

# QMA National Membership Meeting November 6-7, 2023 The Orleans Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada

The following voting members were in attendance:

Denise Smutny (QMA President), Flannery Olson (QMA Secretary), Nicol Venard (QMA Treasurer), Grant Bennett (QMA Tech), Paul Wagar (QMA Safety), Kim Johnson (QMA Publicity), David Olson (Little Wheels), Allen Haskell (Southern Nevada), Jackie McGahan (Twin City), Steve Principe (Magic City), Nick Brinlee (The Falls), Danny St. Pierre (Langley), Rose-Ann Hamness (Oregon Raceway), Josh Weinheimer (Representing Racing Rascals), Christine Chamberland (Silver City), Mary Trapp (Representing Creekside), Jeff Cannon (Washington)

#### **Guests:**

Scott Hamness, Rachel Mattock, Melanie Deaver, Kirk Livernash, Nick Johnson, Katrina Andrade, Darren Chorney, Robert Lassiter

The QMA President, Denise Smutny, duly called the meeting to order at 8:30am

Introductions of Club Presidents, guests, and National Board of Directors

### **Opening Comments from Denise Smutny, President**

Dave Olson moves to approve the agenda, Mary Trapp seconds the motion. Resolved, the agenda is approved by a unanimous yes vote.

Jr Advisory Board Update - Kim Johnson

- Began in 2022 with one Senior driver from each club involved
- Many noticed coordinating schedules was difficult, more communication is needed along with one Parent/volunteer involved in the future

Executive breakout sessions to discuss RFC's 9:00am - 11:00am

The meeting was adjourned for a break at 11:00-11:20

The President called the meeting to order at 11:20am. All members and guests are confirmed to be in attendance.

#### **RFC REVIEW & VOTING**

RFC #1 Rule/Procedure: National Work Rule, Article 1(c), Section 4 Page 36.

Present Wording: Any car going to the designated work area will automatically be put at the back of the pack.

Proposed Wording: "Any car going to the designated work area will automatically be put at the back of the pack unless the car is repairing from a incident on the track which had a racing infraction called, and returns to track should before the drop of the green should regain spot, unless green is thrown blends to the back of the pack as long as the driver made the commitment line under its own power, no extra time is given and will follow event work rule."

Reason for Change: The only benefit of a judges ruling is if the car can remain on track to hold position, otherwise the judges call is invalid as they will return behind the car who caused the infraction as they had to go off track to repair.

Vote: Yes o No 17

RFC #2 Rule/Procedure: Starts 3(k), Section 3 General Racing Policies Page 33

**Present Wording: No Current Wording** 

Proposed Wording: Once "1 to go" is given, at no time can cars scrub their tires to the green flag, if deemed said car is moved to the back of the pack with a back to the back signal.

Reason for Change: Cars cannot bumper up to a car that is weaving back and forth causing unneeded accidents in the line up

Add wording changes: After 1 to go is shown a rolled black flag warning will be given, 2<sup>nd</sup> offense the driver will receive a charge yellow and go to the back.

Vote: Yes 13 No 4 - Resolved, RFC is approved by a yes vote

Rule will read: Any driver scrubbing their tires after the "one to go" will be shown a rolled black flag, second offense the driver will go to the back and receive a charge yellow

RFC #3 Rule/Procedure: Class and Division Structure, Article 5, Section 2 Divisions, 1D Page 26

Present Wording: Drivers who turn 9 during a racing season must move on their birthday. Exception: If you qualify for an event when you are 8, you may finish the event. The driver must move after the conclusion of the event.

Proposed Wording: Drivers who turn 9 after August 31<sup>st</sup> of the current racing season, he or she may choose to remain in a Junior class for the remainder of that racing season.

Reason for Change: USAC and PowRi allow for kids to finish the Jr season that they have started, as some kids are not ready to move up to Sr yet. Changing this rule allows the family to choose what is best for their kids.

