway premises.
- 1.25 Car numbers will be issued as follows: all VRA classes 00-99. Numerals must be in **contrasting** colors. All numbers must be readable from the scoring tower by the scorers. Any numbers deemed unacceptable shall be changed. Numbers must be applied on both doors, both headlight covers, and on car top, readable from the right side. Sprint Cars must have numbers on nose and both sides of tail tank. Drivers and teams are to make all efforts to field neat and clean appearing cars at all events. Cars not conforming to this requirement may not be allowed to race.
- 1.26 Any race meet or event not run under VRA rules and not authorized by VRA shall be considered an unsanctioned event.

- 1.27 Any licensed or registered VRA member or participant violating any VRA rules or regulations may be penalized by disqualification, suspension, fine, loss of points and may be required to post a bond insuring future adherence to rules. At the discretion of the VRA official in charge any or all of these penalties may be imposed.
- 1.28 No registered VRA member under suspension will be permitted to participate in any event, regardless of sanctioning body, or be allowed to enter pits or racing area until suspension period is completely served.
- 1.29 ANY DRIVER, CAR OWNER OR CREW WHO PERMITS A CAR TO BE DRIVEN IN ANY VRA RACE EVENT BY AN UNLICENSED PERSON, OR FAILS TO NOTIFY VRA OFFICIALS OF ANY CHANGE OF DRIVER DURING A RACE MEET SHALL BE SUSPENDED AND/OR FINED. All points earned by that car for that and all preceding races may be taken away.

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

- 2.1 No one will be allowed in pit area until he or she has secured a pit pass and signed waivers for that particular race. Violation is punishable by a mandatory fine of \$50.00 and/or disqualification of driver and car associated with violation.
- 2.2 Pit passes are issued for a fee at the pit office. No driver or crew member may enter racing area until he has signed all releases, registration and/or entry forms. No person will be permitted at any time to sign the VRA release sheet for anyone other than himself. Violation will be a minimum \$50.00 fine. Second violation will result in loss of seasons' points and suspension for remainder of the season.
- 2.3 A valid VRA license **must be shown** when signing for a pit pass. Members without their VRA license in their possession will be treated as a nonmember. A current id might be required at any time to validate your identity.
- 2.4 Drinking of intoxicating beverages or use of contraband drugs on the racing premises is strictly forbidden. ANY PARTICIPANT IN ANY VRA EVENT WHO SHOWS ANY EVIDENCE OF HAVING PARTAKEN OF ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE OR DRUGS MUST LEAVE THE PREMISES IMMEDIATELY AND WILL BE SUBJECT TO A MANDATORY FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$50.00 OR MORE THAN \$250.00.
- 2.5 Promoter or Race Director has the right to reject the entry of any car or driver.
- 2.6 At all race meets the driver assumes responsibility for actions of his pit crew or guests. In every respect, the driver will be the sole spokesman for his owner and pit crew in any and all matters pertaining to the race and must talk to the VRA officials in charge. The driver may name a pit captain, who is a VRA member, who will have the sole right to speak for him in his absence.
- 2.7 No licensed member or participant shall subject any official to abuse or improper language at any time. Violations carry indefinite suspension and/or fine. Any member or participant who shall commit an assault or shall threaten to do bodily injury to any VRA official or such person serving under their orders shall be subject to suspension and/or fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and/or loss of all points as of date of infraction. Any pit pass holder who expresses obscenities loudly throughout the pits shall receive a fine of \$100 and a possible suspension. Graduated fines and a mandatory suspension will result from second or further offenses.
- 2.8 Decisions of race officials on interpretation of rules pertinent to race procedures or scoring of positions shall be considered final.
- 2.9 No driver, car owner or mechanic shall have any claim for damages, expenses or otherwise against promoter, track operator, VRA or its officials by reason of disqualification or damage to either car, driver or both and they agree the track is in a safe and usable condition if they take part in the racing activities. **VRA and Ventura Raceway reserves the right to counter sue any competitors or VRA members for filing a frivolous or improper lawsuit against them.**
- 2.10 VRA officials have the right to subject any driver to a physical examination before being allowed to compete. Any driver requiring hospitalization will be required to obtain a release from his physician before allowed to return to competition. Subject to approval of Race Director.
- 2.11 No VRA member shall take part or participate in any strike, boycott, unsportsmanlike behavior or any other action or activity considered detrimental to VRA or Ventura Raceway. Violation may mean immediate suspension for each participant. If participant is driver, owner or crew member of car, that car, which they are associated with, may not participate in any VRA event until all fines are paid and suspensions are completed.
- 2.12 No VRA member will participate in fights in pits or on Raceway premises at any time. Violation will result in a fine of no less than \$100.00 and immediate suspension for each participant. Any cars with which the members or participants are associated will not be allowed to compete until all fines are paid and suspension completed.

