 North American Model Boat Association Official Rule Book – Update	Update #	2024-4
	Date	9/1/24

Enclosed you will find the latest Rule Book updates. To keep your Rule Book current and up to date, please make the page replacements listed below. If you feel that you have missed any updates please call the Executive Secretary to get an additional copy and/or for clarification of current revisions.

Reminder: Per Section 7 - Rule C.1, the attached rule updates are effective immediately once published on the NAMBA website or in the Propwash.

Section

Summary of changes

7 - Rule Changes

Remove pages: 1 - 2 (*dated 5/31/23*)
 Insert pages: 1 - 32 (*dated 9/1/24*)

Board of Directors passed proposal:
 - Membership notification of proposals (Rule A.2.g)

16 - Race Organization

Remove pages: 5 - 6 (*dated 6/3/24*)
 Insert pages: 5 - 6 (*dated 9/1/24*)

Board of Directors passed proposal:
 - Correction of new electric protest rule (Rule H.7)

28 - Electric

Remove pages: 1 - 2 (*dated 9/2/23*)
 Insert pages: 1 - 2 (*dated 9/1/24*)


Board of Directors passed proposal:
 - Removal of ECO reference in self-righting rule (A.5)

B - Hall Of Fame

Remove pages: 15 (*dated 3/1/20*)
 Insert pages: 15 (*dated 9/1/24*)

Additional of 2023 Inductee

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A. RULE MODIFICATIONS

1. Non-Racing Rules and Safety Regulations

- a. May be amended by the Board of Directors as deemed necessary to provide for the smooth operation of NAMBA and for the safety of its members as well as compliance with current insurance guidelines.
- b. This action by the Board of Directors can be accomplished by a vote by phone, mail, or email, and may occur at any time during the year.
- c. All board members must be notified of any proposed changes prior to a vote, and must be given ample opportunity to cast their vote. Proposals will be approved by a simple majority of the Board.
- d. Should the Board decide that the change under contemplation has a significant effect on the day to day boating of the members, they may elect to place the item before the membership for a general vote.

2. Racing Rule Additions, Deletions, or Changes

- a. The NAMBA General Membership shall vote on proposals regarding Racing, Racing related issues, or Competition topics.
- b. For proposed rule changes from an individual member:
 - i) Proposed rule changes must be submitted to the District Director in the district in which the submitting member resides.
 - ii) Upon receipt of said proposal, the District Director will put the matter to a vote within his district. This vote can occur at any time during the year as deemed appropriate by the Director but should be handled in a timely manner. The exact method of said vote can be handled in whatever manner is normally followed for voting within that particular district.
 - iii) Upon successful passage of the proposal within the district, the district director will forward the proposal to the NAMBA office along with a statement by the District Director that the proposal has passed within his district and that the district desires to have the proposal sent to the general membership for voting.

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- c. For proposed rule changes from the Rules Committee:
 - i) Upon successful passage of the proposal within the Rules Committee, the proposal will be forwarded directly to the NAMBA office without having to be submitted through a District as a rule from an individual member would.
 - ii) The proposed rule change will be processed exactly as a proposal from a District, following all the additional reviews and steps noted below.
- d. Proposals may be submitted to the NAMBA office at any time during the year as long as the steps noted in Rule A.2.b or A.2.c above have been adhered to.
- e. After receipt of a proposal by the NAMBA office, it will be sent to the NAMBA Board of Directors. The Board will review the proposal to insure proper wording and consistency with other already existing rules.
- f. Once the NAMBA Board of Directors has reviewed and approved the proposal, the Executive Secretary will send a copy of that proposal to the appropriate Class Chairman/Chairmen for further review.
 - i) The Class Chairman/Chairmen will review the proposal and determine if it is proper in scope as to being verified and enforced capably.
 - ii) Once the Class Chairman/Chairmen has reviewed the proposal he/they will file a report to the Executive Secretary.
 - (a) If the report supports the rule, the Executive Secretary will send it to the membership for a vote via process described in rule A.2.h below.
 - (b) If the report finds that the proposal cannot be properly verified or enforced, the original proposal along with the report will be sent to the NAMBA Board of Directors for further review. The rule may be then returned to the District proposing the rule change and that District will have the opportunity to revise the proposal and make it workable.
- g. After the Board of Directors and Class Chariman/Chairmen have reviewed the proposal the NAMBA office will send out the proposal to the membership for voting. The proposal will normally be sent out with the next regular mailing of the newsletter, but special mailing or email from the voting portal may be utilized if deemed necessary. In addition, the proposals may be made available to the membership by publication on the NAMBA web page.

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H. PROTESTS

1. In all sporting events, situations develop that require judgment calls or decisions on the part of contest officials and all such decisions made herein will be final and may not be protested.
2. Continued verbal protests, harangues and/or other abuse, either direct or indirect of any contest officials will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will be just cause to bar that contestant or crew person from any further participation in that contest.
3. All protests for engines and hulls must be made in writing to the Contest Director and accompanied by a \$25 protest fee. If the protest is found to be invalid, the fee will go to the owner of the protested boat. If the protest is found to be valid, the fee is to be returned to the protester.
4. A protested hull or engine will be measured by a committee made up of the Contest Director, the District Director or his authorized representative present at the event, and one other NAMBA member other than the protester or owner of the protested engine or hull. Measurements will be made in the presence of the owner and results thereof will be made known in writing and signed by each member of the three person committee and be forwarded with their decision to the Executive Secretary, the Board of Directors, and the President of NAMBA.
5. A protested hull will be allowed to continue running in the event(s) entered until the protest is rule upon. However, any points, records, places, etc. won will be held pending the resolution of the protest.
6. Protests of a nitro or gas boat's engine will be reviewed after the last round of the class. A boater that has an engine under protest will be allowed to complete the racing for the day.
7. Protests of an electric motor or cells will be reviewed and ruled on prior to the racer's next heat in that class.
8. Protests on the legality of a boat itself, will be done prior to the start of the 2nd round for the class that the boat is entered in. When the 2nd round of racing begins, the opportunity to examine every boat in that class will have occurred, thus allowing the CD the opportunity to determine if it meets the minimum requirements to continue.
9. A protest of any kind must be made at the contest so all factors can be available.

