



2023 Circuit Excel Nationals Sporting Regulations



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2023 Circuit Excel Nationals

Sporting Regulations

A capitalised and italicised word in this document is defined in the FIA International Sporting Code (Code) or the National Competition Rules (NCR), including their Appendices.

Any HEADING is for reference only and has no regulatory effect.

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S1 TITLE AND JURISDICTION

S1.1 Title

This *Competition* will only be known as and referred to as the "2023 Circuit Excel Nationals".

S1.2 Authority/Jurisdiction

1.2.1 The 2023 Circuit Excel Nationals will be conducted under the FIA International Sporting Code including Appendices, the National Competition Rules (*NCR*) and the Circuit Race Standing Regulations (*CRSR*) of *Motorsport Australia*, the Sporting Regulations published for the Nationals, the *Supplementary Regulations* and Further *Supplementary Regulations* issued by the *Organiser*, Bulletins issued by the Stewards, and any Driver Briefing Notes and instructions issued by the Clerk of the Course at the *Event*.

1.2.2 *Motorsport Australia* has sanctioned the Nationals as a single-event Nationals *Competition*.

1.2.3 The National Administrator (*NA*) for Circuit Excel racing is Circuit Excel Racing Association (CERA).

S2 ADMINISTRATION

S2.1 Personnel

The following personnel have been appointed to the Nationals by *Motorsport Australia* or the *NA* and have the authority to administer the various aspects of these regulations as detailed in the *CRSR*:

Technical Delegate (<i>TD</i>)	Shane Beikoff Bycroft
Category Administrator (<i>CA</i>)	Les Sharpe
Driving Standards Advisor (<i>DSA</i>)	TBA

S3 COMPETITOR ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to compete in the Nationals, each Competitor must hold a current Motorsport Australia Competition Licence and be a current financial member of a *Motorsport Australia* affiliated club.

S4 AUTOMOBILE ELIGIBILITY

Each *Automobile* must comply with Circuit Race Appendix – Specifications of Automobiles - 3rd Category - Touring Cars - Group 3E – Circuit Excel of the *Motorsport Australia Manual*.

S4.1 Replacement *Automobile*

4.1.1 An *Automobile* that has been entered to compete at the Nationals may not be replaced with another *Automobile* following the commencement of the first qualifying session for that *Automobile*.

4.1.2 Prior to the commencement of an *Automobile's* first qualifying session of the Nationals, a *Competitor* may nominate a substitute *Automobile* which may be permitted to compete in the remainder of the *Competition* subject to the approval of the Stewards.

S5 DRIVER ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to compete in the Nationals, each *Driver* must hold a current Motorsport Australia Circuit Licence with Provisional endorsement or higher and be a current financial member of a Motorsport Australia Circuit Excel affiliated car club.

S5.2 Substitute *Driver*

Prior to the commencement of an *Automobile's* first qualifying session at the Nationals, its *Competitor* may nominate a substitute *Driver* who may be permitted to compete in the remainder of the *Competition* subject to the approval of the Stewards.

S6 ROUNDS

The Nationals will be conducted over 1 Round as detailed in the Calendar below.

S7 CALENDAR

The Nationals will be contested over the following Round:

Date	Circuit
26 – 29 October 2023	CARCO.com.au Raceway

S8 ROUND FORMAT

The number, length and format of *Track* sessions will ultimately be negotiated between the *NA* and the *Organiser* and will be advised in the *Supplementary Regulations* for the *Event*. Generally, the Nationals will be conducted as a two-day *Event* with the following format.

S8.1 Thursday/Friday Practice

Thursday/Friday will be an open, untimed test and tune day. Groups and session times are subject to the timetable to be provided by the *Organiser*.

