

**BYLAWS**  
**(Revised 10/07)**

**I. Membership**

**a. Renewing Members**

i. Membership Fee Schedule

2008 Membership application fees for renewing members are:

By December 31<sup>st</sup> \$155 (\$175 membership minus \$20 discount)

By March 15<sup>th</sup> \$175 (Full membership renewal fee)

After March 15<sup>th</sup> \$275 (\$175 membership fee plus \$100 late fee)

This membership fee may be adjusted yearly as approved by the membership at a Club Meeting or as deemed necessary by the QMA annual fee structure. The membership fee includes insurance.

- ii. Beginning 2008, renewing members must have fulfilled all track obligations (including, but not limited to, opening/closing track details, tower duties, fundraisers, yearbook ads, and have paid any mandatory fines or fundraiser requirements) as established in the prior season in order to be considered for renewed membership.
- iii. Early membership registration fee due by December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- iv. All renewing memberships are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>. All other returning entrants after March 15<sup>th</sup> are required to pay a late fee, except for Novices who must be signed up prior to the start of Novice School.
- v. Members who renew their membership on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> will be given a \$20 discount (reflected above).
- vi. No credits or refunds will be given once an application has been submitted.

**b. New Members**

i. Full Membership

- 1. All persons seeking membership with the South Jersey Quarter Midget Association, Inc. (hereafter known as SJQMA) must complete a membership application.

2. Individuals seeking membership must attend a club meeting to introduce themselves and submit the application for vote and approval by the Membership.
3. Upon submittal, membership fees are paid in full. New members are required to pay a \$50.00 initiation fee their first year in addition to the full membership fee in accordance with the current fee schedule of the Association.
4. New members will be on a six (6) months plus one (1) race probation.
5. No credits or refunds will be given once an application has been submitted.

**c. Late Membership/Registration**

- i. After the March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, the member is still obligated to perform the required work and tower duties as outlined in the by-laws. In the event the fundraisers have concluded, the late member will be required to pay a fee of \$100 in addition to normal club dues to cover the cost of the fundraising event and any fines associated with track/tower duty or work details as defined in the Fine Schedule.

**d. All Members**

- i. To participate in all racing events held by SJQMA, a member must belong to Quarter Midgets of America (QMA) and adhere to the guidelines as set forth by QMA in the Rule Book and all New Jersey State Police guidelines and the Racing Commission Rules. QMA rules that all persons admitted to the pit area must be members of QMA and adhere to all NJ State Police guidelines and the Racing Commission Rules.
- ii. One membership per family. One vote per family is allocated. To be eligible to vote or be nominated, the member must be in good standing.
- iii. SJQMA honors all rules as set forth by the QMA and outlined in the Rule Book issued annually.
- iv. SJQMA does not limit the number of full members.
- v. Full Members are expected to participate in various committees to assist in the running and functioning of the Club and must participate in all fundraisers.
- vi. All SJQMA members are required under the terms of their signed application, to provide a yearbook ad (whether purchased for \$100 or a by providing a sponsor for race night) and mandatory fund-raiser requirement in order to continue racing at the club after the designated deadline. In the event a member voluntarily leaves the club, regardless of the reason, these monetary requirements are still in force and must be paid by the now former member.

**e. Expulsion**

Any member can be expelled from the Club with or without cause by a majority vote of the membership

**f. Discrimination**

No member (or proposed member) shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

**g. Life Members**

- i. To be considered a Life Member you must be in good standing and meet all requirements of full membership

**II. Members in Good Standing**

- a. "Member in Good Standing" is defined as a member who has attended no less than six (6) of the total annual meetings, at least one (1) per quarter and attended/raced 8 races and whose financial obligations, as well as work details are current and paid in full. (In the event that there may be extenuating circumstances, this should be brought immediately to the attention of the Board of Directors.)

- b. The year is from November to October. Quarters are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter=\*November-January

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter=February-April

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter=May-July

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter=August-October

\*There is no meeting in November; if you attend the Awards Banquet, your attendance is counted as present for the month of November.

**III. Meetings**

- a. SJQMA General Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month (except November). The Board of Directors meeting will be held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month.