- 2.13 VRA members agree to abide by official's decisions.
- 2.14 All drivers, car owners and/or mechanics assume full responsibility for any and all injuries sustained, including death and property damage, any time they are on Raceway premises and in route thereto or there from.
- 2.15 Rules may be subject to change and revision by VRA upon notification to license holders at least seven days prior to effective date. Posting of change on pit board, Ventura Raceway web page, Facebook, handout at pit office or VRA bulletin mailed to last known address shall constitute notification. Notify pit office of any change of address.
- 2.16 VRA reserves the right to judge, decide and establish what constitutes a legal car. A legal car is one which has met all VRA safety, appearance and technical requirements, and has a signed tech sheet by Tech Director on file with VRA.
- 2.17 All drivers and pit crews are required to be neat and clean in appearance. Shirts and shoes must be worn. Failure to comply may result in non-admittance into the pit area and/or fine.
- 2.18 Cars leaking water, oil, gasoline or showing excessive smoke may be black flagged from the race at the discretion of officials.
- 2.19 Competitors are not permitted in the press/scoring tower and official's office without specific permission from the Race Director. Failure to comply may result in fines or other penalties.
- 2.20 A VRA division must have a quorum of a least twelve (12) cars in running condition or events for this division are subject to immediate cancellation by the track operator or Race Director.
- 2.21 VRA and track operators are not responsible for any damage or theft of trucks, cars, tools or personal property on Raceway premises.
- 2.22 All competitors and personnel are restricted from the infield and from crossing the track unless the pit area is specifically designated in the infield area. Violators will be subject to \$100.00 fine and/or suspension.
- 2.23 No one will be allowed to wear a shirt or jacket that is the same or similar to those worn by the VRA officials, with the intent to deceive officials or drivers. The use of official shirts or jackets will be up to the Race Director.
- 2.24 All drivers wishing to obtain a VRA driver membership may be required to take and pass a race procedure and rules test prior to racing their first event. Rookie drivers may also be required to take part in a rookie orientation meeting at a time set by race officials.
- 2.25 Only drivers who have competed in 5 Feature events or less or 8 total events or less in VRA sanctioned or higher divisions will be eligible for Rookie of the Year. Depending on driver's experience eligibility may be waived.
- 2.26 Drivers eligible for Rookie of the Year must declare their intention to run for the award by filling out a Rookie of the Year Application by their fifth event. To maintain eligibility drivers must run rookie stripe/flag for the entire season. Final determination of eligibility will be made by the Director of Competition.
- 2.27 No transmitting or receiving devices allowed in any VRA class vehicle. This includes radios, onboard computers and data transfer equipment. No scanners or two-way radios in pit area or grandstands. VRA may require an official one way receiver to communicate with our officials. This radio may be required in some divisions and will have to be purchased and maintained by the driver or car owner.
- 2.28 No driver or crew from any team is to go into any competitors pit area, tech area or grandstand area with intent to threaten or accost any member of that team due to on track, tech or any other racing related incident. Problems are to be dealt with, with the aid of a VRA official. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in fines, suspension or both.
 - A. A mandatory fine of \$100 and a letter of probation for first offense.
 - B. A mandatory fine of \$200 and a two race suspension for a second offense in the same season.
 - C. A mandatory fine of \$500 and suspension for the remainder of the season for the third offense in the same season.
- 2.29 All **nightly** offenses will be submitted to the drivers, in duplicate form, at the end of the race event. Drivers will be notified of such offenses via one-way radio or by a VRA official at the end of their event. The driver is required to stay until the end of the race event to speak with the Director of Competition and sign their violation form. If the driver does not stay until the end of the race event, they shall be suspended for one race immediately following this race event.

3. SAFETY REGULATIONS

The following is required in all VRA Classes:

