

Welcome to the 103rd edition of Speedway Australia's Speed eNews.

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.

DIVISIONS NOT APPROVED BY SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA



From time to time Speedway venues may be approached by groups looking to run a Speedway division that is not approved by Speedway Australia. Sometimes it seems like a new division with a few shiny new vehicles would be a great thing to have at a track, but history has proven time and time again, this is a short-term sugar hit that leads to problems further in the future.

Speedway Australia licensed tracks are only able to run the divisions listed on the Approved Division list (which can be found by [clicking here](#)) in conjunction with their meeting permits. Excluded from this list are the likes of VSC Sprintcars, West Coast Speedcars, WA Pro Modifieds, non SKAA-speedway karts,

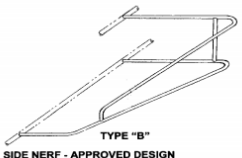
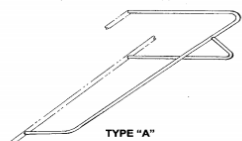
etc. There are pathways for all of these divisions to achieve approval within the Speedway Australia family, but at this point they are choosing not to be involved for whatever reason.

Any track wishing to run a non-approved division is unable to be a part of the Speedway Australia family, and unable to enjoy the ever-increasing benefits that we are able to offer. Running non-approved divisions puts everybody's public liability insurance at risk and with over 70 approved options, venues should have little trouble putting a race programme together without resorting to these unapproved classes.

Other non-speedway activity can be approved in consultation with Speedway Australia and Marsh Advantage. Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us using the details listed below.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND SPEEDWAY

- NOTE:**
1. Distance "A": The basket bar must cover minimum 50% of fuel tank.
 2. Distance "B": Rear nerf basket be maximum 50 mm clearance between tank and basket.
 3. Rear nerf must extend at least 80 mm behind the tank.
 4. Rear nerf basket optional but if fitted must comply with dimensions pictured.



Australia has a number of copyright and intellectual property laws, designed to encourage and protect businesses and organisations who invest their time and money in the creation of new material.

Contrary to popular belief, much of this material doesn't require copyright or patent applications. Some material is automatically protected by copyright in Australia under the legislative framework, with no specific registration required.

So how might this apply to Speedway? Many Divisional bodies invest significant time and energy in the creation of bespoke technical rules for their class of racing. In recent times, there have been occasions where a rival group wishes to create a similar class of racing – in some cases electing

to bypass proper process through copying an existing set of technical regulations.

It is our intention to assist our divisions in enforcing their rights – which may include enforcing protections offered under copyright law for their intellectual property. Speedway Australia sets the bar for new divisions deliberately high to discourage this type of conduct, as we wish to avoid splintering of the sport into smaller separate groups of similar vehicles.

WHAT CONSTITUTES RECKLESS DRIVING?



Fans of the movie Days of Thunder would be familiar with Crew Chief Harry Hide coining the phrase 'rubbin' son, is racin', but at what point does that little bump or nudge constitute dangerous or reckless driving? What is the difference between accidental contact, or deliberate contact with another vehicle?

Speedway Australia regulations relating to contact between vehicles are quite clear.

Rule 4.8.1. Except for specific Racing Divisions (fender benders, etc.), Speedway Racing is a non-contact sport. No Driver shall ever allow his or her Race Car to make deliberate, reckless or negligent contact with any other Race Car or driven dangerously either in roll-up laps, during the Event, after the Event or in the Pits.

In many cases, a supposed harmless nudge or bump can quickly escalate into a major accident, resulting in costly damage, or worse still, an injury to a competitor, particularly in Open Wheelers and Karts. Harsh penalties are available to be used by a Chief Steward for drivers making contact with another vehicle, including exclusion from races, and infringement notices.

Stewards also take note, as it is not possible to be certain whether contact between Race Cars has been deliberate, Speedway Australia rules (4.8.3) do not allow 'accidental' or 'deliberate' to be argued in a Driver's defence at a dispute hearing or a subsequent appeal.

SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA CONTACTS

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

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WE ARE AUSTRALIAN SPEEDWAY

WE ARE THE ONLY NATIONAL LICENCING BODY DEDICATED SOLELY TO AUSTRALIAN SPEEDWAY



91

Venues Licenced



The most comprehensive and value for money competitor and track licensing in the country

5

Years without a Licence Fee Increase

\$25

Officials Licence Fee (down from \$140) **new**



\$70,000 in Grants to Tracks in 2019

ALL SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA TRACKS RECEIVE



Access to Kids to Grids - a world first junior development programme



A Dedicated Sport Development Officer to assist with funding, regulatory and administration requirements



Eligibility to host SSA National Title Events



Access to 8 full time staff



Australian Speedway Awards Eligibility to recognise your Venue, Officials and Competitors



Rising Star Program Access for your Competitors and Officials



- **FREE** Track Operators Manual
- **FREE** Venue signage
- **FREE** Track Inspections
- **FREE** Practice Permits
- **REFUNDS** in the event a race meeting is cancelled



Access to our grant programmes over \$400,000 per year across tracks and divisions



Pay as you go Public Liability Insurance 24/7, 365 day cover to the value of \$50,000,000