

A Guide to ICSCC Race Classes

This is meant as a general guide only. For specific requirements refer to the ICSCC Competition Regulations.

Sports car racing has the most variety of cars of any type of racing. The cars can be broken down into four basic types: Production cars, GT cars, Formula cars, and Sports Racers. Within each of these types, there are numerous classifications: 53 in all.

These classifications are divided into six race groups, and all cars assigned to a particular group will run all practice, qualifying, and races together. Any race has several classes of cars running, so there will be races within the race. This can lead to some confusion as to what is happening on track! This guide will help you sort it out...

Production Cars

The Production cars are the closest to street vehicles, and many are driven to and from the track. There are very limited modifications permitted. The drive train is for all practical purposes stock. The interior can be stripped to reduce fire hazard, and basic safety equipment is added, such as a roll cage and fire suppression systems. Production cars are divided into ten classes designated 'A' through 'J'. Markings on the car will tell you which class they are in: AP, BP, CP, and so on.



The cars are placed into a class by using the ratio of horsepower to curb weight as a guide. Other factors will affect the classification of a particular car such as type of tires being used. As you watch the Production cars you will notice that certain models of cars dominate in a given class. In 'D' production (DP) the Datsun 240Z is very popular. In 'G' and 'H' production, the VW Rabbits are the hot ticket. There are two race groups for the Production cars - A through D in one group and E through J in the other.

You can also run a production class car in SP or GT, though it may be at a competitive disadvantage. This maximizes track time and allows a driver to rent their race car to, or share with, another driver to reduce costs. **Super production** are several classes (based on displacement) for production based cars whose powerplants don't allow them to fit into production or G.T. This includes Datsun 510 with a Mazda rotary, Camaro with a NASCAR engine, MGB with a turbo, or perhaps a local circle track car.

GT Cars

The GT cars are either more heavily modified versions of the Production cars, or tube frame chassis built specifically for racing. These cars generally have extensive engine, drivetrain, suspension, and brake modifications, and consequently they obtain much higher speeds than the Production cars. The GT cars are certainly both fast and expensive, and provide some of the most exciting racing action of the race weekend.

There are five classifications of GT cars numbered GT1 through GT5, determined by engine displacement. The GT cars run in two race groups: GT1, GT2, and GT3 in one group, and GT4 and GT5 in the other.



Formula cars

The Formula cars are the open wheel cars of sports car racing. There are numerous classes of formula cars, but you will mostly see Formula Ford, Formula Club Ford, Formula Vee, and Formula 440/500, and the occasional Formula Atlantic or Formula Libra.

Formula Atlantics are generally the fastest. They have large wings and wide tires and look like smaller Indy or Formula 1 cars. Formula Atlantics usually have a Toyota or Cosworth 4 cylinder engine and turn very high RPM.

Formula Ford and Formula Club Ford have basically the same specifications, with the Club Fords having the older chassis with outboard mounted springs and shocks. They both use 1600cc Ford engines, thus the name. Club Ford is one of the fastest growing classifications in sports car racing. We frequently have over 30 entries in this class alone. The Club Fords are very evenly matched and provide some very close racing.



Formula Vee is a very long running spec. series based on older Volkswagen components including engine, transmission, front suspension, brakes, and wheels. Newer cars are better aerodynamically but older cars are still competitive making this a great budget class.

Formula 440 (or 500) is a spec. series using a Kawasaki 440cc engine in the older cars or a Rotax 500cc engine in the newer cars. Suspension is very limited (almost non-existent) but these cars accelerate and decelerate very fast. Though there aren't many in the Pacific Northwest right now, this class is very popular in the southeast U.S.

The Formula cars are divided into two groups: Atlantics, Libres, Formula Fords, and Club Fords in one group, and the Vees and 440s/500s in a group with the Sports Racers.

Sports Racers

Sports Racers are the strangest looking cars in sports car racing. They can be home built or factory built formula car type chassis outfitted with full body work. They have a variety of suspension and body designs. Design is mostly open to one's imagination and cheque book. The Sports Racers are classified by engine displacement, and there is no minimum weight restriction. They are divided into six classes numbered "A" through "F".



Other Classes

You may see other class designations on the cars such as ITA, RS, AS, SSC, etc. These are classifications from the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) and are recognized by the ICSCC.

Notes on Formal Classification of Cars:

According to the ICSCC Competition Rules the following categories are approved for competition: Production, GT, Improved Production, Sports Racing, Formula, Improved Touring, RX7, Radial Sedan, American Sedan, Super Production, and Club Rabbit. Each category is broken down into several classes.

"At all times the burden of proof of car classification, model, options, etc. shall be on the driver and/or owner rather than the Conference. There shall be no classification changes after the Spring Meeting prior to the coming season." If you have ANY doubts or questions regarding classification of your car (or one you are considering buying) contact the Race Steward.

Detailed information on classifications can be found in the Competition Regulations, which are available on the Technical Reference page of this website. Note that many ICSCC classes are based on SCCA specifications as found in their General Competition Regulations (GCR) - you may need a copy of that also, and it is available through the SCCA website (www.scca.org).

The ICSCC Race Groups are:

Group 1 - A-B-C-D PROD, SPO, SPM, SPU, PRO3, Sport-BMW

Group 2 - E-F-G-H-I-J PROD, CR, Pro-7, SM

Group 3 - Club Ford, Formula Ford, Formula Libre, F2, Formula Atlantic, Formula Mazda

Group 4 - GT1-2-3, GTA, GTP, AS, ITE, RX7

Group 5 - ITA-B-C-S, GT4-5, E-F-G-H IMP PROD, RS

Group 6 - Formula Vee, F440/500, S-2, CS2, Baby Grand (GTB), A-B-C-D-E-F Sports Racing

Group 7 - Novice Closed Wheel

Group 8 - Novice Open Wheel

