

AMPBA Rule Change Procedures



These are guide lines set out to help AMPBA affiliated clubs, referred to herein as 'you', in making the correct decisions when opting to submit an AMPBA rule change proposal. Please read this procedure information sheet thoroughly, as the AMPBA committee will return any proposal to you if it is incorrectly set out or deemed to be irrelevant. It is the committee's job to check and discuss the rule change proposal and make an informed decision based on information supplied by 'you' - not to do the work for you.

1. Collect all **relevant and correct** information on what you would like to achieve with the rule change. Download the AMPBA rule book and read not just the section that you believe needs changing, but preferably the rules in their entirety making sure the rule is not already there or covered by any other rule. Most of all check to see if your proposed change will be banning a boat that is currently being run; if this is the case you will also have to refer to Appendix 1. Discussion with your current club committee and existing members is advised AT THIS POINT. A good knowledge of the rules, and current racing principals are needed, as it would not be in your favor to submit the wrong information. The committee, in these incidents, will review and point out any indiscretions, then giving you the choice of fixing or rethinking the rule change proposal.
2. When you have made your decision to proceed with the proposed rule change, please make sure that your club agrees with you in its entirety, and feels it is of benefit to the AMPBA membership as a whole. A rule change proposal MUST be submitted by an AMPBA affiliated Club, NOT BY AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER.
3. Rule changes are only for when the current rules validity is in doubt, due to new technology or new information, to create a just and safer environment for all members. The current (old) rules will remain in force, with the new rules (if passed by 'member vote') added to extend the rule book.

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4. The committee will look into every proposed rule change thoroughly, making sure it is not trying to block or ban either an individual, a club, a boat, a hull, an engine, or running hardware of any design, purely for the purposes of another individuals' or business's gain.
5. The correct layout for a rule change proposal is below in Fig1. Please note the Explanation section; it is your chance to express reasons behind the proposal and to make a valid argument or statement as to why the change should be implemented. This example was a real rule change that has now been implemented. The layout is done the correct way, it is easy to understand and the explanations let everyone know in plain English what, why, and how.

Fig1

2006 AMPBA PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

PROPOSAL ONE

Amend wording to Section 17.2.1 (Electric Competition)

To read:

17.2.1- Batteries shall be nickel-cadmium type (NiCad) or nickel metal hydride (NiMh) no larger than sub 'C' size.

EXPLANATION – The current Electric Competition Rules don't allow for the use of nickel metal hydride (NiMh) batteries which are now the current technology and the most commonly used battery type.

PROPOSAL TWO

Add Section 17.2.4 (Electric Competition)

Add:

17.2.4- A safety loop or switch, to enable the battery to speed control wire to be disconnected, must be fitted to the exterior of the hull for the model to be considered safe for competition.

EXPLANATION – The safety of people both carrying models on land and in rescue boats is paramount and to be able to disable a boat by simply disconnecting an external loop or switch is a commonsense solution.

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6. A bad example of a rule change Explanation, as shown below, will be sent back to you.

BAD EXPLANATION – the current cells are NICAD and we would like to use NMIH, LIPO.

7. When you have complied with the **Ampba Rule Change Procedures** they must be forwarded to the AMPBA Secretary, who will upon receipt of the proposal, forwarded copies in writing to each of the existing AMPBA committee members, and also the Submitting club's secretary. The submitting club secretary will be informed of the current time frame for the assessment of the proposal, based on the availability of AMPBA committee meeting agendas as per the discretion of the AMPBA committee. Any rule change believed not to be of benefit to the AMPBA membership as a whole will be stopped at this point from proceeding to a Membership Vote. The AMPBA Committee has a responsibility to its members to overturn any proposal that is seen as insufficiently supported or just going to waste the time and/or money of its members.

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Appendix

1 Rule Changes involving Current Legal Boats – as well as rule change proposal, in format, the AMPBA requests a detailed letter informing the AMPBA and all it's members of the reasoning, with pictorial support, and/or detailed technical drawings of the concerns, so that the wording and pictures are specific to the concerns and not left open for interpretation by others. Remember this letter will be forwarded as part of the supporting information if the proposed rule change goes to a member vote. You need to be fully aware of the implications of trying to remove a currently legal boat – please discuss every detail of your concern as a club first.

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