

MEETING RIDE POLICY - RACES

This policy should be read in conjunction with Appendix Four, Schedule Z – Standing Articles applicable to all Races.

Last updated: December 2022

Meeting rides are an opportunity for fans, volunteers and sponsors to get as close to a racing car experience as is possible while maintaining a managed safety margin for all involved. Organisers should consider reserving meeting rides for classes and events that warrant showcasing the experience of being in a race car on a circuit at close to race pace.

MotorSport New Zealand has a responsibility to ensure the safe conduct of meeting ride activities and has developed this policy which must be followed if meeting rides are to be included at an event.

Meeting ride sessions are not to be used for any driver instruction, vehicle set up, technical checks or adjustments of any nature. No competitor or member of a competition crew is eligible to participate as a passenger in a meeting ride.

This policy sets out the minimum standards for meeting rides to take place under a MotorSport New Zealand Organising Permit.

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1. Organisation:

- 1.1 Meeting ride sessions may be arranged at Race Meetings. The details are to be included in the Supplementary Regulations. These include eligibility (driver and passenger), start time and duration, support crew requirement, safety apparel, passenger identification, sign on, indemnity and briefing particulars and any other matters particular to the circuit or meeting.

The inclusion of meeting rides shall be endorsed on the permit for the event including the time and duration.

Unless approved by MotorSport New Zealand, the duration of a meeting ride session should not exceed 30 minutes.

Note: *It is recommended that Meeting Ride sessions are scheduled for the end of the day.*

- 1.2** The Meeting Ride session shall be controlled by the Clerk of the Course or a nominated Assistant.
- 1.3** The circuit configuration used must be the same configuration as used for the Meeting.
- 1.4** In all areas relating to passenger eligibility, sign on, briefing and safety, the responsibility for complying with this policy rests with the competitor and the crew supporting the vehicle.
A suitable competitor sign off sheet should form part of the meeting documentation.
- 1.5** Mixing of classes may be permitted at the discretion of the Clerk of the Course.
- 1.6** Meeting rides shall be conducted with manning levels at the “Practice” requirements detailed on the current approved Circuit Safety Plan.

2. Driver, Passenger & Vehicle Criteria

2.1 Driver Criteria:

- (a)** Drivers must be entered to compete at the meeting to be eligible to participate in any scheduled meeting rides.
- (b)** No Driver entered in their first three race meetings is eligible to participate in meeting rides.
- (c)** Drivers may only drive the competition vehicle they have entered at the meeting, in meeting ride sessions.
- (d)** Each Driver must have completed documentation for the Meeting.
- (e)** Motorsport New Zealand approved Accredited or Championship Articles may restrict eligibility to participate.

2.2 Passenger Criteria:

- (a) Each Passenger shall sign the Meeting Rides Declaration and Indemnity form (E013) prior to their participation.

Note: *Advanced registration for participation is recommended.*

- (b) The minimum age for passengers is twelve years old. Regardless of the age limit, no person shall participate unless they can be correctly fitted and restrained in the competition vehicle and are wearing appropriate and fitting safety apparel.
- (c) No passenger suffering from a disability or other impairment which may compromise their ability to safely participate and self-extricate shall be permitted to participate unless prior approval is given by MotorSport New Zealand.
- (d) Only one Meeting Ride per person is permitted during any meeting ride session.

2.3 Vehicle Criteria: Any vehicle used in meeting rides must:

- (a) Be fitted with a MotorSport New Zealand Safety Cage, homologated in accordance with Appendix Two Schedule A, and
- (b) Have passenger safety equipment, consisting of seat, seat mounting, roll cage padding and safety harness, installed to a minimum of Appendix Two Schedule A standard, and
- (c) Be Safety Audited prior to commencing any meeting rides, including all passenger safety equipment and protective clothing.

3. Minimum apparel requirements:

- (a) **Drivers** shall wear their approved safety apparel, in compliance with Schedule A.
- (b) **Passengers** shall wear as a minimum the apparel required in compliance with Schedule A for a "ClubSport Advanced" event.

In addition, passengers must also wear an approved neck brace.

Note: *Circuits/Organisers may specify a higher minimum level for apparel and safety equipment.*

4. Briefings:

- 4.1** Passengers shall be briefed by the team providing the meeting ride in basic event safety procedures, how to correctly wear and subsequently uncouple the safety harness and how to exit the vehicle.
- 4.2** A “panic” word or signal should be agreed upon prior to the meeting ride commencing that can be used by the passenger to indicate that they no longer wish to continue.
In the event of this word or signal being used or displayed, the Driver shall promptly slow down and exit the circuit.

5. Format:

- 5.1** If a vehicle has not taken part in any Practice session prior to meeting ride session, then it must undertake one warm up lap (without any passengers) in accordance with 5.2 (1) and (2).

Note: *This shall be part of the meeting ride session time allowance as stipulated in the Supplementary Regulations.*

- 5.2** Each meeting ride will be conducted as follows:
- (1)** Exit the Pit Lane and complete that part of a lap until the vehicle crosses the start/finish line; and then
 - (2)** Complete that part of a further lap required to return to the Pit Lane.
- 5.3** During a meeting ride session, a vehicle must not be driven at full racing speed. A driver shall drive in a manner compatible with general safety and must observe circuit limits.

6. Misconduct:

- 6.1** Failure to observe these conditions may result in a driver being penalised in accordance with the National Sporting Code.