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I. AWARDS

1. The members of NAMBA will be allowed to accept merchandise, merchandise gift certificates, and trophies as competitive awards. Any NAMBA member can receive earned racing awards. However, the awarding of district points will be left to the discretion of the district in which the race is held. Cash and cash equivalent awards are not permitted.
 - a. Examples of cash equivalent awards would be but are not limited to: pre-paid debit cards, money orders, cashier's checks, and other items that are directly redeemed in cash.

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A. GENERAL RULES

1. Electric racing rules are intended as a supplement to the general racing rules of NAMBA. In the case of a conflict, the Electric racing rules will prevail.
2. A positive method of speed control must be used. On/Off micro or variable speed controls are allowed.
3. Battery Guidelines
 - a. The following battery chemistries will be considered official for electric racing in NAMBA:
 - i) Ni-chemistry: maximum of Sub-C sized cells with nominal 1.2 volt per cell.
 - ii) Li-polymer chemistry: nominal 3.7 volts per cell.
 - iii) Li-ion chemistry: nominal 3.3 volts per cell.
 - b. Racers wishing to run alternative chemistries to those listed will be required to provide data to the contest official to verify the chemistry's volts per cell and any special safety requirements. Allowing alternative chemistries will be at the discretion of the Contest Director based on the data provided.
 - c. For the purposes of determining maximum allowances, a "pack" will be considered any number of cells in series whose min/max nominal voltage falls within the allowed nominal voltage range for the designated class.
 - d. It is recognized that the high energy potential of modern cells can poses a potential for danger to racers, fellow members, spectators, as well as to racers pit equipment. It is therefore required that each racer keep in their charging area appropriate safety equipment. This may include fire extinguishers, safe charging enclosures, sand buckets, etc. Additionally, the hosting clubs may provide additional equipment, charging procedures, and/or charging areas as they see fit.
 - e. Chargers must be used that are specifically designed for the chemistry of cell being charged, with strict adherence on charger settings that are within manufacturers specifications (charger and cells) for charge voltage, amperage and capacity. Any racer found not in compliance will be withdrawn from the class and may be banned from competition for the remainder of the event by the Contest Director.

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4. Hull Measurement Guidelines

- a. When a hull minimum or maximum length measurement is specified for any class, that hull will be measured by placing two vertical straight edges at the furthest points fore and aft of the bow and transom of the hull. The distance between those two vertical straight edges will be measured. Hardware will not be included in the measurement.
 - b. The hull will be placed between those two vertical edges and situated in the same horizontal position in which the hull would ride on the water. Any flanges, “shoebox” overhangs or other parts of the hull that are part of the original manufacturing process will be included in the measurement.
 - c. A hull may be lengthened to comply, but material additions must become an integral part of the hull structure. If for instance, material is added to the transom, the entire transom must be lengthened and the addition must be blended in to the rest of the hull.
5. Boats that are capable of self-righting are not eligible for competition, unless specifically noted in the rules for a specific class. If the boats self-righting design can be disabled or otherwise rendered useless, then the Contest Director may allow it to compete.

B. OFFICIAL COURSES

1. Oval

- a. Fast Electric will follow the Official Course outlined in Section 13 - Rule C.2.
- b. NAMBA Fast Electric Heat Racing records will be maintained for the N-1 Power Parameter and 1/10th Scale Crackerbox for 3 laps on an Official Course.
- c. If a host club of a sanctioned NAMBA event has a pond that cannot fit an official course, they are allowed to use a course dimension of their choice. This information shall be listed on the race flyer and heat racing shall remain 1 mile in length, unless otherwise specified in the rulebook. No records are allowed.

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Tracy Osborne - Inducted 2018

Tracy started racing in 1982 in the Kids-R-Boaters series, and continued racing regularly at district and national through the 90s. Tracy’s work for NAMBA started with helping her mom (former NAMBA Secretary and fellow HOF member Cathie Galbraith) and has continued ever since. She helped reformat our Rulebook in 2006 and continues to maintain it today. She has helped put on races at a district and national level, serving on several Nationals committees. She has maintained District 19s website and tracking their points since 2012 and currently serves as their secretary/treasurer.



Richard “Rags” Grenier – Inducted 2019

Richard has been a NAMBA member since 1995. He saw the need for a separate New England district in NAMBA and successfully petitioned for the creation of what is now District 11 and has served as its Director since. He has hosted many district races, making sure to communicate with his district via newsletters after each race, and provided several articles for NAMBA’s national newsletter. He served as the contest director for the two NAMBA Nationals that District 11 has hosted.



Eric Bourlet – Inducted 2023

Eric has been racing for over 25 years and has significantly contributed to the growth of model boating in the Northwest, always willing to share his knowledge regarding performance improvements with fellow model boaters. Over the years he has served as president of his local club, contest director for various events including two NAMBA Nationals, District Director, and the NAMBA Sport Hydroplane Chairman. Over the years he has won several classes at the district and national level, but is best known as a top contender in Sport 40.

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