

TIME TRIALS BOARD

TTB Meeting Minutes – Fall 2021

The SCCA Time Trials Board (TTB) met by a series of emails throughout the fall of 2021. Involved in the messages were staff members Jon Krolewicz, John Hunter, and Heyward Wagner; SCCA BOD Members Charlie Davis and Jeff Zurschmeide, members-at-large Kathy Barnes, Bob Tunnell and Lee Hill, and tech advisor Randall Prince.

The TTB discussed various rule clarifications, part approvals, a national appeal process and procedural changes for Track Event and Time Trials Administration policies. Per the two-year rules freeze, there are no expected changes to competition rules this year.

The TTB would like to pass on their condolences to the family and friends of Matthew Yip – long time SCCA Time Trials supporter, competitor and NEDIV administrator. Matt passed away after a battle with a long illness in November 2021. Matt's contributions to the SCCA Track Events and Time Trials programs will be greatly missed.

Member Advisories

- **BS helmets**
British Spec Helmets BS6658-85 type A are no longer accepted in Time Trials or Track Events.
- **ECE Helmets**
ECE 22.05 and R22.05 will be accepted until 12/31/22 but will not be accepted after that date. Following that date, ECE helmet standards will no longer be accepted.
- **Sanctioning Process**
There are substantial changes to the requirements for the Track Event and Time Trials Sanctioning process for 2022. In summary, the requirements for a specific "Supplemental Regulations" and "Schedule" have been dropped – Region Leaders will no longer have to produce those documents and upload them to be approved. In its place, there is now a requirement for an online event page to hold all event information, and that page will need to be approved before sanction will be issued.

Part Approval Requests

Not Approved

- **Sport Category – LG Motorsports Sport Shocks** – the TTB declined to add these to the alternate approved shocks list because they are outside of the design philosophy for Sport Category.
- **Sport Category – MCS/Motion Control Dampers** - the TTB declined to add these to the alternate approved shocks list because they are outside of the design philosophy for Sport Category.
- **Sport Category – Karcepts Sway Bars** - the TTB continues to decline these to the alternate approved sway bar list because they are outside of the design philosophy for Sport Category. Participants are reminded that they may be run if the car is otherwise legal for SCCA Street Class Autocross – but rules may not be mixed and matched.

Approved

- **Sport Category – Whiteline Sway Bars** – the TTB feels that these do meet the criteria and intent for allowed sway bars and so they have been added to the alternate approved sway bar list.
- **Sport Category – JHP Spring Kits for Pontiac GTO** – the TTB feels that these do meet the criteria and intent for allowed springs and so they have been added to the alternate approved springs list.
- **Sport Category – Lovells Springs for Pontiac GTO** – the TTB feels that these do meet the criteria and intent for allowed springs and so they have been added to the alternate approved springs list.

Classed Cars

The following cars were submitted for a National Competition Sport/Tuner Category Classing

There is no new car classing to announce at this time.

Max Category

The TTB is adding an “alternate motorsports series classing” section to the Max Category in order to allow some vehicles which might have specific allowances outside of Max Category, but the TTB feels fit in the category otherwise. With that in mind, the following alternate series vehicles will be permitted to run in Max Category:

1. Cars listed as eligible in and prepared to SCCA **Solo CAM** and **SCCA Solo XS** Rules are permitted to compete in their respective Time Trials Max Category classes. Vehicles with this allowance are not permitted to interchange preparation Rules otherwise.

Technical Bulletins

Tuner Category Bodywork 2.2.6

The Time Trials Board received a request asking if a specific “diffuser” (<https://www.ecstuning.com/b-ecs-parts/mk75-golf-r-abs-rear-diffuser/027992ecs01kt/>) is OK under the allowance in Tuner Category 2.2.6. Bodywork which says:

“Commercially available bodywork cladding, molding, trim, accessories, lights and other appearance modifications including flexible “chin lips,” which have little or no effect on performance and/or handling and do not materially reduce the weight of the car are permitted. The addition of small holes for attachment hardware for cosmetic modifications is implicit (e.g., holes for fasteners to mount side skirts).

When the part is researched, it is mass produced and the subheading says, “Add aggressive styling” and the full description says, “**Upgrade the exterior styling** on your 2018+ Volkswagen MK7.5 Golf R with our ECS Tuning Gloss Black Rear Diffuser. An exclusive design only available through ECS Tuning, our rear diffuser will **be sure to catch attention and turn heads!** Featuring a deep profile, an aggressive vein design and extending the entire width of the rear bumper to **maximize its aggressive appearance**, it will **be sure to turn heads!** Make a bold statement **and let your VW stand out** with our Gloss Black Diffuser!”