Vote: Yes 9 No 7 – Resolved, RFC is approved by a yes vote with word change

Rule will read: Drivers who turn 9 after August 31<sup>st</sup> of the current racing season, he or she may choose to remain in a Junior class for the remainder of that racing season.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:05 – 1:15

The President called the meeting to order at 1:15. All members and guests minus Allen and Kirk are confirmed to be in attendance.

RFC #4 QMA Participant Policy

**Present Wording: No Current wording** 

Proposed Wording: QMA tracks are prohibited from soliciting other quarter midget clubs and organizations not currently sanctioned by QMA, Quarter Midgets of America. QMA Members are prohibited from displaying/soliciting any type of banner/signage for another quarter midget clubs and organizations not currently sanctioned by QMA, Quarter Midgets of America. QMA membership will be revoked immediately if any type of banner/signage is displayed. The safety sticker and required decal to race from another sanctioning body will be allowed.

Reason for Change: We want to grow QMA. Having other quarter midget clubs/organizations displaying signage that are not QMA distracts from QMA. It can be confusing to novice families and guests to QMA tracks.

Vote: Yes 9 No 6

Motion to re-vote with wording revision by Danny St. Pierre

Re-vote with wording changes – remove verbiage regarding immediate QMA membership removal. And add that it will be at Club discretion to allow signage/banners/etc.

Vote: Yes 15 No o – Resolved, RFC is approved by a yes vote with wording changes

RFC #5 Tires, Article 4, Section 1-2(GG), Page 22

**Present Wording: No Current wording** 

Proposed Wording: 2. (GG) (4) Both the VEGA White and Yellow are allowed on dirt tracks. 2 (GG) (5) Only the front left tire can be treaded on both dirt and asphalt tracks.

Reason for Change: To clarify rule for dirt track participants.

Vote: Yes 15 No o – Resolved, RFC is approved with addition of MCM added

Rule will read: Both the VEGA MCM White and Yellow are allowed on dirt tracks. 2 (GG) (5) Only the front left tire can be treaded on both dirt and asphalt tracks.

RFC #6 Race Receiver, Article 7, Section 2, Page 32

Present Wording: 1(H) Any single channel UHF race receiver designed for race use is permitted at QMA sanctioned events and are optional for local use. Transmitter use must be limited to racers on field and designated track officials only. Any unauthorized transmitter use will result in a DQ for the event.

Proposed Wording: 1(H) Any single UHF race receiver designed for race use is permitted at QMA sanctioned events, required at National Events for Novice Drivers and are optional for local use.

Reason for Change: Experienced drivers report the radio had not been helpful. Many handlers report the drivers turn the volume down or pull the earpiece out of their ear.

Vote: Yes 3 No 12

RFC #7 National Work Rule, Section 4 – 1(G)

Present Wording: The Flagger shall not delay the race for the car(s) in the designated work area.

Proposed Wording: The Flagger will provide three (3) laps after a yellow flag is displayed for the vehicles involved in the incident causing the yellow flag.

Reason for Change: For families driving many miles to a national event, and sustain damage in an incident, especially when not at fault or charged for the yellow, does not help QMA grow or encourage novice families to travel. QMA solicits "families recreating together." Without this allowance, it upsets families and drivers. Currently a driver losing a chain doesn't have time to get it back on before the green flag is displayed.

Vote: Yes 11 No 4 – Resolved, RFC is approved by a yes vote with wording changes

Rule will read: Three laps after the line-up is posted, the pits are closed once the one to go is given and no cars may return to the track. If after the green, the caution is thrown and no lap is complete, cars may return to the track and blend to the back of the pack.

Discussion led to Flagging procedures and 'race starts' to be added to the rule book

RFC #8 No official Participation Policy Violation appeal process

Present Wording: No current wording.

