



Rules and Regulations

Driver Eligibility

All radio control car-racing hobbyists are welcomed to join the series. Whether you're new to the sport or a seasoned racing hobbyist we invite you to partake in the Tamiya Championship Series where fun and good competitive racing is our top priority. We have a class for everyone depending on your budget and your need for competitive racing. Look at the classes below to see which class best suites you.

Note:

Full factory sponsored and professional drivers should read below, as they are not eligible to participate in the TCS series.

"Factory Team" drivers (drivers who are, or have ever been, employed or supported by a factory, manufacture or distributor as part of a factory racing team) are not allowed to compete for prizes or awards. This includes drivers that received sponsorship that entailed a monthly salary from a factory and received paid airfare/accommodations to racing events. If the host site deems it necessary, they may also bar these types of drivers from participating. The host site will determine if sponsored or semi sponsored drivers will take away the spirit of the event being for the average hobbyist. It is further at the discretion of the host site to determine which racers fall under these criteria. Tamiya America cannot possibly know every individuals claims of being a sponsored or factory driver and therefore needs the judgment and discretion of the host site to weed out the factory sponsored driver that does not meet the average hobbyist criteria.

Host sites must be careful not to confuse racers that get a deal from their friends that are employed or work for "motors R us" or a fly by night battery matcher as being sponsored. There will always be racers who will try and get a deal of some kind. This cannot be avoided and therefore we ask for a balance as much as possible.

The hardcore factory sponsored driver may not participate. An example of a racer that Tamiya America would not allow to compete would be the Jimmy Jacobson's, Josh Numan's and David Jun's of the RC industry. These types of drivers are clearly supported by a factory and would not be eligible to compete as Tamiya America supports their racing careers in all of the above mentioned points.

Racers that have won the "GRAND" prize (a.k.a. TCS National title) **ARE** eligible to participate in regular season TCS races. They are also eligible to win the first place trophy, however they are not eligible to win prizes that are associated with first place. In turn we ask past champions to donate their first place prize to any participant of their choice.

All former TCS national title winners that won the trip to Japan are eligible to participate at the TCS North American Finals under the "Past Champions" grudge match class and any special classes. National title winners that did not win a trip to Japan are eligible to compete again at the Nationals in a trip winning class.