The bolded has been added to show that there are not only no claims about performance, but they also go out of their way to be redundant about this being a visual styling modification.

The TTB believes this is exactly the kind of item we had in mind when we wrote the allowance, and it is compliant in Tuner Category. It is commercially available, fits without drilling/modifying the car, doesn't reduce weight, is sold as visual and not performance enhancing.

While the TTB won't create a list of approved parts, Event Officials should use this decision as a guideline for determining compliant parts when they show up at events.

Sport Category Overview – General Modification Rules 1.4.F

The Time Trials Board received a request asking if skid plates designed to protect the oil pan would be allowed. After much debate, it was determined that these parts would fit under 1.4.F which states:

"Items which do not require the modification or replacement of existing parts and do not increase the peak performance of the vehicle are permitted. (E.g., a turbo or alternator blanket.)"

It's cautioned that participants must also note that no part may serve a non-compliant purpose. With that in mind, adding excessive bracing to a car and calling it a skid plate, or tying the skid plate into aero devices resulting in their improvement would be prohibited.

Rule Changes

The following changes go into effect 1/1/2021

Though the TTB strongly urges all programs to settle matters first by collaborative discussion, governed by the standards of good sense and common decency, should those fail, we offer plan B.

This starts with the rules for National Events, which regions are not obligated to but may use, and then does go into the Rules for Organizers, which regions are obligated to.

While we want to leave these processes open so that regions may use the processes which fit their local market the best, there do need to be some controls on how any decision may affect a participant when they venture outside of that Region. For regions, processes will be recommended, but regions shall not issue any fines, may not suspend licenses, and any decision which denies future participation shall trigger an automatic review by the TTB.

NATIONAL RULES – PROTESTS, APPEALS and PENALTIES

1. RULES COMPLIANCE QUERY

Instead of a "Protest" Competitors with a question or concern about another competitor's vehicle or behavior may file a "Compliance Query" to the Competition Director, in writing. The Competition Director or designated official or compliance committee will determine the answer to the question as soon as possible and before official results are posted.

1. Who may file a Compliance Query.

- A.** Event officials.
- B.** Competitors.

2. What must be included in a Compliance Query

- A.** The question about compliance and rules area covering the item in as much detail as possible.
- B.** The name or names of questioner or group of questioners.
- C.** Query fee, if applicable.

3. Query Fees

- A.** There is no fee for Compliance Queries asked through the end of lunch break on the penultimate day of competition. (E.g., Saturday of a Saturday/Sunday or Friday-Saturday-Sunday competition).
- B.** Compliance Queries after the end of lunch through the end of competition on Saturday require a fee of \$100.
- C.** Compliance Queries asked on the final day of competition will require a fee of \$500.
- D.** Compliance Queries filed by event officials shall have the fee waived.
- E.** Event lead or Competition Director reserves the right to waive fee.
- F.** Reasonable queries will have question fee returned.
- G.** A query should be filed as soon as there is a question raised and shall not be filed after the vehicle/driver has finished their final competition run or released from impound – whichever comes last.

4. Query Committee

The query committee should be made up of the following

A. The Event Lead(s)

B. The Competition Director(s)

C. The official(s) with the closest tie to the subject of the query. (I.e., the chief of tech for a technical compliance issue, driver coach(s) for an on-track procedure issue.)

2. Non-Compliance

If a competitor or vehicle is determined to be non-compliant the following are the series of actions which may be taken. **Penalties may be combined.**

1. Coaching.

2. Penalty including (but not limited to): Time penalty, Loss of fastest lap(s) or run(s); Position.

3. Reclassification.

4. Disqualification.

5. Recommendation to the TTB for a Monetary Fine.

6. Recommendation to the TTB for exclusion from program for up to one year.

3. Appeals

Generally, participants should be able to have an appeal heard when new evidence is found or it is believed there may have been misapplication of rules. The following applies to National Event Appeals.

1. National Event result appeals will generally not be heard.

2. National Event decisions concerning technical or procedural compliance may be appealed for future clarification by sending an email to timetrials@scca.com with the facts of the case within 14 days of the event.

