

Proposed Revised SARRC Points Awards for 2014

The current SARRC points system awards a set number of points for each position (24 for 1st, 20 for 2nd, etc.), regardless of the number of cars competing in a class. A problem with this system is that a driver gets the same points for finishing first irrespective of whether he beats ten other cars or is the sole entrant. Several drivers have recommended that the SARRC points structure be revised so that drivers who compete in more competitive races be given extra points to reflect the difficulty of scoring high finishes in the races with bigger fields. The SARRC Committee will be considering such a change. SARRC Administrator Jim Creighton has recommended a system which awards a bonus point for each car in his class that a driver beats in a race, up to a limit of ten. These bonus points would be added to the base points for each finishing position as awarded in the current system. As part of the change, the base points would be changed slightly to match the system which will be used in Majors races in 2014 (25 points for 1st, 21 for 2nd, 18 for 3rd and one fewer for each following position, down to 1 point for 20th place.)

As an example, in a race with five starters, the winner would receive 25 base points plus four bonus points, for 29 total points. The second place finisher would receive 24 points (21 base plus 3 bonus), with following drivers receiving 20 (18 + 2), 18 (17 + 1) and 16. The maximum number of points a driver could receive would be 35 – 25 base plus 10 bonus, if the class had 11 or more drivers starting.

Below are a few more details of how the bonus points would be calculated. The bonus points would be based on the number of starters in each class. This would include cars which do not finish or are disqualified. Cars shown as DNS would not be counted, nor would cars which waive SARRC points. For the purposes of calculating bonus points, any fields larger than 30 would be counted as 30 starters. Thus the lowest finishing car that could receive bonus points would be the 29th place finisher – one point in a 30+ car field. This should affect only Spec Miata, obviously.

In order to give everyone an idea of how the new points system would work in practice, the first points standings for the 2014 season were calculated using the proposed new procedure. Take a look and see what you think of it. If you have any questions, comments or recommendations, send them to me, Jim Creighton, or your SARRC committee representative.

Tom Lyttle, SARRC pointskeeper