Safety Rule/Regulation Interpretation or Procedure

No. SRI-001 Critical Safety Infrastructure – Fire Extinguishers

Procedure Number	SRI-001	Reviewed By National Track Safety Inspector	
Drafted By	Craig Denton	Approved by CEO On	25 June 2014
Version	V1–22 06 2014	Scheduled Review Date	1 December 2014
Implementation Date	**Immediate**		

Background

Safety Infrastructure is critical to the safety and wellbeing of all at a race circuit. This is especially so for fire extinguishers.

It was found at a recent race meeting that fire extinguishers where stored in locked containers behind a locked gate during the running of the Race Meeting. In an emergency they will be of no use and will delay response times.

The **National Circuit Construction and Safety Standards** state the following in relation to fire extinguishers:

"TRAC 1.09 Fire Extinguishers:

1. Fire Extinguishers are to be located at the following positions.
   (a) At the weight in scales and at least four other accessible points in the paddock area for meetings with up to 200 entrants plus one additional extinguisher for each 100 (or part thereof) entrants.
   For National Championships, fire extinguishers are to be located at the scales, start grid and four accessible points in the paddock area.
   (b) At any fuel dispensing area, (must have the appropriate approved fuel spillage kit), if in use.
   (c) At any fuel testing area, (must have the appropriate approved fuel spillage kit), if in use.
   (d) At all flag points.
2. Fire extinguishers to be of a type suitable for flammable liquid fire and be non-hazardous to humans. Minimum 2.5kg and must have current certification tag.
3. Notices for fire extinguishers, 1000mm by 600mm, with lettering a minimum height of 180mm, are to be located with the bottom of the sign, minimum 2.5 metres and maximum 3.5 metres above the ground at all locations in the Parc Fermé/paddock area, exceptions being the scale area and the fuel dispensing and testing areas and these areas must have suitable signs displayed.
4. Entrants may be required to supply an approved filled fire extinguisher in their paddock space, but the presence of such extinguisher shall not relieve the organisers of the obligation to supply adequate firefighting equipment for the circuit as a whole."

It is a provision that fire extinguishers must be readily **accessible** in these locations in the event of a fire. Otherwise there is no point in having them – that is not an option.

Procedure

Club Safety Officers must:

- Ensure that all fire extinguishers comply with the requirements of the provisions contained within the National Circuit Construction and Safety Standards at all times.
- Ensure that all fire extinguishers are fully accessible at all times during the running of a Race Meeting.

Stewards must (on each day of the Race Meeting):

- Ensure that critical safety equipment such as fire extinguishers are:
    - In the required locations,
    - Fully and easily accessible should they be needed at any time – they should not be in locked containers or behind locked fences/gates during the running of the Race Meeting.
    - In date and with a current certification tag displayed

This is a critical safety element that must be in place and must be noted as being in place by the Stewards prior to the commencement of Racing each day.

If at any time during the running of the Race Meeting, a fire extinguisher is discharged, the Stewards must ensure that it is replaced prior to re-commencing racing and note it as having been replaced in their report.

This is a critical incident that cannot be allowed to exist.

The fire extinguisher below is in a locked case on the non-track side of the fence adjacent to a gate that was also locked.

Distribution To:

State Track Inspectors
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State Officials Co-coordinators
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