

Welcome to the 96th edition of Speedway Australia's Speed eNews, a personal safety special.

This weekly communication serves to keep 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.

Please make sure that if you are the contact receiving this information for your organisation that you pass the information on to the rest of your committee as to keep them in the loop. You are also encouraged to distribute this newsletter to your members. Feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or require a copy of one of the previous editions.

PIT BAY FIRE EXTINGUISHER RULE

In light of the recent total fire ban, last weekend a track in Victoria conducted an audit to see if competitors were meeting the requirement to have a pit bay fire extinguisher.

Out of the 60 competitors audited, a quarter had no extinguisher at all and half had an extinguisher smaller than the mandated size. Only 25% of competitors met the requirements of the Speedway Australia rule.

Could all tracks and divisions please ensure their competitors are compliant with the relevant rules, which we've replicated below:-



3.7.16 Fire Extinguishers

All speedway teams (except SKAA Karts) are required to carry as a minimum in the pit area/transporters:

- A 2.0kg Dry Chemical Powder Extinguisher OR GREATER (**above right**). It must strictly be used with the following compliance points:
- The fire extinguisher is compliant with AS (Australian Standard) 1841.5 and carries the Australian Standards Tick Certification sticker on the body of the extinguisher. AS1841.5 pertains to (powder extinguishers) design and commissioning standard.
- The standard AS/NZS1841.1 also is stamped on the bottom or rim of the Extinguisher under the powder coat or paint. AS/NZS1841.1 pertains to (General Requirements) for Design, and Commissioning Standard.
- The extinguisher must carry a yellow date tag in accordance to AS1851 section 15 (**right**).
- Other types of fire extinguishers that will comply to this ruling are:
 - 9 Litre AFFF Foam extinguishers, AR or ATC type (**right**).
 - 9 Litre Cold Fire extinguishers (**silver, right**).



All of the above information was taken from AS1851-2005 (maintenance of fire protection systems and equipment) Australian Standard Professional Pack.

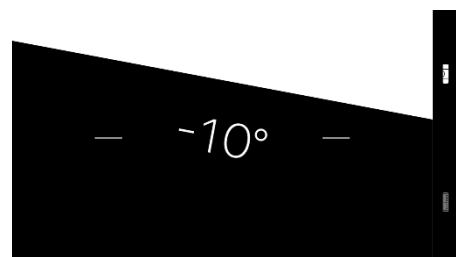


SEATBELT ANGLES

Speedway is a sport that attracts a high proportion of spinal injuries, due to the varying stresses that are placed on the body during an accident. Luckily there are experts and organisations dealing with the problem, and it's been established that a seatbelt angle from the shoulder to the belt mounting bar of between zero and ten degrees is optimal to minimise the injury risk.



Most smartphones come with an app that makes it very easy to check belt angles once the driver is seated in the car. We encourage pit crew and family members to whip out their phone and check the belt angle once their competitor is strapped in. This is a 10 second check that could greatly reduce the risk of injury. The Apple version is shown, right.



For more details, check out the SFI Foundation's handy guide, available [here](#). And if your division doesn't have mounting rules that encourage a 0-10 degree angle, then we thoroughly recommending moving in that direction.

SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA CONTACTS

Please see below for the relevant contacts for all your Speedway Australia requirements.

Note that we are currently experiencing intermittent technical difficulties with our phone lines and fax. Telstra advise that the issue is impacting on the entire area around our head office in Adelaide, and is not expected to be resolved until Saturday January 25.

Email traffic appears to be unaffected, so this might be the best way to contact the office in the meantime, particularly if you have a licensing query.

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