General Rules Applying to All Vehicles

1. **Tamiya parts only.** No parts from other manufactures unless specified here.
2. Any manufacturer's electronic speed control, radio equipment, servo saver, antenna, antenna mount, pinion and spur gears, ball bearing, tire inserts are allowed in all classes.
3. A 27 MHz or 75 MHz radio system must be used. A minimum of 2 frequencies is required. 2.4 GHz systems are also allowed.
4. The batteries that are allowed for the 2008 season are:
 - a. **Sanyo NI-CD 2400, Sanyo NI-MH HV 3000, 3300 & 3600**
 - b. **Panasonic 3000 Ultra Metal Hydride, Panasonic 3000 Stock Metal Hydride**
 - c. **GP (Gold Peak) 3300 & 3700, 4300, 4700**
 - d. **Intellect Batteries 3600, 3800 and LRP 3700, 4200**
 - e. **EPIC 3800, EP 4600.**
 - f. ***LIPQ batteries are only legal for the following classes: F103-GT, GT-2, GT-3 and 4WD-Off-Road. Hard Case LIPQ's only: Orion/Peak Carbon Edition 3200, 3600, Platinum Edition 4800, Reedy 7.4 20C 5000 mah & 3200, Core 7.4 5000 mah. Trinity Li-Pro 4600. All Lipo batteries for TCS may not exceed 5000 mah!***
 - g. Sport packs that are readily available at hobby stores are legal as long as they are assembled from the general hobby industry i.e. Orion, Peak, Reedy, Duratrax, Dynamite, Trinity and Hobbico etc.
5. Batteries that are purchased direct from Sanyo, Panasonic, Intellect or Gold Peak that have no hobby industry branding are not legal. These batteries include those that are used in power tools and have a solid colored shrink-wrapping to them. Racers that still own batteries such as the Sanyo NI-CD 2000, 1400, 1700 or 1200 are allowed as long as they have the original hobby industry shrink-wrap.
6. Any Tamiya Hop-Op Option and spare part is allowed as long as it is used in the way it was designed, and on the vehicle it was designed for.
7. Except for the GT1 class, it is strictly forbidden to cut, mill or lighten the chassis. It is strictly forbidden to re-engineer or modify the car in any way other than with Tamiya Hop-Ups. (This applies to all classes)
8. All bodies must be painted and must be cut along the trim lines. No extra vents or holes may be added to the body.
9. Any motor connector or direct hard wiring to the motor is allowed.
10. Any battery connector or direct hard wiring to the battery is allowed.
11. Tire conditioners are allowed on rubber tires in all classes, but may be restricted at certain venues. (Some TCS host sites do not allow additives due to the track being indoors and the lack of ventilation)
12. All bodies must use the wings that are supplied in the kit. Mixing and matching ABS plastic wings between different bodies is not allowed. In the GT-1, GT-2 and GT-3 classes only, part number 53470 (Lightweight Wing) and 53604 (Racing Wing Set) or any future **OPTIONAL** wing set is allowed to be used for any sedan or sports car body.
13. Lightweight screws that are made of aluminum, steel or Titanium that are made by other manufactures are allowed. i.e. any screw is legal. ***(Be aware! If you win the National title down the road and head over to Japan for the Tamiya World Championships, all screws must be TAMIYA screws only!)***
14. The use of thin shims (available at most hobby stores and now made available by Tamiya) to space out the slop or play in suspension arms, steering bell-cranks and wheel axles is permitted in all vehicles except in the spec class. Shimming the aforementioned components of the car in a way that alters the geometry of the car or its basic geometry design is not legal.
15. The use of O-Rings on shock ball ends and camber/steering links is allowed.
16. Enlarging or creating extra vent holes in wheels is not permitted.
17. In the spirit of keeping TCS Racing unique in appearance to the public, the Subaru Legacy B4 body (items 53727, 49374 & 53824) is not legal for all GT classes.
18. Any modification not called out specifically in these rules is not legal.

19. If a driver finds a loophole within the rules, the *exploitation* will be deemed illegal at the discretion of the race director.

Best of Show/Concourse Rules

1. A body submitted for concourse consideration must be mounted on a fully assembled operational chassis that is entered in the race event.
2. The body is not required to run in a heat race. Concourse bodies, if raced, must comply with all other rules and may not enhance the performance of the vehicle.
3. Concourse winners may be required to demonstrate that their vehicles are functional if asked by the judges. Serious contenders for concourse (Best of Show) should be ready to demonstrate the vehicles' functionality during or after judging if requested.
4. Dioramas or extra figures are not allowed during concourse judging. Driver figures inside the vehicle are permitted. Wheels used for concourse/best of show must be Tamiya wheels. Appearance Modifications to the wheels is permitted.
5. You may only enter a best of show or concourse entry in relation to the class that you are entered/racing in. I.E. A racer may not enter F-1 concourse if he/she is only racing in the GT-3 class.

Tamiya Spec Novice Rules

The Spec class is intended for Novice drivers. Participants wishing to enter the Spec Class who are of intermediate to expert ability should opt to enter the GT-3, GT-2 or GT-1 classes. It will be at the discretion of the host site to weed out drivers who are attempting to enter the Spec Novice class who are of expert ability.

1. Chassis allowed: All TL01, TL-01 LA and TT-01 chassis kits.
2. The Only Hop-Ups allowed are:
 - a. Tamiya plastic oil-filled shocks (50519 requires 2 sets) or (53619 requires 1 set)
 - b. Ball bearings
 - c. TL-01 Turnbuckle steering tie rod set (53300)
 - d. TL-01 long suspension arm set (53467) The sway bar set in this kit may not be used for Spec, but may be used for GT-3. TL-01 adjustable arm set (53503) TT-01 adjustable arm set (53674) TT-01 Turnbuckle steering tie-rod set (53662).
3. The Kit type closed-end-bell, silver can motor (Mabuchi/Johnson) is the only motor allowed for this class.
4. The stock 19-tooth size pinion is the only gear allowed for both chassis types.
5. You must run kit type tires (Racing Slicks {50454}, Racing Radials {50419}, Racing Semi Slick Tires {50810})
6. Narrow 24mm Type A {53293}) and type B (53294) tires are not allowed. All Tamiya Spec Class cars must use 26mm wheels and tires.
7. Any tire insert may be used.
8. No extra vent holes are permitted to be drilled on the wheels.
9. The aluminum/carbon center prop shafts are now allowed for the TT-01 and TL-01 based chassis (53620, 53323).

