



Scottish Auto Cycle Union  
Environmental Code



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## **PREAMBLE**

The Scottish Auto-Cycle Union (SACU) is the controlling body for Motorcycle Sport in Scotland, we are a National Club within the Auto-Cycle Union (ACU) and recognised as the controlling body for motorcycle sport in Scotland. All events are permitted and run under the guidance of the National Sporting Code and Standing Regulations and ACU environmental Code contained within the ACU Handbook.

### **1. Introduction**

**1.1** There is an increasing awareness on the part of land owners/land management companies/tenants and the Forestry companies as well as the general public that society is rapidly destroying natural resources and polluting the environment.

All our activities have an impact on both the Natural Environment and our Social Environment, whether it being using finite resources, creating waste, noise, smells or changing the appearance of the land, etc.

We are now being required to be more mindful of our impact our sports have on both the Social and Natural environments.

With this in mind and using the framework of the Environmental Code as written in the ACU handbook, this SACU Environmental Code will now enable us to develop best practice.

**1.2** The governing body of motorcycle sport at both National and International level has two objectives to achieve in developing an Environmental Code.

- a) To ensure that it manages our activities in a way that is sustainable within the environment.
- b) To put itself in a position where it can demonstrate to local and national Governments that it is a responsible member of the community, with both the ability and willingness to contribute to the protection of critical aspects of our environment.

## **2. General principles**

Motorcycle activities fall clearly into three main categories: competitive sport, recreation, and transport. Motorcycle sport which this primarily document covers creates an impact on both the Social and Natural Environments.

- a) The SACU considers it to be of major importance to develop a coherent environmental code, taking into account the legislative and regulatory requirements of Scotland and the United Kingdom.
- b) The SACU environmental code, as detailed in this document, is based on mutual respect for the needs of the environment and for the reasonable practices of motorcycling in general.
- c) The SACU seeks to co-operate closely with all appropriate organisations in order to ensure that motorcycle activities are, at all times, environmentally acceptable.
- d) The SACU shall adapt its Rules and Standing Regulations in order to give proper recognition to Social and Natural Environmental matters and to the principles of the Code.
- e) The SACU will seek to establish, at all times, the appropriate environmental standards during the organisation of motorcycle events, at all levels, and will promote environmental consciousness
- f) In order to ensure that this Code is respected, the SACU has added environmental responsibilities to the duties of the Clerk of the Course.

## **3. Environmental Responsibilities**

At each event the Clerk of the Course is responsible for all environmental issues associated with that event, however the Clerk of the Course can delegate the duties (but not the responsibilities) to another suitably licensed official appropriate to the status of the event. (i.e. A fixed circuit race Clerk of the Course Licence would not be able to undertake the Environmental Duties at timecard enduro type event).

## **SACU ENVIRONMENTAL CODE**

### **The Clerk of the Course will:**

- **Ensure that the SACU Environmental Code is respected.**
- **Prior to the event**, have access to all information relating to the event, its location, layout and any environmental restrictions notified to the organisers by the landowner.
- **Officials can refer to extracts from ACU handbook issue 2020 attached below**
- The C of C may request changes to the layout to minimise any environmental impacts, prior to and during the event.
- Report to the Stewards of the Meeting on environmental aspects of the event, and make recommendations to the Stewards on issues which may have future environmental consequences.
- Return Environmental report form to the SACU in a timely fashion after the event.

### **Recommendations to the event organisers and the Clerk of the Course for protection of the Social Environment at Off Road events**

- In co-operation with the police, select the routes to and from the venue which will cause as little annoyance as possible within the surrounding area.
- Provide clear signs to the venue, which must be removed within 24 hours of the end of the event. Including any Section 11 Land Reform (Scotland) act area closure notices.
- Do not allow parking on vulnerable areas (verges, green lanes, etc.), or where soil damage may occur.
- Provide sufficient sanitary facilities, consider siting a unit at special test start/finish, especially if volunteers are to be at post for some time.
- Inform the public about responsible behaviour on the site.
- Specify, in contracts with catering firms, that all used drinks and food packaging is to be removed from the site and any generators to be placed on an environment mat for protection of the ground during refuelling.
- When routing the course consider not having the course running alongside the public highway as this may cause a serious distraction for drivers using this road.
- Remember noise annoys.

- Refer to the extracts on sound and public address systems, to minimise the likelihood of issues with noise.
- ACU sound levels for motorcycles during the event (including practice) being exceeded.  
The maximum number of events and/or practising time being exceeded.

