



GRASS TRACK CIRCUIT SAFETY GUIDELINES

Issue #4 JANUARY 2015

MCFFEDERATION GRASS TRACK CIRCUIT SAFETY GUIDELINES**Revision History**

#2 Grass Track Circuit Guidelines 12-10-10

#3 Grass Track Circuit Guidelines 12-10-12

1. A Course Certificate is required for all MCF grass track events and is only valid for the period indicated, all tracks will be inspected prior to the event. Any alterations to a track must be documented by the Clerk of the Course prior to the use of the alteration. A Course Certificate shall only apply to an event where a Permit has been issued by the MCF and it is organised by an MCF affiliated club under the supervision of official's authorised/licensed by the MCF.
2. The course certificate paperwork will be filled out by the Clerk of the Course for the event and submitted to the MCF office with the event paperwork. A track layout plan will accompany the paperwork and will show the types of safety fence used as well as the position of the start and finish. The general layout of the site should also be included showing the entrances and exits as well as the position of the paddock and car parks.

See appendix 2

3. All track surfaces will be suitably prepared and maintained to ensure a reasonable racing surface.
4. The following guidelines should be followed unless specifically detailed on the Course Certificate or Risk Assessed.
5. The extremities of the actual course must be clearly defined by an unbroken line of chalk or paint or by way of track markers no higher than 350mm. If solid markers are used they must not exceed 35mm diameter.
6. Beyond the outer limit of the circuit there must be an unobstructed area, no less than 6 metres on straights and 10 metres around bends.
7. An unobstructed area of 6 metres must be left on the infield of the circuit adjacent to the track.
8. The minimum width of the circuit is 12 metres.
9. The number of permitted solo starters is 6 for a 12 metre circuit. For every additional metre of width the number of starter may increase by 1 to a maximum of 12. For sidecar and quad competitors the number will be 50% of the permitted solo starters.
10. The number of permitted starters is 4 where an event is run on a speedway circuit.

SAFETY FENCING

1. All spectator areas but behind suitable safety fencing, only competitors involved in a race or signed on officials and staff are allowed in this area during racing and practice.
2. Non spectator areas must be risk assessed by the Clerk of the Course and adequate catch fencing erected. Any roping used in a non spectator area should conform to the design for the first catch fence on a spectator area.
3. The minimum diameter of hemp rope when taught should be 14mm and 12mm for nylon.
4. Minimum roping method:
 - For solo only events there will be 2 catch fences plus one spectator fence.
 - For events including sidecars and quads a further catch fence must be added.
 - Fences one and two to be constructed using post of minimum diameter 75mm spaced not more than 3 m apart and a height of 1m out of the ground.
 - These two fences should be no less than 2.3 metres apart and with the posts staggered.
 - On the first fence there shall be two ropes attached at approximately 500mm and 750mm from the ground.

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- The ropes on the first catch fence may be replaced by double thickness scaffold debris netting to a height of 1 metre.
- The second fence shall have a rope attached to the posts at a height of 600mm.
- All ropes shall be attached by a double hitch or twist on every fourth post.
- 2.3 metres outside of these two fences will be a third fence of the same construction as the second for sidecar and quad meetings.
- The spectator fence will be constructed 2.3 metres outside of the last catch fence and consist of posts spaced not more than 6 metres apart. The posts must project approximately 1.2 metres from the ground and a rope attached at a height of approximately 1 metre. Any other style of fencing must be covered in the event risk assessment.

5. Alternative Sidecar and Quad Roping Method

- The third rope for sidecar and quad events can be dispensed with by using the following:
- On both the first and second catch fences there must be three ropes at heights of 300mm, 600mm and 900mm
- The lower two ropes on the second fence may be replaced by double thickness scaffold debris netting to a height of 1 metre
- The distance between the fences should be no less than 2.5 metres
- The spectator fence should be as the minimum method with the gap from the second catch fence to be no less than 2.5 metres.