S8.2 Round Format - Day 1

- 8.2.1 Qualifying 1 - 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for 'odd numbered' *Automobiles*
- 8.2.2 Qualifying 2 - 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for 'even numbered' *Automobiles*.
- 8.2.3 Qualifying 3 - 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for the fastest 50% from Q1 & Q2
- 8.2.4 Qualifying 4 - 1 x 20-minute qualifying session for the slowest 50% from Q1 & Q2
- 8.2.5 Heat 1 - 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups A & B (expressed as a number of laps)
- 8.2.6 Heat 2 - 1 x 20-minute heat for Groups C & D (expressed as a number of laps)

S8.3 Round Format - Day 2

- 8.3.1 Heat 3 - 1 20-minute heat for Groups A & C (expressed as a number of laps)
- 8.3.2 Heat 4 - 1 20-minute heat for Groups B & D (expressed as a number of laps)
- 8.3.3 Heat 5 - 1 20-minute heat for Groups B & C (expressed as a number of laps)
- 8.3.4 Heat 6 - 1 20-minute heat for Groups A & D (expressed as a number of laps)
- 8.3.5 Race 1 - 1 x 20-minute Repechage race (expressed as a number of laps)
- 8.3.6 Race 2 - 1 x 20-minute Nationals Final (expressed as a number of laps)

S8.4 Variations to Timetable

The timetable may be varied at any time due to exceptional circumstances only with the prior approval of the Stewards.

S9 GRID DETERMINATION

S9.1 Heats

9.1.1 Each Automobile will be allocated to one of 4 groups based on lap times from all qualifying sessions.

9.1.1.1 "Qualifier 1" will be the *Automobile* that achieves the fastest lap time from Q1 to Q4.

9.1.1.2 "Qualifier 2" will be the *Automobile* that achieves the second-fastest lap time from Q1 to Q4.

9.1.1.3 "Qualifier 3" will be the *Automobile* that achieves the third-fastest lap time from Q1 to Q4 and so on until all groups are filled.

9.1.2 The group allocation will be as follows:

Group A	Qualifiers 1, 5, 9, 13 etc
Group B	Qualifiers 2, 6, 10, 14 etc
Group C	Qualifiers 3, 7, 11, 15 etc
Group D	Qualifiers 4, 8, 12, 16 etc

Note: The number of groups may change depending on the number of entries.

9.1.3 The grid for each Heat will be determined as follows:

9.1.3.1 **Heat 1 (Groups A&B):** The grid for Heat 1 will be determined from the fastest qualifying lap time of each *Automobile* in Groups A and B with the *Automobile* with the fastest lap time on grid position 1, 2nd fastest lap time on grid position 2 and so on.

9.1.3.2 **Heat 2 (Groups C&D):** The grid for Heat 2 will be determined from the fastest qualifying lap time of each *Automobile* in Groups C and D with the *Automobile* with the fastest lap time on grid position 1, 2nd fastest lap time on grid position 2 and so on.

9.1.3.3 **Heat 3 (Groups A&C):** The grid for Heat 3 will be determined from the points awarded for each *Automobile* from Groups A & C from Heats 1 and 2, with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, the second-highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.

9.1.3.4 **Heat 4 (Groups B&D):** The grid for Heat 4 will be determined from the points awarded for each *Automobile* from Groups B & D from Heats 1 and 2, with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, the 2nd highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.

9.1.3.5 **Heat 5 (Groups B&C):** The grid for Heat 5 will be determined from the accumulated points awarded for each *Automobile* from Groups B & C from Heats 1 to 4 with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, 2nd highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.

9.1.3.6 **Heat 6 (Groups A&D):** The grid for Heat 6 will be determined from the accumulated points awarded for each *Automobile* from Groups A & D from Heats 1 to 4, with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, 2nd highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.

S9.2 Race 1 – Repechage

9.2.1 The grid for the Repechage will be limited to the track density, and any remaining qualifiers after each grid position has been allocated will be eliminated.

9.2.2 The grid for the Repechage will be determined from accumulated points awarded for each *Automobile* from Heats 1 to 6, with the highest point scorer that has not been allocated a grid position in the Final on grid position 1, the next highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.

S9.3 Race 2 – Final

9.3.1 The grid for the Final will be determined from accumulated points awarded for each *Automobile* from Heats 1 to 6, with the highest point scorer on grid position 1, the next highest point scorer on grid position 2 and so on.

- 9.3.2 The last 4 grid positions for the Final will be allocated to the top 4 finishing positions of the repechage race.
- 9.3.3 The grid for Race 2 will be limited to the track density, and any remaining qualifiers after each grid position has been allocated will be eliminated.
- 9.3.4 The *Organiser* will publish a preliminary grid sheet for the Final at least 30 minutes before its scheduled start time.