Vague description of appeal process - National Board has conference call/meeting with person appealing, national will ask questions if needed. National then has call/meeting with all parties involved even if not board members. National then will ask questions. National will then decide whether to uphold modify or dismiss

Proposed Wording: If the appeal is modified or dismissed, National must have a call with the board of the club to explain why it was modified or dismissed. The Board may give more information and why the punishment was handed out. After this call, national will then revote on the final verdict. By having the 3<sup>rd</sup> step option, this gives the club the right to appeal the ruling and gives them the same rights as person or persons being punished.

Reason for Change: To make sure if National is overturning/changing a punishment, they have all the facts to make an informed decision.

Vote: Yes 10 No 5 – Resolved, RFC is approved.

Old Code of Conduct Flow chart will be re-introduced and modified to fit into the current Participant Policy

RFC #9 – Restrictor Plate Program – added to Tech Presentation

RFC #10 - Novices at the Grands, Article 6, Section 5, Novice Grands Page 29

**Present Wording**: Novices will run the same format as the competitive classes at the Grands including tires and fees.

**Proposed Wording**: Novices will run the same format as the competitive classes at the Grands, this will not include tires.

**Reason for Change**: Novices have an open tire rule at all QMA sanctioned events, this should stay consistent at Grands national events. There will be less tire work for volunteers and less financial hardship on new families that are choosing to attend the Grands.

Paul Wagar motions to modify wording, Darren Chorney seconds.

**Vote: Yes 12 No 3 – Resolved, RFC is approved with changes** 

Rule will read: Novices will run the same format as the competitive classes at the Grands. They must follow tire rules but are allowed to use used or new VEGA tires. Chosen set must be used for the full event.

RFC #11 Membership Cards, Article 2, Section 4 & 5 & Article 7, Section 2. Pages 8, 8 & 11

Present Wording: All QMA Members must show their QMA Membership card or proof of membership application (QMA online copy) and must sign the QMA Release & Waiver Forms at each QMA Event (pg. 8)

Membership cards must be checked at sign-ins at each event to verify that the presenter is a current QMA member (pg. 9)

Participants at a QMA event must present their valid QMA ID card at the time of signing in (pg 31).

Proposed Wording: All QMA members must verify their QMA membership with the Club Secretary and must sign the QMA Release and Waiver forms at each QMA Event. Membership must be verified at sign-ins at each event to confirm current QMA Membership.

Reason for Change: The QMA signature page will have the membership and driver's numbers for the Club Secretary to record and verify membership at sign-ins. This process will eliminate the need for membership cards.

Vote: Yes: 13 No: 2 – Resolved, RFC is approved. Membership cards will be eliminated, Club Secretary will keep record of all QMA Membership and Driver numbers.

RFC #12

Present Wording: No current wording.

Proposed Wording: There shall be prominent marking at the edge to the infield at the center between turns 3 and 4. On a double file start or single file restart, no car shall advance before the lead car passes the mark and the flagger waves the green flag. Once the green flag is displayed all cars may pass. If a car flagrantly passes before the green flag, the driver will receive a warning with a rolled black flag. A second violation will result in a charged yellow.

Reason for Change: There is no description of the proper start or restart.

Vote: Yes o No 15

Dave Olson motions to add all Flagging procedures back into the rule book for 2024, Mary Trapp seconds.

## Vote Yes 15 No o

RFC #13 Class & Divisions, Section 2 Page 26

Present Wording: Drivers who turn 9 during a racing season must move on their birthday. Exception: if you qualify for an event when you are 8 you may finish the event. The driver must move after the conclusion of the event.

Proposed Wording: If a driver turns 9 within their competitive season, they should have the option to finish the season in the Junior class.

Reason for Change: If they are running for a championship this will ruin their chance of obtaining one.

Vote: Yes 5 No 9

RFC #14 Grad of Novice Drivers, Novice Rules & Procedures, Section 6 Page 29

Present Wording: A novice driver must participate in at least 3 events before graduating to a competitive (Honda/Animal/160) class.

Proposed Wording: The Novice committee should be able to decide at any time if it is appropriate for a driver to move into a competitive class.