**IV. Unsportsmanlike Behavior (replaces 1.4 Verbal and Physical Abuse)**

- a. Refer to QMA guidelines for Code of Conduct
- b. Unsportsmanlike behavior is defined as, but not limited to, any handler approaching another driver, the judges, the flagger, the tower personnel, or the race director without following the proper procedures.

**V. Nominations and Elections**

- a. Per the QMA Rule Book, Officers' positions are to be elected no later than the November club meeting. The August and September club meetings are designated for nominations. Nominations from the floor will be accepted and closed at the September meeting. This will allow for elections to take place at the October club meeting.
- b. Elections will be done by ballot. Members must be present at the election in order to vote. Ballots will list the nominees for each office. Write-in nominees will not be accepted.

Individuals interested in running for office are to make that position known to the membership for nomination at the designated nominations meeting.

- c. Ballots will be handed out to eligible voting members at the annual elections meeting and counted at that time.
- d. Any member nominated to any position will be given the opportunity to decline before nominations are closed. If the nominee is not present to decline, they will be contacted prior to the election to be given the opportunity. After the nominations from the floor are closed no other nominations will be accepted.
- e. To be eligible to vote or be nominated, the member must be a Member in Good Standing (see Section II-Member in Good Standing)

## **VI. Officers**

- a. All full members of SJQMA that have met all requirements to earn a vote will do so annually to determine the officers.
- b. Officer positions to be voted on annually will be the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- c. Term of office is limited to one (1) year per election. Nominations of officers will be determined by the voting membership. Officers must be full members of SJQMA in good standing. Nominees shall be active members at weekly events. Job descriptions and duties are outlined in a separate document.
- d. At a special election, the position of Race and Technical Directors may be voted upon. Whereas the person receiving the most votes will be the head director and all others will be assistants in descending vote order. This election will not take place unless it has been requested and voted upon by the general membership. Voting requirements and procedures will follow those outlined in Section V-Elections.

## **VII. Board of Directors**

- a. This corporation will have a Board of Directors, which that consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Race Director, Safety Director, Tech Director, Tower Director and last year's president. The Board Chairman will be the current President serving office. In the event last year's president is unavailable, member-at-large will be voted on by Club Membership, at the December club meeting.
- b. In addition to the Board of Directors necessary to operate as a corporation, there is a need to appoint Technical Director, Novice Training Director, Safety Director, Tower Director and Race Director. These positions will be appointed by the current President. In the event that the membership has decided to vote for the Race and Technical Directors the President will not appoint these positions. All job descriptions for these positions are set forth in Section XX-Job Descriptions and are or a term of one (1) year.

## **VIII. Annual Awards**

- a. All drivers (SJQMA members and non-members) who compete in at least 50% +1 of the racing events are eligible for annual awards.
- b. Trophies are awarded for all 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes for each race.
- c. If a SJQMA driver in good standing does not make the required 50% +1 race events, they may pay the race fee plus \$10 for up to 3 race events. (Example: if the weekly race fee is \$15 and you miss one week you must pay a total of \$25 to be eligible to receive the annual driver gifts at the banquet). This does not include Perfect Attendance, Retiring Drivers or Participation Awards.

## **IX. By-laws**

- a. New rules to be admitted to the Club by-laws must be submitted to the Board for review and approval to be presented to the membership. If the majority of the membership votes the new rule acceptable, it will be added.
- b. If a member wishes to make changes to existing bylaws, the proposed changes must be presented to the membership at three (3) consecutive monthly meetings and by no less than 66% of the membership in attendance, who have voting qualifications.

## **X. Work Detail**

- a. Work details are necessary to the existence of this club and maintaining a racetrack, as we are volunteer organization. Work details are to be attended by the membership of the club. A mandatory work schedule will be announced by the Vice-President at the monthly club meetings. The schedule will determine the dates that members shall attend their two mandatory and required work dates. A minimum of six (6) hours each work detail must be worked prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> to continue racing without penalty.
- b. If a member does not attend the schedule work detail date prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>, the family membership must pay a fine to the Club. The fine shall be payable prior to the reinstatement of the family's membership in good standing. (See Section XXII –Fine Schedule)
- c. Any late registrant or Novice Member who have not worked their six hour work detail will have up to 45 days to fulfill their mandatory work obligation without penalty.
- d. Members must participate in ALL fundraising programs, determined by the membership.