GT-3 Rules

The GT-3 class is perfect for those drivers graduating from the Spec Novice class and for those racers wanting to race in a spec horsepower formula. Chassis tuning and driving skill make for close door-to-door racing against skilled and intermediate drivers.

1. Tub Chassis kits only. Carbon plate double deck cars are not permitted in this class.
2. The allowable chassis for this class are: TB-01, TB-02, TB-02R TA-04, TA-05, TA-05 IFS, TL-01, TL-01 LA, TT-01, TT-01R, TA-02, TA-03, FF-01 and FF-02.
3. Any Tamiya Hop-Up is allowed as long as it is used as it was intended and used for the chassis type it was designed for.
4. A kit type (Johnson or Mabuchi) silver canned motor must be used.

5. ***New for 2008! LiPo batteries are now legal for GT3 class racing. See general rules for legal TCS LIPO's.***
6. ***New for 2008! All GT-3 cars must meet a minimum weight of 1500 Grams.***
7. All Tamiya sedan/rally/sports bodies are legal.
8. Tamiya rubber tires only.
9. All Tamiya sedan tire sizes are legal.
10. Any tire insert may be used.
11. No extra vent holes are permitted to be drilled on the wheels.
12. Changing the camber-link positions on the car other than the way it was intended is not allowed.
13. Camber links must be positioned in the mounting holes that they were originally drilled for. Drilling new camber link holes is not legal.
14. All parts that are intended for the EVO III may be used for the TB-02 as option hop ops with the exception of the upper and lower carbon plate decks and the aluminum EVO III motor mount.
15. Aluminum suspension blocks from the EVO III/IV/5/TRF415 may be used on the TA-05 platform.

GT-2 Rules

The GT-2 Class provides a slightly higher horsepower formula as both skilled and intermediate drivers are allowed to use ROAR Legal Stock motors to power their cars. Motor tuning and motor choice become part of the racing equation in this class.

1. Tub chassis cars only, no carbon plate double deck chassis' allowed.
2. All Tamiya TA, TB and TL series sedan chassis' (TA01, TA02, TA03, TA04, TA-05, TA-05 IFS, TL01, TT-01, TB01 & TB02, TB-02R (Tub chassis), FF01, FF02).
3. Tamiya Hop-Ups only.
4. No chassis lightening allowed.
5. Any ROAR legal rebuild ready 27-Turn, 24-degree stock motor is legal for GT-2.
6. ***NEW for 2008! 13.5 Brushless motors available from Novak, LRP, Orion, Speed Passion and Trinity are now legal for TCS racing in GT-2.***
7. ***New for 2008! LiPo batteries are now legal for GT3 class racing. See general rules for legal TCS LIPO's.***
8. ***New for 2008! All GT-2 cars must meet a minimum weight of 1550 Grams.***
9. All Tamiya sedan/rally/sports car bodies are legal for GT-2.
10. Tamiya rubber tires only, no foam tires.
11. All Tamiya sedan tire sizes are legal.
12. Any tire insert may be used.
13. No extra vent holes are permitted to be drilled on the wheels.
14. Changing the camber-link positions on the car other than the way it was intended is not allowed.
15. Camber links must be positioned in the mounting holes that they were originally drilled for. Drilling new camber link holes is not legal.
16. All parts that are intended for the EVO III may be used for the TB-02 as option hop ops with the exception of the upper and lower carbon plate decks and the aluminum EVO III motor mount.
17. Aluminum suspension blocks from the EVO III/IV/5/TRF415 may be used for the TA-05 platform.

GT-1 Rules

The GT-1 class is the ultimate for Touring Cars in TCS. Here advanced hobbyists and racers get to race in a formula that has higher speeds and more exotic cars available from Tamiya. 19 Turn motors are the power plant formula in this fast paced class. If speed and exotic cars is your thing this is the right class for you. State-of-the-Art cars are usually found racing in this premiere class.

