



3-6-9 GUIDELINES: ROOKIE STATUS DESIGNATIONS & HIGH PERFORMANCE LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

2018 – PROVISIONAL DRAFT

The **3-6-9 Rule** is a way by which The Vintage Auto Racing Association allows novice and experienced racers to safely and expediently become a part of the challenging and exciting sport of vintage motorsports that VARA provides. Its purpose is to offer guidance and review to incoming drivers of all experience levels. Within the following guideline is the flexibility for any driver to pass through VARA's rookie program quickly and easily while gaining valuable on and off track experience.

This process classifies drivers into one of three classes of experience. Any driver may be advanced to the next level of rookie classification based on both performance and attitude. For many drivers that come to VARA with previous racing experience, the possibility of moving through the program in one or two events is foreseeable. For our less experienced drivers, we provide the opportunity for both classroom and on track instruction that guarantees by the end of the process, they are familiar with all the circuits that VARA races at with a full understanding of the expectations of safety and attitude that is integral to future participation. In addition, rookie drivers of all class levels are often provided with 50% more seat time at any given VARA sanctioned event.

This qualification process exemplifies our commitment providing the safest and most enjoyable introduction to racing within the vintage auto racing community. Welcome to VARA. Have fun and be safe.

Article I. THREE: (total race weekends) Rookie - Class 1

Section 1.01 Each incoming participant considered a Rookie Class 3 driver must compete for 3 race weekends including attendance at the each event Ground School and obtain the signed approval from the Chief Driving Instructor, prior to achieving rookie Class 2 status.

Section 1.02 Rookie Class 3 status may be waived and the driver advanced to Class 2 status upon request and documentation by any driver with prior racing experience. This written request shall prompt a review and ruling by the Chief Driving Instructor and the driver's Class Representative.

Section 1.03 Rookie probation restrictions and on track performance.

- (a) The 'four off' rule for drivers with full competition status does not require a mandatory trip to the black flag. This is not an option for rookie drivers of any level. Four wheels off the paved track surface and / or spins which place the driver's racecar in a position contrary to the direction of race traffic on or off the track surface, require rookies to report to the Black Flag Station immediately, without exception.
- (b) Any rookie reporting to the Black Flag station for any reason including those of a mechanical

nature, must also report to the Chief Driving Instructor prior to gridding for their next session, without exception. Non-compliance with this requirement will result in an additional on track black flag notification and termination of the current track session for the rookie.

Section 1.04 Grid position for all Class 3 rookies shall be in the back of the field their respective Class for the entire race event weekend.

- (a) This requirement may be waived by request of the driver to the Chief Driving Instructor. A ruling will be made upon review in conjunction with the driver's Class Representative.

Section 1.05 All Class 3 rookies must display Rookie stripes on four locations of their racecar as prescribed and approved by the Chief Driving Instructor. Rookie stripes shall be provided to the drivers during their first Ground School.

Section 1.06 Rookie Class 3 point awards structure

- (a) Points awarded for Class 3 rookies shall only apply to the overall rookie point's championship. Points accumulated during the first three races for any rookie will not carry over to their respective class and will not be considered for determination of Class Champions or Overall Points Champion.
- (b) First place finishes in their respective race classification shall result in the award of a checkered flag solely for their performance as a rookie.
- (c) Finishing positions, championship points and checkered flag awards for veteran drivers will not be affected by the presence of any Class 3 rookie competing in the same race or qualifying session.

Article II. SIX: (total race weekends including Class 3 events) **Rookie - Class 2**

Section 2.01 All VARA Drivers, including those with full competition status, moving between racecar classes shall be subject reinstatement of Class 2 rookie status. This determination shall be made as a result of a review by the drivers current and future Class Reps, the Class Rep Chairman and the Chief Driving Instructor under the following criteria.

- (a) Driver's performance to date.
- (b) Differential of driving technique required between the drivers previous and new racecar.
 - (c) Differential of track speed between the drivers's current and future Car Classification.

Section 2.02 Class 2 rookies compete under standard rookie probation restrictions as stated in article 1, section 1.03.

Section 2.03 Class 2 rookies are entitled to all other the rights and benefits of those drivers with full competition status.

- (a) Class 2 rookies are allowed to run all their specific class sessions in addition to rookie sessions scheduled for any event weekend.
- (b) Class 2 rookies compete for grid position as established for each event, just as any other driver with full competition status.
- (c) Class 2 rookies with one or more black flag infraction(s), other than mechanical black flag notifications, during sessions in which track times determine a driver's subsequent grid position, shall be gridded at the back of the field of their respective class for their next competitive session.
- (d) Class 2 points awards shall be credited toward Class championship(s) and the Overall Points championship.

- (e) Class 2 rookies are welcome and encouraged to participate in both rookie practices as well as the rookie races in addition to their respective class practices and qualifying events.

Section 2.04 Class 2 rookies are required to participate in rookie track tours for each of their first six competitive events. This must be completed prior to a rookies first practice grid for within their respective car class.

Section 2.05 All Class 2 rookies must display Rookie stripes on four locations of their racecar as prescribed and approved by the Chief Driving Instructor.

- (a) Rookie Class 2 may be advanced to Class 1 status upon request of the rookie driver initiating a review of the drivers performance and experience followed by a ruling from the Chief Driving Instructor and the driver's Class Representative.

Article III. NINE: (total race weekends including Class 2 & 3 events) **Rookie - Class 3**

Section 3.01 Class 1 rookies compete under standard rookie probation restrictions as stated in article 1, section 1.03.

Section 3.02 Rookies Class 1 drivers are required to display Rookie stripes on four locations of their racecar as prescribed and approved by the Chief Driving Instructor.

Section 3.03 Class 1 rookies are entitled to all other the rights and benefits of those drivers with full competition status.

