

Dragster AUSTRALIA

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DIAL • IN

with GEOFF CRISP

“

If a qualifying session is interrupted for any reason and cannot be completed those who have run will have their times stand and those who have missed out will have lost the opportunity to have a time recorded in that session.”

As good as the ANDRA Rule Book is it can always do with a tune-up and after the Nitro Champs at Sydney Dragway some more “Grey Area’s” have come to light and need to be fixed before we go into a new season of drag racing, even though the current ANDRA policy does not allow for common sense reaction to these adjustments or clarifications if you will.

A couple of scenarios popped up that have no clear interpretation in the rule book and that is what causes all the drama, just put what we bloody well mean in the book and the problem is solved.

Case in point #1, if for whatever reason qualifying for a bracket is abandoned after the session starts but before it ends, what is the procedure for point's allocation and qualifying positions and is there a re-run.

You really would have thought that this would have come up in the last 35 years of drag racing and an answer would be in the rule book.....Nah Nah Nah.

So we have a car oil down the track, in the meantime the Meeting Director (and rightly so) cans the remainder of qualifying because the track is now considered unsafe, what happens to the four cars left to run? And what happens to the four who have already run?

I know we are not NHRA but their rule is very clear and is not open to interpretation.

If a qualifying session is interrupted for any reason and cannot be completed those who have run will have their times stand and those who have missed out will have lost the opportunity to have a time recorded in that session.

If it is the final session and it is cancelled and you miss out on getting in the field (in Aussie speak) bad bloody luck. The rule is clear and concise; you do not need a team of lawyers to interpret the rule and the meaning, just as it should be, and in my opinion ANDRA should adopt the NHRA rule for this season, before another drama erupts.

The second major issue is the “foot in the staging beams” rule or lack of it so it seems. After an incident in the Pro stock semi finals where a crew member accidentally put his foot in the staging beams when the car was coming forward the opposing team asked the question about disqualification and were told the rule does not now exist, even though a Pro Stock racer had a qualifier bounced at this very event 12 months ago.

I must stress here no-one was protesting anyone, in fact BOTH teams had the same concern, just give us the correct ruling based on what is in the book, not an interpretation of what someone thinks it is, because in this case there was only one person at the facility who understood the interpretation, and that was the bloke who gave it.

Let's not play petty politics and just for drag racing's sake fix these issues now.



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