Official Rulebook

2026 INEX Bandolero Rules

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2026 **General** Rules

Revised Jun 16, 2026

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Social Media Conduct Policy

Riverhead Raceway recognizes that social media plays a major role in how our sport is viewed by fans, sponsors, and media outlets. Public posts can have a direct and damaging impact on the reputation of the Raceway, its competitors, and its partners.

Any public social media posts, comments, or shared content that are misleading, inflammatory, defamatory, or intentionally negative toward Riverhead Raceway, its officials, staff, sponsors, competitors, fans, or media partners will not be tolerated.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Spreading inaccurate or incomplete information
- Publicly attacking track decisions or officials
- Posting content that harms sponsor relationships
- Encouraging negativity toward fans or media coverage
- Repeated public complaints instead of using proper communication channels

All concerns or disagreements must be addressed directly with Raceway management through appropriate channels. Social media is not the place to resolve internal matters.

Violations of this policy may result in the individual no longer being welcome on the premises at Riverhead Raceway. This determination will be made at the sole discretion of Raceway management based on the nature and impact of the content.

Riverhead Raceway is committed to protecting its fans, sponsors, and media partners while continuing to grow the sport in a positive and respectful manner. All participants are expected to uphold this standard.

Race Control, Race Procedures & Tap-Out Rule

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Any questions or concerns regarding Race Control, officiating, or race procedures must be addressed prior to your event or at the conclusion of the night's events, and only at the Raceway Rear Office or the Raceway NASCAR Office.

Competitors may approach Raceway officials at those times to ask questions. All interactions must be conducted calmly, respectfully, and with dignity. Disrespectful or confrontational behavior toward Raceway officials will not be tolerated. Raceway staff will make every effort to answer questions and provide clarification.

Tap-Out Rule (On-Track Responsibility Option)

Riverhead Raceway will institute a Tap-Out Rule to promote accountability, sportsmanship, and clean racing.

If a driver makes contact with another car resulting in a caution, and believes they were the cause of the incident, the driver may tap the roof of their car in the designated area located at the start-finish line to indicate acceptance of responsibility.

By tapping out:

- The affected car may be returned to the position it held prior to the incident
- The driver who taps out will restart at the rear of the field
- This option must be clearly indicated in the designated area immediately following the event that caused the caution. Failure to do so will result in the option being forfeited.

This rule allows drivers to take responsibility, reduce disputes, and maintain a respectful and professional racing environment. Race Control and Raceway management retain full discretion regarding the interpretation, application, and enforcement of this rule.

General Rules

All rules are subject to change to ensure fair competition, safety, or any other reason deemed appropriate.

No equipment shall be considered approved by reason of having passed through inspection unobserved.

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The promoter or Race Director has the right to reject the entry of any car or driver.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages on the racing premises or prior to entering the pits is strictly forbidden until all racing events have been completed. Anyone caught violating this rule is subject to suspension.

No driver, owner, or mechanic shall participate in fights in the motor pits or on Raceway premises at any time. At all race events, the driver assumes full responsibility for the actions of their pit crew in every aspect.

The track and/or division inspectors reserve the right to subject any car to inspection at any time.

Failure to submit to inspection will result in immediate disqualification, loss of money, and loss of all points for the night. The car will not be permitted to compete again until an inspection has been completed. Officials reserve the right to confiscate any unsafe or illegal equipment.

No driver may exit their race car or cross the racetrack while a race is in progress unless exceptional circumstances exist, such as fire or immediate danger.

Crew members are prohibited from entering the racetrack.

Anyone caught tampering with another competitor's car will be suspended indefinitely.

Anyone caught rough riding will be penalized at the discretion of the official in charge and may be subject to fines or further disciplinary action.

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Fuel

Riverhead Raceway has maintained a long-standing partnership with **Sunoco Race Fuels**, which is the **official fuel of Riverhead Raceway**. In support of this partnership, all competitors are required to purchase a minimum amount of Sunoco fuel per event. Fuel purchases will be **tracked through the scan program**, and we appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping us maintain this program.

