



SCTA Gear Grinders

2017

The Gear Grinders Club (Club) is a non-profit racing club that is affiliated with the Southern California Timing Association (SCTA).

Section I

The objectives of the Gear Grinders shall be:

- a) To participate in high speed time trials on the dry lake beds in California and The Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah.
- b) To promote interest in the various types of automotive and motorcycle racing activities, especially land speed racing.
- c) To create good fellowship and sportsmanship among the members of the Club.
- d) To participate in and support the SCTA and Club activities through volunteer efforts.

Section II

Membership Definition

- a) A **"Regular"** member shall be an individual who is currently in good standing with the Club and the SCTA and lives in California, Oregon, Nevada and Arizona.
- b) An **"Associate"** member shall be an individual who is currently in good standing with the Club and the SCTA and lives outside of in California, Oregon, Nevada and Arizona.

Requirements for Joining the Gear Grinders

- a) A prospective member must submit a completed Club Application Form, Club dues, initiation fees, and a Club Profile Sheet. They must describe their vehicle (if any), intended classes and objective. The prospective General member, living closer than 150 miles to El Mirage, must attend at least three meetings within a six month period, two of which must be consecutive meetings, prior to admittance into the club. A prospective member living more than 150 miles from El Mirage Dry Lake, and must attend at least one (1) Club meeting prior to admittance into the Club.

- b) A prospective member must be voted into the Club by secret ballot only at a regularly scheduled meeting and must receive a 100% “Yes” vote of the current members present. If a prospective member is not voted into the Club, the Club dues and initiation fee will be returned to them.

Requirements for New Members

- a) Upon acceptance into the Club, and payment of one full year dues, plus the club initiation fee or reinstatement fee the new member will become a member in good standing.
- b) New members must serve a three month probation period. During this probation period, a new member is subject to review by all the members of the Club. The new member is also responsible for their crews’ actions and compliance with the rules and regulations of the Club and SCTA lake bed procedures and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) procedures. If there is a negative incident during this period, the member will be brought before the general membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- c) Within the first two years of membership, a new General member is required to “Volunteer” for at least 20 hours of service in addition to the assigned Patrol Duties. Any scheduled SCTA call for volunteers qualifies. Time is also counted for Club volunteer activities. New members can contact the Club Sergeant at Arms for a list of volunteer services available. The Club’s Sergeant at Arms must be notified of hours worked at time work is done. Failure to complete this requirement will be brought to the attention of the membership during regular club meetings.
- d) All new General members must serve an "Apprenticeship" for Safety Patrol Duties for at least a four hour period with another qualified Club member during the first three Lake meets of one's membership and prior to standing a patrol assignment.
- e) No person will be accepted into the Club who has indebtedness to another affiliated club or is “A member Not in Good Standing” within the SCTA. (Clubs may be contacted for Verification.)

Requirements for All Club Members (General and Associate)

- a) Members must read, understand and comply with the By-laws of the Club and The Gear Grinders Safety Patrol Guide.
- b) Club members must furnish photos of their race vehicles, (four photos are required) the front, rear, side view and cockpit view must be shown. Each member must furnish the club a “Profile Data Sheet” at the beginning of each year and every member who runs a vehicle must furnish the entrants racing name and vehicle number with the “Profile Data Sheet”. Please make copies of all speed certificates issued by the SCTA and turn all forms/copies over to the Club Vice President. The Club Vice President will forward to the club “Historian”(The photos are not a requirement if members do not have a race vehicle).
- c) All Club members participating in race activities must read and understand the SCTA Rule book and the El Mirage Procedures and Rules, comply with all safety, competition rules and regulations. If any questions arise from these rules and regulations, it is the responsibility of the club member to contact an SCTA official or race inspector to clarify the rules or regulations. (A Club Board member can point you in the right direction for clarification.) It is your responsibility to have your race vehicle inspected and re-inspected, if required, as set forth in the Rule Book prior to any race participation.

Members and their crew members actions reflect on all Club members and all members are expected to exemplify the position of the Club and its members. Persons failing to do so will be subject to a fine and/or suspension from the Club and/or the SCTA by the membership.

