

6.5 RACE STARS

6.5.1 SCCA Standard Rolling Start

The SCCA standard rolling start will be used at all SCCA races unless an alternate procedure has been approved by the Division's Executive Steward and is included in the event Supplemental Regulations.

- A. The Chief Steward will instruct when the 5 minute and 1 minute warnings should be given to the cars on grid, indicating the time remaining before the start of the race. These signals must be plainly audible or visible.
- B. Engines should be started at or before the 1 minute signal.
- C. At or before the expiration of the 1 minute warning. The cars will be released to begin the pace lap.
- D. One pace lap precedes all races, unless the Chief Steward, at his discretion, authorizes an additional unscored pace lap.
- E. If a pace car is used, it will be positioned at the head of the pack, with emergency lights flashing. When the field is released, the pace may begin at a brisk pace, but will be sufficiently slowed before it pulls off the track to allow orderly grouping of the field. Drivers may not pass the pace car until it pulls off the track and the pole car will maintain the speed of the pace car before it pulled off track until the green flag.

If the race is not started, another pace lap will be run. Depending on the conditions, the pace car may overtake the field and resume its functions.

The front row drivers must be advised not to pass the pace car and that the pace car may return to its position for the additional pace lap if there is no start.

If a pace car is not used, the pole car will serve that function from its position in the front row, complying with the instructions of the Chief Steward or his designee.

- F. The starter shall be safely located where the majority of the drivers in the field can clearly see him as they approach his position. He shall remain motionless, with the green flag hidden, and no other flags visible.
- G. The starter will start the race by suddenly and continuously waving the green flag until all cars have passed the start line if the field is:
 - 1. At a constant slow speed;
 - 2. Well bunched and in line; and
 - 3. Close enough to the starter that the majority of the drivers can see the flag.

Racing begins and passing may occur throughout the field when the green flag is displayed.

- H. The starter will abort the start by displaying no flag and shaking his head in the negative if the field is not in good order, or if some drivers have improved their positions by moving out of line or by passing prior to the waving of the green flag. This advises the drivers to proceed on another pace lap. Drivers raise one hand to confirm that the start is aborted. (Except as provided in 6.5.2.D)

- I. Any additional pace lap(s) following an aborted start are under double standing yellow flags at all stations, and they are scored as race laps. Timing starts when the pole car crosses the timing control line, unless otherwise specified by the event Supplemental Regulations.
- J. A car may not improve its position in the field after the cars released from the grid for the pace lap.
 - 1. A car that fails to start with the pack or falls out of position during the pace lap relinquishes its grid position and may rejoin only at the back of the field.
 - 2. A car that is disabled and cannot keep pace should not hold up the field. The driver must signal that his car is disabled by raising an arm, pulling to the side of the course, and staying well off the racing line. Other cars may safely pass the signaling vehicle. The driver of a disabled car should seek assistance at the nearest corner station or pit at the first opportunity.
 - 3. A car that improves its position relative to the field during the pace lap by moving forward, moving out of line, or passing before the green flag is displayed may be penalized for a false start. However, if a car drops out of the pace lap(s), everyone in the column behind that car must close up behind the car in front: moving up under this circumstance is not considered improving position or passing under the yellow.
 - 4. If a false start has occurred, and the race has been started, the driver(s) may be black-flagged and held in the pits or at the start line for up to 1 minute, and other penalties may also be imposed, as specified in Section 7.

KK. The SCCA Standard Rolling Start is not a flying start. The pace lap may begin at a brisk pace, but must be sufficiently slowed before the start line to allow orderly grouping of the field. The actual speed immediately prior to the start is dictated by the types of cars, size of the field, and course layout. The same official should brief the front row drivers before each race, preferably the starter, under the direction of the Chief Steward.