- **NASCAR Weekly Series divisions**: Minimum purchase of **five (5) gallons per event**.
- **INEX divisions (Legends and Bandoleros)**: Minimum purchase of **three (3) gallons per event**.

Fluids

1. All divisions must have containers and drain pans to contain all fluids in the vehicle.
2. No antifreeze permitted at any time.

In-Vehicle Radio Communications

All in-vehicle radios must be analog only and must not be capable of transmitting or receiving in a digitized, encrypted, or scrambled format, as determined by NASCAR.

Keypad-style and/or password-protected radios are not permitted.

Scanning and/or channel-hopping transmissions to or from the in-vehicle radio are prohibited.

All transmissions to and from the in-vehicle radio must operate within the 450.000–470.000 MHz range.

Only one NASCAR-approved two-way radio and one push-to-talk button are permitted in the vehicle. The radio may not contain the frequency of any other competitor at any time.

During all practice sessions, qualifying, and races, the spotter must maintain radio communication with the driver and must monitor the NASCAR frequency.

Spotters must remain in the designated spotter location (front stretch grandstands, left of the communications tower) during competition.

Driver-to-driver radio communication is prohibited.

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Divisions permitted to use two-way communication:

- Modifieds
- Late Models
- Super Pro Trucks
- Riverhead Crate Modifieds
- Figure 8

The following divisions are required to monitor NASCAR by use of a Raceceiver or Lightceiver(Bandoleros) locked to the track frequency of 461.200 whenever on the racetrack. Two-way communication in any form is prohibited.

- Blunderbust
- INEX Legends
- Bandoleros
- Street Stock
- Mini Stock
- 4/6 Figure 8

Licenses

All drivers must possess a valid NASCAR license. Anyone competing without a current license will be suspended indefinitely and may be subject to fines. Riverhead Raceway and/or NASCAR reserve the right to approve or reject any license application. A license may only be used by the individual to whom it is issued. Any member who allows another person to use or attempt to use their license will be subject to disciplinary action.

2026 **Tire Infraction** Policy

Revised Jan 11, 2026

Chemically treating or altering a tire is strictly **prohibited**. Tires may be inspected or sampled by track officials at any time during practice, qualifying, or feature events.

Blue Ridge Race Lab is the designated lab responsible for tire analysis.

- If tire samples fail to meet manufacturer benchmarks, the driver and car owner are responsible for **any fees associated with the analysis**, will be fined, and **disqualified from the event** with **0 points awarded**.
- Any purse money collected prior to official lab results must be **returned** if an infraction occurs.
- Failure to allow samples to be taken will result in the same penalties as a failed sample: **disqualification, 0 points**, and applicable fines.

Fines by Division:

- Tour Type Modified: $3,500 + any purse money collected
- Riverhead Crate Modified / Late Model / Figure 8: $2,000 + any purse money collected
- All other support classes: $1,000 + any purse money collected

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All **Blue Ridge Race Lab results are official and final**. All fines must be paid **prior to returning to competition**. Riverhead Raceway maintains a **zero-tolerance policy** for chemical treatment or tire alteration.

Post-Race Tire Sample Challenge

Any competitor or car owner from a team participating in the same division event on that date may verbally request to challenge a specific Driver / Team Owner.
The request must be made to Riverhead Raceway official staff prior to the start of the feature event, and the required fee must be paid in full, in cash, before the feature begins.

The requesting competitor must specify the number of tires to be sampled and the exact location of each tire at the time of the request. A per-tire fee will apply.
Riverhead Raceway reserves the right to limit the number of tires sampled per car.

A competitor or team may challenge the same Driver/ Team Owner no more than two (2) times per race season.

A **fee of $195 per tire** must be paid **in full in cash before samples are taken**.

- If a sampled car fails to meet Blue Ridge Lab benchmarks, the requesting competitor **will be refunded the full fee**.
- If a sampled car meets all benchmarks, the requesting competitor **forfeits the fee**.

All post-race tire sample challenges are **subject to Riverhead Raceway and Blue Ridge Lab rules**, and **all lab results are final and binding**.