3. TTB is not required to review or hear any appeal.
4. If a National Event Query Committee feels that a participant should be excluded from future events or receive a monetary fine, that decision shall be elevated to the TTB for the final decision. *(The thought here is that a decision with the gravity of fines or exclusion should only be taken by the full TTB, with time to digest following the event. This holds National Events to the same standard as Regions when it comes to denying participation.)*
5. National Appeals should be heard within 45 Days of the Appeal or Recommendation of fine/exclusion being received.

SCCA TIME TRIALS EVENT GUIDELINES

5. RULES COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

5.1. Protests

It's suggested that any Regional Time Trials event follow the National Query process for questions arising about compliance. A committee of the Event Lead(s), Competition Director(s) and the person closest to the situation (E.g., Chief of Tech for technical rules, Driver Coach for on-track rules) should make up the Query Committee.

5.1.1. For regions using another program's protest process (e.g. from Solo, Road Racing, etc.) the Event Information must include that the other program's appeal process shall not be used, even if said process is outlined in the other program's rules.

5.1.2. Fines or punishments involving revocation of a license may not be issued by regions.

5.1.3. If a decision results in an entrant being barred from participation with the region, the decision must be noted in the Event Report and followed with a specific email to timetrials@scca.com describing the issues, contact information for the people involved, and the decision.

5.1.4. Unless there is a collaborative region series (e.g., Divisional points series) decisions resulting in exclusion from participation may not extend to other events.

5.2. Appeals

The TTB will act as the National Appeals Board for any decision resulting from a Time Trials Query. For those wishing to have a decision reviewed, an email should be sent to timetrails@scca.com within 14 days of the event.

5.2.1. The TTB is not required to review or hear any appeal which only affects event results.

5.2.2. The TTB shall automatically review any decision which results in a participant being denied the ability to enter an event.

5.2.3. The Appeal shall be heard within 45 days of being received, and participants will be notified of the decision within seven days of that decision.

In addition to needed changes to rule compliance, the TTB has made the decision to adjust the sanctioning process and requirements.

The previous requirements for SCCA sanction were based on the time period when entries were mailed out, and to make sure that potential entries were getting the appropriate event information, the SCCA set specific requirements for the Entry Form, the Schedule and the “Supplementary Regulations” and each of these had to be reviewed in order for an event to be sanctioned.

Now, event information is online with Event Pages and online registration, so the requirement of specific documents which mirrored the period when entries were mailed creates redundant work for region officials and a greater chance for misinformation and contradictory information to exist.

To reduce those negatives, the TTB has decided to drop the requirements for text-style documents such as word or PDFs to be produced for sanctioning and modernize the event information quality-control which was the original purpose.

Now, to get sanctioning for a Track or Time Trials event, the requirement is to have an event page with a schedule and any event-specific rules so that participants can enter with confidence and a single source of event information. Full wording is below.

ADMIN PROCEDURES

1.3. Sanction Requirements

A Sanction is the documentary authority, granted by SCCA, to organize and hold a Time Trials Event. An SCCA sanctioned event may be organized by the SCCA or an SCCA Region or Regions.

1.3.1. Every SCCA Sanction application shall be submitted in the **Online Sanctioning Portal** ~~current SCCA Sanction and Insurance~~ and include a link to the completed Event Page (2.1).
~~accompanied by drafts of the:~~

A. ~~Supplementary Regulations.~~ Sanction should be issued before Event Registration is opened.

B. ~~Schedule of Events.~~ The Course shall be approved by the SCCA and reviews shall be up to date.

1.3.2. Applications should be submitted for approval at least 90 days prior to the scheduled date of the event and must be submitted for approval at least 45 days prior to the scheduled date of the event.

A) Sanction applications submitted within 45 days of the event may be charged a late fee of \$250.

B) If the course is not approved by the SCCA:

1. The Sanction application should be submitted at least 100 days before the proposed event and shall be submitted at least sixty (60) days before the proposed event.

2. Sanction application shall be accompanied by a full description of the course and facilities, including a scale map.

2.1. ~~Supplementary Regulations~~ Event Page

The ~~Supplementary Regulations~~ Event Page describes the pertinent information about the event, who to contact with questions and a way to register. ~~establish the specific conditions for an event for competitors and officials.~~

2.1.1. An SCCA Time Trials Divisional Administrator and SCCA Staff Designate shall approve the Supplementary Regulations **Event Page** prior to a Sanction number being issued.

