



NOVICE RULES AND PROCEDURES

Sec. 1 PURPOSE

- 1 The fundamental purpose of the Novice Class is to train new drivers so that they understand the basic racing rules and so that they are able to handle themselves and their cars in a safe manner on the track. It is not intended that the Novice Class be utilized to perfect racing abilities or techniques. Extended competitive racing in the Novice Class once the fundamentals are attained is not to be allowed.
- 2 To regulate and unify the novice training and racing program, these rules and regulations, as approved by the Regional Director, will be adhered to by all drivers, handlers, and member Clubs of Quarter Midgets of America.
- 3 Any changes, additions and deletions to these rules and regulations will be enacted by the Regional Directors. Any temporary deviations from established rules must be approved by the Regional Director concerned before implementation of such changes by any Club.
- 4 The Regional Director will supervise the novice training and racing program in his/her region.

Sec. 2 NOVICE CLASS – DRIVERS AND HANDLERS

- 1 The minimum age for novice students shall be five years for racing and four and one half years for practice and training only. (4 1/2 year olds may not practice or train during an event)
- 2 Each Novice handler, upon joining a club shall present the drivers birth certificate to the Secretary of the club and the "official age" of the driver shall be entered in the permanent records of the club. Copies of these records shall be forwarded to the QMA National Office and the Regional Director.
- 3 In an effort to obtain the greatest benefit from participation in organized Quarter Midget racing, Novice handlers should read Article 3, Sec 2 of this rulebook, entitled "Novice Program Committee".
- 4 The Club President will receive from the National Office an orange novice drivers card and a log book. The President will issue the log book and an orange Novice Driver's Card good for a period of three months, only for drivers six years old or older. Once they graduate from novice, they will be mailed from the National Office their drivers purple card.
- 4.A Drivers not yet six will be issued a Novice Card good until their sixth birthday plus three months.
4. B The driver's age will be entered on the Novice Card.
4. C Extensions of the Novice Card shall only be granted when the handler has completed a Novice Extension Form and it has been approved by a signature from their Novice Director, their Club President, and their Regional Director. Any novice extension forms that are approved must be forwarded to the National Office by the Regional Director.
4. C (1) Extensions will be for no more than two months at a time, if needed.

4. D Novice parents will receive from the National office, their picture ID badges, a rulebook and a novice procedure guidelines. The novice drivers will receive a welcome coloring book.
- 5 A driver may be moved to the Super Stock/Honda 120 class at any time if in the opinion of the Novice Committee the driver is qualified.
- 6 It is required that all Novice Drivers have a QMA official Driver's logbook.
6. A The logbook and Novice Driver's card are to be presented to sign-in booth when signing in on race day.
6. B Entries will be made in the Novice logbook, such as qualifying time, main or semi race, start and finish position in race. The log book will be returned to the Handler by the Novice Committee after comments have been made and initialed.
6. C False or unauthorized entries in the logbook or on the Novice Card will be cause for a 90-day suspension from all QMA tracks.
- 7 A duplicate of any lost logbook must be obtained from the Club Secretary. Record of past races to be reconstructed in replacement log books from Club Master Records.

Sec. 3 NOVICE TRAINING

- 1 Completion of Novice Training, given by a competent instructor, is mandatory for all new drivers of member Associations of Quarter Midgets of America. Minor changes may be made to training outline to conform to local conditions; however, the reason for all changes must be submitted to the Regional Director without delay.
1. A Any driver not trained by a Club-designated trainer must pass a test given by his local Club novice instructor before he enters into the Novice Class.
- 2 The Novice driver must be covered by QMA insurance during training periods.

Sec. 4 RACING

- 1 The Novice Class will be a recognized class by QMA and will run under the Super Stock/Honda 120 engine rules at all QMA races.
- 2 The Novice Class shall be divided into the Junior and Senior divisions only, which may be combined if necessary to make a class and will use a Honda or Stock engine only.
- 3 The Novice program and its implementation fall under the Regional Director's authority. Therefore, illegal Honda engine parts will be confiscated but the suspension will not be levied against handlers or drivers for the first offense only. 2nd Offense follows the Honda Suspension, 30 days suspended in Novice.
3. A Any alteration to Jr. or Sr. Novice Restrictor Plates – 1st Offense automatic 30 day suspension. 2nd offense will be 1 year suspension.
- 3.B All other QMA rules and penalties apply to the novice class.
- 4 Novice Class participants will be required to install a restrictor plate on their carburetor per Article 10, "restrictor plate program".
4. A A Club may have the option to remove the restrictor plate, to create a Super-Stock/Honda 120 spec novice division, for non-qualifying events only, for transitional period of two to three events prior to moving the drivers to the Super Stock/Honda 120 class. Junior Novice to Junior Honda Plate and Senior Novice to Senior Honda. See table Chart Page 26 5-1. Senior Novice unrestricted weight 275.
- 5 For safety reasons, no more than eight cars may be entered in any Novice race.

