



## 2023 Improved Production Nationals Sporting Regulations



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A capitalised and italicised word in this document is defined in the FIA International Sporting Code (*Code*) or the National Competition Rules (*NCR*), including their Appendices.

Any HEADING is for reference only and has no regulatory effect.

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# 2023 Improved Production Nationals

## Sporting Regulations

### S1 TITLE AND JURISDICTION

#### S1.1 Title

This *Competition* will only be known as and referred to as the “2023 Improved Production Nationals”.

#### S1.2 Authority/Jurisdiction

1.2.1 The 2023 Improved Production Nationals (*Nationals*) will be held under the FIA International Sporting Code including Appendices, the National Competition Rules (*NCR*) and the Circuit Race Standing Regulations (*CRSR*) of *Motorsport Australia*, the Sporting Regulations published for the *Nationals*, the *Supplementary Regulations* and Further *Supplementary Regulations* issued by the *Organiser*, Bulletins issued by the Stewards, and any Driver Briefing Notes and instructions issued by the Clerk of the Course at the *Event*.

1.2.2 The *Nationals* has been sanctioned by *Motorsport Australia* as a single event *Nationals Competition*.

1.2.3 The National Administrator (*NA*) for Improved Production Racing is:

Brett Watters

Improved Production Racing Association of Australia (IPRAA)

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### S2 COMPETITOR/DRIVER ELIGIBILITY

#### S2.1 General

2.1.1 To be eligible to compete in the *Nationals*, each *Competitor* and *Driver* must hold a current Motorsport Australia Competition Licence and be a current financial member of a Motorsport Australia IPRA affiliated club.

2.1.2 Each *Driver* must comply with the following minimum licence and age requirements of the General Appendix – Competition Licences of the *Motorsport Australia Manual*:

2.1.2.1 Motorsport Australia Circuit Licence with Provisional endorsement for an *Automobile* with a weight/power ratio of more than 3.5 kg/kW;

2.1.2.2 Motorsport Australia Circuit Licence without Provisional endorsement for an *Automobile* with a weight/power ratio of less than 3.5 kg/kW;

2.1.2.3 15 years for an *Automobile* with a weight/power ratio of more than 5.0 kg/kW;

2.1.2.4 16 years for an *Automobile* with a weight/power ratio between 3.5 and 5.0 kg/kW;

2.1.2.5 17 years for an *Automobile* with a weight/power ratio of less than 3.5 kg/kW.

#### S2.2 Substitute *Driver*

Prior to the commencement of the first qualifying session at the *Nationals*, a *Competitor* may nominate a substitute *Driver* who may be permitted to compete in the remainder of the *Event* subject to the approval of the Stewards.

### S3 AUTOMOBILE ELIGIBILITY

Each *Automobile* must comply with the requirements of the Circuit Race Appendix – Specifications of Automobiles - 3<sup>rd</sup> Category - Touring Cars - Group 3J - Improved Production Cars of the *Motorsport Australia Manual (Group 3J Technical Regulations)*.

#### S3.1 Replacement *Automobile*

- 3.1.1 Any *Automobile* that has been entered to compete at the *Nationals* may not be replaced with another *Automobile* following the commencement of the first qualifying session for that *Automobile*.
- 3.1.2 Prior to the commencement of an *Automobile*'s first qualifying session of the *Nationals*, a *Competitor* may nominate a substitute *Automobile* which may be permitted to compete in the remainder of the *Event* subject to the approval of the Stewards.

#### S3.2 *Automobile* Classes

- 3.2.1 In addition to the Capacity Classes listed in the *Group 3J Technical Regulations*, each *Automobile* will also be allocated to one of the following classes based on the effective capacity of its engine as defined in the *Group 3J Technical Regulations*:

- 3.2.1.1 Over 2 litre (O2L): 2001 cc and above
- 3.2.1.2 Under 2 litre (U2L): 0-2000 cc.

### S4 ROUNDS

The *Nationals* will be conducted over 1 round as detailed in the Calendar below.

### S5 CALENDAR

The *Nationals* will be contested over the following round:

| Date              | Circuit                                   |
|-------------------|---|
| 16 - 18 June 2023 | Sydney Motorsport Park<br>Gardner Circuit |

### S6 ROUND FORMAT

The number length and format of *Track* sessions will ultimately be negotiated between the National Administrator and the *Organiser* and will be advised in the *Supplementary Regulations / Further Supplementary Regulations* for the *Event*.