Reason for Change: Some drivers enter the sport with previous experience.

Vote: Yes 1 No 14

RFC #15 – Half Wheelbase – added to Tech Presentation

- Failed per Tech Director

RFC #16 Racing Rules & Procedures, Section 1, Page 30

Present Wording: In Quarter Midget classes, the age limit is 17 years old. Drivers who turn 17 during the race year can finish the current calendar year (Dec 31).

Proposed Wording: Drivers can race any competitive class until their 18th birthday.

Reason for Change: Allowing all drivers who turn 17 at any point beyond 1/1 allows a cleaner projection for future plans. It should not matter when their birthday falls as long as it is in within the same year. All 17 year olds should be supported regardless of when their birthday falls.

Vote: Yes 1 No 14

RFC #17 Racing Rules and Procedures, General, Page 30

Present Wording: In  $\frac{1}{2}$  class the age limit is 18 years old (you may not participate after your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday).

Proposed Wording: In ½ class, the Senior ½ age cap would be 21 (you may not participate after your 21st birthday).

Reason for Change: With the constant evolution of auto racing, there are so many avenues for drivers to explore at a young age. We have created programs to make our platform affordable, but what are QM families supposed to do when they no longer have the financial support of driver's development programs. Lets celebrate the legendary ½ class as an option to keep out drivers participating in QM racing LONGER by increasing the age limit of the ½ to 21.

Vote: Yes 1 No 14

The meeting was adjourned for the day at 5:11pm

#### DAY 2

The following voting members were in attendance:

Denise Smutny (QMA President), Craig DellaRocco (QMA Vice President), Flannery Olson (QMA Secretary), Nicol Venard (QMA Treasurer), Grant Bennett (QMA Tech Director), Paul Wagar (QMA Safety), Kim Johnson (QMA Publicity), Jason Strobel (LQMA President), Ryan Fasching (MCQMA President), Jeff Cannon (WQMA President), Mary Trapp (SCQMA), Christine Chamberland (SCQMA), Melanie Deaver (LWQMA), Jeff Gillis (LWQMA), Jeff Gruenberg (RRQMA), Alex Bernal (SNVQMA)

Guests: Rachel Mattock, Nick Johnson, Darren Chorney, Robert Lassiter

#### **National Board of Directors Presentations**

#### Nicol Venard - Treasurer

2024 proposed budget presented along with the Balance sheet and Profit & Loss Summary and Details.

Melanie Deaver motions to approve the 2024 budget, Steve Principe seconds. Resolved, the budget is approved by a unanimous yes vote.

- September 2023 Balance sheet checking account had \$80,446.79 and savings account \$34,232.31 bringing our total bank account income to \$114,679.10.
- In November of 2022 our full membership was \$40,008.77, to-date for 2023 our full membership is \$43,840.50 bringing us at a difference from last year and this year in the positive of \$3,831.73
- In 2022 last year Alternate handler membership was at \$6,382.20 and our current is \$6,766.70 bringing our difference showing again a positive this year of \$384.50.

