SCCA Runoffs Penalty Guidelines

Effective September 29, 2025 through October 5, 2025

The following are the suggested penalty standards for SCCA Road Racing. The guidelines are established for consistency in similar situations outlined below. Circumstances may warrant imposing penalties more or less severe than those listed in these guidelines. Reference: GCR 5.12.3.C. and GCR 7.2.

On Course Driver Conduct

1. **Failure to control your car resulting in contact with another car. (GCR 6.11.1.)** [NOTE: Safe, consensual drafting among cars in same class may be forgiven.]
   a. Investigation by Race Director/Assistant Chief Steward to determine circumstances.
   b. Driver injury or significant body damage to one or both cars, or only one car continues – CSA/RFA position penalty to ensure car at fault finishes behind car that could not continue.
   c. Clearly identified at-fault driver, no injury or body damage – CSA with position penalty one position greater than the number of positions lost.
   d. Multiple contact by same driver in same session – Race Director's Probation – 1 to 3 weekends based on circumstances or an RFA for further investigation.
2. **Improving position during the pace lap (GCR 6.5.2.C.)** [NOTE: This includes regaining grid position during the pace/safety car lap and false starts.] Either:
   a. Obvious and documented - Open Black Flag with stop-and-go, or
   b. Minimum of 45 seconds added to driver's total race time.
3. **Overdriving or Passing Under a Yellow Flag (PUY) or failure to obey Black Flags or Checker (GCR 6.1.1.)** [NOTE: A safe, inadvertent PUY followed by a giveback outside of the yellow zone reprimand or the infraction may be forgiven.]
   a. **Test –** Reprimand for first offense. Second offense- Probation for the duration of the Runoffs and lost of test time for the remainder of the day.
   b. **Qualifying –** Loss of qualifying times for that session
   c. **Race – T**hree positions in class
   d. **Spin under yellow –** Car not under control, same penalty as a PUY
   e. **Contact/Injury during a PUY** - Disqualification from event
   f. **Any yellow violation with workers in yellow zone –** Disqualification for session(s) or event
4. **Assistance During Race Session Stoppage (GCR 6.7.2.)** Either:
   a. Restart at end of grid, or
   b. Minimum of 45 seconds added to the driver's total race time.

Participant Conduct

1. **Non-tech violation of GCR while on probation for GCR sections 2 or 6**
   a. Different section of GCR from probation – unsatisfactory signoff
   b. Same section of GCR as probation - disqualification
2. **Acts of physical violence between event participants, (drivers, crew, officials, volunteers, and spectators) (GCR 2.1.8.)**
   a. The Race Director will remove the participants from their assigned positions, maintaining order as necessary until an initial evaluation of the incident has been completed.
   b. The Race Director will immediately notify the Division Executive Steward, by phone if not on the property, or in person if on the property.
   c. The Race Director will notify the Specialty Chief if applicable.
   d. The Race Director will initiate an RFA.
   e. The SOM will process as any other action utilizing GCR Sections 7.1. through 7.6.
   f. The Race Director and/or the Chairman of the SOM will notify the participants of potential further action by the Division Executive Steward or SCCA National Office if warranted.
   g. If unwanted physical contact is verified, consider suspension of license.

Car Compliance Situations

1. **Car not in Compliance (GCR 9.1.) Including cameras where required**
   a. Prior to the Race: If found after qualifying, loss of Qualifying times from that session
   b. Post-Race: A non-compliant car shall be moved behind compliant cars and may lose points.
2. **Car not in Compliance (GCR 2.1.2. and 2.1.3.) For deliberate, substantial, non-compliance.**
   a. Disqualification; Suspension or Probation, and disallowance from 2026 Runoffs.
3. **Failure to report to Impound (GCR 5.9.3.C.)**
   a. Qualifying – Loss of times for that session
   b. Post-Race – Disqualification, 6-month suspension, and disallowed from 2026 Runoffs.
4. **Sound (where applicable) (GCR 5.7.2.)** Competitors must not exceed 103 dB or the stated limit in the Supplemental Regulations. Below are suggested actions unless otherwise defined in the Supplemental Regulations.
   a. **First reading over limit –** Sound Board
   b. **Second reading over limit** - Sound Board
   c. **Third reading over limit**
      i. **Practice** - Open Black, may continue after repair
      ii. **Qualifying** - Black flag, lose times to that point. May continue after repair
      iii. **Race** - May be Black Flagged, will be considered non-compliant.
5. **Fuel Testing - SCCA fuel lab testing discloses the presence of banned substances: (GCR 9.3.25.A.)**
   a. Qualifying – loss of qualifying times for that session
   b. Race – Disqualification plus possible 6-month suspension and disallowance from entering the 2026 Runoffs

Additional Thoughts: If a driver is disqualified from an entire event, add the following statement to the CSA/RFA/Protest form: 'The driver will receive no event participation credit for the event.' Awards in the competition or event are automatically forfeited. Upon review of the situation, the CS/RD/SOM may, alternatively, disqualify a driver from a specific session such as practice, qualifying, or race.