- 3.1 All cars are subject to safety inspection at any time before taking part in a sanctioned race meet, speed trial or special tests, or at discretion of VRA officials.
- 3.2 No driver shall compete in any event with head or arm extended outside of race car. Failure to comply will result in immediate black flag and removal from race.
- 3.3 No race, time trial or warm-up shall be started unless the following equipment is on the premises:
 - A. An ambulance and attendant whose minimum requirements shall be having:
satisfactory completed an accredited First Aid course such as the one given by the Red Cross.
 - B. Carbon dioxide and/or dry powder by extinguishers or a fire truck.
- 3.4 Cars may have one or two seats. Both seats must meet all VRA seat and seatbelt rules. If a car has two seats, both left and right windows must have VRA approved window nets, properly installed. No one may ride on the outside of a vehicle at anytime when it is being moved on the track or in the pit or parking area.
- 3.5 All stock cars must be equipped with an approved type fire extinguisher with visual gauge mounted on an approved metal bracket, within reach of the driver. No tape will be used to connect or hold fire extinguisher in place. The extinguisher must be certified as in proper working order prior to the first race that a car participates in each season. Date must be within one year of initial tech for season. An additional fire extinguisher shall be included in the pit equipment of each car.
- 3.6 Arm restraints are mandatory and must be properly worn at all times the car is on the track, except Hobby Stocks.
- 3.7 Suggested roll bar design is located on technical illustration page.
- 3.8 Only approved ventilated gasoline cans, equipped with a flexible filter nozzle and/or tube will be permitted.
- 3.9 Use of two (2) gasoline cans at the same time while refueling will not be permitted. Violation will mean instant disqualification.
- 3.10 All gasoline in the pit area must be stored in fire department approved safety containers.
- 3.11 Not more than 20 gallons of gasoline per car will be allowed in any one pit at any time.
- 3.12 No string type window nets allowed. Nets must be of top release design. See diagram on technical illustration page
- 3.13 No rags or any type tape are to be used on the motor, trans or rear end for the purpose of holding parts in place, stopping leaks, etc.
- 3.14 All hoods must be securely attached by hood pins. Cars with loose hoods may be removed from competition. Pins must be secured to the car by a cable.
- 3.15 All cars must begin each event with all body panels intact and securely fastened to the framework. No car may continue in any event without a hood, any door and roof intact. Other damaged panels missing will be at the discretion of VRA officials. Cars with hoods not properly attached or up must leave track for hood repairs.
- 3.16 No car may participate in any event with anything protruding from the normal lines of the car. (i.e., stuffed animals, antennas, signage, etc.) No flammable items may be attached to any car (stuffed animals, advertising or decoration). Decisions on this provision are final.
- 3.17 During any racing event, no car may leave the track and go to pit area for repairs. All work must be done in designated work area for that evening's events as discussed at drivers' meeting. Failure to comply will result in immediate suspension from event.
- 3.18 No wheels are allowed that do not meet the specifications and tolerance of the Tire and Rim Association. No lightweight wheels or oversized wheels which have an increased circumference of the bead flange will be allowed.
- 3.19 Items not covered in this section, are not considered legal by their omission. Any item not covered must be approved by VRA Officials prior to their implementation.

4. PIT PROCEDURES

- 4.1 Each officially entered race team is entitled to a pit space for the entire race meet. This space is your responsibility and will be occupied for the duration of the event. Any team needing to leave prior to the official end of the event is required to get permission from a race official. This is to protect you and your race equipment.

- 4.2 All divisions must have all tires and rims clearly marked with the car number for which they are being used. Teams must remove all used or damaged parts, used tires and other trash from their pit areas at the end of each event. This includes oil, gas or any other fluids. Failure to do so may result in a \$100.00 fine to that race team.
- 4.3 No dumping of oil, gas, or other fluids from cars on the Ventura County Fairgrounds.
- 4.4 Teams must be responsible to move out their cars and equipment in an orderly manner as soon as possible at the end of each event. Do not block entries or exits.

5. INSPECTIONS

- 5.1 The method and type of car inspection and number of cars to be inspected at any VRA race meet or event will be determined by VRA Race and Technical Director.
- 5.2 VRA, its officers or officials, assume no responsibility for impounded cars.
- 5.3 VRA reserves the right to limit personnel admittance to any car or garage in which inspections are being made; and the VRA Chief Inspector has the right to limit the attendance to only the VRA inspectors and two mechanics assigned to handle the work necessary to prepare the car for the inspection.
- 5.4 VRA reserves the right to confiscate and hold any parts and/or equipment not conforming to the rules. All cars are subject to a total tear down at discretion of VRA Race Director.
- 5.5 No equipment or part shall be considered legal because it went through technical inspection unobserved or because a rule has not been written against it. Anything not covered in this rule book is still subject to VRA approval.
- 5.6 If you wish to obtain VRA approval, the part must be submitted to the technical director, director of competition, or to the VRA office in advance of the beginning of its usage. Approval will not be given for a part that is already on the car and brought through the inspection line the day of an event.
- 5.7 VRA reserves the right to subject any car to a mechanical inspection at the discretion of VRA official in charge. It shall be the responsibility of the driver or car owner to tear down a car for inspection when requested to do so by the VRA official in charge. Failure to comply will result in disqualification of driver and car. It will be the responsibility of the car owner or driver to have no more than two persons in the impound area.
- 5.8 At the conclusion of each VRA heat race, semi main and feature event, the top four cars and drivers, in each class, shall report directly to the designated, technical inspection area for post race inspection. Any car and driver not going directly to the inspection area shall be disqualified. No car may leave the racing premises until the VRA official in charge allows the pit area to be open for car removal. Failure to comply with this rule shall lead to disqualification.
- 5.9 Any car not conforming to VRA rules and regulations, the owner and driver are subject to the following:
 - A. First offense:
 - 1. Loss of all points and money won for that night's events.
 - 2. Owner and driver may receive a one race suspension from all VRA events, at discretion of VRA Race Director.
 - B. Second offense:
 - 1. Loss of all points and money won for that night's event.
 - 2. Mandatory two race suspension of owner and driver from any VRA event.
 - 3. A 200 point deduction from previously earned VRA season points.
 - 4. The owner must post a \$100.00 bond prior to the car being allowed to race.
 - C. Third offense:
 - 1. Forfeit all points and money won for that night's event.
 - 2. Forfeit all earned VRA season points.
 - 3. Mandatory four race suspension of owner and driver from any VRA event.
 - 4. Forfeit of a \$100.00 bond from second offense.
 - 5. The owner must post a \$500 bond prior to returning to VRA competition.
 - 6. The car must pass a complete VRA technical inspection prior to the car returning to race in any VRA sanctioned event in the future. This inspection will be done at the convenience of the VRA Technical Officials and will require a fee to be paid for its carrying out.