## **XI. Race Night/Tower Detail**

- a. Members will be responsible to perform the items listed below during their Race Night/Tower Detail
  - i. Opening up of the track (as posted)
  - ii. Closing of the track (as posted)

- iii. Provide a designated member to work in the tower for two race events each season
- iv. Be available to assist the Director of Track Facilities earlier in the week to prepare the track, if needed. It is the Member's responsibility to call the Director of Track Facilities to confirm the date and time. This call should be made the Tuesday prior to scheduled Tower Detail
- v. The Secretary will provide a schedule at the beginning of race season. If the member is unable to provide a designated member to work the scheduled dates, it is the member's responsibility to arrange for a substitute. If a member is unable to perform tower duty on their designated night, per the established schedule, they are required to pre-arrange substitution with the Tower Personnel in charge at least one (1) week in advance of the scheduled night. A paid fee will be necessary at the time of the notice to be deposited into the Club's operating funds.
- vi. The penalty to a family for not performing their race night/tower details on their scheduled date is suspension from participation in racing activities and a fine payable prior to reinstatement. (See Section XXII-Fine Schedule)

## **XII. Judging**

- a. Members will be responsible for their judging assignment
- b. Penalty for missing judging assignments will be driver missing their next schedule race
- c. The Tower will be responsible for appointing Head Judge and judges for each race. If you are chosen as judge and cannot perform your responsibility, you will be responsible to find replacement for that race. This applies to all judging positions.

## **XIII. Club Dispute**

- a. Any member of SJQMA who is dissatisfied with any aspect of the functions of the Club must bring their disputes to any officer or corporate director to be discussed and handled by the Board of Directors.
- b. SJQMA is a member of QMA. As a member of QMA, the Club must adhere to rules set forth by the QMA to maintain membership in same. If a dispute by a member of SJQMA has been brought to the attention of the Board and the handling does not satisfy the member, the member may then take the dispute to the Regional Director. If the dispute is not handled to the satisfaction of the member at the Regional level, the member may take the dispute to the National President of QMA. This method of addressing the dispute of a club member is known as the Chain of Command.
- c. Any member wishing to handle a dispute by contacting Regional or National prior to complying with the Chain of Command shall put their membership with SJQMA in jeopardy.

**XIV. Race Disputes**

- a. A mandatory handler's meeting shall take place prior to the start of each racing event. At the meeting, the Race Director will be identified. Each handler should take note of the Director (s). If for any reason during the race or heat, a member has a dispute concerning the race, the dispute should be taken to the Race Director within one hour of the completion of the races. This dispute shall be put in writing.
- b. The Race Director will handle the dispute, by radioing the tower, flag person, corner person, judge's stand, etc. in order to address the Members dispute.
- c. At no time shall a member approach the Tower, Flag Stand or Judges Stand. If for any reason following a heat or race a member has a dispute, the dispute shall be handled in accordance with QMA guidelines. Penalties will be invoked to any member that does not follow the procedures for handling a race dispute. Penalties will be given at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- d. A handler may only protest a race in which his driver(s) are participating. Judging calls cannot be protested. Any protest handed in must refer to a QMA rule.

**XV. Technical Inspection**

- a. The following club technical rules do not apply to QMA sanctioned events such as qualifiers, States Races or Grands. These events will follow the guidelines as stated in the QMA Rule Book.
- b. Inspection of a quarter midget or ½ midget car or engine will be initiated by the Race Director, Club President or Tech Director. If a member feels there is need to initiate an inspection of a particular car, this matter should be taken to the Race Director. Inspection of any class will start with the first place finisher and continue back as far as desired.
  - i. Offense: Car and/or motor found to be illegal will be given inspection at the net race entered. Upon finding an unintentional problem from an on-track incident, the Board of Directors will review the situation.
  - ii. Refusal to be inspected shall result in an automatic offense and a review by the Board of Directors.
  - iii. All QMA penalties shall also apply.

**XVI. Race Events**

- a. No more than two (2) handlers per car for each race. No one under the age of 16 years old (except driver in car) shall be allowed on the race surface as per NJ State Police Racing Commission regulations.
- b. Smoking is prohibited in the pit and track areas

- c. No alcoholic beverages or fireworks are allowed on any of the grounds in and around SJQMA
- d. Fueling of vehicles or oil changes must be done in the handler's trailers or on the refueling pad (if provided) prior to racing at SJQMA. Our lease as well as environmental concerns does not allow spilled fuel on the ground.
- e. No one without proper identification confirming registration at the day's event will be permitted in the pit area. Violators will be removed and family may be penalized.