#### S6.1 Day 1 (Friday)

- 6.1.1 Practice Group 1 1 x 20-minute practice session
- 6.1.2 Practice Group 2 1 x 20-minute practice session
- 6.1.3 Practice Group 3 1 x 20-minute practice session
- 6.1.4 Practice Group 4 1 x 20-minute practice session
- 6.1.5 Qualifying 1 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for 'odd numbered' *Automobiles*
- 6.1.6 Qualifying 2 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for 'even numbered' *Automobiles*

## S6.2 Day 2 (Saturday)

- 6.2.1 Qualifying 3 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for the fastest 50% from Q1 & Q2
- 6.2.2 Qualifying 4 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for the slowest 50% from Q1 & Q2
- 6.2.3 Heat 1 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups A & B
- 6.2.4 Heat 2 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups C & D
- 6.2.5 Heat 3 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups A & C
- 6.2.6 Heat 4 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups B & D

## S6.3 Day 3 (Sunday)

- 6.3.1 Heat 5 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups B & C
- 6.3.2 Heat 6 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups A & D
- 6.3.3 Race 1 (**Nationals Final for U2L**) 1 x 14 lap race for U2L *Automobiles*
- 6.3.4 Race 2 (**Nationals Final for O2L**) 1 x 14 lap race for O2L *Automobiles*

## S6.4 Variation to Timetable

The timetable may be varied at any time due to exceptional circumstances only with the prior approval of the Stewards.

# S7 GRID DETERMINATION

## S7.1 Heats

7.1.1 Each *Automobile* will be allocated to one of 4 groups based on its fastest lap time in qualifying sessions Q1 to Q4.

7.1.1.1 “Qualifier 1” will be the *Automobile* that achieves the fastest lap time.

7.1.1.2 “Qualifier 2” will be the *Automobile* that achieves the second fastest lap time.

7.1.1.3 “Qualifier 3” will be the *Automobile* that achieves the third fastest lap time and so on until all groups are filled.

7.1.2 The group allocation will be as follows:

|         |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| Group A | Qualifiers 1, 5, 9, 13 etc  |
| Group B | Qualifiers 2, 6, 10, 14 etc |
| Group C | Qualifiers 3, 7, 11, 15 etc |
| Group D | Qualifiers 4, 8, 12, 16 etc |

Note: The number of groups may change depending on the number of entries.

7.1.3 The grid for each heat will be determined as follows:

7.1.3.1 **Heat 1 (Groups A&B):** The grid for Heat 1 will be determined from the fastest qualifying lap time of each *Automobile* in Groups A and B with the *Automobile* with the fastest lap time on grid position 1, second fastest lap time on grid position 2 and so on.

7.1.3.2 **Heat 2 (Groups C&D):** The grid for Heat 2 will be determined from the fastest qualifying lap time of each *Automobile* in Groups C and D with the *Automobile* with the fastest lap time on grid position 1, second fastest lap time on grid position 2 and so on.

- 7.1.3.3 **Heat 3 (Groups A&C):** The grid for Heat 3 will be determined from the points awarded to each *Automobile* from Groups A and C from Heats 1 and 2 with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, the second highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.
- 7.1.3.4 **Heat 4 (Groups B&D):** The grid for Heat 4 will be determined from the points awarded for each *Automobile* from Groups B and D from Heats 1 and 2 with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, the second highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.
- 7.1.3.5 **Heat 5 (Groups B&C):** The grid for Heat 5 will be determined from the accumulated points awarded to each *Automobile* from Groups B and C from Heats 1 to 4 with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, second highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.
- 7.1.3.6 **Heat 6 (Groups A&D):** The grid for Heat 6 will be determined from the accumulated points awarded to each *Automobile* from Groups A and D from Heats 1 to 4 with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, second highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.

#### **S7.2 Race 1 – U2L Final**

- 7.2.1 The grid for the U2L Final will be determined from accumulated points awarded to each U2L *Automobile* from Heats 1 to 6 with the highest U2L point scorer on grid position 1, the second highest U2L point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.
- 7.2.2 The grid for Race 1 will be limited to the track density and any remaining qualifiers after each grid position has been allocated will be eliminated.
- 7.2.3 The *Organiser* will publish a preliminary grid sheet for the U2L Final no less than 30 minutes prior to its scheduled start time.

#### **S7.3 Race 2 – O2L Final**

- 7.3.1 The grid for the O2L Final will be determined from accumulated points awarded to each O2L *Automobile* from Heats 1 to 6 with the highest O2L point scorer on grid position 1, the second highest O2L point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.
- 7.3.2 The grid for Race 2 will be limited to the track density and any remaining qualifiers after each grid position has been allocated will be eliminated.
- 7.3.3 The *Organiser* will publish a preliminary grid sheet for the O2L Final no less than 30 minutes prior to its scheduled start time.

#### **S7.4 Determining grid positions where points are tied**

If points are tied, grid positions will be determined by the higher finishing position in the previous heat. If this does not break the tie then the *Automobile* with the fastest qualifying lap time will be allocated the higher grid position.

