

TCS Racers,

The following announcement affects participants racing in the GT-1 and GT-2 classes.

It has come to my attention there is a significant discrepancy in performance with regards to item 1015 RC 24mm Pre-Mounted Tires-4pcs Type B3 Compound. The older batch of B3 tires, whether they are new or used, are up to .5 seconds a lap faster than the newer batch of B3 tires. This reality presents a problem. The problem lies in that we are aware there are racers who have older sets and there are racers who do not. Ordinarily, I would tell racers to go ahead and find the older sets. Unfortunately, this won't work as there are no older sets to be found or sold. Tamiya America ran out of the older sets back in September of 2012. With that said there are a few solutions to even the playing field for the two trip eligible GT classes.

1. Make everyone racing in GT-1 and GT-2 buy the new batch of tires at the event. This unfortunately puts the burden on racers who have already budgeted for the event. Why should you have to buy something you already have?
2. Trade in your new set for an old set. This isn't possible. There are no old sets to trade in.

In the interest of fairness, Tamiya America will be handing out two complete sets of Pre-mounted and glued "new batch" B3 tires for all the GT-1 and GT-2 participants for FREE! The tires will be tagged and you will receive them when you check in Saturday morning. If you qualify for the A-main in either class you will receive one additional set for FREE as well.

I apologize for the tire discrepancy. I realize some of you have older sets, but in the interest of fairness, I feel that everyone should start with a clean sheet of paper for the finals. My solution makes it fair in that you will be racing with the same number of tire sets as everyone else and you will have the same performing tire.

If you want to practice on the new batch of B3 tires you may do so, but you will have to purchase them through our onsite hobby store (Speed Tech RC). They will be on site Thursday and Friday during official TCS finals practice. You may also practice with whatever you have. It's up to you.

FAQ

Q: How do I know if I have an older batch or newer batch?

A: If you purchased a set with a Red, White and Blue Tamiya header card, you have an older batch of B3 tires. If your set came in a bag with a white Avery label only, you have a new batch of tire.

Q: What the difference in the tire?

A: The older batch has more "air-gap" compared to the new batch. This air gap is what I suspect is giving racers the better lap times compared to the tires that have almost no air gap.

Q: How will you tech these tires?

A: Don't worry about it. I came up with the solution years ago when I organized the Reedy races at Tamiya. I know what I'm doing.

8/19/13