**XVII. Car Numbers**

- a. All cars must have numbers on both sides of the tail section and nose cone to be clearly visible to the scorers. Paper numbers are provided and must be securely attached. If the scorers are unable to read the numbers, driver may be penalized.
- b. Members may choose to have car numbers emblazoned on the cars as part of the paint scheme. Current member numbers will be honored until January 15<sup>th</sup>; after this date, numbers will be issued by the Secretary on a first come first serve basis. Car numbers will be accepted at the time of member application.

**XVIII. Corner Workers**

- a. All members shall provide a corner worker for all drivers at all starting positions

**XIX. Unauthorized Entry**

- a. Any person (s) entering any part of Atco Raceway or Atco Motorsports property improperly or unsupervised will receive an automatic two (2) week suspension. This suspension will include any driver, handler, car(s) or family member affiliated with the offending member. The Board of Directors will also review for further ramifications if necessary.

**XX. Job Descriptions**

- a. Safety Director  
To ensure that each car meets all current safety requirements and is in safe operating condition and to inspect each driver's safety equipment for proper fit and use. These determinations are to be made in compliance with the safety requirements as set forth by QMA (and outline in the QMA handbook) and those agreed upon by the SJQMA Safety Committee and the NJ State Police Racing Commission. Any injured driver transported to hospital MUST have a doctor's note handed in to the Club Secretary before returning to racing.
- b. Tech Director  
Function of the Tech Director is to apply the rules and regulations for the motors and chassis per the QM handbook. On unsanctioned races the tech director may tech whatever class he so desires and can tech as far back as he wants to. Sanctioned races are specifically spelled out in the rulebook and Tech Director will follow as regulated.

## MOTORS

Motors will be torn down by the handler and checked by the Tech Director for legality of the motor. Any motor found illegal at any point of tech will be deemed illegal and disqualified. Any further actions, club rules will apply.

## CHASSIS

Tech Director will also check chassis to make certain it is within QMA specifications

In summary, the Tech Director shall ensure that racing is fair for all and no one gets an illegal advantage.

- c. Tower Director  
It is the duty of the Tower Director to make certain that all line ups are posted correctly, races are posted in correct order and to make certain that fields do not exceed QMA rules (Novice and Junior Class 8 cars allowed in field, 10 cars allowed in field for all other classes), to change line-up at will in coordination with Race Director.
- d. Race Director  
It is the duty of the Race Director to work with flagger and tower for correct line up; judges on infraction calls. Remove any car, driver, and/or handler for verbal or physical abuse of any track official. Control start times, practice times and order of events. Aid Tech Director in decision of teardowns and adhere to the track closing curfew.
- e. Pit Steward  
Oversee the safety of all drivers that enter the racetrack in competition during an SJQMA race event. All safety equipment as required by the Quarter Midgets of America Rule Book will be checked to ensure that the car and driver will be as safe as possible. SJQMA requires that all drivers wear two shoulder straps and stay within the roll cage of the car while participating in competition on the race track. This is in addition to the inspection performed by the Track Safety Director.
- f. Director of Track Facilities  
Prepare the racing surface to ensure the safety of all drivers and equipment. Maintain parking lot and pit areas for easy access to all participants. Oversee and assist the Work Details to ensure that maintenance is done in a safe and orderly manner.
- g. Novice Training Instructor  
Serve on the Novice Committee for the training of new drivers as outlined in the QMA Rule book under the section titled "The Novice Program Committee".

## **XXI. Novice Committee**

- a. The members of the Novice Committee shall be the Race Director, Club President, Technical Director, Safety Director and the Novice Training Instructor

**XXII. Fine Schedule**

A fine schedule has been established to collect for unfulfilled track duties (opening/closing), weekly tower and track duties, missed judging (without substitution notice) and will be as follows:

Failure to perform Opening/Closing Track Detail (one of each)	\$150 each
Failure to perform weekly tower/track duty (include judging)	\$ 75 each
Failure to fulfill fundraiser obligation	\$100 + fundraiser cost