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2026 **Weekly Tire** Policy

Revised Apr 19, 2026

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Tire Bank Eligibility

You MUST have a registered number to be eligible for a tire bank.

- All teams in classes below will be considered "Tire Bank" divisions.
- As of opening night all tires used must be from your bank, even during practice. Any tires may be used for the 2 open practice days, as bank rules will not be enforced.
- All competitors will have the option to add (6) six **used** tires to their bank. Barcodes must be legible and tires scanned to bank before opening day's main events, at which time they will become property of the current team, who assumes responsibility for any and all penalties and/or infractions. If a team joins after opening day their used tires must be added to their bank that day.
- All tires purchased will be added to the competitor's bank on a weekly basis and may be used at any time during the course of the season except Modifieds who must race on qualifying tires (see below). Competitors must compete at all race events using tires from their bank. There is no weekly minimum purchase requirement. Teams may purchase up to the allotment specified for their division.
- Each team is responsible to make certain all tires have a scannable barcode. Unscannable tires will be considered illegal.

Support Divisions

Riverhead Crate Modified and Late Models,

- Due to change in tire size, competitors listed in the above classes are eligible to purchase up to twelve (12) new tires to start the 2026 season. All 12 tires must be purchased by opening day. The ~~car must be present and the~~ driver's car number(s) must be registered with Riverhead Raceway. Any new team that joins us after the opening day of the 2026 season will be permitted to purchase 8 tires.
- Beginning week 2, teams will be eligible to purchase 1 tire earned on opening night and after each subsequent completed feature will be credited with 1 tire.

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Riverhead Super Pro Trucks, Figure 8, Blunderbust & Street Stocks:

- All competitors listed in the above classes are eligible to purchase up to four (4) new tires to start the 2026 season. All 4 tires must be purchased prior to the opening day's main events. The ~~car must be present and the driver's~~ car number(s) must be registered with Riverhead Raceway. Any new team that joins us after the opening day of the 2026 season will be permitted to purchase 4 tires.
- Beginning week 2, teams will be eligible to purchase 1 tire earned on opening night and after each subsequent completed feature will be credited with 1 tire.

NASCAR Modifieds

- All competitors listed in the above class are eligible to purchase up to eight (8) new tires to start the 2026 season. The ~~car must be present and the~~ driver's car number(s) must be registered with Riverhead Raceway. Any new team entering after opening day of the 2026 season will be permitted to purchase eight (8) tires.
- Beginning week 2, teams will be eligible to purchase up to 4 tires earned on opening night and after each subsequent completed feature will be credited with 4 tires.

Modified Heat Race and Feature Tire Tech

- The 4 tires you use to qualify will be the same tires used for the feature event.
- These 4 qualifying tires must be placed together (not stacked but laid flat) in your pit area behind your car no later than the end of practice, where tech will check them in. We will not wait. If officials come by and they are not ready to be checked in, that team will start last in heat with no passing points.

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Tire Credits

- You MUST complete 50% of the feature event to receive a tire credit for the following race. If you fail to complete 50% of the feature event, you must be able to identify why you were unable to complete 50% of the feature event.
- Officials reserve the right to approve or deny tire credits at any time.
- Tire credits will not be held and do not accumulate. If you do not purchase your tire on your return visit, you lose it.

On Track Tire Incident

- A tire credit can be awarded to a driver that has an on-track incident which caused a flat. If you are requesting tire credit, the flat tire must be brought to the official tech area immediately following the conclusion of your feature event. No exceptions! Tire credits will not be held. If you do not purchase your tire on your return visit, you lose it.
- NASCAR Modified team are not eligible for tire credits

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2026 HANDICAPPING RULES AND REGULATIONS

Handicap Check In

ALL drivers must check in with the handicapper before participating in any on track activities. If you arrive after the gates have already opened and the handicapper is no longer at the gate, you must go up to the handicapper shack to check in. If somehow you do not check in before the end of the first round of practice, you will be placed last in the heat race line up and will not be eligible for passing points.