- d) Members must place the Club decal on each side of the race vehicle (small and large decals will be furnished to new members and are available for purchase).
- e) All Club member cars and motorcycles must be presentable in appearance per the SCTA Rule Book.
- f) Membership dues must be paid in full and a copy of your invoice returned with your payment by the February meeting of every year. If your dues are not paid by the scheduled club meeting in February, you will be dropped from the club roster. If you have been dropped from the roster, you must re-apply for membership to the Club.
- g) All General Club members, **living in California, Oregon, Nevada and Arizona, are required to stand "Patrol Duties" unless they are exempted by these By-Laws.**
- h) **Members living within a 60 mile radius of the scheduled meeting place must attend regular meetings, unless excused. Members living outside the 60 mile radius, but within the 150 mile radius of El Mirage and/or are Associate members must attend one meeting or club function on a yearly basis.**
- i) All fines will be deposited into the Gear Grinder general checking account.

Suspension of Membership and/or Fines

- a) Any member within the 60 mile radius of the scheduled meeting place who misses three consecutive regular meetings may be suspended. To be excused, members must give notification to any Club Board Member. Members attending night school or work at night are exempt.
- b) A member that consistently does not participate in club duties when called upon by the Club may be suspended and/or fined as determined by the Club Board.
- c) Any member may be suspended by the majority vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting for minor or major infractions (i.e. missing club meetings, not participating in club duties, not performing patrol duties); the member will receive a letter of reprimand signed by all Board members with a copy of the letter going to the Secretary and Historian.
- d) Members missing their assigned Patrol Duties will be required to stand patrol at the next scheduled El Mirage Lake meet or at the discretion of the Patrol Coordinator in addition to any fine(s) imposed.
- e) Failure to perform assigned Patrol Duties or a "No Show" will result in a \$200.00 fine and/or suspension from the Club. The member is also responsible to pay any fines that the SCTA may levy upon the Club (Example: If the SCTA fine is \$100.00 then the member will pay \$100.00 + \$200.00 for a total of \$300.00). Failure to pay the fines imposed, the member is subject to immediate suspension and dismissal from the Club with a letter to the SCTA and all club presidents stating that the person left the Club as "Not in Good Standing".
- f) All fines will be deposited into the Club general checking account.

- g) Suspended members must re-apply for membership / re-instatement by a 100 % vote at a regularly scheduled meeting and pay all fees as if a new member, plus any additional fees imposed by the membership.

Section III

Gear Grinder Club Dues

Regular Membership Dues

\$ 75.00 + SCTA Dues

Associate Membership Dues

\$ 125.00 + SCTA Dues

S.C.T.A. Life Membership Dues

Regular Member - \$ 70.00

Associate Member - \$ 90.00

Other Fees

New Membership Initiation Fee and/or Reinstatement Fee.....\$ 20.00

Club Roster

- a) The Club roster will be published and issued to every member of the Club membership during the month of April every year.
- b) The Club roster can be amended to exclude a member's address and phone numbers at the request of the club member.
- c) The Club roster is the sole property of the Club and cannot be given away or sold without permission from the Club membership. No copies are to be given away to other persons without permission from the Club.

Membership Dues Exemption

- a) The Club elected board members is: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms. These members including the Patrol Coordinator(s), Club Historian, Club Representatives (excluding alternates), Pre Stage Coordinator(s), Gear Grinders Store Clerk and other club members holding assigned Club duties for the SCTA may be exempted by the Club Board from paying yearly Club dues while in office. However they must pay their yearly SCTA dues.
- b) Any person awarded the Club Life Membership Award is exempt.

Club and Member Liabilities

- a) No member of this club shall be personally or otherwise liable for any debts, liabilities and /or obligations of the Club.

- b) The Club will not be liable for any indebtedness incurred by a member for the Club without prior authorization of the membership.

Disbursements

- a) All checks, drafts or other orders of payment of money, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the Gear Grinders Club, shall be signed by the Treasurer, President or an appointed club member.
- b) Signature cards will be on file with the bank and shall be updated every year or as needed with a minimum of three (3) eligible club members able to sign checks. This requirement is in case of emergency or other unforeseen circumstances.

Membership Packets

Each new member will be given at no charge the following:

1. Club By-Laws
2. Club Roster –Names, phone and email address
3. SCTA Patrol Duty Pamphlet (Yellow)
4. Club Safety Patrol Requirements
5. Club “T” shirt voucher*
6. Club logo decals (2) voucher*
7. El Mirage Dry Lake Procedures
8. SCTA Rulebook (if available)

* Submit voucher to the Club Store Clerk for fulfillment

Section IV

Officers

The Board members of the Club shall be elected officers of the Club and will in turn select additional members to be appointed Board Members.

