

Racing Rules/Policies 2023

THQMA Committee Members met 11/5; Approved at November 2022 Membership Meeting

Per article 10 in the THQMA Bylaws, the following establishes the rules on when and how changes to the rules/policies document can be made.

1. Club rules/policies pertaining to Safety, Competition or the financial well-being of the THQMA may be changed/modified throughout the course of THQMA's operating calendar at a scheduled membership meeting with membership approval pursuant to Article 6 Section 1, paragraph 2. All other changes to approved club rules/policies shall be reviewed and submitted by the Board of Directors for majority of membership approval present at a membership meeting following the conclusion of THOMAs racing schedule. These changes, including dues/fees, will be effective at the start of THOMAs operating calendar (Jan 1st). See Article 10, Section 1, Paragraph 2.
2. Proposed changes must be submitted to the BOD for consideration for the following year by October 31 at midnight.

A Member in good standing:

1. All fees paid: THQMA and governing body.
2. Actively contributes to the well being of the club. This is determined by the BOD. The BOD must communicate immediately to the member if they are not in good standing, and how they can become a member in good standing.
3. A suspended member will not be in good standing until the suspension has been served.

Meetings:

1. Members are encouraged to attend all scheduled & BOD meetings.
2. Membership meetings will be held in person.
3. It is encouraged that the membership meeting agenda be shared with the membership 24 hours in advance.

4. Robert's Rules of Order will be used to conduct the meetings.
4. All motions and BOD votes will be recorded and presented in the meeting minutes.
5. Executive sessions are allowed.

Voting:

1. Board of director voting will take place in person. BOD can make adjustments to this policy in extreme cases.
2. A member must be in good standing to vote.
3. Voting manner (example: show of hands or paper ballot) will be determined by the BOD.
4. Votes will be counted & results communicated to the membership attending prior to the meeting adjournment of which the votes were cast.
5. BOD Election voting will be adjusted when a candidate is on the ballot for more than 1 position. This situation will necessitate voting on positions where the member is on the ballot for multiple positions in the following order; President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary then BOD.

Board of Directors:

1. Any member submitting their intent on running for a BOD position must adhere to the requirements of the Membership Chart (attached).
2. Meeting requirement for BOD candidates is attendance of half plus one of membership meetings in the prior 12 months (October - September)
3. At the 1st organizational meeting of the new BODs, a Chairman of the BOD shall be voted to the position by the Board Members. This will serve to fulfill duties relating to THQMA Bylaws Article 3 Section 1 Paragraph 2.
4. A member must be in good standing to run for and/or hold a BOD position.
5. Two or more relatives on the same THQMA and/or USAC membership may not hold BOD positions. However, family members NOT on the same THQMA and/or USAC membership can hold a BOD if no one else runs for the position.

Dues

- Yearly membership to USAC must be paid before racing at THQMA.
- Yearly membership to THQMA shall be paid before racing at THQMA.
(See schedule below)
- Parking fees for reserved parking: \$100
- THQMA car entry fee: \$25 per car
- Non THQMA member car entry fee: additional \$5 per car
- Race Director Fee: \$5 per family on all race nights
- Electricity Fee for those who wish to plug into outlets, but do not have a paid parking spot: \$20 per night
- Transponder Fee- \$10 per race

All registration and parking fees will be paid through an online method determined by THQMA. No cash, check, or credit cards will be accepted by any THQMA member for the purpose of registering for memberships, registering for races, or buying a parking spot.

All sign-ins will be done online through a program like MRP or the like. No refunds or credits will be offered after 5pm on the Friday before racing, or when race registration closes, unless there is a complete event rain out, defined as no car hits the track on race day. In such a case, sign in fees will roll over to the next race event.

Late sign ins, occurring after the registrations close date/time, but before the first race on the track consequence:

- 1st offense: Warning & No Fee- driver will start at tail (of each class) of heat & no passing points will be earned, driver will proceed thru rest of night as normal thru the mains
- 2nd offense & beyond: \$25 late fee per car, driver will start at tail (of each class) of heat & no passing points will be earned, driver will proceed thru the rest of the night as normal
- Qualifying procedure (Above consequences apply)- Driver gets to qualify, but will start on tail of the lowest main, then continue the night as normal

- If you sign in late and you set a track record, you still have the option of following the procedure to claim the track record.