1. All Tamiya TA, TB, EVO, 414, 415, 416 and TL series sedan chassis' (TA01, TA02, TA03, TA04, TA-05, TL01, TT-01, TB01, TB-02, TB-02R, TB Evo 1,2,3,4,5 MS, FF01, FF02, 414M, 414MII & 415, 415MS, 415MSX, 415MSX MRE, 415MSXX, 416).
2. Tamiya Hop-Ups only.
3. Chassis lightening is allowed for GT-1.
4. SPEC 19Turn Ball bearing motors are allowed for the GT-1 Class. Examples of these types of motors are; Team Orion Element Spec 19T, Reedy #509 Spec 19T, Reedy #513 Quad-Magnet 19T Spec, Check Point "Money" and the Trinity Chameleon 2 Spec 19T. Again, these are examples of motors that are legal. All 19Turn motors must be fixed timing and have machine-wound armatures. Although ROAR has allowed hand wound armatures in their races, this will not be the case for TCS races. **NOTE:** Spec motors that are released by motor manufactures in the future that have quad magnets will be legal as long as they are released and marketed as a "spec motor" with machine wound armatures and fixed timing end-bells. The Orion V-2 conversion end-bell is legal for use on the Orion/Peak Spec 19T motors as long as the timing is fixed.
5. ***NEW for 2008! 10.5 Brushless motors available from Novak, LRP, Orion, Speed Pasion and Trinity are now legal for TCS racing in GT-1.***
6. Tamiya rubber tires only, no foam tires.
7. Any tire insert may be used.
8. No extra vent holes are permitted to be drilled on the wheels.
9. Changing the camber-link positions on the car other than the way it was intended is not allowed.
10. Camber links must be positioned in the mounting holes that they were originally drilled for. Drilling new camber link holes is not legal.
11. Countersinking carbon fiber plate parts is permitted.
12. All parts that are intended for the EVO III may be used for the TB-02 as option hop ops.
13. Aluminum suspension blocks from the EVO III/IV/TRF415 may be used for the TA-05 platform.

"Mini" Chassis M03 & M04 Rules

The Mini's are for everyone wanting to race close and have fun doing it! This class is ideal for any racing hobbyist wanting to keep racing simple and fun. It is very competitive, but without the pressure! Fun is the game here.

1. Any Tamiya M03 or M04 chassis car that uses the 60D size tire or smaller.
2. Tamiya Hop-Ops only.
3. No chassis lightening allowed.
4. A proper mini body must be used with its proper mini chassis. I.E. (A front wheel drive body must be used with front-drive chassis. A rear wheel drive body must be used with rear wheel chassis)
5. Cars may run any Tamiya tires designed to fit the "M" chassis as long as the tires and wheels conform to the scale look of the body and are no bigger than the 60D. Running 26mm sedan wheels and tires on a Mini M03 and M04 is no longer allowed despite body type.

6. 24mm wheels and tires are not legal.
7. Mixing tire diameter sizes to create overdrive and under-drive is not permitted.
8. Kit type closed-end-bell, silver can motors only. Mabuchi or Johnson motors must be used for this class at all times.
9. It is now allowed to use the maximum pinion gear size on all front-drive and rear drive Mini cars. I.E. 20-tooth on the M03 and 21-tooth on the M04.
10. Any Tamiya plastic or aluminum hop-op damper may be used.
11. Any Tamiya short or regular size hop-op spring may be used.

F103GT Rules

Direct Drive Cars are back! This class is open to anyone wanting to tackle the challenge of direct drive cars. This class will prove to be a drivers' class as chassis set up is minimal and driving finesse and skill will be the key to victory.

1. The Tamiya F103 GT is the only eligible chassis for this class.
2. Any Tamiya F103 GT option part is allowed or original F103 option part that fit directly with no modification.
3. The stock silver canned Mabuchi/Johnson motors must be used.
4. Rubber tires only. 26MM and 24MM Tamiya tires and wheels only.
5. Mixing tire widths is legal.
6. Any tire insert may be used.
7. No extra vent holes are permitted to be drilled on the wheels.
8. In the spirit of making this an American/Le Mans looking class the only body legal for this class is the Advan Courage LC at this time. As more cars are released in this new class they will be made legal.
9. Any pinion and spur gear ratio combo may be used.
10. Driver figure must be used.
11. The standard front suspension from the original F103 ***may not be used***. The new style steering blocks fit the older suspension, but they do not allow for a spring to be used. Modifications to the standard original front end are necessary to make a spring work. Doing this constitutes re-engineering the basic car and therefore has been deemed illegal.
12. The Orion/Peak LIPO Carbon Edition 3200, 3600 mah and Platinum Edition 4800 mah are legal for this class. Weight penalties will not be imposed for those racers wanting to use the Orion/Peak Lipo batteries.

