

Electric Rule Clarification.

For some time there has been some discussion about the correct interpretation of the electric rules.

After more than two years these issues remain unresolved. This promotes attempts to bend the rules which is not in line with the spirit of the AMBPA or its members.

The Committee has decided to issue a statement to clarify how the electric rules, as they are, will be scrutinized.

The first principles

- no rule in the rule book is optional.
- each rule must be complied with in a way which creates no conflict with any other rule.

The longstanding issues

a/ the weight of individual lithium polymer cells

b/ how different numbers of cells affect total pack weights

c/ the configurations in which packs can be wired to conform with the rules

The proposed interpretation breaches none of the current rules, sidelines some options, which are very rarely used, which create less efficient setups and which complicate scrutineering.

It reflects 99.9% of current setups, so it supports the investments made by the majority of electric members. It does not stop people running multi motor setups.

Proposal –

Section 7.2.1 states that cells must weigh 150gm maximum

Section 7.2.2 deals with packs and classes

An EA model will be powered by a maximum of:

- 4 lithium polymer cells in a single series
- So each motor is supplied 14.4 volts (battery manufacturers rating)
- Weighing 600gm i.e. 150gm per series cell or less including balance and power wires and plugs for same.

- May also use 3 cells per pack in a single series, voltage supplied 11.1v, max weight 450gm.

An EB model will be powered by a maximum of:

- 6 lithium polymer cells in a single series
- So each motor is supplied 22.2 volts (battery manufacturers rating)

- Weighing 900gm i.e. 150gm per cell or less including balance and power wires and plugs for same.
- May also use 5 cells per pack in a single series, voltage supplied 18.5v, max weight 750gm

An EC model will be powered by a maximum of:

- 10 lithium polymer cells wired in a single series
- So each motor is supplied 37v (battery manufacturers rating)
- Weighing 1500gm i.e. 150gm or less including balance and power wires and plugs for same.
- May also use 7 cells per pack in a single series, voltage supplied 25.9v, max weight 1050 gm
- May also use 8 cells per pack in a single series, voltage supplied 29.6v, max weight 1200 gm
- May also use 9 cells per pack in a single series, voltage supplied 32.3v, max weight 1350 gm

SAFETY: All cells will be checked for damage, and condition. Packs which show irregular shape or sign of heat damage will not be allowed to be used in competition.

Approved packs will be tabbed and checked after heat on exit from the pits

Also packs which have redundant connections, between cells or packs, which are by-passed so a different voltage is seen by the motors to that of the cells in series, will be disallowed. This increases the chance of errors/damage in connection, and is not in the spirit of current AMPBA rules

Note: If a class is established which does not conform to this statement, there is provision for a demonstration class to be run at sanctioned events. Following the running of a demonstration class a rule change can be submitted and must be approved, if the class is to be run at further sanctioned events.