Race Day:

1. Members should obtain 87 Octane fuel for race days. A specific location for race day fuel may be specified by the BOD.
2. 20 minute time limit for races. When race time limit has expired:
 - 20 minutes, then green, white, checkered
 - If a yellow is shown after the 20 minutes has expired, drivers will be given one opportunity for a green, white, checkered attempt
 - If 20 minutes is reached under yellow, the race is over
3. Rookies: 20 minute time limit starts as soon as the last car hits the track.
4. 1-14 Rookie cars= 2 heat races. 15+ rookie cars= 1 heat race.
5. Second heat race lineups for rookies will be a complete invert. Features for rookies will be determined by passing and finishing points of both heats.
6. Lap counts pursuant to USAC rules. Car counts are pursuant to USAC rules, except for Rookie and Junior classes. Junior Classes will have a maximum of 10 cars in each race.
7. For qualifying events, drivers will get three laps total - one warm up lap with two on the clock.
8. Drivers will carry the checkered flag in A Main events, only. Exception: rookies will carry the checkered flag for any race win.
9. Drivers of handlers refusing to pack the track when asked to do so by track officials will start on the tail in each class they are signed into for that race."
10. All handlers, including non members, will be required to complete work day duties. A sign up sheet will be shared with the membership when registration opens. If a family does not sign up for duties, duties will be assigned. You may switch duties with another handler in cases of emergency or conflict. Failure to complete duties will result in loss of points in all classes for the event. If it is a non-points

night, driver won't receive points in all classes the next points night that they race. Rookie families who do not complete duties will not receive awards for that race.

11. No race shall receive "sign in, attempt to race, or pay for points"
12. Points races may not be combined with Indiana State Series races.
13. Per USAC rules, the race director has the authority to combine classes at their discretion.

Membership types, opportunities, and fees

2023 Terre Haute Quarter Midget Association Membership Chart						
	Voting Rights; Rules/Policies dependent	Can Run for Board of Directors (any position); Rules/Policies dependent	Can Run for Board of Directors (non-officer); Rules/Policies dependent	Track Privileges (Practice)	Eligible for Board of Directors Non-Racing Position	THQMA Club Dues
Primary Membership	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	\$75
Secondary Membership	No	No	No	Yes	No	\$125
ALternate Handler Membership	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	\$50
Honorary Membership	No	No	No	No	Yes	-
Lifetime Membership (aka Hall of Fame)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	\$0 (Club pays local but not national dues)
Non-Member	No	No	No	No	Yes	-

Awards

Awards or Racing Bucks will be given to the top 3 finishers in the A Main/Feature in ALL classes. Awards only, not Racing Bucks, will be given to the top 3 finishers in the Heats for Rookies only. Flip trophies will be

awarded to drivers who flip at THQMA. Racing Bucks will be handed out at the end-of-year banquet in the form of cash to the drivers. Drivers can also elect to get cash in lieu of the end-of-year trophy. The value of Racing Bucks should be relatively equal to the value of the corresponding trophy both nightly and end-of-year. Trophy representative may choose to award more trophies than mentioned above if money and resources allow.

Drivers must compete in ½ plus one of all Events at THQMA. Events= race event that has been paid and attempted to be raced. Families must participate in ONE work DAY a year and TWO work NIGHTS a year. Families not completing these tasks will not receive end of the year awards.

Members may submit a formal request to the BOD describing the duties they plan to do in place of a work day or work night. Such duties may include: multiple hours spent preparing the track surface, etc. Requests should be submitted before completing the dut(ies) and not at the end of the year.

Arrive & Drive events count towards the annual work day commitment. Two specific shifts will be offered. You must be in attendance from start to finish of your work shift for it to count as the work day. The BOD member in charge will take attendance at the beginning and end of shifts. Rookie & scholarship families are required to sign up for a shift.

Drivers must be a member (by the end of July) to compete in the points series.