S9.4 Determining grid positions where points are tied.

- 9.4.1 If points are tied, grid positions will be determined by the higher finishing position in the previous heat. If this does not break the tie, the *Automobile* with the fastest qualifying lap time will be allocated the higher grid position.

S10 START PROCEDURE

The *Start* procedure for each heat/race will be as detailed in Circuit Race Standing Regulations – Non-Championship Standing Start.

S11 AWARDS AND POINT SCORE

S11.1 Prizes and Trophies

Trophies and/or prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd based on the finishing order of the Final

S11.2 Point score.

- 11.2.1 Points will be awarded to *Drivers* based on the finishing order of each Heat as follows:

Finishing Position	Points	Finishing Position	Points	Finishing Position	Points
1 st	50	11 th	29	21 st	11
2 nd	45	12 th	28	22 nd	10
3 rd	43	13 th	26	23 rd	9
4 th	41	14 th	25	24 th	8
5 th	39	15 th	23	25 th	7
6 th	37	16 th	21	26 th	5
7 th	35	17 th	19	27 th	4
8 th	33	18 th	17	28 th	3
9 th	31	19 th	15	29 th	2
10 th	30	20 th	13	30 th	1

Every other finisher - 1 point.

- 11.2.2 If a heat is stopped before the completion of the allocated number of laps, run in 2 parts, restarted, or the result declared, the points awarded will be on the final result of that event.
- 11.2.3 If a Heat is cancelled, points will be awarded as per the starting positions for that Heat.
- 11.2.4 Points will only be used to determine grid positions for heats and races.

S11.3 Nationals Winner

The winner of Race 2 will be acknowledged as the 2023 Circuit Excel Nationals winner.

S12 EVENT OPERATIONS

S12.1 Qualifying

Qualifying sessions 1, 2, 3, and 4 are to be conducted as 4 separate groups in consecutive sessions.

S12.2 Heats

12.2.1 Sufficient heats must be scheduled to enable each *Driver* to compete against each other at least once.

12.2.2 Each round of heats are to be scheduled consecutively.

12.2.3 Points are awarded for finishing positions for each Heat, which are used to determine the grid positions in subsequent heats/races.

S12.3 Repechage Race

12.3.1 At the conclusion of the heats, a repechage race may follow to determine the remaining qualifiers for the Final.

12.3.2 The repechage race will be gridded from the remainder of the field after 4 less than the maximum number of *Automobiles* the track density allows are allocated to the Final.

S12.4 Final

The Final is the feature race of the Nationals and must allow for the maximum number of *Automobiles* permitted by the track density.

S12.5 Competition Numbers

12.5.1 Each *Competitor* may include their preferred competition number on their Entry Form.

12.5.2 The CA will have the final discretion regarding the allocation of competition numbers.

12.5.3 Each *Competitor* will be advised of their *Automobile's* competition number as early as possible.

S12.6 Driver Briefings

12.6.1 Each *Driver* is required to attend a compulsory Briefing at a time and location to be nominated in the *Supplementary Regulations*.

12.6.2 Other compulsory briefings may be convened as required.

S12.7 Parc Fermé

12.7.1 Each *Automobile* must return directly to the designated Parc Fermé area (or as directed by Officials) at the conclusion of qualifying and racing, without returning to pit or paddock areas and without interference from any third party (other than an Official).

12.7.2 An *Automobile* may not be removed from Parc Fermé except at the direction of the TD or the Chief Scrutineer.

S12.8 Removal of Automobiles from the Circuit

Following the commencement of the first qualifying session, it is prohibited to remove any *Automobile* from the *Circuit* prior to the release of all *Automobiles* from the Parc Fermé established following the that *Automobile's* final race without the prior express written approval of the TD.

S13 FUEL

13.1 Only Pump Fuel, as detailed in Technical Appendix - Schedule G of the *Motorsport Australia Manual*, may be used for the duration of the *Competition*.

13.2 Unless specified otherwise in the *Supplementary Regulations*, a maximum of 40 litres of fuel per *Automobile* is permitted to be stored at any time.

13.3 With the exception of ambient atmospheric air and the specified fuel, no other substance may be added to the engine's intake charge.