- This 2023 year, our Combined Full member and Alternate is currently a total of \$50,607.20 where in 2022 was \$46,390.97 showing a gained this year of \$4,216.23
- QMA's tire rebate has changed to sponsorship as a request from Vega. This income of \$19,398.00 from Vega includes our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2022, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> earnings which helps pay for our club's insurance. QMA pays the remaining difference in addition to club officer's insurance. At this time, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter tire rebate is pending from Todd from Vega along with the 2k check that QMA gave to Langley for this year's Grands. We hope to have that rebate by December.
- The West Grands was held at Langley QMA this 2023 year. The LQMA club had a total of 226 cars with 12 no shows bringing the club total cars to 238 with a race entry fee at \$60 per a car for a club total income of \$14,280.00. QMA collected \$30.00 per car for this event from Langley, bringing a income total of \$7,110.00.00 for QMA and the same for Langley as the club total income was split in half.
- During our 2022 National Meeting it was agreed to purchase the MoScore scoring system for\$45,000.00
  - During the December 2022 president call and after consulting with QMA attorneys, we
    were unable to get financial assistance from our clubs and had purchased the software in
    full using our savings that was agreed on that call.
  - For the purchase of Moscore, we had to pay a total of \$13,064.06 in attorney fees for the transaction to take place which came from our checking and not saving as an expense.
- All clubs but LQMA have paid their 2024 Club Charters to date.
- Our 2023 expense for the 2024 Rulebook was \$1,787.28, with Craig who is the VP of QMA, he was able to secure rulebook adds to help offset this expense bringing into QMA a total of \$3230.00 giving us a profit of \$1442.72.
- The expense for Insurance comparison this 2023 year from last year did increase for QMA. QMA's 2022 expense was \$25,129.41 where this year total expense is \$30,674.29 bringing an increase of \$5,544.88.
- QMA's overall to-date for 2023 total income is \$87,727.20 and our total expense is \$98,369.52 which put us in the Negative -\$10,642.32. With the purchase of Moscore, attorney fees of \$13,064.06 coming out of checking along with the attorney fees of \$6,333.94 for changing our non-profit status from a 501 C4 to 501 c3 we expected to be in the negative.

#### Paul Wagar – QMA Safety

- Tire scrubbing while handlers are on track
  - O Paul Wagar motions, Melanie Deaver seconds to add rule: There will be no tire scrubbing while any handler is on the track. First offense will be a warning, second offense the car will go to the back. That car will not receive a charged yellow. This will be at Race Director, Judges and Flagger discretion.
  - Vote: Y 3 N 13
- Cast and/or Brace requirements.
  - Paul Wagar motions to update the 2017 cast bulletin and add to rule book,
     Danny St. Pierre seconds to read: No operating of a quarter midget with a hard cast.
  - Vote: Y 15 N 1 Resolved, the revised cast bulletin will be added to the 2024 rule book

- Promotional Days
  - Remote kill switches need to be used
  - o Recommended during Novice Training
- Wrist band requirements
  - o Always required while in authorized areas
- Novice Training
  - Training session requirements
  - o Six session guidelines will be added to the QMA website
  - Club discretion how many sessions club does

The meeting was adjourned for a break at 10:03-10:18

#### **Grant Bennett - Tech Director**

- Failure to put car in impound and refusal of tech and through scales = DQ
- Make right side air intake legal on body panel
- Transponder location, remove rear most spec rear spec will be removed
- Animal and WF tech manual: ad that all exhaust must pass through muffler
- No-go kit pricing needs updated
- 120 flywheel needs to have green magnet insulator added for UT3
- Add Briggs brand animal carb P/N to animal manual. P/N: 590890
- Change engine sealing sheet to: qualifying number or driver's initials, at discretion of Sr. Tech official attending the event
- Change Briggs coil numbers in the tech manual to the actual numbers that are on the coils
- Add transponder location to equipment specs and dimensions
- 120-cylinder valve guide measurement from head gasket to tip of guide.
- Intake valve seat I.D. For UT3 120
- Track forms and documents:
  - O QMA retired drivers race rules: Line item 5: changed to Heavy Honda engine rules package. Gx120 w/ 160 carburetor.
- 120 UT3 spec for piston spot face needs to be above flat piston
- Jr 160 class weight will be raised to 265lbs, grey restrictor plate will still be used
- Jr Honda & Jr Animal will be raised to 265lbs
- Melanie Deaver motions, Jeff Cannon seconds to remove MOD class and add in MOD WF
  - Vote: Y 15 N o Resolved, MOD class will be removed, MOD WF will be added to the QMA Race Day Format
  - o **Age: 10-17**
  - Weight: 325lbs

# Kim Johnson – Publicity

- Introduction:
  - o Family history of QM racing
  - o Son recently aged out of QMA
  - o 2nd year on the NBOD

