

## Novice News

This weekend is a little different from our typical race day. I am sure after reading Deb's update; you might have a few questions. She has asked me to send out a summary to make sure we are all ready for this exciting race weekend.

There are a few things that are different this weekend:

### \* How do I register?

Registrations for this weekend will start on Friday night at 7:30pm and will end at 8:30pm. Sign ins will reopen Saturday morning from 8:30am to 9pm. So why register Friday night? There is no pill draw for a timing event. Instead, drivers time by the order they register. The first driver registered in a class is the last driver to time. The last driver to register times first. (Some prefer for their drivers to go towards the end of their class.) No one is allowed to enter your driver this weekend. For example, you can't ask a handler who is going Friday night to sign your child in. You must sign in your own driver. Sign ins are \$25. You will pay only one fee even though we race two days. There is no sign ins on Sunday. If you don't sign in Saturday morning, you can't race either day.

### \* Why does this race cost more?

This weekend counts as two race dates. So, the cost is higher. We will also give the top 3 drivers from each A main a trophy. This doesn't normally happen for divisions other than novice. There is also an award for the fastest time in each division.

### \* Track fuel????

On a regular race day, you provide your own race fuel, however for timing; all drivers use only the track fuel. The track will purchase this fuel. Before going to the pole barn to qualify, stop by the fueling station. Your tank, fuel cell and carb. bowl must be empty. Only track fuel can be used during timing. You can prevent waiting in line, by having your car fueled Friday night starting at 7:30 pm. A tech person will be there to fuel your car. Volunteers are always needed. Talk to Kevin Stolte if you would like to help out. You will use your own fuel for racing.

### \* How do we time trial?

Saturday morning the novice classes will be the first to qualify. You will be given a qualifying number at sign-ins to put on the front of your car. Your driver goes out on the track and gets five hot laps. The flagger then throws the green flag. Tell your driver to go from the beginning not wait for the green flag. The next three laps are timed using your transponder. If your child spins out during the three timed laps, they are still on the clock. No extra laps are provided. Once you leave the track, your timing is over.

### \* What do I need to know about tech after timing?

Your next step is to go directly to the scale. There your child and car will be weighed in. The engine is then painted. Work with the painter to make sure everything on the list is painted. It is your responsibility to check the list. **DO NOT** touch these parts at anytime after they have been painted-- Your child will be automatically disqualified.

\* What happens after timing?

Once the qualifying is over, the mains begin. This is also different than it is on a usual race weekend. Your child will have an opportunity to race up into the A Main. The novice classes qualify groups of 4 into each main. The top four times are automatically in the A main, the next four in the B Main, and so on. The drivers are inverted. Fast time, goes fourth. After timing is complete, we will begin our lower mains.... F, E, D, ... etc. We will stop racing at 5pm.

\* How does transferring work? What is an X car?

You had a chance to see how transferring works during your cup race. Your child will qualify into a race based on their time. Please check the board to see where your child has qualified. It is your responsibility to make sure your child is in the hot chute for their race. If your child finishes in the top 4 of their race, they will go on to the next race. We go through all D mains, then all C mains, then all B mains, and then all A mains. So if you finish in the top 4 of the C main, you will need to be in the hot chute to race again when the novice B main goes out. If your child finishes in the top 4 again, then they go to the A main. It makes for an exciting day. If your child finishes 5<sup>th</sup> in any race, they are the X car or alternate car. You put an X on your car for the next race. Your car and driver should be ready to go in the hot chute. If someone is unable to begin the race, your driver gets to race. This can be difficult for the little ones. Take some time to prepare them that they may not get to go out. However, sometimes the X car does get to race.

\* Is it true I can't take our car home on Saturday night?

Yes, no car can leave the Little T grounds after qualifying. If you take your car home-- this will lead to disqualification. Our novice year, we didn't own a trailer. We asked another family to keep our car in their trailer. If you have already run your main and are done transferring then you can take your car home.

\* What is tech?

After racing, your car must be teched if you are the top 3 in the A Main or the fastest time in your class. You should roll your car directly to the tech area. Your engine may be completely torn down. This is QMA's way of making sure that fast times and top race finishers have met the technical qualifications for engines and are legal. If you are in the top 3 of the A main or the fastest time during qualifying, talk to another handler to about the process. The fastest time and winner of the A main, are usually completely torn down after this race. Having ziplock baggies and a box or plastic container is helpful to take all of your pieces home. This may require you to have your engine rebuilt.

\* When do they get their trophies?

No trophies are awarded till after tech is finished. Tech will be done after the A mains are completed.

\* What is a Chinese Raffle?

On two day and special race shows, we do a Chinese raffle. Each family brings in an item to be raffled off. It is suggested the item is a \$20 value. It can be for a child or adult. There will be an announcement for when you can bring your items to the raffle tables. Be sure to have your name checked off. We do ask families who do not donate an item to donate \$20. Everyone at Little T loves the Chinese raffle. You can buy a large sheet of tickets for \$5 and put each ticket in a different bag. Later in the afternoon, they will pull the tickets and put your name on the items you have won.

Here's a summary:

If you can come on Friday night at 7:30pm, come and sign in and fuel your car to be ready for Saturday morning.

Saturday morning, if you haven't fueled or signed in, do it. \*\*\* There is no practice on Saturday morning before timing.\*\*\*\*\* Your classes are first to time. We will begin timing by 10am or earlier (right after handler's meeting). Be in the hot chute in the proper order by your timing number. We do not wait for drivers. After timing, go through the scale house and get painted and weighed. Then help out. You are done till the lower mains begin. At 5pm, we stop racing for our cookout and family activities. You need tickets for the cookout. Check emails for events that evening. (For example, bring RC cars, dress in Western attire; bring a white t shirt to tie dye..... and so much more.)

Some drivers will not race again till Sunday. We are planning on starting at 9am on Sunday. Once racing is over, tech will be done and trophies awarded. (Only the top 3 in the A main will get a trophy this week. The little ones may need to be prepared. On a normal race week, we have been giving trophies to the top three of every main in Novice.)

It is alot of fun and takes everyone to make it work. Help out however you can. We encourage you to help out after you are done time trialing. Many hands make the day go faster.

If you have further questions, don't hesitate to email Melissa at [littletdenton@verizon.net](mailto:littletdenton@verizon.net)