Elected Officers

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Sergeant at Arms

- a) An officer shall be elected by the majority vote of the membership and shall hold office for one year or until his/her successor is elected or appointed.
- b) An officer may succeed him/herself more than once.
- c) No person shall hold more than one office at a time.
- d) Nominations of Club officers must be conducted at the October scheduled club meeting
- e) If during the year an elected officer must stand down (Due to health or other reasons), the elected Board members can appoint an alternate to fill that position for the remainder of the elected term.
- f) The official election ballot must be mailed to the general membership prior to the November club meeting by the Secretary. Only official ballots will be counted.

- g) Ballots must be returned by November 25th. The ballots can be mailed or given to an elected Board member.
- h) Ballots will be returned to a neutral Club member (one who is not on the ballot), who will tally the results and turn them over to the outgoing President at the beginning of the December meeting.

Officer Responsibilities

President:

The President's responsibilities as Chief Officer of the Club are, but not limited to:

- 1.) Establishes meeting dates and places and is the club coordinator.
- 2.) Presides over the clubs monthly meetings and functions.
- 3.) Establishes the meetings agendas.
- 4.) Represents the Club to the SCTA.
- 5.) Conducts club business as necessary.
- 6.) Establishes club activities.
- 7.) Calls upon the membership for required voluntary action & efforts.
- 8.) Directs the clubs overall efforts with the Board's recommendations.
- 9.) Ensures that the selected Board members fulfill their club duties & responsibilities.
- 10.) Advisor to the general membership.
- 11.) Ensures that the clubs financial requirements are maintained and proper signature cards with the bank are updated as necessary. (The President is eligible to sign the signature card at the bank.)
- 12.) Submits to the general membership all items which are necessary to be voted upon or require a majority vote as club approval.
- 13.) Updates and maintains the "Presidents Club Book" and notifies the Club Historian of all awards.

Vice President:

The Vice President is responsible to support the President and responsibilities are, but not limited to:

- 1.) The Vice President in the absence of the President will assume the role as president with full authority to enact that position.
- 2.) Support the President and may form committees as necessary to meet the club activities and needs.
- 3.) The Vice President will collect club members profile sheets, photos and certificates and will forward to the Club Historian for insertion into the Club history.
- 4.) The Vice President will collect information of the award recipients at the annual Club awards presentation and will announce those winners at the next regularly scheduled general meeting so the information becomes a permanent part of the Club record; the information will be forwarded to the Club Historian for insertion into the Club history as well.
- 5.) Be an advisor to the President, Board members and the general membership.
- 6.) The Vice President is eligible to sign the signature card at the bank.

Treasurer:

- 1.) The Treasurer is responsible to the Board and club members for keeping the Club's financial records in order and up to date.
- 2.) The Treasurer will inform the general membership of the current financial status of the club at each regularly scheduled meeting. This report will become part of the official Club record.
- 3.) The Treasurer will maintain a hospital fund that will be used in case of a catastrophic mishap with a Club member. The Club Board members will decide the amount of disbursements.
- 4.) The Treasurer will invoice all members for continued membership no later than December 15th of each year. Membership dues are required to be paid by the February meeting.
- 5.) The club roster is the responsibility of the Treasurer and will be up-dated and published to the general membership in April of each year.
- 6.) All checks, drafts or other orders of payment must be signed by the Treasurer.
- 7.) The Treasurer must be on the approved signature card list of the Club's bank account.
- 8.) The Treasurer is responsible to collect all dues and fines imposed. All monies will be deposited into the Club bank accounts.

Secretary:

- 1.) The Secretary is responsible to the Board and the club members for keeping the Club's records, communications.
- 2.) The Secretary must attend all scheduled meetings, record the meeting minutes, attendance and publish the minutes to the general membership either by e-mail or by regular mail to those who do not have e-mail addresses.
- 3.) The Secretary will send out election ballots as soon as possible after the October meeting to the general membership. Ballots must be numbered or embossed so duplication cannot be made.
- 4.) The Secretary will send out member profile sheets with the December minutes.
- 5.) Copies of all outbound correspondence must be sent to the Secretary for club records and in turn copies sent to the club Historian via the Secretary.
- 6.) All outbound correspondence must be on the Club stationary and require two elected Board signatures.
- 7.) The Club Secretary will initiate and maintain a list of all eligible General club members suited for Patrol Duty. This list shall be reviewed by the Board yearly. Patrol Duty assignments will be made in alphabetical order and will run concurrently. All new members will be added to this list upon acceptance and completion of their probation period. This list will be established after the February meeting and will be published starting in the March minutes and continue through the year. This list will show the member Patrol Duties from May through November and position assignments.
- 8.) The Secretary shall compose and send out all club correspondence by e-mail / mail as directed by the Board members.

