



2026 Rule Book

Preface

The spirit and intent of Gopher Midget Racing (GMR) is to provide a competitive and enjoyable midget racing experience for competitors, promoters, fans, and sponsors.

A GMR event is a competitive racing event which is intended to be conducted and officiated in accordance with the rules herein. These rules provide the guideline for all events. The rulebook may be amended from time-to-time and special rules may be published and/or adjusted at any particular event with the participants receiving prior notification. By participating in these events, all participants agree to comply with these rules and regulations. The rules are not intended to express or imply the warranty of safety as a result of publication of, or compliance with the rules and regulations as stated herein. The rules are intended to offer a guideline for the conduct and officiating of an event.

GMR reserves the right to amend any rule at any time. Rules involving safety may be imposed immediately and it is the responsibility of all participants to stay abreast of any and all rule changes. Rules governing car specifications may be amended at any time to ensure competitive racing. This is at the sole discretion of the GMR officials. Rules will be imposed as written. It is your responsibility to be familiar with all rules. GMR official's decisions shall be final in all cases.

Any equipment changes, alterations to existing parts and/or performance enhancing changes to previously approved parts or equipment must be approved in writing prior to introduction into competition.

GMR reserve the right to immediately determine the legality and use of any equipment that has not received prior written approval for introduction into competition. It is ultimately the obligation of each participant to ensure their conduct and equipment complies with all of the applicable rules, as they may be amended from time-to-time. The rules are in no way a guarantee against injury and/or death to participants, spectators, officials and/or others.

Chapter 1 – General Rules

1. Minimum age for competition is 16 years of age. An exemption to allow the minimum age to lower to 14 years old will be considered with a written resume reflecting at least one full season of adult racing experience to include Open Micro, Lightning or full Sprint cars. Other adult divisions may be considered. Approval will be at the discretion of GMR Series Directors and those decisions are final.
2. Rookies will be required to carry a yellow ribbon and start at the rear of their respective events for 3 races or until approved by GMR Series Directors. Rookies are defined as drivers who have no prior race experience at this or higher level. (Race Director discretion). New and/or inexperienced drivers to the series will be required to run a ribbon and start at the rear of their respective events for 3 complete events or until approved by the GMR Series Directors.
3. Car numbers must be displayed in 3 areas, 1 on each side of the tail and 1 on the front section of hood or nose, these numbers need to be in high contrast. Note: Scorers and officials need to be able to identify the numbers on the cars from a long distance.
4. Drivers and/or car owners and/or team managers are the only recognized representatives of a race team in matters involving rules, rules violations, and technical inspections. They are also responsible for the legality of products and services provided by third parties including parts vendors, chassis manufacturers and engine suppliers.
5. Drivers and/or car owners and/or team managers will be held responsible for the conduct of their team members. Suspensions, expulsions, fines, loss of points and purse money may apply. Verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated. Irresponsible or abusive use of social media directed at track or series officials, competitors, sponsors or others connected to GMR activities will be subject to the same penalties.
6. Drivers are required to represent themselves and speak on their own behalf in all interactions with series and track officials.

Chapter 2 – Procedure Rules

Section 1 – Racing Event Procedures

Section 2 – Scoring Procedures

- A. All races are scored at the designated start/finish line (scoring loop).
- B. A lap will not be scored on the original start and/or any restart unless all cars complete the lap by passing through the start/finish line except for the cars involved in the incident.
- C. After the first completed green flag lap, following the original start or restart, when the caution is displayed all cars that were scored under green flag conditions will hold that scored position with all other cars lining up according to their last completed green flag scored lap. This partial lap will count toward the event's total number of laps. Racing back to the start/finish line will not be permitted. This is also known as split scoring. A completed lap is considered leader plus one (1).

Section 3 – Special Events

- A. There may be special events during the year that do not follow the Series racing formats. When such events occur, all teams will be informed of specific program and/or procedural changes for that particular event. All racing programs are subject to change and any such changes will be explained to all competitors prior to the race.
- B. From time-to-time mandatory appearances, interviews and or/autograph sessions will be scheduled. Drivers will be notified of attendance and location at selected events.

Section 4 – Championship Points Breakdown

PLACE	QUALIFYING	HEAT RACES
1st	10	20
2nd	9	18
3rd	8	16
4th	7	14
5th	6	12
6th	5	10
7th	4	8
8th	3	6
9th	2	4
10th +	1	2

PLACE	FEATURE	PLACE	FEATURE
1st	100	11th	78
2nd	97	12th	76
3rd	94	13th	74
4th	92	14th	72
5th	90	15th	70
6th	88	16th	68
7th	86	17th	66
8th	84	18th	64
9th	82	19th	62
10th	80	20th +	60

- A. Drivers will earn one (1) point per each car passed in their heat race.
- B. If a driver fails to qualify, they will not be eligible for passing points in a heat race.
- C. 50 (show-up) points will be awarded to all members in good standing, who attempt to qualify a car, but fails to qualify for the feature event.
- D. If a race is cancelled and rescheduled and a member in good standing is unable to return due to extenuating circumstances, then that member may be awarded show-up points if they were present and prepared to race on the original date.
- E. In the event that a tie should occur in the final Championship Point Standings at the end of the season, the tie will be broken using the following tiebreakers in order; Most feature wins, most second place finishes, most third place finishes, etc. until the tie is broken. In the event that the tie remains unbroken by finishes the tiebreaker will result to qualifying results in the same manner.