- 5.10 Any driver/owner who refuses to take his/her car to post race tech inspection shall, on the first occurrence, receive the same penalty as if it were their second non-conforming offense. If this is repeated a second time, the car and driver shall receive the same penalty as if it were their third non-pass offense.
- 5.11 Any VRA driver or car owner may appeal a tech or protest decision. Protest must be filed on the proper VRA Appeal Form, available at pit office. It must state clearly why a consideration should be granted. All items of the form pertaining to the appeal must be filled out completely. It must be received by the Director of Competition within three days of the event for which the decision being appealed was made. Form must be submitted to VRA Director of Competition in person or by registered mail postmarked within the three day time limit.
- 5.12 Any car that is disqualified from a VRA event, after any post race technical inspection, or protest, must pass a pre-race technical inspection for the same item that the car was disqualified for, prior to being allowed to resume competition. This tech inspection must take place between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on the next race date that the car is entered in to compete. Failure to comply with this requirement will cause the car to not be allowed to compete. If requested, the car may be checked prior to the event by a VRA Tech Official. The time and place for this check is at the discretion of the official who will conduct the inspection on the car. If no acceptable time can be arranged, the inspection must take place at the track, as previously stated.

6. RACE PROCEDURE

- 6.1 No driver may enter more than one car per division per race event, and no car may be used by more than one driver per division. Mechanics, pit crew, owners, or friends of owners may not drive unless they are registered as VRA driver members. General members must pay the added driver fee prior to their driving any car on the track.
- 6.2 Any car may be driven in any race for which it has qualified within its division by any eligible driver. Driver change will result in the car starting at rear of field. (Drivers become eligible to race through a process of heat race and semi main events leading up to the main event. Any driver who is eligible for the main event based upon their heat race and semi main event finishes may change cars should their primary car become unable to compete. The car that they change to must be a VRA registered car, gone through and passed tech inspection for the night the change takes place. An ineligible driver may not move into the main event by taking over an eligible driver's car by going around drivers that are ahead of him in the non-transferred order, based upon their finish order in a semi main event. In order for a driver to take over an eligible driver's car they must be the next driver in line based upon the finishing order of the semi main event.)
- 6.3 A handicap system will be used for lining up all VRA heat races, semi mains and main events.
 - A. Handicaps will be determined by a qualifying system that will be outlined in a your procedural handout.
 - C. In all VRA Classes, if a driver, who has qualified for the main event, is not able to start the race, an alternate driver will be added from the drivers who did not transfer from the semi main event. This will be done prior to the first green flag start of the main event.
 - D. In all VRA classes, a driver who has earned Rookie Contender status will be allowed to start heat races, semi main and main events in their earned position. Rookie Contender status is granted by the VRA Director of Competition. It is not based upon a number of races completed, rather on the observed ability of the rookie driver to compete with veteran drivers in a positive manner.
- 6.4 All drivers must be on time to compete in the events for which they are scheduled. Any driver not ready to compete when called will be placed at the rear of the race line-up; changed to a later race; or left out of the remainder of the day's racing at the discretion of the VRA Race Director.
- 6.5 Once the field is lined up and the starter signals the drivers to be ready, preliminary laps may be set at the discretion of the starter, who will then start the race. Any car leaving the race track after the start of the preliminary laps and prior to taking the green flag will be allowed to compete only if they present themselves at the track entrance, ready to race, while the track entrance is still considered open, prior to the field taking the green flag for the start of the race. Those cars so doing will be allowed to start the race at the rear of the field. Cars not ready to enter the field before the track entrance is considered closed, may not compete. In the event of a total restart, the track will re-open to those cars ready to enter the track prior to the re-closing of the track entrance before the field takes the green flag. No car will be able to enter the field during a race if they do not take part in the first, official, green flag