



Welcome to the 174th edition of Speedway Australia's Speed eNews.

Speed eNews is a weekly communication aimed toward keeping clubs and organisations up to date on current events, handy tips to improve competition and safety, as well as any changes that may be taking place within the sport. Clubs are also encouraged to distribute this newsletter to members. Feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or require a copy of one of the previous editions.

MINIMUM 12 DAY STAND DOWN FOR CONCUSSION



The incidence of concussion in sport is a hot topic in 2021, and Speedway Australia continues to be at the forefront of ensuring competitors and stakeholders put their ongoing welfare above all other considerations.

Effective immediately, all competitors either diagnosed with or suspected to have received a concussion are stood-down from all competition for a minimum of 12 days. This includes the loss of consciousness, no matter how momentary. Stewards are now compelled to take onboard the advice they

receive from the infield, pits or medical facility, and issue an infringement notice to ensure a competitor takes the appropriate steps to recuperate.

There are times where a misdiagnosis can occur, but we urge everyone to err on the side of caution and issue the paperwork if concussion is suspected. There is a process outlined in the new rules by which a competitor can seek further medical advice, either from a recognised concussion clinic or from the doctor who completed their most recent medical examination.

We appreciate the co-operation of the industry in this matter, and will regularly review the operational aspects of this rule to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose into the future.

Rule 2.2.12(b)

- (i) When a competitor is diagnosed with concussion by a Doctor or Medical Officer the standdown period from racing is a minimum of 12 days, commencing from the date of the injury.
- (ii) Where an Official or member of the track medical team has reason to believe that concussion or unconsciousness has occurred, the stand-down period from racing is a minimum of 12 days, commencing from the date of the injury.
- (iii) In either case above a written medical clearance on the approved form is required prior to the resumption of racing. This is to be obtained from a recognised concussion clinic or the doctor who completed the competitor's most recent medical examination, as per their licence application.
- (iv) A competitor diagnosed with concussion can apply to the Speedway Australia Office to have their stand-down period reduced. They will be required to provide detailed information (on the approved form) from a recognised concussion clinic or from the doctor who completed their most recent medical examination, as per their licence application.
- (v) The stand-down period referred to in clauses (i) and (ii) is to be confirmed by the Steward of the Race Meeting issuing an Infringement Notice.





DIVISIONAL NUMBERS MAKE INTERESTING READING





One of the features of the National Forum each year is the release of licence numbers.

Generated directly from our licencing system, these numbers are created on the same day each year to directly reflect the percentage of growth or otherwise experienced by divisional groups within the sport.

Information generated from this is used to highlight trends within the sport, assisting us in discovering areas of the sport that require guidance or assistance.

Listed here are the latest figures as of our National Forum weekend on June 19/20, broken into two groups – licences for National Divisions, and licences for our largest State-Based Divisions.

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