

## **Our Gang Ice Racing Summary of Changes for the 2021 Season**

This year, our focus at the Annual Meeting was on implementing changes that would allow us to work more efficiently, help expand membership, make street classes less confusing and more accessible, and provide more opportunities to meet the needs of everyone wishing to participate. As a result, there were a larger number of changes to the rules than in years past. In an effort to avoid confusion, we have written up a summary that highlights all of the major changes. Please take the time to at least read the first three sections, and then, if you typically join one of the Street or Pro Street classes, continue on to the sections that may directly affect you.

### **Registration, Staging and Awards**

- All entrants must register and pay online by noon the day before the first day of the event (typically this will be by noon on Friday). Cash will not be accepted at the lake and there will be no opportunity to register late or on site.
- If you wish to cancel your registration or you are unable to make it to the event, a credit can be issued which may be applied to a future race during the same race season. These credits are no longer available once you have checked in at the event. Any credits remaining at the end of the season will be retained by the club. No refunds will be issued at any time.
- All race competitors are required to help run a class that they are not participating in by flagging corners, helping stage, or any other duties necessary to safely run the event. As such, participants are reminded to dress warmly, as they may need to stand out in the cold for extended periods of time. Ice traction grips (Yaktrax, Kahtoola, Korkers or similar) for your shoes are also recommended because falling down hurts. They are available at REI, but there are similar products on Amazon for less.
- The computer will generate random brackets rather than competitors drawing numbers.
- Each driver will be assigned a number to be used for staging. A sheet of paper with this number will be displayed on the dash of the vehicle for the Street classes.
- Participation points will no longer be awarded.

## Membership

In past years, competitors wishing to become Our Gang members had to apply for membership before the beginning of the race season, which caused some confusion for those who were interested in becoming members in the middle of the season, so we are expanding the membership application window to encompass the entire season. We will also be working on adding some perks available to members only in order to get people excited about being a member and help grow the club.

- Competitors may apply for membership once the application is made available through the end of the race season. They must compete in races on at least two separate weekends before they are eligible to become members (this includes prior seasons).
- Members joining mid-season are not eligible to buy prepays until the following season.
- Friday Fun Days may be reserved for members only.
- All regular meetings occurring during the race season will be held online. The Annual Meeting, which is typically held in April, will continue to be held in person.

## Sunday Fun Day Bare Rubber

We understand that some people just want the experience of driving on ice without the pressure of competition, so we will be adding a new track that will be set aside specifically for drivers who want dedicated seat time without the constraints and stress of competing in a tournament-style bracket. The track will be structured like a standard practice track, so participants will take turns running head-to-head races, but the results of the races will not be recorded. In short, drivers will be able to practice for hours on end without the threat of being eliminated.

- Take as many practice laps as you can make within a 4 hour window
- Entry fee of \$52.99 per vehicle (up to 4 drivers allowed per vehicle)
- Limited number of vehicles (initially 32)
- No brackets, no awards, no pressure
- All vehicles must be licensed, registered, and insured for use on public roads, including license plates and emission and/or inspection stickers.
- Tires must be factory produced and DOT approved for use on public roads. Tires that came studded and have been de-studded are permitted.
- Length of time period, entry fee, and number of vehicles may be adjusted as needed throughout the season

Participants must register for **either** the Sunday Fun Day Bare Rubber track **or** one of the competitive brackets. Once checked in, participants will not be able to change events. The Sunday Fun Day Bare Rubber track will be reserved only for participants who sign up specifically for this event and will not have to worry about competitors who were eliminated from the competitive brackets coming over and taking time on their track.

**Some of the changes that were implemented at the beginning of the 2021 Season for the Street and Pro Street classes have been reverted. Please see the 2021 Rule Book Amendments for full details.**

### **Pro Street Bare Rubber**

~~This class has been discontinued due to the expansion of the Street Bare Rubber class (see below).~~

### **Street Bare Rubber**

~~This class has been expanded to include tires that were previously relegated to Pro Street in order to avoid the hassle of classifying the many new tire models added each year. The result is a single class supporting all bare rubber tires that are DOT approved for use on public roads.~~

- ~~● Specialty ice tires are allowed (i.e. Blizzak, Nokian, soft compound, etc).~~
- The use of a factory emergency brake is allowed.
- Tire changing is allowed before and after the event.
- Class size is limited.

### **Pro Street Studs**

~~Due to waning attendance numbers, this class has been expanded to include winter rally tires in an effort to grow the class and has been renamed to Pro Street Rally/Studs. Tires allowed last season will still be allowed so as not to exclude past participants who show up and want to race.~~

- ~~● Rally type ice racing tires produced with the studs installed and/or molded into the rubber at the factory will be allowed with some requirements. See section 13.C. of the rules for full details.~~
- Last season's custom-built studded tires are still allowed, with one change: Studs with a maximum length of 20mm are allowed, up to a maximum of 20 studs per 40 sq. inches.

### **Street Studs**

The rules for this class were revised in an effort to fully accommodate all studded tires that are DOT approved for use on public roads.

- Studded tires that are factory-produced by a tire manufacturer that are DOT approved for use on public roads (such as the Nokian Hakkapeliitta 9) may be used. These tires must retain the original amount and type of stud installed at time of manufacture and must not be modified. If the tire manufacturer is any other than Nokian, it is the entrant's responsibility to provide supporting documentation of stud type and stud count for any such tire.
- Studdable tires that are DOT approved for use on public roads in which studs are installed subsequent to the manufacturing process may also be used. These tires must retain the number of holes molded into the tire's tread design from the factory and studs

installed in said holes may not protrude more than 1/16" from the tread of the tire.  
Retread tires are not allowed.

- The use of a factory emergency brake is allowed.
- Tire changing is allowed before and after the event.

### **Open Rally/Studs Exhibition**

The rally exhibition class was added last year to provide an opportunity for competitors to test winter rally tires and provide feedback so that we could evaluate interest and determine how we could integrate this type of tire into our events. This year, we are allowing winter rally tires to be used in the Pro Street Studs class as mentioned above, but we are also going to maintain this open exhibition class on Sunday in order to provide the opportunity for competitors with vehicles in the Competition Division to try out winter rally tires or compete against them on Competition studs. Pro Street Division vehicles will continue to be welcome, as well.

- Competition Division vehicles are permitted, provided that they meet the Safety Equipment requirements for the Competition Studs class (Rule 14.A.)
- Pro Street Division vehicles are permitted, provided that they meet the Safety Equipment requirements for the Pro Street Studs class (Rule 13.A.)
- All vehicles must meet the Four Wheel Drive Vehicles Only requirements in Rule 1 and the Vehicle Specifications/Safety Equipment requirements in Rule 11.
- All drivers must meet the Drivers' Requirements in Rule 3.
- Winter rally tires as defined in Rule 13.C.1, or custom-built studded tires as defined in Rule 13.C. or 14.C. may be used on any vehicle.
- Due to the exhibition nature of this class, these guidelines are subject to change for safety reasons. We also reserve the right to allow/disallow a vehicle modification, brake modification or enhancement during this season.