2.1.2. ~~They~~ **The Event Page** shall contain the following information:

A. The name, location, dates, nature, classification **and complete description of the event.**

B. The Sanction number and type of Sanction for the event.

C. An announcement conspicuously placed: "Held under the SCCA Time Trials Rules."

D. The name and contact information ~~of the organizers~~ **of officials who can answer questions and support event registration.**

E. The names of the Event Lead, **Competition Director, Safety Steward and Driver Coach(s).**

~~**F.** A complete description of the proposed event.~~

F. **The event schedule.** ~~Times and locations of any mandatory meetings, such as Novice, Drivers', Officials', etc.~~

~~**H.** Times and locations of activities and inspections.~~

~~**G.** The name and address of the Ambassador or other person to whom the entry is to be sent, and Amount of entry fee(s), entry deadlines/cost adjustments, how to pay/what methods are accepted, any refund policy and who to contact for entry changes.~~

H. Any rules which are in addition to the Time Trials Rules, known as "Event Rules". (E.g., increased safety, adjusted/alternate procedures.)

1. Minimum safety standards may not be set below what is outlined in these rules, even if the event or vehicle does not require specific minimum standards. (e.g., If a region decides that Sport Category cars must run roll bars for a specific event, those roll bar construction requirements and material minimums shall not be less than the specifications set forth in the SCCA Time Trials Rules.)

I. Any track-specific rules. (E.g., camping rules, parking rules, gate hours, etc.)

J. All other information necessary for the proper conduct of the event.

~~2.1.3. Supplemental Regulations may not set minimum safety standards below what is outlined in these rules, even if the event or vehicle does not require specific minimum standards. (e.g., If a region decides that Sport Category cars must run roll bars for a specific event, those roll bar construction requirements and material minimums shall not be less than the specifications set forth in the SCCA Time Trials Rules.)~~

2.1.3. After event registration is open, changes to the Event Page and the information contained therein should be avoided. If changes are necessary for ~~No changes should be made to the Supplementary Regulations, except for the schedule, event officials and/or class groupings after the beginning of the period for receiving entries unless the Event Lead so decides for reasons of safety or forces beyond~~ **the his or her control of event organizers, all registered participants should be notified of those changes as soon as reasonable. If those changes prevent an entrant from participating, a full refund should be issued to that participant.**

2.2. Entry Forms

Entry Forms shall contain the following:

- A.** Full names, addresses, membership numbers, Region of Record, and license of entrants and drivers.
- B.** Full description of cars to be entered (year, make, model, trim level).
- C.** The physical ability statement, "I certify I have the ability to handle the physical and mental demands of competition for the length of a session for each session of the event." The page describing the requirements can be found [HERE](#), and should be linked whenever possible.
- D.** Signatures or digital agreements of entrants and drivers for Waiver of Liability and/or indemnity declarations, acknowledgment of the authority of the TTR, declaration that cars entered comply with the provisions of the Time Trials Rules.
- E.** Sanction Number assigned to the event (a placeholder may be put here before sanction is issued; e.g., xxx-xx-xxx.).
- F.** Emergency contact information for the driver **must be included with the entry.**
- G.** A question asking entrants where they heard about the event.

1. Responses to the question shall include:

- a) SCCA.com
- b) SCCA Region website
- c) Search Engine (i.e., google, bing)
- d) Facebook post/group
- e) Facebook Ads
- f) Instagram post/story
- g) Instagram Ads
- h) Other social media
- i) Word of mouth (friends/family)
- j) Email
- k) Time Trials Partner
- l) From a track
- m) Other

H. Any other information required for the clarification of all other details of the event

2.4 Schedules

A. Event Schedules shall include the following information:

~~1. The Event Sanction Number.~~

~~B. The name of the organizer (e.g., Region).~~

~~C. Name, location and date of event.~~

2. Schedule of planned groups. (Entrants should be able to see how much time/how many runs they are scheduled to receive.)

3. Times and locations of mandatory meetings, such as Drivers' Meeting, novice classrooms and novice debriefs.

4. ~~Classes of cars and~~ Run groupings (E.g., by class, experience level, etc.)

B. If the Event Schedule is separate from the event page (i.e., a downloadable document) not included on the event page, it shall also include this additional information:

1. Name, location and date of event.

2. The Event Sanction Number.

3. The name of the organizer (e.g., Region).

For Member Comment:

There are no items out for comment at this time.

Class Changes

There are no proposed class changes at this time.

Rules Changes

There are no proposed rule changes at this time.