9.) The Secretary shall keep a current listing of Club member e-mail and mail addresses on a computer disc for future use by succeeding secretaries.

Sergeant At Arms

- 1.) The Sergeant at Arms is responsible to the Board and to the club members.
- 2.) The Sergeant at Arms is responsible for calling the club meetings to order for the President and keeping order throughout the meeting.
- 3.) He may assess club member fines for insubordination and rudeness. (Not to exceed \$1.00 per infraction)
- 4.) The Sergeant at Arms is responsible to maintain a record of the volunteer service hours by the new members. Failure of the new members to perform the services will be brought to the attention of the general membership during regular club meetings.
- 5.) The Sergeant at Arms will maintain (using printer of choice), distribute and collect the Clubs new member voting ballots.
- 8.) The Sergeant at Arms may distribute the Clubs timing tags and record certificates for the President or as directed.
- 8.) Perform other duties as necessary by the Board recommendations.

Representatives of the Gear Grinders

- a) Representatives shall be appointed Club members. The number of representatives is based on the SCTA quota system of one representative for every 15 club members, with a maximum of three (3) representatives with one alternate. All club representatives are responsible only to the Gear Grinders Club.
- b) At a scheduled SCTA Board/Reps meeting, only the appointed representatives are eligible to cast votes on behalf of the Club.
- c) All Club representatives must attend the SCTA board meetings and report back to the club at the next scheduled meeting, all pertinent information discussed. If there are any outstanding or immediate issues, these must be passed on to the President who may in turn have the Club Secretary mail out this information to the general membership.
- d) If a club representative cannot attend the scheduled meeting, they may be required to secure the alternate representative or a member in good standing to replace him/her. If a general member stands in for an appointed representative he/she will report directly to the SCTA secretary that they are taking the place of the regular representative. The Club member taking the place of the appointed Representative will have the same vote as the appointed Representative for that meeting only.
- e) The SCTA Board and Representatives meetings are held at the date and time determined by the SCTA Secretary and will be published prior to the start of the New Year.
- f) The Representative's responsibility is to bring back information from the SCTA Board, obtain the Club's opinion, and then return the Clubs opinion to the SCTA Board.

Committees

- a) Committees may be appointed at any time for any purpose and shall be chaired by a Board member.
- b) Committees shall uphold to the best of their ability, all rules and regulations set forth by the Gear Grinders.

General

- a) All outbound Club correspondence shall be on Club Stationary.
All outbound correspondence must have the concurrence of all elected Board Members.
Copies of which will be submitted into Club history.
- b) Club By-Laws shall be reviewed bi-annually by the Elected Board Members and/or an appointed review committee. They will be reviewed in their final configuration by the Board prior to being submitted to the general membership for final vote approval.

Regular Meetings

- a) Regular meetings of the membership shall be held every month at 7:00 PM at a place designated by the Board. Meetings can be held on different days and times as needed, to facilitate scheduling around the holidays, etc.
- b) Members living within a 60 mile radius of the scheduled meeting location must attend regularly scheduled meetings, unless excused. Members living outside the 60 miles radius, but within the 150 mile radius of El Mirage and/or are Associate members must attend one meeting or club function on a yearly basis.
- c) Any member within the 60 mile radius of the scheduled meeting location who misses more than three consecutive regular meetings will be suspended. To be excused, members must give notification to any Club Board Member.
(See "Suspension of Membership.")
- d) "Senior" members who cannot attend club meetings due to medical conditions or no longer able to drive, should contact the President or Treasurer and request exemption from attending regular meetings.

Special Meetings

- a) Special meetings can be called by any officer of the Club, at any time, for any purpose. Notice of such meetings shall be given to each member required to attend the special meeting, stating the starting time and place where the meeting will be held.

Section V

Gear Grinders Club Annual Awards

Sportsman Award ...Perpetual.....Established in 1947

This award is to be included with the club ballot each year and the person with the highest number of votes receives the award. If there is a tie vote, the Board will decide the recipient.

Top Speed Car Award...Perpetual.....Established in 1973

Top Points Car Award.....Established in 1989

Most Improved Award.....Established in 1990

The most improved is a vote by the Club Board with recommendations from the general membership.