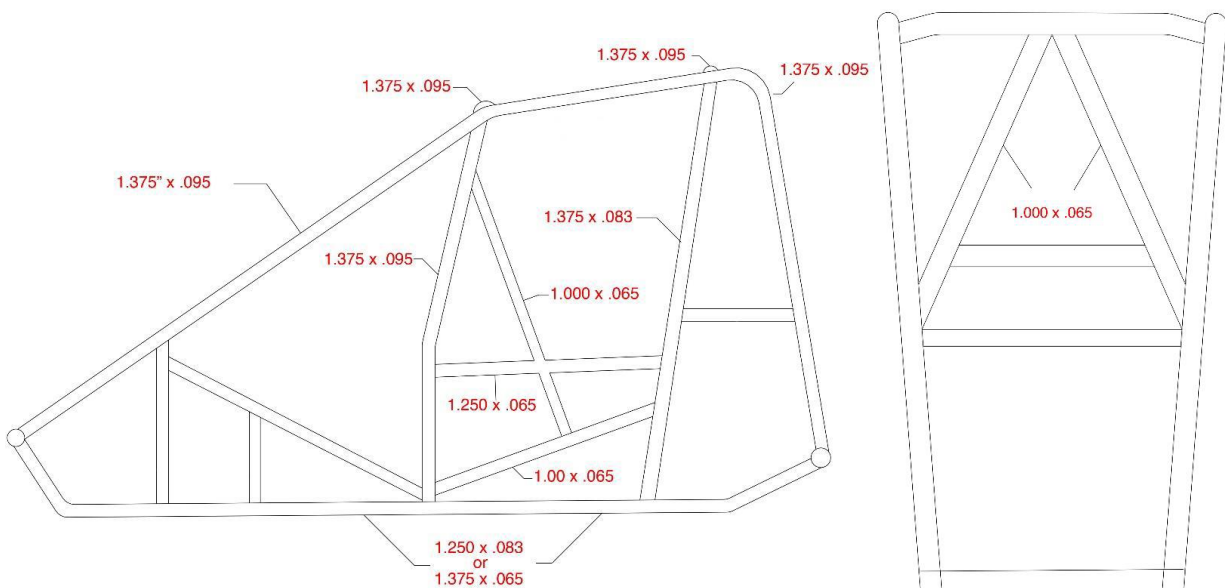
Chapter 3 – Technical Rules

Section 1 – Design and Construction

- A. All phases of design and construction are subject to the approval of the Technical Director. The Technical Director may exclude any car, design, or construction, which they deem unsafe or not meeting the specifications, the spirit and/or the intentions of the rules contained herein.
- B. Right and Left side cockpit body panels may be a maximum of thirty-six (36) inches high as measured from the bottom frame tube at rear motor plate and projected rearward twenty-three (23) inches with a minimum eight (8) inches vertical opening from the afore mentioned point forward, including side visor
- C. Side visors on roll cage will be limited to eight (8) inches tall.
- D. Panels attached to nerf bars will not be permitted.
- E. The number of allowable wheels is restricted to two (2) front wheels and two (2) rear wheels on each car. Use of anything other than a wheel and tire assembly is prohibited.

Section 2 – Chassis and Frames

- A. Frame and/or chassis must be constructed of 4130 normalized tubing or equivalent.
- B. All cars must have a roll cage that is integral with the frame and does not encroach upon an imaginary cylinder, 20 inches in diameter, extending through the top cockpit opening directly above the seat. The top of the roll cage should extend three inches above the driver's helmet when seated in the driving position.
- C. Roll Cage Construction cars constructed after 1/1/98, main uprights forming the roll cage must be a minimum of 1-3/8 inches O.D. x .095 wall thickness 4130 normalized tubing or equivalent.



Section 3 – Dimensions

- A. The wheelbase must be at least 66 inches and no more than 76 inches
- B. The overall width will be a maximum of 65 inches.
- C. The right front tire cannot be farther out than the right rear tire when the right rear wheel is set at maximum width (as measured straight line along outside RR to outside RF).