Drivers must have raced half plus one of the points races per class to be eligible for an end-of-year points series trophy in each class they participated in.

Exceptions:

We have allowed handlers whose driver is one race short, in eligible classes, to pay the sign in fee to the club to be able to receive their awards. This privilege of buying in goes towards half plus one eligibility, but does not allow for buying in of points. We have (upon board approval) granted exceptions for medical reasons that prevented the driver from racing and being eligible for their awards.

Points/Attendance:

If an event is rained out before the green flag drops for racing, then no points are awarded and it is as if the race was never on the schedule. Families will be given entry fee credit toward their next race. Credit cannot be carried over to the next race year. Money will be refunded to the family if a rain-out occurs toward the end of the year.

All schedules must include a rain-out plan. The schedule must fully explain the rainout plan, no rain out plan isn't an option.

To maintain fiscal responsibility, there must be a minimum of 12 points night races on any schedule that is submitted and approved.

Members will submit an annual class running order to be voted on separate from the schedule. This running order will be used for the current race season.

A-mains completed will earn points. A-mains not completed will be awarded zero points. All drivers will be credited with attendance towards half plus one.

Points will be awarded for the A Main as follows.

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Finish
12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Points

No matter the car count, we will award 1st place 12 points, 2nd place 11 points, and so on. Show up points will be determined in the race format and applied if applicable.

Tie Breakers:

The tie breaker will be based on the number of A-main wins. If there is still a tie after that, it will be based on the number of second place finishes, if a tie still exists then it will be based on the third place finishes and subsequent finishes until there is no tie. In the event that a tie cannot be broken using the criteria above then the drivers will be co-champions and both receive a 1st place trophy.

Retiring Drivers:

Drivers must have been a THQMA member and driven a minimum of 5 years to retire. A driver can only retire once. A retired driver can decide to race again, as long as they are a member, but cannot retire a second time, nor can they compete in the points series. At the banquet, we present the retiring drivers with a special award not given to the other kids. At the banquet we have a checkered flag for each of the retiring drivers for all the drivers to sign. Drivers not meeting the above requirements are not considered to be retiring drivers, but rather are "leaving the sport." Those drivers will not be given the special award and checkered flag. They will be verbally recognized at the banquet and given the option to purchase special awards.

Exceptions:

We have granted an exception if the child was older when they joined and could not meet the 5 year requirement due to aging out (upon board approval), medical reasons, safety reasons, caused them to have to retire (upon board approval).

Rookie Program:

This program is to train new drivers to understand basic racing rules, what the colors of flags mean, basic hand signals, how to line up, how to start and stop the car safely, and how to enter and exit the track. The Rookie program is not for perfecting racing skills, abilities, or techniques.

The RED Rookie division orients the child with safety, communication, and racing procedures. Once the child is comfortable with handling the car and understands everything, they will graduate to BLUE Rookie. The BLUE Rookie division helps drivers obtain experience in racing with others at a faster speed and gain confidence in the car and its abilities. Per USAC rules, Rookies will not "strike out".

Since this is a learning program and is not intended to be a competitive class, no points will be awarded for feature finishes toward championships. Rookies will only receive medals and/or trophies throughout the season. Participation awards will be given to all Rookie drivers who have raced half

plus one of eligible events at the banquet. Rookies can only receive "Rookie Awards" one time.

All cars participating in the Rookie program must have a kill switch mounted on the top right rear corner of the roll cage. The switch shall be mounted with the off position toward the rear of the car. The toggle must be a minimum of one inch long. It is highly recommended to place a piece of fuel line over the toggle for easier access.

Rookie Practice:

Rookie drivers will be allowed to practice on their own after one official Rookie practice with the Rookie Director and permission from the Rookie Director. A minimum of three practices must be completed prior to the driver competing in a race event. The only exception is for drivers over the age of seven who have completed other Rookie programs (Buckeye Indoors, March Madness, etc.) and received approval from the Rookie Director. If a Rookie driver misses two consecutive weeks of practice, the driver will start on the tail of every race until the driver attends practice.