Top Speed Motorcycle Award.....Established in 1990

Top Points Motorcycle Award.....Established in 1990

Top Wrench Award ...Perpetual.....Established in 1993

- Gary Cagle Memorial Award...Perpetual.....Established in 1994
 The Gary Cagle Memorial Award is awarded to an outstanding Member of the SCTA (includes Gear Grinders) that is selected by the Club Board and/or general membership. The trophy is presented at the annual SCTA banquet.
- Special Achievement Award.....Established in 1997
 This award is to be given to a Club member, who has gone beyond the normal call of duty.
- Driver of the Year Award.....Established in 1999
 To be given to the most outstanding Club driver/rider.
- Gear Grinder Life Membership Award.....Established in 2008
 One award given yearly at the discretion of the Board to a long standing senior member with life time dues paid for the Gear Grinders & SCTA.
- Hank Negley Award...Perpetual.....Established in 2004
 The Hank Negley award is for a club member that goes out of their way to help a fellow member of the Club. The award comes with a paid yearly entry fee for El Mirage that is paid by the fund that was set up by Paula Negley, daughter of Hank Negley.

Jim Lindsley Award...Perpetual.....*Established in 2005*
 Jim Lindsley was one of the original founding members of the Club, he served on the Club Board in all capacities, received the Club Sportsman Award in 1951, 1966 and 1985, was SCTA Season Champion in 1951 and 1972. He received the Meb Healy Memorial Trophy in 1965 and the Pete Dean Memorial Sportsmanship Trophy in 1952. Jim was a member of the original 1949 founding group of the Bonneville Nationals and served in some capacity with that group along with SCTA including President, Vice President, Treasurer/Controller until 2000. He was the thirteenth member of the Bonneville 200 MPH Club.

This award is for a club member who continuously devotes time to the Club, SCTA and Bonneville Nationals. Awarded at the discretion of the Club Board (Special advisor is Anne Lindsley)

It is up to the outgoing Board to select individuals that fit the criteria for each award. If there is no one in the Club that meets the criteria for that year, the award can be withheld and presented the following year.

SPECIAL NOTE: All perpetual trophies must be returned to the Club at the January meeting each year.

Section VI

Web Site

The Club web site is TBD.

Section VII

Patrol Duties and Responsibilities:

One of your responsibilities being a General Club member is to stand Safety Patrols. It is your responsibility to be aware of the yearly safety patrol assignment. The listing is published for May through November in the April minutes and is subsequently shown in all Club minutes through November.

If you have been assigned a safety patrol it is your responsibility to call the Patrol Coordinator at least one week in advance of the meet and acknowledge the fact that you will stand your assignment.

If you are assigned a Patrol Duty and if some emergency situation or other extreme condition warrants that you cannot stand your assigned patrol, it is your responsibility to find a substitute qualified Gear Grinder Club member to stand your duty.

The Patrol Coordinator must be notified of any changes. You will need to furnish the name of the Gear Grinder Club member and which patrol they will be standing in your place. It is also advisable to notify a Club Board member of any changes.

All General members are eligible and must stand their assigned Patrol Duty unless exempted by the By-Laws, or by acceptance of a permanent duty position within the SCTA at El Mirage (timing tower, line steward, starting line, etc.) or by vote of the Club members. Club elected and/or appointed Board members, Patrol Coordinator(s), Pre-Stage Coordinator(s), Merchandise Coordinator(s), Historian, and Club Representatives are exempt from standing Patrol Duties.

Members may be exempted due to age infirmities or medical reasons and should contact the Club President to be exempted from standing these duties.

All new General members must serve an "apprenticeship" for Patrol Duties for at least a four hour period with another qualified Club member within the first year of one's membership and prior to standing a patrol assignment.

There are three positions each race meet that will be assigned by the SCTA. Each Club member must read the "Gear Grinders Safety Patrol Guide" (A separate document) and the SCTA Guide for finite details for Patrol Duties, Requirements, required equipment, fines, SCTA Rules, regulations and meeting requirements.

Section VIII

Amendments of the By-Laws

These By-Laws may be amended by the majority of the membership present at any regularly scheduled or special meeting of the Club. The proposed amendments must have been furnished to each member in the Club at least 30 days in advance of any ratification of the By-Laws.

To have an article changed, that person will have to submit in writing any changes to the appointed By-Laws committee and Club Board. After consideration by the By-Laws committee and Club Board, the change can only go forward if the change of the By-Laws is recommended and passed by the membership vote at a general meeting.

Section IX

Section IX

These By-Laws will take effect in December of 2016 and shall supersede all other By-Laws and amendments.

Gear Grinders Officers Signatures



2017 President



2017 Vice President



2017 Treasurer



2017 Sergeant at Arms



2017 Secretary