

Welcome to the 186th 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.

PRE-EVENT SCRUTINEERING CHECKS



As we warm up to a new season, now is a timely reminder to all competitors to keep up to date with the current Speedway Australia Rules and Regulations regarding the appropriate safety equipment and apparel for their respective division.

In previous seasons, it is not uncommon to see competitors turned away at scrutineering for not having safety apparel that met the safety standards of their division, or in some cases, apparel that was significantly worn and not suitable for competition.

Our track visits over the past 12 months have shown us Scrutineers are doing an excellent job educating competitors and spotting inappropriate or unsuitable apparel pre-event, but the odd competitor is still slipping through the cracks (see window net, and boots in photos). If possible, we encourage scrutineers and officials to spot check cars and competitors where necessary to ensure what rolls through pre-event checks, is what in fact rolls onto to the racetrack.

This can be said not only of competitors apparel, but also vehicle safety items (e.g., Window Nets) and Pit Crew Apparel (e.g., Quad Bikes and Helmets) both of which remain significant safety concerns for several Sedan and Open Wheel divisions.

More information on the minimum standards for your division are [available here](#) or in the rulebook link in the Speedway Australia app.

If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to call, or email us using the contact details below.

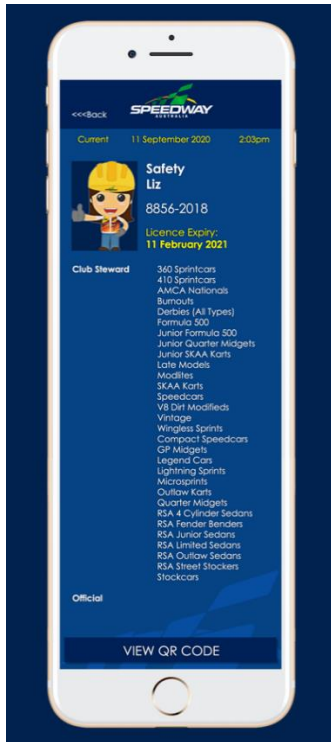
PIT GATE OFFICIALS

The pit gate is often one of the more interesting places to be at a Speedway event – with officials getting up close with cars as they roll on and off the racetrack. Unfortunately, it's also one of the most dangerous should the gate attendees not stay alert and be wary of their surroundings.



Frequent reminders from the Chief Steward and Clerk of the Course to gate staff can greatly reduce the risk of an incident occurring, with simple tips such as keeping a close eye on cars entering and exiting the track and ensuring the gate locking mechanisms are secured before racing commences. Also, under no circumstances should anyone be making physical contact with the pit gates, be that leaning or resting against them, whilst vehicles are circulating on track.

CLARIFYING OFFICIALS' CARDS (AGAIN)



It's a question we're asked frequently by competitors and divisional bodies - which officials are able to Steward or Scrutineer a particular division at an upcoming race meeting? Essentially, that is a decision for the relevant racing division because under Speedway Australia rules all Stewards and Scrutineers are appointed by the divisional body.

Speedway Australia's part in the process is to administer the relevant cards that indicate the level of duties that an Official has been approved to undertake.

Level 1 – Can officiate State and National titles.

Level 2 – Can officiate all other race meetings

Level 3 – Can officiate under supervision

Level 4 – Can assist at race meetings

The requirement to receive a card is for one divisional body to sign off the official. This doesn't indicate that the official can only adjudicate for that body, but merely the group who originally approved them. In some places, a local fulfils the role of Steward for multiple divisions. This is perfectly acceptable too, as the divisions provide their consent by agreeing to race at the venue.

It's not practical to issue cards for every division, nor is it feasible to put all potential divisions on the phone app. For example, our sample Club Steward Safety Liz (see above) would need 30 separate cards to officiate in New South Wales.... or a very long phone! So there does need to be a bit of interplay between divisions and officials, but essentially if a division wishes to utilise an official and they are already approved to the correct level for the race meeting then they are good to go.

Note: Speedway Sedans Australia have their own cards and approval process, so you do need approval from them to officiate their divisions (e.g Street Stocks, Junior Sedans).

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