2018 NHRA Centerline/Timing Block Violation Policy

Crossing the centerline and/or striking a timing block is a serious safety concern and has resulted in driver injuries and extensive vehicle damage. Additionally, the cleanup time associated with these incidents affects everyone at NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing events, including spectators, contestants, sponsors, and television viewers.

In an effort to reduce centerline crossing and/or striking timing blocks, the following policy will be in effect for all categories at NHRA National Events. In addition to the current centerline policy of disqualifying runs/times, additional penalties will be imposed on drivers crossing the centerline or striking the timing blocks during any qualifying and/or elimination round. The following penalties apply to all drivers in every NHRA category contested at each NHRA National Event.

First Violation of the season will result in the following:
- Loss of five (5) NHRA Series points.

Second Violation of the season will result in the following:
- Loss of ten (10) NHRA Series points.

Subsequent Violations:
- Loss of fifteen (15) NHRA Series points per violation.

This policy encompasses the distance from the start line to the ¼ mile finish line. **Top Fuel and Funny Car drivers crossing the centerline after the 1,000' finish line up to the 1,320' finish line WILL be subject to the points penalty.** TF/FC drivers crossing after the 1,000' finish line will NOT be subject to the standard disqualification/loss of elapsed time policy. Points WILL be deducted for centerline/timing cone violation on single runs.

In determining a centerline crossing violation, it is considered a violation when any portion of a tire completely crosses the painted line surface. Example:



Tire mark "A"



Tire mark "B"

Tire mark "A" completely crosses painted boundary line resulting in a violation. Tire mark "B" does not completely cross painted line - not a violation. In situations where multiple boundary lines are utilized (as above example), the line directly adjacent to the driver's racing lane will be used for reference.

Any vehicle striking timing fixtures - even though not completely crossing centerline – will be considered a violation. Violation will apply regardless if nose of car crosses finish line prior to any part of car striking fixtures (parachute striking finish line timing blocks is not considered a violation).

In the case of an oildown plus a centerline/timing block violation on the same run, the oildown points penalty and DQ of the run will apply (no double points penalty).

Intentional crossing of boundary lines to leave track or avoid depositing debris on track is not considered a violation. Crossing centerline on a burnout is not considered a violation. However, the Event Director may disqualify a driver if such actions are determined to be unsafe or unsportsmanlike conduct.

Policy will remain in place for all 24 National Events.

Multiple/Continual violations will result in an NHRA review of drivers season performance. As a result of that review, further action may be taken as determined by NHRA. Any team experiencing multiple/continual violations, or demonstrating a disregard for this policy, will be subject to additional punitive action as deemed appropriate by NHRA in its sole and absolute discretion. Such action may involve monetary fines, immediate disqualification from the event, denial to participate at future National Events, and/or suspension of competition privileges.

See 2018 NHRA Rulebook for disqualification rules regarding boundary line and/or timing fixture violations.

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