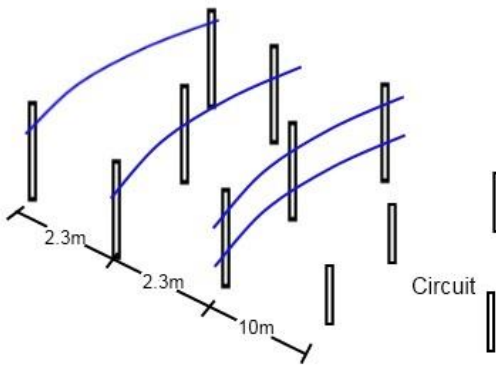
6. Alternative Protection Method for all Events

- There can be two catch fences of double thickness scaffold debris netting on the outside of corners plus one spectator rope fence
- There can be one catch fence of double thickness scaffold netting on the straights plus one spectator rope fence.
- The first catch fence should be 5 metres from the outside of the marked circuit and securely fixed to post to a height of 1m with the posts no more than 3m apart.
- The second catch fence should be constructed the same as the first catch fence with a 5m gap between.
- The spectator fence will be constructed 2.5 metres outside of the last catch fence and consist of posts spaced not more than 6 metres apart. The posts must project approximately 1 metre from the ground and a rope attached at a height of approximately 0.9 metre.
- The second catch fence should extend a minimum of 10m along the straight.
- The straights should have a continuation of the first catch fence with a gap of 7.5m to the spectator rope fence.

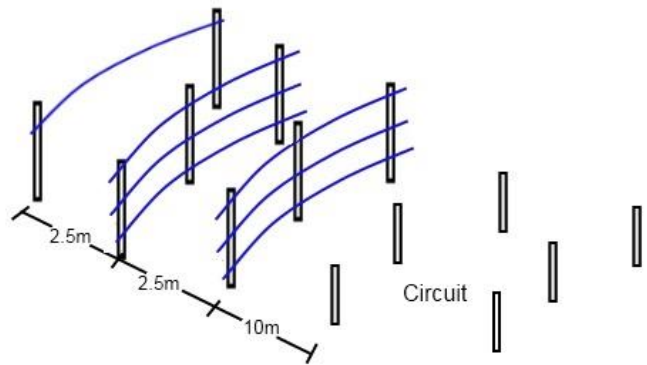
7. Prohibited area notices must be placed at regular intervals between the final catch fence and the spectator fence.
8. No vehicle must be permitted to park within 3 metres of the spectator fence.
9. There must be a suitably sized paddock to suit the number of expected competitors and allow for emergency access.
10. The use of nylon in the starting gates is prohibited and only tape must be used terminated at each end by rubber bands of no more than 150mm by 25mm unstretched.
11. The sale of fuel must be regulated and not be conducted within 7 metres of any other vehicle. The area must be cordoned off and prohibited to the public. Smoking and the use of mobiles phones must be prohibited in this area and must comply with all current regulations.
12. There shall be a minimum of three marshals on each bend of the circuit and all officials in the proximity of the circuit should wear high visibility clothing.

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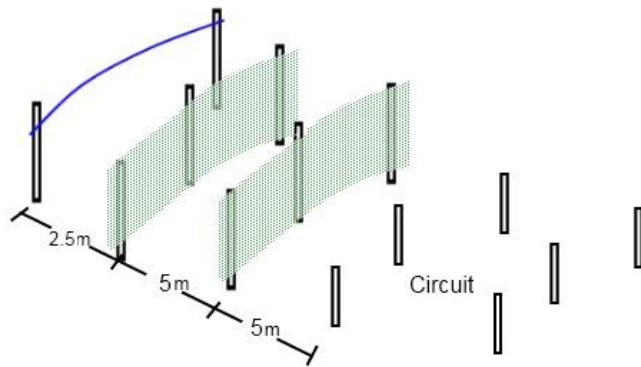
Grass Track Circuit Protection Methods



Standard Roping Method



Alternate Roping Method



Alternate Netting Method

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Stylised Grass Track Circuit Certificate Plan