S14 SCRUTINEERING

- 14.1 Each *Automobile* will be the subject of Targeted Scrutiny, as directed. Mandatory audits will be conducted as directed by the Chief Scrutineer.
- 14.2 Scrutineering and eligibility checks will commence on Friday, October 27th, 2023.
- 14.3 Eligibility scrutineering will be conducted as determined by the *TD*, Chief Scrutineer, or the Clerk of the Course. Wherever possible, scrutineering will be undertaken in the Scrutineering shed.
- 14.4 Each *Automobile* is to be presented for scrutineering in a clean, neat, and tidy condition which must be maintained throughout the *Competition*.
- 14.5 An *Automobile* may be weighed at the completion of any session, Heat, or race.

S15 AUTOMOBILE MARKINGS

Each *Automobile* must comply with Technical Appendix - Schedule K of the *Motorsport Australia Manual* and display the category and *Event* sponsors' decals as required by the *CA*. Any *Competitor* or *Driver* who fails to comply with this requirement may be ineligible for points or prohibited from continuing in the *Competition* until such time as compliance is achieved at the discretion of the Stewards.

S16 DRIVER APPAREL

Each *Driver* must use only apparel in compliance with Technical Appendix - Schedule D of the *Motorsport Australia Manual*.

S17 IN-CAR CAMERAS

- 17.1 Each *Automobile* must be fitted with an in-car camera system.
- 17.2 The in-car camera system must be switched on and remain fully operational to record video images for the duration of each practice session, qualifying session, heat and race.
- 17.3 It is the responsibility of each *Competitor* to ensure that each camera is in operational condition and turned on before each *Track* session and turned off following each *Track* session.
- 17.4 Each in-car camera must be installed and aligned by the *Competitor* in accordance with the requirements of the *CA* (refer photo below). It is prohibited to adjust the alignment of any camera once set by the *CA*, *DSA* or *TD*.



- 17.5 Access to the video images recorded by the in-car camera system must be provided to the *CA*, *DSA*, or *TD* at any time upon request.
- 17.6 An SD card must only be removed from any camera once authorised by the or *TD*.

- 17.7 Any error, action, omission or failure which causes a loss of any vision will be investigated by the *DSA/CA* and may be referred to the Stewards who may impose a penalty may.

S18 TIMING:

- 18.1 A timing transponder must be mounted on each Automobile as per the 3rd Category – Touring Cars - Group 3E – Circuit Excel regulations.
- 18.2 For more timing information, refer to the *Supplementary Regulations*.

S19 TYRES

- 19.1 Each *Automobile* must only be fitted with Tyres as per the Group 3-Circuit Excel regulations.
- 19.2 The control tyre is the Federal RSR 195/50/15 or the Dunlop Direzza DZZ3 82V 195/50/15 interim control tyre. Only one brand of tyre (i.e. Federal or Dunlop) is permitted to be used at any time on an *Automobile*.
- 19.3 Prior to any *Track* session, tread depth must exceed 1.5 mm except for the shoulders of the tyre; for the Nationals, the shoulders are defined as the area of tread finishing 40 mm from a perpendicular line across the outer balloon of the tyre.
- 19.4 A maximum of 6 tyres will be marked by the *TD* or their nominee for each *Automobile* before the commencement of the first qualifying session. These tyres are the only tyres permitted to be used on that *Automobile* during qualifying, heats and race.
- 19.5 The use of unmarked or incorrectly marked tyres during any qualifying session, heat or race is prohibited.
- 19.6 No tyre marked for use by one *Automobile* may be used on another *Automobile* during the *Competition*.
- 19.7 The onus and responsibility lie with the *Competitor* and/or *Driver* to ensure that tyres are marked in accordance with these regulations.
- 19.8 If a tyre is damaged, the *TD* or Chief Scrutineer may approve the use of a scrubbed replacement tyre for each damaged tyre. Damaged tyres must be presented to the *TD* or Chief Scrutineer for consideration of replacement.
- 19.9 If an approved replacement tyre is used by an *Automobile*, that *Automobile* will be subject to a penalty of a drop of 5 grid places for its next following heat/race for each extra tyre used.
- 19.10 The Chief Scrutineer or *TD* will be Judge of Fact in respect to decisions on tyres.