- 6 One Safety Man shall be present on each corner for every Novice race.
- 7 During the Novice race, if a driver makes an infraction of a racing rule and the judges call it, the race will be stopped. The driver will be put to the back of the restart lineup, not given a black flag. An explanation will be given to the driver of what he did wrong and why it should not be done.
- 7.A If the same driver makes a second infraction, he is out of the race.
- 8 On the first day of Novice competition, the driver shall be entered in all races at the back of the lineup of the race for which he has qualified regardless of qualifying position.
- 9 Infractions such as liberating fluids, dropping safety parts (as per judging rules), etc., are not driving infractions and drivers should not be given a second chance before disqualification. These infractions as always would result in immediate disqualification. The second time violation for disqualification relates only to driving offenses, such as chopping, charging, racing room and flagrant (obvious) violations.

Sec. 5 NOVICE GRANDS

- 1 A Novice driver may run the Grands exhibition events for ONE year only (i.e., East, West, and Dirt).
- 2 In order to participate at the National Championship Exhibition a Novice must meet all of the qualification requirements specified for all other classes. These requirements are specified in this rulebook.
- 2.A Novices who want to race a Super Stock/Honda 120 class at a Grand National Event MUST qualify at a State Race event as a novice or in a Super Stock/Honda 120 class, in order to race a Super Stock/Honda 120 class at a Grand National Event.
- 2.B A driver graduating from Novice must race one club race in Super Stock/Honda 120 class before competing at a Grands National Event in that class.
- 2.C EXCEPTION: If a new Novice family joins the Club after the State Race Event, the driver(s) will be allowed to participate at the National Grands as an Exhibition only. A Novice Driver may not race as a Novice at the National Exhibition level for more than one season.
- 3 Novices at the Grands:
 - 3.A Exhibition events only
 3. B Minimum one practice session
 3. C No qualifying
 3. D Line up drawn by number
 3. E All participants to receive equal awards, preferably trophies.
 3. F Practice and racing on same day (to be designated on each Grands schedule).
 3. G Registration fee for Novices at Grands is \$10.00.

Sec. 6 GRADUATION OF NOVICE DRIVERS

- 1 The Novice Class is the "learning" class and, as soon as possible the Novice driver shall be moved to the Stock/Honda classes in order to avoid "professional" Novice drivers.
- 2 A Novice driver must participate in at least three events before graduating to a competitive (Stock/Honda) class.
- 3 It is suggested that the Novice Committee (to be discussed on the next subject) hold a small ceremony to make the advancement of a driver into the Stock/Honda Classes.
- 4 At graduation (QMA Home Club) the driver's logbook shall be validated and the Novice Card shall have written on it (in ink) the date of graduation.
4. A The Regional Director shall be notified of all graduating Novices by their Club President.

The Regional Director will then notify the National Office and a Purple Driver's Card will be issued by the National Office to the driver and sent to the family.

4. B The validated Novice Card will be accepted in Stock and Honda classes until a new purple card is sent by the National Office to the driver.
- 5 On the first day of competition in the Super Stock/Honda 120 class, the new driver shall be entered in all races at the back of the pack for which they qualified, regardless of qualifying position.
- 6 All graduating novice drivers shall be on probation for three events and will not be allowed to compete in the Modified Class until he has participated in three Super Stock/Honda 120 events to acquire the necessary experience involved in handling a car in the Modified class.
- 6A A Novice must race one club race in Super Stock/Honda 120 class before competing at a Grand National Event in the Stock/Honda Class.
- 7 Once a Novice is graduated to Super Stock/Honda 120 and completes his/her probationary period, they may not be returned to the Novice class for any reason.
- 7A If there is a lapse in the participation of a driver, they may be moved back to Novice for a trial period if Club Novice Committee feels it necessary.