If a driver does not race for a complete season (12 months or more), said driver must be evaluated on the track by the Rookie or Safety Director before being allowed to race in a competitive class. The evaluation must include the following: 1) review of the flags and hand signals; 2) demonstration of car control at speed; and 3) verbal explanation of the lining up procedures including the no passing dot/box located at the start/finish line.

In addition to USAC's Appendix IV Section 3705 Graduation of Rookie Drivers, the following applies. A RED Rookie who has won three feature races (with two or more other cars competing) will be moved up to the BLUE Rookie division. Likewise, a BLUE Rookie who has won three feature races (with two or more other cars competing) will be moved up to a competitive class. Any Rookie may move into a competitive class either when the Rookie Director determines the driver is ready or when the Handler's request to move up has been granted by the Rookie Director. This is an agreement between the Rookie Director and handler. Rookies moving to a competitive class will start on the tail of each race for their

first event. If after a driver moves out of the Rookie program into a competitive class, and the driver meets the minimum requirement to place in a points championship, said driver will receive Rookie awards or any earned placement in the championship, but not both unless they chose to pay for the price of one of the awards.

Exceptions following board approval:

We have had a few instances where the child was not able to progress to regular race classes due to physical or intellectual differences.

Practicing:

You must be a THQMA member or a USAC member accompanied by a THQMA member to practice at our track. Anyone participating in a race event may practice that day/night after said event. No practicing during membership meetings. No practicing on the dirt track after it is prepped for race day. No practicing on the dirt track after 6pm on Thursday until after racing time, or the usual time determined by track crew.

Non-members may attend the test-n-tune events. A charge will be determined for non-members for these events.

Banquet:

Date, location, and time to be determined by the BOD. A Banquet Committee should be created by the end of July with the BOD approving an all-inclusive budget for the Banquet Committee at that time. Banquet budget includes: awards for drivers (jacket, blanket, poster, shirt, backpack, whatever award we decide on), programs, table snacks, tableware, table coverings, cake, meal, supplies, raffle items etc. Income for the banquet is generated from ticket sales, 50/50, raffle items, and the auctioning off of banner(s). Banquet budget does not include year-end racing bucks (equivalent to the cost of respective year-end trophy) or trophies. Drivers can decide if they want a banquet trophy or year-end racing bucks. Parents can choose both trophy and year-end racing bucks if they want to pay additional money for the trophy. For weekly racing bucks, trophies, or awards information, see Awards section. For banquet awards concerning Rookies, see Rookie Program section.

In order to qualify for Year-End awards:

1. Be a THQMA member (by the end of July for planning purposes).
2. Families must participate in ONE work-day a year and TWO work-nights a year.
3. Drivers must race $\frac{1}{2} + 1$ of the total events ran at THQMA (excluding any national and regional races unless it benefits the driver) to be eligible for end-of-year gifts distributed at the banquet (if end-of-year gifts can be afforded based on budget)
4. Drivers must have raced $\frac{1}{2} + 1$ points events AND $\frac{1}{2} + 1$ of total events ran at THQMA (see #3) to be eligible for a trophy in any points series.
5. Drivers must race $\frac{1}{2} + 1$ points events in each class to receive awards for that class.
6. Signing in for a non-refundable rained out event will count in the $\frac{1}{2} + 1$ calculation.
7. $\frac{1}{2}$ plus 1 in all combined classes that a driver runs will qualify them for swag at the banquet.

Weather procedures: REFER TO THQMA FIRE & SAFETY PLAN

When should activities be stopped?

If you see lightning. If you hear thunder. If the skies look threatening.