- o 13 years in QMA
- This Year's Accomplishments:
  - o Helping QMA grow & promote
- Social Media:
  - o #firstnameinquartermidgets, #weareqma
  - If clubs want QMA to help promote on social media pages need to be shared or public
  - o Hoping to build an online QMA merchandise store
  - o Option of Telegram to be used
- Getting Our Drivers Involved to Make QMA Better:
  - o QMA Jr. Executive Board will continue

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:02 – 1:20

# **Talking Points**

- Novice Move-ups:
  - David Olson motions to add to rule 7A on page 30 Driver may return to Novice only with majority approval of club board and Novice Committee. Steve Principe seconds.

Vote: Y 13 N o Resolved, addition to rule will be added

- Melanie Deaver motions to remove any verbiage regarding plastic wrap on tires, Mary Trapp seconds
  - Vote: Y 12 N 1 Resolved, all verbiage regarding plastic wrapped tires will be removed from the rule book
- Grands Selection
  - o WQMA in Monroe, Washington will hold the 2024 Western Grands
    - July 30 August 3, 2024
  - o Silver City QMA in Meridan, Connecticut will hold the 2024 Eastern Grands
    - June 19 22, 2024
  - o Grands format will be Qualifying, Heats and Mains
- Class options at Grands
  - Darren Chorney motions to run 5 classes plus the Half class at the Grands, Danny St.
     Pierre seconds.

Vote: Y 11 N 1 Resolved, Drivers may run 5 Quarter Midget classes and the Half class at the grands

- Club Charter
  - Kim Johnson motions that in order to have voting rights at the QMA National Meeting your club Charter for the following year must be paid in full. Melanie Deaver seconds.
     Vote: Yes 9 N 3 Resolved, in order to have voting rights at the QMA National Meeting, your club charter must be paid in full for the following year.
- Handlers intentionally stopping their driver's car under yellow
  - Melanie Deaver motions that any handler intentionally stopping their driver's car under yellow will result in that car going to be the back, they will not receive a charged yellow

Vote: Y 10 N 2 Resolved, any handler intentionally stopping their driver's car under yellow will result in that car going to be the back, they will not receive a charged yellow.

- **Darren Chorney motions to modify rule 8(F) Tire Rules, Robert Lassiter seconds:**Current Rule: Tire Warmers and Heat Guns Tire warmers, hot boxes, tire covers or any device to warm tires is not allowed on the grounds of the race facility. First Offense will be disqualification from the event. Heat guns for cleaning tires are allowed except in the staging and hot chute area.
  - Proposed Wording: Tire Warmers and Heat Guns Tire warmers, hot boxes, tire
    covers or any device to warm tires is not allowed on the grounds of the race facility. First
    Offense will be disqualification from the event. Heat guns for cleaning tires are allowed
    except in the staging and hot chute area.

Vote: Y 12 N o Resolved, Proposed wording will be added to the rule book

- Glossary definition items to be added:
  - Lineup On a single file restart, a lineup is formed when the front bumper is in line with the rear bumper
     Motion by Melanie Deaver, second by Danny St. Pierre to add to the rule book glossary
     Vote: Y 14 N 0, Resolved Lineup definition will be added to the glossary
  - Tire Scrubbing Purposely turning the steering wheel left and right to move the car back and forth before the green flag is thrown
     Motion by Paul Wagar, second by Rose-Hamness to add to the rule book glossary
     Vote: Y 14 N o, Resolved, Tire Scrubbing definition will be added to the rule book glossary
- Membership fee
  - o Proposed Membership increase fees
    - Regular Membership \$200
    - Alternate Membership \$100
    - Club Charter fee \$150
    - Grands registration fee \$80 per car
  - Melanie Deaver motions to increase QMA Membership fees, Steve Principe seconds.

Vote: Y12 No Resolved, Membership fees will increase for 2024

Melanie Deaver moves to adjourn meeting; Mary Trapp seconds the motion.

Meeting adjourns at 4:30pm