

Welcome to the 72nd 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.

KIDS TO GRIDS AT THE FORUM



Sunday 23 June saw Speedway Australia launch the upcoming Kids to Grids Youth Development Program, with delegates from almost every National Junior Division present.

Building on our successful Rising Stars initiatives for Youth Competitors, Kids to Grids is a world-first Youth Development Program for Speedway Juniors. We will be rolling out a united, national approach to Junior Training, delivered locally by combining a comprehensive online training platform with at-track experiences through Junior Coaches. Kids to Grids will encompass all levels of Junior Training, from the very beginner, right through to the elite 'Rising Star' Level.

With just over half of all Juniors going on to race Senior Divisions, we recognise that by investing heavily in Junior Competition, we are in turn investing in the future of the sport as a whole. Through proper coaching and training, competitors will improve their skills, and thus enjoy their racing more, hopefully remaining in the sport for many years to come.

For now, be sure to check out Speedway Australia's Kids to Grids Presentation. Youth Development Officer, James Hadley's presentation explains in detail the steady growth in Junior Competitors over the past twelve months, together with the key areas of focus of Kids to Grids, and how they will benefit Junior Competitors to achieve their goals within the sport. **All the information detailed in the Kids to Grids PowerPoint, together with some sample videos can be found by clicking [here](#).**

SOCIAL MEDIA MISCONDUCT



It seems to be the time of year when, perhaps through the frustration of sitting at home on Saturday Nights, improper comment is starting to rear its ugly head online. Back in 2017, Speedway Australia introduced a standardised process for dealing with potential social media misconduct within the sport. The

aim was to ensure consistency in penalties, with a by-product being the ability for clubs and divisions to offload a potentially fractious situation within their organisation to Speedway Australia.

We've unfortunately put several people through the Social Media misconduct process outlined in the rulebook in the past few weeks and are happy to keep dealing with the problem for as long as it takes to eradicate this kind of behaviour from the sport. Speedway Australia encourages participation in online social media in a positive manner. The accessible nature of the internet, however, can lend itself to the posting of threatening and derogatory material in the heat of the moment. Once your thoughts and comments are published to the internet, they are visible to the world - and they are permanent.

The vast majority of competitors are aware of their responsibilities when it comes to social media. However, comments made by friends and family members - many of which are not licence holders, and therefore outside our jurisdiction, shows that clubs do still need to have their own policy to deal with potential misconduct by others within their group. Obviously, we'd recommend utilising the same process that Speedway Australia does. This involves issuing a please explain letter before a decision is made on any penalty, ensuring the provisions of natural justice are adhered to.

Divisions with any complaints for Speedway Australia to deal with, don't hesitate to contact Adam (East Coast) or Ross (West Coast) if you need to lay a complaint. [Complete details of the social media rules can be found on page 65 of the current rulebook, available here.](#)

SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA CONTACTS

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

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WE ARE THE ONLY LICENSING BODY WITH THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF SPEEDWAY AT HEART

88

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)



40%

Track permit fees have dropped since 2017

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