Section 4 – Engines

- A. All engines must be normally aspirated, internal combustion, four cycle, reciprocating piston type, incorporating a maximum of four (4) cylinders. Only one spark plug per cylinder will be permitted.
- B. Camshaft timing must be fixed. Any device used to alter camshaft timing during engine operation is prohibited. Penalties will be issued to the entrant and engine builder if such devices are found.
- C. The use of starters and de-clutching device is optional. If utilized, they must have a neutral position in the final drive.
- D. Complete engines and/or major components must be available in a reasonably sufficient supply to all competitors at comparative prices.
- E. All competitor engine specifications must be submitted to GMR for approval prior to entering a competition. GMR reserves the right to adjust rules or disallow any engine for competition, which in its judgment does not meet the spirit and intent of competitive racing, in regard to cost and/or performance.

Section 5 – Fuel and Fuel Systems

- A. Pure Methanol is the only approved fuel. (No Additives)
- B. A conventional tail tank, fuel cell and the fuel contained must be carried on the centerline of the chassis and be located behind the driver. All cars must be equipped with a fuel cell and tail tank meeting the requirements and SFI Specifications 28.2.
- C. The minimum capacity of the tank must be 18 U.S. gallons.
- D. All tanks must have a minimum of four mounts to the chassis.
- E. The engine must be equipped with a fuel shut-off device located within easy reach of the driver.

Section 6 – Mufflers

- A. Mufflers ARE REQUIRED. No Inserts.
- B. Exhaust system tail pipe(s) must not be any wider than the nerf bar.
- C. GMR may disallow a muffler that in their opinion is not within the spirit or intent of this rule.
- D. Loss of muffler will result in disqualification of that race.

Section 7 – Ignition and Electronic Equipment

- A. All cars must be equipped with an ignition switch or emergency shut-off located within easy reach of the driver.
- B. Any ignition, other than magnetos, must be approved by GMR prior to their use in competition. It is the responsibility of the participant, not the manufacturer, to obtain proper approval.
- C. Current list of approved electronic ignitions for GMR events: MSD programmable 6214, EFI R1i (red, gold or blue), MoTeC Ignition, Electromotive, Magnetos, Electromotive on Esslinger EST.

Section 8 – Tires and Wheels

- A. Teams must utilize Hoosier tires on all 4 corners.
- B. Hoosier SP-3 is the mandatory compound right rear tire.
- C. Left Rear must be a Hoosier D12 (74, 76, 77, 78, or 80).
- D. Any member that attempts and/or is found to be using tires that are found to be illegal in any manner will be subject to disqualification and/or fine and/or suspension.
- E. The number of allowable wheels is restricted to two (2) front wheels and two (2) rear wheels on each car. Use of anything other than a wheel and tire assembly is prohibited.
- F. All wheel covers must have a minimum of 5 attachment points if using dzus fasteners. Said dzus fasteners must be made of steel only. Wheel Covers having only 3 attachment points must be bolted-on all three points using a minimum 5/16", flanged steel bolt and an approved fastening (nut assembly) system.

Approved fastening (nut assembly) systems:

- 1. Keyser Manufacturing, part #100 7-101.
- 2. Wehrs Manufacturing Part # (WM377A-312 Aluminum 5/16) (WM377S-312 Steel 5/16).
- 3. Triple X Chassis Part # SC-WH-7810 (for a 1" spring) / SC-WH-7820 (for a 1 3/8" spring).
- 4. Smith Precision Products Part # MC-516-18.
- 5. Speedway Motors part # 910-07119.
- 6. Optional fastening systems that are equal or superior to the above approved system will be readily approved at the sole discretion of GMR Technical Officials.

Section 9 – Traction Control Devices

- A. Traction control devices of any type are not permitted at any time, during any event.
- B. Any team found with a traction control device in pre and/or post-race inspection shall be subject to disqualification.
- C. From time-to-time random inspections will occur and various components may be impounded for further analysis and inspection including, but not limited to ignition systems, ignition boxes, wiring looms and/or tachometers

Section 10 – Electronics

- A. Wi-Fi, Cellular, Bluetooth, or Satellite devices (including cell phones and smart watches) in or attached to the race vehicle or the driver will not be permitted.
- B. RACEceivers are mandatory.
- C. Two-way radio communication is not permitted.

Section 11 – Personal Safety Equipment

Each competitor is solely responsible for the effectiveness and proper installation, per the manufacturer's specifications, of personal safety equipment and determining it to be adequate for competition at every event. Each competitor is expected to investigate and educate themselves for continuing improvement regarding their own personal safety equipment.

- A. Seat belts and Restraint System
 - 1. Each car must be equipped with a minimum of an SFI 16.1 or SFI 16.5 approved restraint system. The restraint system will be eligible for use in competition until the expiration date or for 2 years from the date of manufacture. Seat belt restraint systems shall be installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - 2. In any type of manufacturer's installation, the fasteners must be as supplied by the manufacturer.

Section 12 – Miscellaneous

- A. Any part that may appear illegal is subject to confiscation at any time without notice for evaluation. If deemed necessary by series officials, any confiscated part may not be returned.
- B. All teams must have a working Fire Extinguisher in their trailer.

