PART V

Qualifications

8.1 **Purpose of Qualifying** - Qualifying determines the eligibility of each entrant to participate in the subsequent events of a race meeting by ranking the entry on the basis of its demonstrated competitive potential. The types of qualification may include, but are not limited to, any combination of the following:

A. Individually timed trials.

B. Results of qualifying races.

C. Prior record in USAC competition.

D. Ranking determined by lot.

NOTE: Division procedures may specify particular qualifying rules for the division.

8.2 **Statement of Qualification Method** - Subject to approval by the Director of Competition, the entry form and/or rulebook will cover the following areas:

A. The type(s) of qualification.

B. The scheduled date(s) and time(s) of:

1. Qualification drawings.
2. Timed qualification periods.
3. Qualifying races.

C. For timed trials:

1. The qualification distance which defines a completed attempt.
2. The presence of other conditions or exemptions, which may affect the official results of qualifications.

D. The Chief Steward is empowered to change the stated qualification method as necessary to the safe and orderly progress of the race meeting. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of transponders during a predetermined time period.

E. Where time trial eliminations are not used and where more than the maximum number of cars are entered, the Stewards are empowered to arrange heat or elimination trials other than specified under the schedule of events.

F. The Stewards shall be empowered to consolidate or otherwise modify the makeup of heats if the number of competitors present at the start or other conditions warrants their so doing.

8.3 **The Qualification Order, Unless Otherwise Specified in the Entry Form**

A. The entrants shall make their attempts at qualification in the order stipulated in the official entry or by the chief steward.

B. The entry form may specify that the qualification order be determined by lot. In this case, a drawing for qualifying positions shall be held prior to the first qualifying period. Every entrant in the race is eligible to participate in this drawing subject to approval of the Technical Director. The Stewards are empowered to draw for any entrant who does not have an authorized representative present at the drawing.

C. The cars shall reserve their positions in the qualification order as long as the car remains in the place designated by the Stewards and until the car is ordered by the Stewards to proceed with the qualification attempt.

D. If a car does not proceed with the qualification attempt when ordered to do so by the Stewards, it will forfeit its position in the qualification order and may be further penalized by the loss of one qualifying lap. Division procedures may also apply.

E. During a recess or suspension of the qualification period the Stewards are empowered to preserve the qualification order already established until such a time as conditions permit the qualification period to be continued.

1. During a suspension, entrants are relieved of the responsibility of maintaining their cars at the designated place when released by the Stewards.
2. The Stewards shall announce prior to continuing the qualification period that all cars are to be returned to the designated place. Any entrant not returning his car to the designated place by the time prescribed, shall forfeit his position in the qualification order.

8.4 **The Qualification Presentation**

A. All cars must be fully approved by the Technical Director prior to being presented for qualification.

B. No car, which has used the specified number of attempts or completed attempts, may make further attempts.

C. Should a car not run under own power and/or stops anywhere on the course before starting the attempt, it must return to the end of any subsequent qualifying order. Division procedures apply.

D. A qualification attempt shall be considered started when a car is pushed or leaves under its own power onto the track.

E. The Stewards are empowered, at their sole discretion, to cause the interruption of a qualification presentation. The presentation is terminated at the moment that the decision to interrupt is made. The interruption is signaled by the display of yellow or red flags. The decision to interrupt or not to interrupt a presentation is not protestable.

1. When, in the judgment of the Stewards, the qualifier or his crew causes the interruption, an attempt is charged to the car and it must go to the end of the qualifying line. The decision as to the cause of the interruption of the presentation is not protestable.

2. When the cause of the interruption is not due to the qualifier or his crew, no attempt is charged to the car and the car may be allowed to return to its original position in the qualifying line.

F. Should a suspension of the qualification period be required after a car has started its warm-up laps or its qualification attempt, the car will not be charged with an attempt and will be given the first position in the existing qualification order when qualifying is resumed.

G. A car will be charged with a completed qualification trial when the front wheels of the car cross the starting line after completing the posted qualification distance in one or more continuous laps.

8.5 **The Official Qualification Time** - The official qualification time of each car will be the shortest total elapsed time of any completed trial by that car. The Scoring Director will create a record of the total time of each completed trial by each car during the qualification period(s).

8.6 **Ties** - In the event of two or more cars posting identical official qualification times, the affected cars will be ranked in the order of the competitor with the second shortest elapsed time.

8.7 **Violation of Competition Rules During Qualifications** - The Chief Steward is empowered, at his sole discretion, to pronounce any of the penalties granted to him in Part X when an entry is determined to have been in noncompliance with these Competition Rules during qualification activities. The decision as to which penalty is most appropriate is not protestable.

8.8 **Race Line-Up Procedure Determined by Draw**

All eligible participants will randomly draw a pill to determine the starting order of the heat races. The lowest pill draw will start on the pole for the first heat; the next lowest draw will start on the pole for the second heat, etc. The Chief Steward has the authority to establish the number of heats based on the number of eligible participants.

START

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	100.0	105.0	110.0	115.0	120.0	125.0	130.0	135.0	140.0	145.0	150.0	155.0
2	91.5	93.0	98.0	103.0	108.0	113.0	118.0	123.0	128.0	133.0	138.0	143.0
3	83.0	84.5	86.0	91.0	96.0	101.0	106.0	111.0	116.0	121.0	126.0	131.0
4	74.5	76.0	77.5	79.0	84.0	89.0	94.0	99.0	104.0	109.0	114.0	119.0
5	66.0	67.5	69.0	70.5	72.0	77.0	82.0	87.0	92.0	97.0	102.0	107.0
6	57.5	59.0	60.5	62.0	63.5	65.0	70.0	75.0	80.0	85.0	90.0	95.0
7	49.0	50.5	52.0	53.5	55.0	56.5	58.0	63.0	68.0	73.0	78.0	83.0
8	40.5	42.0	43.5	45.0	46.5	48.0	49.5	51.0	56.0	61.0	66.0	71.0
9	32.0	33.5	35.0	36.5	38.0	39.5	41.0	42.5	44.0	49.0	54.0	59.0
10	23.5	25.0	26.5	28.0	29.5	31.0	32.5	34.0	35.5	37.0	42.0	47.0
11	15.0	16.5	18.0	19.5	21.0	22.5	24.0	25.5	27.0	28.5	30.0	35.0
12	6.5	8.0	9.5	11.0	12.5	14.0	15.5	17.0	18.5	20.0	21.5	23.0