

SPEED ENEWS EDITION 98 | 31 JANUARY 2020

Welcome to the 98th edition of Speedway Australia's Speed eNews.

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.

STIPULATED OFFICIALS FOR AN EVENT



As well as Stewards and Scrutineers, there are two other Race Official's required under Speedway Australia rules to ensure the smooth operation of a race event. These include the Clerk of the Course (otherwise known as the Race Director) and the Race Secretary. In many cases these positions can be filled by people conducting other roles at an event – for example, it's not uncommon for a Scrutineer to double as the Clerk of the Course, or a lap scorer to fill the role of Race Secretary.

The Clerk of the Course is appointed by each relevant racing division for the safe and efficient 'on

track' operation of a race meeting. It is the Clerk of the Course responsibility to ensure that prior to race starts or restarts, all critical safety personnel are at their stations and ready. This includes but is not limited to ambulance or approved paramedic personnel, flag marshals, track and grid marshals, suitably attired and equipped fire fighters as well as push and tow vehicles drivers. Should an incident occur on track, the Clerk of the Course will oversee the co-ordination of the various on track personnel, particularly during driver rescue and the removal of damaged vehicles from the circuit – eventually giving the all clear for the Chief Steward to resume racing.

Just as the Clerk of the Course is responsible for the safe and efficient 'On Track' operation of a race meeting, it is the responsibility of the Race Secretary for the smooth and efficient 'Off Track' operation of an event.

The Race Secretary is to be the first point of contact for any communication between drivers, car owners or pit crew members, and the Chief Steward. It is the Race Secretary's primary role to be available to all drivers and crew members throughout the duration of a race meeting, assisting with queries or concerns relating to the fair, or safe conduct of that event. Any person who has been injured at Race Meeting must report the incident to the Race Secretary on the day of the Race Meeting (Rule 3.7.13)

When planning your next event, please ensure these roles are filled as required by Speedway Australia rules. It's also important to ensure drivers and crew are made aware at the drivers briefing as two who has been appointed to these roles, to ensure the correct point of contact for any on, or off-track concerns.





STAND-DOWN LIST, MORE THAN JUST SUSPENSIONS



Each week a separate email goes out to Clubs and Divisions containing a list of licence holders who have been stood down from a respective licence role for any number of reasons. In previous years, this list has been solely for licence holders serving a suspension from an aspect of their licence, usually in part to a breach of Speedway Australia rules resulting in time on the sidelines, or an unpaid fine from their host club.

The change from a Suspended List to a Stand-Down list means no longer are all the names present under some form of suspension. In some cases, a medical issue may prevent a licence holder from Competition (a recorded concussion for example) which can't be cleared until such time as they have been given the OK by a medical practitioner. This doesn't mean that driver is suspended, merely they are stood down until such time as their given the all clear.

Also note, if a licence holder is stood down from 'Competition', they may still conduct Officiating Duties whilst serving that suspension. Club Officials are urged to be vigilant in checking the Stand-Down list to ensure licence holders are not breaking protocol and racing or officiating whilst stood down from that respective role. Be sure to pass the up to date list on to Scrutineers at each event, as so it may be read in conjunction with the Digital Licence Card.

DIGITAL LICENCE IN POOR COVERAGE AREAS



In conjunction with our track-inspection program in recent years, we conducted a comprehensive test of our Digital Licence App to ensure it works at each and every venue across Australia. On some occasions however, large crowds at major events have the knock-on effect of reduced cell coverage, causing issues for some licence holders accessing their digital card.

If you believe you may have issues at particular venues with cell phone coverage, a handy tip is to open your Speedway Australia Licence card earlier in the day, and leave it running in the background on your device without closing the app. The time and date stamps on your phone will continue to tick over until such time as you actually close the app, meaning even with zero coverage, you can still access your Digital Card and present it to gate staff or scrutineers showing the correct time and date.

Keep an eye out on the Speedway Australia Facebook page for a video explanation on how to do this in the coming weeks.

SPEEDWAY AUSTRALIA CONTACTS

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

Office	General Enquiries	08 8139 0777	admin@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Tim Savell	General Manager	0424 923 494	tim@speedwayaustralia.net.au
James Hadley	Youth Development Officer	08 8139 0706	james@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Liz Weaver	Track & Safety Dev. Officer	08 8139 0705	liz@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Adam Brook	Sport Development Officer	0429 333 528	adam@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Ross Kirby	Sport Development Officer	0436 375 938	ross@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Kirsten Knox	Licensing & Operations Admin.	08 8139 0703	kirsten@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Robin Pearce	Accounts	08 8139 0704	accounts@speedwayaustralia.net.au
Angela Warren	Office Administrator	08 8139 0701	angela@speedwayaustralia.net.au







CRITICAL INCIDENT

STEWARD RESPONSE GUIDE

Fatality Accident (Patient Status = 0)

- 1 The race meeting MUST NOT continue.
- The Police must be notified (Call 000) in the first instance as they are responsible to the Coroner and must carry out all inquiries to establish the cause.
- 3 The accident scene must not be disturbed other than to ensure the safety of other personnel at the scene.
- 4 The Police will arrive in the shortest possible time and will advise if the meeting can continue.
- 5 The Steward of the meeting should ensure all of the steps below are completed.

Critical Incidents (Patient Status = 1)

- The Steward should still notify the Police and advise them of the situation.
- 2 The Police will advise if they are attending the scene and therefore if the meeting can continue.
- 3 Officials should follow Steps 2 and 3 below as a minimum in these situations in case the Police need to become further involved at a later date.

STEPS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE STEWARD OF THE MEETING

- 1. Call the Police. Ask then for advice on how to proceed on their arrival.
- 2. Retain the competitor's helmet and any other safety device (HANS etc.) for rechecking of approval numbers and investigations by Police.
- 3. Impound all vehicles involved for rechecking of specifications and for investigations by Police. Do not release any vehicles to anyone until notified by the Speedway Australia Office.
- 4. If possible, engage track photographer to record scene of accident, damaged vehicle, and any contributing factors that may have caused the accident to occur.
- 5. Offer the Police any possible assistance in providing details of the deceased so as to inform next of kin. Ensure the family and crew members etc are kept informed and looked after in a private and dignified manner.
- 6. Ensure any witnesses and relevant Officials do not leave the area as they may be required to provide statements to the Police. This includes the Announcer, Scrutineers, Drivers rep, Clerk of Course, Lap scorers, flag marshals etc. Secure any video or in car camera footage for Speedway Australia or the police, including any footage offered by spectators.
- 7. Review the scrutineering process for the vehicle on the day and collect the original documents that were filled in prior to the meeting. Co-ordinate the re-scrutineering of the vehicle and report all damage/items of interest. Police will probably collect originals of all documents and may want to check procedures that occurred on the days such as dummy grid checks.
- 8. Do not make statements to the Press, as it is very difficult to retract a story that has been reported before all the facts were fully known. Any press releases will be made from the Speedway Australia Office.
- 9. Forward copies of all relevant documents, including a report from yourself as Steward and a report from any other witnesses, to the Speedway Australia Office as soon as possible.

STEPS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE PROMOTER OF THE MEETING

- 10. If the organisation operating the race meeting is a business, there could be additional obligations that the Promoter will need to attend to from a Safework perspective.
- 11. In New South Wales, there is also an obligation to report to the Office of Sport as per the relevant legislation.



