
P19 REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT (Including Drones)

Scheduled Reviewed Triennially or as required

Date of Board Approval 11 November 2019

Introduction

Karting Australia (KA) recognises that a Drone or Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) can create observing, photographic and digital recording opportunities in motor sport that have historically either not been available, or only available at a high cost. However, use of an RPA in an unregulated manner can create significant risk to others. This Policy governs the use of an RPA at KA licenced circuits, events and Race Meetings in a controlled manner.

Applies To

The policy applies to the KA Board, employees, and contractors, Officials, Volunteers, Spectators, Accredited Media and Members including but not limited to Drivers, Parents, Participants, Competitors and Team Members (“**Covered Persons**”).

Objectives

This policy is intended to achieve the following objectives:

1. Provide a safe environment for persons including Licence Holders, Officials, Team Members and Spectators at KA sanctioned Race Meetings and venues.
2. Provide a safe environment for the use of a RPA at KA sanctioned venues
3. Outline a clear procedure on the use of a RPA at KA Events.

RPA Definition

RPA means a “remotely piloted aircraft”, as defined in the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998 (CASR 1998). For the purposes of this Policy, an RPA also includes a large, small and micro RPA and each of the following:

1. Drone;
2. Remotely controlled model aircraft;
3. Remotely piloted aircraft;
4. ‘Throw and shoot’ flying camera;
5. Tethered and unmanned free balloon;
6. Unpiloted air vehicle;
7. Unmanned aerial system.

General

A RPA may only be used at a KA circuit with the permission of KA and otherwise in accordance with the following:

1. Applicable law;
2. KA rules, policies and procedures;
3. Any direction issued by the Clerk of the Course and/or Chief Steward if the RPA is being used at an Event.

Note: To the extent of any inconsistency, the higher standard shall prevail.

Certification by CASA

Each RPA controller or operator at an Event must possess a written certification from CASA to, as the case may be, operate (‘RPA Operator’s Certificate’) or control (‘RPA Controller’s Certificate’) the RPA in the place and circumstances in which the RPA will be used.

For the purposes of this Policy and with reference to Part 101 of CASR 1998, the use of an RPA at an Event is deemed to be for commercial (and not recreational, sporting or private) purposes.

These certificates must be carried at all times and be produced on request to KA, any landowner, Event Organiser, the Race Director or if not appointed, the Clerk of the Course or Chief Steward.

Each person who only holds an RPA Controller's Certificate may operate a RPA at a KA licenced Circuit only while under the control and responsibility of a person and entity which holds a valid RPA Operator's Certificate.

Insurance

An RPA controller or operator is not covered by KA's Public Liability Insurance Policy and must ensure that a public liability insurance policy is in place which as a minimum:

1. provides a minimum limit of liability of \$10M;
2. covers each RPA operator and controller for loss or damage to persons or property arising out of their use of an RPA at a KA licenced Circuit;
3. notes on the policy the following as having an insured interest in relation to the use of the RPA at a KA licenced Circuit:
 - a) Australian Karting Association Ltd and its related entities (and their directors, employees, contractors and agents);
 - b) Landowners and occupiers;
 - c) KA Officials;
 - d) Participants;
 - e) Organisers (if being used at an Event).

Workplace Health and Safety

Each RPA controller and operator at an Event must ensure that an occupational health and safety management system is in place which fulfils their responsibilities under the various state and territory occupational health and safety legislation and any primary duty of care requirements;

Specific Requirements

At no stage may:

1. an RPA operate if KA, an Organiser, landowner, occupier or the Clerk of the Course identifies any safety concerns with its operation that are not managed controlled by CASR 1998 or this Policy;
2. more than one RPA in operation at a KA licenced Circuit at any one time;
3. an RPA fly:
 - a) At a height below 5 metres or above 120 metres;
 - b) Within 30 metres of any Kart or person loading, unloading or recovering any Kart;
 - c) In the vicinity of any medical vehicle or person attending a scene of an incident unless authorised by the Clerk of the Course, Race Director or Chief Steward;
 - d) Within 30 metres of a Track area during any competitive activity at an Event;
 - e) In such a manner that distracts or impedes the view of a Driver;
 - f) Without a designated safety observer in place (whose role is to stop any person or Automobile entering the landing site);
4. An RPA land in an area other than one which is sign posted and separated from the general public, paddock area, staging area or any other area deemed by an Organiser, landowner /occupier or the Clerk of the Course as inappropriate;
5. An RPA be used by an operator or controller while such operator or controller is:
 - a) On the Track or Course during any Competition at an Event;
 - b) On any part of an Event's first line of protection;
 - c) Operating the device from a position that interferes with an Official;
 - d) In an area designated by an Organiser, landowner occupier, the Clerk of the Course, Race Director or Chief Steward as inappropriate;

KA reserves the right to request a random drug and alcohol test for the RPA controller.

The RPA must not be operated night.