

RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submitted by George Schwartz, NWACC Rep., Corvettes de Olympia

Speed Event Guidelines, Section B – Safety Inspections for Speed Events, Rule 3

This proposal, if adopted, will upgrade the current Snell safety rating for helmets for autocross competitors beginning with the 2011 Competition Season.

Explanation of the Proposed Change:

With the newest Snell helmet ratings scheduled to be introduced in the fall of 2010, NWACC believes that raising the current minimum standard of a SA90/M90 helmet to a newer rating will insure that autocross competitors will have a more current helmet which will improve safety. Snell ratings are updated every five years and helmets carry a rating for that time period. Most autocross sanctioning bodies have been at an SA95/M95 rating for some time. The last update to helmet ratings in this section was in 2006 when helmet ratings were upgraded from SA80/M80 to the current ratings.

In the past, NWACC has also allowed helmets with only a “DOT” rating. Some of these helmets may not be suitable at all for motorsports and they should no longer be allowed.

Current Rule:

HELMETS – Required in all speed events, all classes. Must be Snell SA-90 or M-90 or later, or equivalent “DOT” approved. All helmets will be inspected at each event for excessive wear to the inside liner and neck strap, and for any excessive damage to the outer shell. Any helmet deemed damaged to the point where it may not provide protection shall be permanently rejected for NWACC-sanctioned speed events.

Proposed Change:

HELMETS – Required in all speed events, all classes. Beginning with the 2011 Competition Season, all helmets must have a rating of Snell SA00 or M00 or later. Any helmet with only a “DOT” rating shall not be approved for NWACC competition use. All helmets shall be inspected at each event for excessive wear to the inside liner and neck strap, and for any excessive damage to the outer shell. Any helmet deemed damaged to the point where it may not provide protection shall be permanently rejected for NWACC-sanctioned speed events.

NOTE: This change to the minimum certification year shall be implemented with the beginning of the 2011 Competition Season. This will allow NWACC competitors one year to upgrade their helmets as necessary (this note to be removed at the end of the 2010 season).