- (a) Class 1 rookies are allowed to run all their specific class sessions in addition to rookie sessions scheduled for any event weekend.
- (b) Class 1 rookies compete for grid position as established for each event, just as any other driver with full competition status.
- (c) Class 1 rookies with 2 or more black flag infraction(s), other than mechanical black flag notifications, during sessions in which track times determine a driver's subsequent grid position, shall be gridded at the back of the field of their respective class for their next competitive session.
- (d) Class 1 point awards shall be credited toward Class championship(s) and the Overall Points championship.
- (e) Class 1 rookies are welcome and encouraged to participate in both rookie practices as well as the rookie race in addition to their respective class practice and qualifying event.

Section 3.04 The nine race probationary requirements may be waived by the following.

- (a) Upon request of the rookie driver initiating a review of the drivers performance and experience followed by a ruling from the Chief Driving Instructor and the driver's Class Representative.
- (b) Rookie drivers may shorten their rookie probation period by one race by volunteering to work an entire race weekend at the Black Flag Station during an event in which they are not competing.

Article IV. High Performance License Requirements

Expansion and growth of “Wings and Slicks” car classification group and the inclusion into other run groups of high horsepower, high performance race cars have led to the requirement for a regimented licensing structure to ensure driver safety. The following is the High Performance licensing program for these car classification groups and other high performance cars. The High Performance license is a designation of qualification above and beyond VARA’s regular competition license. Drivers must fulfill the requirements of the 3-6-9 Guidelines in conjunction with their application for a High Performance license.

Any driver applying for a High Performance license designation must be able to compete at a timed level no greater than 105% at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 108% at Buttonwillow Raceway park, 109% at Willow Springs Raceway, 108% at Spring Mountain Motorsports Ranch and 112% at Auto Club Speedway of the mean average time during the most recent flag race event for the run group in which they are likely to compete. In addition, those seeking a High Performance license would fall into one of the three following categories, each with specific qualification criteria:

Section 4.01 HP 1. Drivers with reciprocal licensing and current racing experience with other sanctioning race organizations in a VARA, HP classified race car, shall provide proof of licensing and recent experience through submittal of VARA’s reciprocal licensing form. Recent experience is defined by VARA as participation during the current and / or previous racing season for any recognized sanctioned race event. This form is to be completed and submitted by the recognized licensing authority within any organization the driver has previously or is currently competing with. Additionally, the driver shall provide documentation of average lap times in an equivalent classification car, at the particular circuit to which they have submitted event entrance to, demonstrating compliance with the maximum timed lap requirement as stated above. Upon review and approval of this application for reciprocal licensing, the driver will enter as a Class 1 rookie for a minimum of one event and be assigned a Class mentor. Further benefits and privileges under the High Performance licensing would be based strictly on driver analysis and review.

Section 4.02 HP 2. Drivers that hold current competition licensing status with VARA and have been proficient in their current run group(s) limited to A, B, C, GTU, GTO, FB, FF, CF, and class A through D sports racer classes including S2, CS2, SSB and LMP classes 1&2, would enter as a Class 1 Rookie and be assigned a class mentor. Additionally, the driver shall provide documentation of average lap times in an equivalent car classification, at the particular circuit to which they have submitted event entrance to, demonstrating compliance with the maximum timed lap requirement as stated above. For VARA drivers from the remaining classes, a minimum of a single two day professional race school with documentation provided will be required. Further benefits and privileges under the High Performance licensing would be based strictly on driver analysis and review.

- (a) *In lieu of documentation of compliance with the maximum timed lap percentages, any driver may make prior arrangements with the VARA High Performance licensing representative to have a VARA certified Master Instructor accompany them to an open track session held at any circuit where VARA sanctioned events occur during that season, to provide timed analysis of the driver’s ability to comply with the maximum timed lap requirement as stated in percentages of mean average above. VARA also reserves the ability to accept a driver for competition that has not complied with the maximum timed lap requirement percentages, but exhibits sufficient skills pertaining to safe race car operation. Such drivers would be placed into a slower classification of car

group until the time that the driver can fulfill the timed speed requirements for the car classification appropriate to his or her race vehicle. Currently active drivers licensed with VARA who compete or have competed during the current and / or previous season, within the Wings and Slicks designated class and meet the timed lap requirement percentages rule shall be grandfathered into the HP program and issued a High Performance license.

- (b) VARA members under this designation must have successfully competed for an entire race event, without incident, in the intended high performance race car, within the previous or current racing season. This provision extends to all other VARA recognized sanctioning bodies the driver has competed with during the same period of time. Documentation for completion of events not sanctioned by VARA shall be required under this provision, without exception.

Section 4.03 HP 3. For drivers with no reciprocal licensing or current racing experience, a minimum documented completion requirement of a single three day or two, two day professional race schools with documentation provided within 6 months of completion for review. Additionally, the driver shall provide documentation of average lap times in an equivalent classification car, at the particular circuit to which they have submitted event entrance to, demonstrating compliance with the timed lap requirement percentages*. At that time, the driver would enter as a Class 2 rookie and be assigned a class mentor. Further benefits and privileges under the High Performance licensing would be based strictly on driver analysis and review.

Section 4.04 All HP candidates in the 3-6-9 program will be required to meet with their mentor prior to their first on track session and be signed off and banded for track clearance. If a driver fails to obtain sign off, they will lose all track clearance privileges until the time that they have met with the HP Class Representative and Chief Steward simultaneously, to request clearance. Any driver who receives a punitive suspension while competing in a HP run group with VARA or any VARA recognized sanctioning body, will be required to re-enter the HP licensing qualification program. The VARA HP Licensing Committee shall determine, upon review of the driver's penalty requiring suspension, which classification of HP rookie level the driver will be assigned to.