## **S8 START PROCEDURE**

The *Start* procedure for each heat/race will be in accordance with Circuit Race Standing Regulations – Non Championship Standing Start.

## S9 AWARDS AND POINTSCORE

### S9.1 Prizes and Trophies

9.1.1 Trophies and/or prizes shall be awarded to:

9.1.1.1 1st, 2nd and 3rd U2L based on finishing order of the U2L Final

9.1.1.2 1st, 2nd and 3rd O2L based on finishing order of the O2L Final

9.1.1.3 1st, 2nd and 3rd of the following capacity classes based on the finishing order of the U2L and O2L Finals:

9.1.1.3.1 0-1600cc

9.1.1.3.2 1601-2000cc

9.1.1.3.3 2001-3000cc

9.1.1.3.4 3001-6000cc

9.1.1.3.5 6001 cc and over

9.1.2 No delineation between early and late models will be made.

### S9.2 Pointscore

9.2.1 Points will be awarded to *Drivers* based on the outright finishing order of each Heat as follows:

| Finishing Position | Points | Finishing Position | Points | Finishing Position | Points |
|--------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>    | 55     | 11 <sup>th</sup>   | 32     | 21 <sup>st</sup>   | 12     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>    | 50     | 12 <sup>th</sup>   | 30     | 22 <sup>nd</sup>   | 10     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>    | 48     | 13 <sup>th</sup>   | 28     | 23 <sup>rd</sup>   | 9      |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>    | 46     | 14 <sup>th</sup>   | 26     | 24 <sup>th</sup>   | 8      |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>    | 44     | 15 <sup>th</sup>   | 24     | 25 <sup>th</sup>   | 7      |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>    | 42     | 16 <sup>th</sup>   | 22     | 26 <sup>th</sup>   | 6      |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>    | 40     | 17 <sup>th</sup>   | 20     | 27 <sup>th</sup>   | 5      |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>    | 38     | 18 <sup>th</sup>   | 18     | 28 <sup>th</sup>   | 4      |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>    | 36     | 19 <sup>th</sup>   | 16     | 29 <sup>th</sup>   | 3      |
| 10 <sup>th</sup>   | 34     | 20 <sup>th</sup>   | 14     | 30 <sup>th</sup>   | 2      |

Every other finisher - 1 point.

9.2.2 Points for each heat will only be awarded to the *Driver* of each *Automobile* classified as a finisher in the final results of that heat.

9.2.3 If a heat is stopped before the completion of the allocated number of laps, run in two parts, restarted, or the result declared, the points awarded will be on the final result of that heat.

9.2.4 If a heat is cancelled, points are to be awarded as per the starting positions for that heat.

9.2.5 Points will only be used to determine grid positions for heats and races.

### S9.3 Nationals Winners

9.3.1 The winner of Race 1 will be declared the Under 2 Litre winner of the 2023 Improved Production Nationals.

9.3.2 The winner of Race 2 will be declared the Over 2 Litre winner of the 2023 Improved Production Nationals.

9.3.3 Each winner will be recognised equally in any publication.

## **S10 EVENT OPERATIONS**

### **S10.1 Qualifying**

10.1.1 Qualifying sessions 1 and 2 are to be conducted as two separate groups in consecutive sessions.

10.1.2 Qualifying sessions 3 and 4 are to be conducted as two separate groups in consecutive sessions.

### **S10.2 Heats**

10.2.1 Sufficient heats are to be scheduled to enable each *Driver* to compete against each other at least once.

10.2.2 Each round of heats are to be scheduled consecutively.

10.2.3 Points are awarded for outright finishing positions for each heat which are used to determine the grid positions in subsequent heats/races.

### **S10.3 Finals**

The Finals are the feature races of the *Nationals* and must allow for the maximum number of *Automobiles* permitted by the track density.

### **S10.4 Competition Numbers**

10.4.1 Each *Competitor* may include their preferred competition number on their Entry Form.

10.4.2 The National Administrator will have the final discretion as to the allocation of competition numbers.

10.4.3 Each *Competitor* will be advised of their *Automobile's* competition number as early as possible.

### **S10.5 Driver Briefings**

10.5.1 Each *Driver* must attend a compulsory briefing, at a time and location to be nominated in the event *Supplementary Regulations* or *Further Supplementary Regulations*.

10.5.2 Other compulsory briefings may be convened as required.

### **S10.6 Parc Fermé**

10.6.1 Each *Automobile* must return directly to the designated *Parc Fermé* area (or as directed by Officials) at the conclusion of each qualifying session, heat and race, without returning to pit or paddock areas and without interference from any third party (other than an Official).

10.6.2 An *Automobile* may not be removed from *Parc Fermé* except at the direction of the Chief Scrutineer.