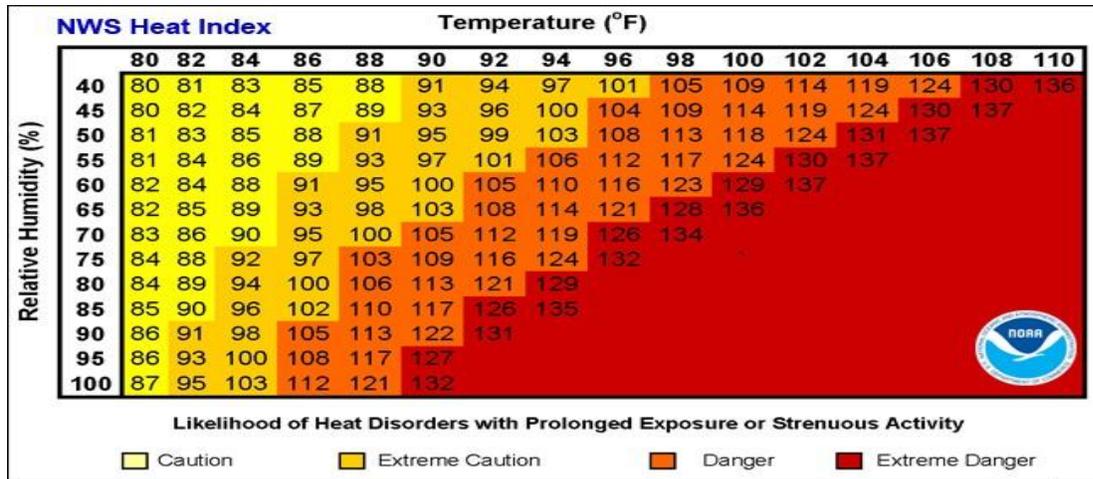
www.weather.com will be the official website to determine the distance of lightning and an approaching storm

Should a race activity be postponed or canceled due to weather, the track will be closed to all activities and all people will be required to stay under secure and safe areas. Activities shall not be resumed until the board of directors convene to discuss (vie in person, text, phone, or internet meeting) that the environment is safe.

When should activities be resumed?

30 minutes after the last lightning before resuming activities.

If the temperature is 105° F or higher, racing and practices should be postponed or cancelled. Temperature means either ambient (still air) or heat index.



In order to determine the heat index using the chart above, use the air temperature and the relative humidity. Ex: air temperature is 100°F & relative humidity is 55%, the heat index will be 124°F.

Code of Conduct

Suspension is defined as: no physical presence on THQMA grounds, no participation in any THQMA activities/events/races/meetings. If the term of the suspension extends beyond the current race schedule, the BOD may modify the terms of the suspension.

Within THQMA's grounds/facilities/sponsored events, THQMA BOD determines consequence of offense, including national and regional races. Discipline at other tracks are separate from THQMA discipline, unless issued by governing body.

Violation/Action	Suspension
1) Deliberately damaging, destroying, or defacing, THQMA property and facilities. Theft of any property.	Minimum one year plus cost of damages
2) Being under the influence of drugs or alcohol during racing conditions, Refer to USAC's substance policy	Minimum 180 days
3) Making any physical or verbal threat, racial slurs, or contact to any person at THQMA facilities (including drivers)	4 races
4) Maliciously throwing an object in the pit area or hot chute.	Minimum 2 races
5) Ignoring instructions from a track official (Driver) (determined by race director)	Minimum 1 race - Driver is done for the day and receives a DQ for that day.
6) Blatantly ignoring instructions from a track official (Handler)	Minimum 1 race - Handler is done for the day.
7) Excessive yelling, comments, or obscenities directed at a track official, judge, handler or driver.	Minimum 1 race
8) Driver deliberately hitting another driver while on race track or in hot chute	Driver is done for the day and DQ'd from the class.
9) Driver making a hand gesture to track official	Driver is done for the day and DQ'd from that class.
10) Any disrespectful conduct toward the Race Director and/or race official.	Driver and handler is done for the day and DQ from that class.

11) Any social media posts listing the track/other tracks, track officials, family/driver name, picture, video criticizing any of the above	Minimum 1 race
*Suspension Terms	
THQMA Board can choose to suspend a member, driver, and/or handler at Board's discretion.	Suspension Term carry over to next calendar year.
All Driver and/or Handler Suspensions are for the individual driver and/or handler only.	All Suspension Terms may be adjusted due to the severity of the violation by the Board of Directors.
All Suspension Terms begin the following race date on the schedule or as noted above.	Written notification of suspension term will be sent and postmarked within 5 days of violation.
Suspension Terms are not open for appeal and are final.	