1/10 4WD Off-road Rules

At certain TCS venues, the new 4wd Off-Road class is being introduced in 2008. 4WD buggies have been around since the 1980's and now it's time to race the new breed of competition kits in the TCS series.

This class is perfect for anyone wanting to tackle off-road terrain with Tamiya's new line up of intermediate to high-end off-road kits. Keeping all four wheels right side up is half the battle! The other half of the battle is learning how to jump!

1. The Tamiya DF-03, DB-01 and 501X chassis are the only legal platforms.
2. Any Tamiya Hop Ops designed for these platforms are legal.
3. DF-03, DB-01 and 501x bodies only.
4. Tamiya off-road type K and C tires only. (53878, 53879, 51240, 51241)
5. Any insert is allowed.
6. No extra vent holes are permitted to be drilled on the wheels.
7. Changing the camber-link positions on the car other than the way it was intended is not allowed.
8. Camber links must be positioned in the mounting holes that they were originally drilled for. Drilling new camber link holes is not legal.

9. Motors allowed for off-road: 19-turn ball bearing, fixed timing motors. Same 19-T motor rules apply as in the GT-1 class. 10.5 Brushless motors are also legal for the 4WD off-road class.
10. Orion hard case LiPo 4800, 3600 and 3200 batteries are legal. Weight minimum for the off-road class will not be enforced.

TamTech Gear Super Cross X

At certain TCS venues the NEW Off-Road Super Cross X class will be introduced. These 1/16 scale off-road buggies are perfect for good old-fashioned off-road fun. These new buggies and trucks come in kit form or ready to run. There are plenty of option parts available to trick out your machine. This class is ideal for new and seasoned racers. It's all about jumping and driving skill here!

1. The 1/16 scale GB-01, GB-02, GB-03 or GB-01T off-road chassis are the only chassis permitted.
2. Any Tamiya option part designed for the GB-01, GB-2, GB-03 or GB-01T may be used.
3. Any Tamiya stock or Hop-Op wheel tire may be used.
4. The Tamiya silver canned kit motor or optional Sport Tuned motors may be used.
5. 7.2-volt six-cell NiCad or NiMh batteries may be used. No limit on Capacity.
6. Any radio system may be used.
7. TamTech Gear off-road bodies only. Truck or Buggy.

These rules are subject to change through the course of the 2008 season as new option parts and circumstances arise.

TCS Regional Race Format

1. There must be at least 5 participants in each respective class for the class to be run.
2. All races are 5 minutes in duration.
3. There will be two qualifying heats to determine the Main set-up order.
4. The qualifying format will be left to the discretion of the host site. The two options are IFMAR qualifying and heads up qualifying starts.
5. There will always be two rounds of qualifying followed by the main events.
6. All Mains will be heads up starts. In certain TCS regions the Triple "A" Main format will be used.
7. Prizes and awards will be given to the top 3 in the "A" Main of each class.
8. All racers finishing in the top ten in each class automatically qualify for the Tamiya North American Finals. Those not making the top ten will be given first priority to "walk-in" to the TCS North American Final event on a first come first serve basis. You must have participated in the 2008 season to be eligible to take part in the TCS 2008 finals. There will be four classes that will be run in the finals in August. Those four classes will be announced two months prior to the event. Three of those classes will be eligible for the Tamiya World Championship trip. The winner of each class will win a trip to Japan to compete in the Tamiya World Finals held in November.

The awards given at a TCS Regional Event are:

1. 1st-3rd medals for the "A" Main for each race class along with Tamiya prizes.
2. "Best of Show" award for the best-looking vehicle in each class.
3. "Top qualifier" award for each respective class.
4. "Top Rookie" award for each respective class. (13 and under in age)