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## Operations Rule Interpretation or Procedure

No. OPRI-003

### Safety Of Officials – FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ALL OFFICIALS

Date: 4 April 2014

Procedure Number	OPRI-003	Reviewed By Director	Operations
Drafted By	Mark Horsley	Approved by CEO On	4 April 2014
Version	V1 - 04 04 2014	Scheduled Review Date	1 December 2014
Implementation Date	Immediate		

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#### Background

Some Officials at karting Tracks may from time to time be required to work in and around the Track while racing activities are in progress. The Safety and Risk Management processes that we apply to our sport requires the operators of Tracks to provide protected areas from which Officials are able to perform their duties.

From time to time some officials have chosen to perform their duties from positions other than the protected areas.

This is an unsafe practice and is contrary to our Rules.

Karting Australia not only values its official's welfare, but has a duty of care to all of its stakeholders – SAFETY OF KARTERS AND OFFICIALS IS PARAMOUNT.

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**Rule 17.12** prescribes the minimum standards to be applied at all times during karting activity.

17.12 Safety of Karters and Officials:

- a) All Officials must remain behind protective barriers at all times during racing. The only people permitted inside the circuit area whilst Karts are racing are:
  - (i) Flag Marshals - Maximum two (2) per point. (for National and State Championships two (2) flag marshals per point are required)
  - (ii) Starter/Assistant
  - (iii) Stewards of the Meeting
  - (iv) Clerk of the Course
  - (v) Medical Attendants
  - (vi) Authorised persons to assist Drivers.
    - These persons must retire to a safety area once the race has commenced.
  - (vii) Photographers and other persons
    - In designated areas at the discretion of the Clerk of the Course/Stewards of the Meeting.
- b) The Clerk of the Course or Stewards of the Meeting may, if necessary, observe racing from a safe location even though a Tyre barrier may not be in that location. The time spent in this location must be no longer than necessary.
- c) In the absence of a specified protected area, Stewards of the Meeting must remain behind flag marshal protection whilst Karts are in motion.
- d) When inside the Race Track Area, high visibility clothing must be worn on the upper torso as a Minimum standard.



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## Procedure

**All On Track Officials must carry out their roles from a protected area at all times and in accordance with the rules.**

Without question there are exceptional situations that require an Official to cross a “hot track”, these are limited to issues of safety only. The definition of a “hot track” is the period of from when the first kart enters the track for any session until the race finishes and all karts have stopped racing and those karts that are still running under their own power have returned to the In-grid.

If you are required to do so to assist a driver or other Official, you must only cross or enter a “hot track” as and when it is safe to do so.

**Your own safety is your number one concern.** You will be of no assistance if you become an accident yourself.

Standing at the edge of the track to issue instructions to drivers creates a safety issue. Those instructions should be given from a safe location as designated in the rules. Your attention should be to the oncoming karts at all times.

If in the opinion of the Clerks of the Course at a Circuit, that additional areas of protection are required so as to provide a safe environment at all times, this should be determined in consultation with the Club Track Inspector so as to ensure the safest possible environment for Officials and Drivers.

Thank you for your continued work in your respective State.

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## Distribution To

State Officials Co-ordinators for distribution to all Officials  
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State Secretaries  
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**Mark Horsley**  
**National Officials Coordinator**