A crew member is allowed to check in a driver.

Heat Race

The heat race lineup will be set by random draw. Your draw number will be given to you at the time of check in.

Drivers will receive Finishing Points and Passing Points for heat races. These are for handicapping purposes only and **do not** count towards the championship points.

The sum of the Finishing Points and Passing Points will set the feature lineup.

The Ted Christopher Cup Series, the Eagle Chevrolet 50 Lap Crate Modified race, and the INEX Legends National Qualifier will be time trial events. Any other extra distance race, the typical heat race format will be followed.

Heat Race Finishing Points

Finishing points will be awarded as follows:

Finishing Position	Finish Points Awarded
1st	13 Points
2nd	12 Points
3rd	11 Points
4th	9 Points
5th	8 Points
6th	7 Points
7th	6 Points
8th	5 Points
9th	4 Points
10th	3 Points

Heat Race Passing Points

We will use a plus minus system. Any driver that gains position from where they start will get passing points. This is only from the starting position to the finish position. Repassing somebody does not count for passing points. If any driver loses a spot in the heat, they will get negative passing points. You will not be awarded passing points for lapping a car.

For Ex:

- Start 3rd and finished 1st you would have plus 2 points
- Start 3rd and finished 5th you would have minus 2 points

Feature Winners

Previous feature winners will have a win penalty for the next 3 races after the win.

For divisions with 10 cars or less the previous winners CANNOT start higher than 4th for the next 3 races after the win**.**

For divisions with car count between 11-19, the previous winners CANNOT start higher than 6th for the next 3 races after the win.

For divisions with a car count of 20 or more cars the previous winner CANNOT start higher than 10th for the next 3 weekly races after the win.

Feature Line Up

Feature Lineup will be set by the sum of Finishing Points and Passing Points. The sum will be called Total Points. The driver with the highest total points will be on the pole and so on. Please see the chart below for every scenario for how the Total Points will be calculated.

		Start									
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
Finish	1st	**13**	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	2nd	11	**12**	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	3rd	9	10	**11**	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	4th	6	7	8	**9**	10	11	12	13	14	15
	5th	4	5	6	7	**8**	9	10	11	12	13
	6th	2	3	4	5	6	**7**	8	9	10	11
	7th	0	1	2	3	4	5	**6**	7	8	9
	8th	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4	**5**	6	7
	9th	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	**4**	5
	10th	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	**3**

Dropping to the Rear
In the event a driver elects the rear, they will not be eligible passing points and will only get finishing points.

If a driver elects the rear, we will cross-over the field; 2nd moves to 1st, 3rd moves to 2nd etc. These would be considered the new starting position. Drivers will not gain passing points for someone dropping to the rear.

Please let the handicapper know prior to going out on the track if you are going to be electing the rear for your heat race and or your feature event. This will help eliminate a delay in the start of the race by having to realign the field prior to taking the green.

DNS
If you do not make the feature event, you must get teched out, meaning the tech department has determined your car is not suitable to race. In the event that you are teched out, you will receive last place in handicapping points (credited for being there for the event with the intention of participating in the feature event.)

Driver / Car Changes
If a driver change is to take place, you must let the Handicapper know prior to any on track activity for said driver. If you make a driver change OR car change after a qualifying attempt, you will be placed last in the feature line up.

Penalties
Avoidable contact penalties may result in a loss of passing points but absolutely not limited to that. Tech and the race director have the right to assess penalties. In severe instances you may be ineligible for passing points or placed last in the feature and/or consolation event.

Tiebreakers
If two cars have the same Total Points, tiebreakers are in place to determine feature lineup.

1. Most cars passed in the heat (passing points) would start ahead of the other driver with the same amount of Total Points.
2. If both have the same amount of passing points, then it will be the best heat finish between the two.
3. If still tied it will be the driver highest in championship points.

For Opening Day and the Islip 300, where championship points are not in play, the 3rd tiebreaker would be the driver with the lowest draw number that day.

