

Group S Race Numbers. 'House Rules'

We would all like to have the number of our choice and be able to use it at every race meeting wherever it's held. Unfortunately it's not that simple, as:

- The GSRA now has over 100 members and very few want three digit numbers.
- Race meeting promoters have the final say in allocating numbers at their events, although they all support our group register, as it makes their lives easier too.
- While 3 digit numbers are acceptable to CAMS, they have not been acceptable at Phillip Island, although it's hard to understand why this should be a problem with Dorian timers.
- Some "popular" numbers have been continually used over many years by GSRA members in different states – so we have a clash when members who have been using the same number compete interstate.

The problem is greatest if we try to amalgamate both NSW and Victoria members into one Group S number register, as:

- We would quickly run out of two digit numbers.
- The register becomes too large and cumbersome to be understood by promoters, so they will not use it.
- It is a rough call to take away a number from someone who has been using it for a long time and allocate it to "a visitor".

So here are the 'house rules'.

The GSRA Preferred Race Numbers register is divided into two parts – one part for NSW and a second part for Victoria.

Drivers within a state will have first claim on numbers listed in their state. As an example, Brian Weston has been using #75 for some years, so he can expect to have first claim on #75 in the NSW register.

But Brian's claim on #75 only extends to NSW - he can only be allocated #75 in the Victorian register if it has not been taken up by a Victorian.

If #75 is already allocated in the Victorian register, Brian will have to choose a number from those that have not been allocated. Similarly a Victorian driver seeking to race in NSW will not be able to claim #75 in NSW.

In summary, visitors who compete interstate on a regular basis can request a permanent number on another state's register - but only after resident drivers have been allocated numbers.

Anyone can ask to be the 'reserve' for an allocated number, which means they should get first option at a meeting not entered by the 'owner'.

By closely watching vacancies in both registers, it may be possible to request the same number in both registers.

Under GSRA House Rules, preferred numbers are only allocated to paid-up members and must be used at least once every two years or the claim on the number will lapse. This rule will also apply to interstate claims so that those who do not compete interstate at least once every two years will lose their registered interstate number.

This rule prevents each register from growing too large and being cluttered with unused numbers.

Whatever your situation, send me an e-request and I will do my best to give you what you want, but I won't change an allocated number without agreement from the incumbent.

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