

# SPEED ENEWS EDITION 97 | 24 JANUARY 2020

Welcome to the 97th 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.

## **OVERSEAS COMPETITORS**



The addition of international competitors is usually a guaranteed crowd-pleaser for tracks all around the country, and for a long time Speedway Australia has offered them a complimentary licence for up to five nights of racing.

We want to further encourage the addition of international competitors into the racing mix, so have established a second category of licence that allows professional racers to compete for up to a month on a complimentary licence.

#### Category One - All Overseas Competitors

Are eligible for a complimentary licence for up to five nominated days of racing, without the need for a medical certificate. Valid for all Speedway Australia divisions, including youth classes.

#### Category Two - Overseas Speedway Professionals

- Active speedway professionals who are citizens of an overseas country and predominantly race overseas are eligible to obtain a complimentary Speedway Australia licence valid for one calendar month, without the need for a medical certificate.
- They are eligible to obtain a further complimentary licence with the same conditions after a one month "cooling off" period.
- If an overseas professional competitor wishes to race for more than a month at a time, they must obtain a full Speedway Australia licence, and obtain the necessary medical.

If you've got an international competitor lined up for action, please contact the office in the first instance to obtain the necessary documentation. This is one process that isn't yet integrated into the electronic licensing system but is on the agenda for future upgrades.

### **CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE GUIDE**



Extremely serious incidents used to be a regular part of speedway racing but are now very rare. An occurrence such as a critical injury, or fatality is a dynamic and tragic situation, and not everyone will be fully prepared for what can unfold. To assist officials and venue operators in handling these situations in an orderly manner, we've put together a step by step guide to assist with decision making by the relevant officials (see last page).

It is recommended all venues print and laminate

a copy of this step by step guide, and place on the wall in the stewards' box, or somewhere prominent whereby it may be viewed quickly easily should a critical incident occur.

#### **TOLMER'S LAST DASH**



Tolmer Speedway "The Bullring" has operated since 1961 with great success for such a small club in the Bordertown community. Unfortunately, after tougher times in more recent years, and with many factors leading to the decision, the committee have concluded that it is not feasible to continue.

Their last race will be held next weekend

on February 1st, 2020 featuring Speedcars, Formula 500's, Modlites and other support classes, following this the venue will sadly be closing its doors.

Speedway Australia recognise and acknowledge all the volunteers, committee members, divisions and drivers who have supported the Tolmer Speedway over the past 59 years, in particular the club volunteers who coordinate the events week in/week out, without them the sport of speedway simply could not function. If you are in the area for the final event, make sure you get track side to make it an event to remember.

#### 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.