THQMA members are responsible for any crew member, family member, person, or guest, that comes to the track to support your race team. THQMA Member is responsible for the actions of aforementioned guests and will be subject to the above Code of Conduct.

Track Records

Upon exiting the scales after qualifying, the motor must be sealed. Any subsequent track record breaker will be sealed as well. Tear down means complete motor disassembly down to the bear block. THQMA has the right to set a teardown date separate from the race event date to help families who may be traveling to another event in a short amount of time, or other reasons. Refusal for teardown at the scheduled tear down date set by the BOD will result in a DQ for that event and a 4 race suspension. Track record breakers have the option of not taking the record but must start at the tail of the A Main feature. When a track record is broken, the the driver will be awarded with the slot from the track record board and a new slot will replace it.

50/50 Flower Fund

The club's half of the 50/50 money is the income for the flower fund. The flower fund shall be used to send flowers to members (current, past, and HOF) in the event of a birth, death, or hospitalization in the member's immediate family. Please notify a current Board of Directors member with the information needed (name, situation, address, etc.). Specific flower shop, arrangement details (teddy bear, balloons, flowers, etc.), and payment shall be set up by the current Treasurer. A set amount respective to the event should be decided upon for the year by the Board of Directors. A

Board of Directors vote is required to donate the club's portion of the 50/50 money to an individual or group charity.

Hall of Fame

Nominees – A Hall of Fame nominee must be either 1) a current 10-year THQMA member or a former THQMA member whose child/children has/have not raced quarter midgets in three years or 2) someone who supported or played a substantial role in the development of THQMA events or 3) a retired THQMA driver, 21 years or older, with 5+ years of racing at THQMA.

Nominations must come from a current THQMA member, past THQMA member, or existing HOF member. Nominations outlining qualifications or contributions must be presented in writing to the HOF Committee prior to the February club meeting (*starting in 2021*). This will be an item on the January agenda.

The list of nominees will be sent to the current HOF members and the HOF Committee to vote on two inductees. Along with becoming a THQMA HOF member, the inductee receives a lifetime THQMA membership. Inductees will need to pay sanctioning body dues in order to take advantage of club voting rights and track privileges.

Committee – The HOF Committee is made up of five members of THQMA and will set the race format for the HOF race and oversee the nominations to the HOF. A vacancy on the HOF Committee will be filled by a THQMA member of the Committee's choosing.

Race – The HOF race shall take place the weekend before Terre Haute's regional or state championship series race. This race will be a non-points race with the format determined by the HOF Committee. A budget will be set by the BOD for the HOF selection dinner to honor former HOF members and gain input on future HOF members.

Toys at track

Non-motorized toys are allowed at the track prior to the drivers and handlers meeting. Once the drivers and handlers meeting has started, all ride on toys (bikes, scooters, skateboards, etc) shall be put away and not allowed back out until the race day has ended.

Motorized vehicles (golf carts, ATV's, side by sides/UTV's) will not be allowed unless approved by the THQMA board prior to the event.

Tower

Children are permitted in the tower when accompanied by an adult.

Parking trailers at track

Race trailers shall not be parked at the track and/or plugged in more than two days before and two days after the race event scheduled. Should there be a circumstance that a trailer would need to be left for an extended time the trailer owner must let the board of directors know of the circumstances and must have approval from said board.

Pavement Parking: Parking of RV's and trailers on the pavement track will be used as a last resort, or if in dire need. Restrictions may be applied, depending on the situation.

Reserved Trailer Parking

Parking fees will be determined by the Board of Directors with approval of a majority vote by the membership. Parking fees are due in conjunction with membership fees. Reserved parking is available to all primary THQMA members who transport a car to the track. Parking will be determined by parking seniority; club seniority does not affect parking. We shall start at #1 seniority and that person can move to any open spots. We will work our way down the seniority list and members are eligible to move to any open spot. Trailers must not be plugged in for an extended period of time unless approved by the BOD. Members may only purchase one parking spot each.

Finances

Any and all monies, \$10,000 or more, being withdrawn from any investment account, requires BOD approval and then membership approval.