



## Minors in Motorsport



## A Cadet & Junior program for the early introduction of minors to Motorised Recreational Activities (MRAs)

Preamble:

RACERS recognises that there is a continuing reduction in the age of children being introduced to Motorised Recreational Activities (MRAs) with children as young as four years of age riding pocket bikes and driving mini karts. At this stage there is no seamless way for an experienced child to move into full size vehicles and or competition from the “small wheels” vehicle categories.

RACERS considers it is desirable to give children the experience and opportunity to drive in regular road cars at the earliest possible age. It is accepted that road cars are significantly faster than small wheels vehicles but they are considerably safer because of the devices that are built into them. The other consideration is that the child may be too small to handle all of the controls in a regular road car. The following rules for cadets and juniors address these concerns by category.

### Category one: non-competitive activities and basic skill training

These are non timed events using road registered vehicles, with either automatic or manual transmissions driven on short courses with no straight longer than approximately 50 metres unless it has at least 60% of the straight's length as clear run off at the end of the straight and in line with it. In no case may a straight be longer than 100 metres. It is mandatory that the vehicle is fitted with a handbrake readily accessible by the driving instructor.

Participants between the ages of 10 and 14 years are permitted to be in the driver's seat and in control of the vehicles on the following provisos:

- The Parent or Legal Guardian must occupy the passenger seat until the cadet has demonstrated sufficient discipline and driving skill level to go solo in the opinion of the Parent AND the Driving Standards Observer.
- Ability to place their feet flat on the floor underneath the pedals whilst keeping at least 350 millimetres between their chest and the steering wheel within the standard adjustability of the seat as fitted by the manufacturer.
- Ability to see over the bonnet and identify hazards, curbs, fences, witches hats and the like. The test for this is a number on a 250mm background randomly selected by the Driving Standards Officer and placed upright 30 metres in front of the vehicle.
- For the first 10 solo runs no other vehicle is permitted to be on the track
- It is recommended that a limit of 100kw per tonne is the maximum power/weight ratio for the vehicle
- No speeds above 80kmph
- Times faster than 70% of "Race pace" are not permitted
- Cadets or Juniors may not participate in any MRAs unless the Parent or Legal Guardian is there for the duration of the event to represent the interests of the Cadet or Junior.

### Category 2: low level competitive events

These events are be a continuation of the category one event's introduction to the move from a small wheels vehicle to a full size vehicle and have all the same requirements except where noted below.

The age of the driver participating in these events can be less than 14 where the driver has a demonstrated history in competitive events in small wheels prior to completing their category one activities

Because there is a speed element involved in these MRAs, it is mandatory for the junior to have completed satisfactorily all the category one Cadet requirements and made at least 20 solo runs without an incident.

Vehicles for Category two activities do not have to be road registered but:

- must have all the original safety equipment fitted they are road registered
- meet the minimum requirements for a RACERS Drift or Sprint event if the vehicle is not road registered
- If the vehicle is fitted with a full racing harness the cadet or junior must wear a proper fitting approved helmet with a HANS device.
- A fire retardant suit will be required in all vehicles fitted with a roll over protection system
- If the vehicle is fitted with windows the maximum permissible opening is 100mm. If the vehicle is not fitted with windows a wrist restraining strap or a window net must be fitted to the vehicle.

From the age of 14 a junior may qualify to obtain a full RACERS National Licence and then participate in all forms of RACERS accredited events.

## Minors – Policy And Procedure

### 1) Definition of a 'minor'

Section 17 of the *Law Reform Act 1995* states any person under the age of 18 years old is considered a MINOR.

To participate in an event, MINORS require the written approval of a LEGAL GUARDIAN

### 2) Definition of a 'legal guardian'

A 'legal guardian' is:-

- a parent
- a step-parent or guardian
- an adult who has 'parental rights, duties and responsibilities' in relation to the minor.

A legal guardian is the person who makes adult decisions on behalf of the minor.

### 3) Proof of 'legal guardian'

- parents Medicare card listing the minor
- a court order or letter of guardianship signed by a judge when they were appointed as guardian by a court
- a copy of the parents will confirming the intent to make that person a legal guardian

An entry form or liability waiver signed by the legal guardian OR a letter from the legal guardian confirming consent is also acceptable. – EP must keep a copy for records.

The Parent or Legal Guardian must be there at all time to represent the interests of the minor.

### 4) When are MINORS eligible to participate?

#### a) As a DRIVER

RACERS offer three types of licences for minors.

**JUNIOR:** This license is only available to young people between the ages of 14 and 17 and restricted to formula cars and sedans with less than 120 hp which are fitted with a full roll cage and anti-intrusion bars. JUNIOR licence holders are permitted to compete in Sprints and Races and must display a red capital "J" at least 100 mm high on a white background on the rear of their vehicle where it can be clearly seen. JUNIOR PAXs are subject to the Code of Conduct penalties. Any PAX, including another JUNIOR PAX, shall have the DEMERIT POINTS doubled for a TRANSGRESSION against a JUNIOR licensed PAX. Having a Junior licences does not automatically gain you access to an event. Certain events have restrictions in age through legislation or other circumstances. You should check the event regulations or check with the event organiser before entering to see if restrictions are in place for that event.

**CADET:** A CADET (Short Track Licences) is available from the age of 12 to 13 for PAX that have come up through our Junior Cadet licencing program, demonstrating their maturity and ability. There is minimum height requirement of 150cm (5 feet) to ensure the harnesses etc will be effective for them. Participation with a Cadet licence is restricted to approved short track events with low powered formula cars and sedans with less than 120 hp (Formula Vee, Formula Ford, Aussie Race Cars, Super Karts and Excels). Having a Cadet licences does not automatically gain you access to an event. Certain events have restrictions in age through legislation or other circumstances. You should check the event regulations or check with the event organiser before entering to see if restrictions are in place for that event.

**JUNIOR CADET:** A Junior CADET (Short Track Licences) is available from the age of 6 to 13. Participation with a Junior ST licences is restricted to approved short track events with low power machines (e.g low powered motorcycles, karts). Having a Junior Cadet licences does not automatically gain you access to an event. Certain events have restrictions in age through legislation or other circumstances. You should check the event regulations or check with the event organiser before entering to see if restrictions are in place for that event.

b) as a **PASSENGER**

Minors as passengers are only permitted in low speed; low risk events, such as:  
Events being run under Road Legislation, Cruising or Happy Laps.

- The minimum age is 7 years
- The minimum height is 1200mm.
- Childrens seats and booster seats are not permitted except where required by

legislation.

- Minors are not permitted as passengers in Burnout events

These are minimum requirements, and they are always subject to the driver demonstrating sufficient skills and experience and an ability to effectively operate all the vehicles controls. Drivers and passengers are only allowed where they can be safely secured in the vehicle.

**NOTE: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Special consideration may be given:

- To drivers with exceptional driving history and ability.
- To passengers in some low speed events such a Theme Day Cruising in road registered vehicles.

You should always check the EVENT REGULATIONS provided by the EP or with RACERS via [admin@racers.world](mailto:admin@racers.world) before entering any event to determine which drivers or passengers are eligible for the event.