Consolation race: The winner of the consi and the one provisional will get the final two spots in the feature lineup. The provisional goes to the driver with the highest championship points. For opening night, we will take the top two from the consi since there is no championship points yet.

TOUR TYPE MODIFIEDS HANDICAPPING RULES (New for 2026)

All Modified events will be time trial events.

Time Trial Order: The time trial order will be determined a random draw. Draw numbers will be provided upon handicap check in. Draw numbers will be listed chronologically lowest to highest which will set our time trial line up. The driver with the lowest draw number will take time first.

If you do not make it onto the track for your slotted qualifying spot, you may go out when you are ready but will receive a one lap penalty. If officials determine you are not making your best effort to go out in the order you were supposed to, you may be denied your one lap. You must make your best effort to be ready for qualifying.

If you miss qualifying, you may start the consi or feature but will be placed last in the line up.

Pre-Race Tech: There will be no pre-race tech for weekly shows. ONLY the Ted Christopher Cup race will have pre-race tech.

For Impounded events, if your car leaves the impound area after qualifying, you will be placed last in the feature line up.

For all other weekly time trial events where we will not be impounding cars, the top 5 in time must report the scales after time trials have concluded.

Time Trial Handicapping: At the end of time trials, the top 8 from time will be handicapped based on the last 3 weeks in points. From 9th on back will start straight up.

If you qualify in the top 8 but have missed a race in the prior 3 races, you will be credited with 50 handicap points (a win) for each race missed in the last 3 races.

For opening day, where handicap points have not accrued yet, the top 8 in time will start based on random draw. For race 2, the order of the top 8 will be determined by points from race 1. Race 3 will be determined by the total points from race 1 and 2. Race 4 is where we will begin using the prior 3 weeks to determine the top 8 in the feature line up.

The Ted Christopher Cup races are considered an open event. The 3 week handicap post qualifying for the top 8 will not be in effect. Championship points will be awarded for the finish of these races, therefore, it will affect your handicap for the next 3 races.

2026 **INEX Bandoleros** Rules

Revised Apr 6, 2026

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THE RIVERHEAD INEX BANDOLEROS DIVISION WILL FOLLOW ALL RULES FOUND IN THE CURRENT INEX RULEBOOK EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING RULES:

INEX Bandoleros Age Requirement

1. Bandoleros are open to drivers 7 years of age or older with an age limit of 15 years of age.
2. Beginner drivers are required to go through the normal application process to apply for Bandolero Membership. These drivers must show the ability to control the Bandolero car and have an understanding of racetrack procedures (pit speed, flags, communication from race director etc. Riverhead Raceway will decide in its sole and absolute discretion whether an appropriate level of Bandolero car control and understanding of racetrack procedures has been demonstrated by the driver.
3. The age limit for drivers is based on the drivers age on December 31st.
4. Example: If the driver is 15 years of age on December 31st but turns 16 years of age after January 1st or during the current race season that driver is eligible to compete in the current race year.

Transponders

AMB 260x, MyLaps Flex or MyLaps X2 transponder mounted in the front of the car on the outside center of the footbox.

Mandatory Communication Equipment – INEX Bandoleros

1. Liteceiver In-Car Unit (Installed in Car)

- Each Bandolero car **must be equipped** with a Liteceiver in-car unit.

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- The unit must be fully operational and **set to the correct race frequency** at all times during competition.

2. Racing Electronics RE2-XL Earpiece (Semi-Custom, Worn by Driver)

- The Racing Electronics RE2-XL earpiece is mandatory for all drivers during competition
- Semi-custom fit is recommended for proper function and comfort.
- The earpiece must be in good working condition.

Enforcement:

- Failure to have either the installed Liteceiver or the driver earpiece operational, or set to the correct frequency, **may result in ineligibility to compete** until the requirement is met.
- This rule applies to **all INEX Bandolero divisions**.

Supplier Note:

- Both the Liteceiver in-car unit and the RE2-XL earpiece are available from **Oval Speed Unlimited, Massapequa, NY**, and Dennis will provide the **correct race frequency** for the Liteceiver.

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