## **Recommendations to the event organisers and the Clerk of the Course for protection of the Natural Environment Off Road events.**

- Prior to the course being set, ask landowner/land management/ forestry for detailed maps of any restricted areas.
- Consider any long distance walk routes and have adequate warning notices at some distance back from any unavoidable crossing points.
- Consider the following environmental issues before setting the course:
  - SSSIs
  - potable water courses, human or animal
  - silting in water courses causing deoxygenation of the water
  - Ancient woodland species
  - Game, ground bird and raptor nesting times
  - Erosion of tracks and forest routes, footpaths and long distance routes
  - Damage to dry stone walls
  - Transfer of alien species, such as Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed
  - Proximity to archaeological features.
  - Make arrangements to prevent pollution of the ground in the rider's paddock, on the track, and within the surroundings
    - Look after the protection of verges along access roads, fences, tape off vulnerable areas, to prevent damage.
- Encourage each competitor to be responsible for the waste generated by his team during the event.
- Where refuelling or servicing of a motorcycle is being undertaken at an off - road event, competitors must provide and use an environment mat to protect the ground. These mats must be removed by the competitor after use.
- Ensure any generators powered by petrol or diesel engines, must be placed on an environment mat, and that mat must be removed by the user afterwards.
- If start finish parking for off-road event is close to residential area there must be a clear notice on the entrance to the area when generator the switch off time is, this must also be visible at the sign on area.  
Suggestion of 10pm- 7:30am



- The event site must be returned to its original condition as soon as possible and within landowner/management /forestry agreed timescale.
  - Arrange for prompt removal of all waste and rubbish.
  - Ensure that the disposal of medical or other hazardous waste is managed by specialist companies.
  - At regular intervals make an evaluation of the event; correct any shortcomings and prevent future errors.
  - Remove mud from public highways and remove direction signs etc.
  - Glossary
  - SSSI: Site of Special Scientific Interest
  - Potable water: any water taken from the land, via a spring, or from a stream destined to be used for drinking/cooking for Human consumption or animal consumption.

## **Recommendations to the event organisers and the Clerk of the Course for protection of the Social Environment at fixed circuit events.**

- In co-operation with the police, select the routes to and from the venue which will cause as little annoyance as possible within the surrounding area.
- Provide clear signs to the venue, which must be removed within 24 hours of the end of the event. Including any Section 11 Land Reform (Scotland) act area closure notices.
- Do not allow parking on vulnerable areas (verges, green lanes, etc.), or where soil damage may occur.
- Provide sufficient sanitary facilities, consider siting a unit at special test start/finish, especially if volunteers are to be at post for some time.
- Inform the public about responsible behaviour on the site. Enforce a 5mph (or walking pace, or appropriate to conditions,) speed limit within the pits, use a one way system, where possible.
- Specify, in contracts with catering firms, that all used drinks and food packaging is to be removed from the site and any generators to be placed on an environment mat for protection of the ground during refuelling.
- When routing the course consider not having the course running alongside the public highway as this may cause a serious distraction for drivers using this road.
- **Remember noise annoys.**
- Refer to the extracts on sound and public address systems, to minimise the likelihood of issues with noise. PA systems should only be used between a period from 8:30 am to 6:00pm.
- ACU sound levels for motorcycles during the event (including practice) being exceeded. Random and specific testing should be carried out throughout the event to ensure compliance.  
The maximum number of events and/or practising time being exceeded.  
No engines to be started between 7:00pm
- and 8:00am. No generators to be run between the hours of 10:00pm and 8:30 am
- Exposure to noise may lead to hearing complaints. PPE for personnel working in known noisy situations.
- Check the noise levels at the site boundaries, think of how any noise can be reduced, eg hedging, trees etc.

## **Recommendations to the Event Organisers and the Clerk of the Course for protection of the Natural Environment at Fixed Circuit events.**

- For new circuits follow any council planning agreements. Prior to the course being set, ask landowner/land management for detailed maps of any restricted areas
- Consider the following environmental issues before setting the course this also applies to the setting of motocross circuits:
  - SSSIs
  - potable water courses, human or animal
  - silting in water courses causing deoxygenation of the water
  - Ancient woodland species
  - Game, ground bird and raptor nesting times
  - Erosion of access routes
  - Damage to dry stone walls
  - Transfer of alien species, such as Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed
  - Proximity to archaeological features.

### **Once circuits have been fixed**

Ensure maximum number of events and/or practising time is not being exceeded.

- Look after the protection of verges along access roads, fences, tape off vulnerable areas, to prevent damage.
- Make arrangements to prevent pollution of the ground in the rider's paddock, on the track, and within the surroundings. Have spillage kits available to collect any oils etc, dropped on circuit.
- Ensure any fixed sanitary facilities are connected properly to the sewerage system.
- Any waste oil must be placed in a suitable marked container, this must be taken to an appropriate disposal point.
- Control the use of pressure washers to designated area with suitable drainage to tank, or prohibit use if designated facility is not in place.
- Encourage each competitor to be responsible for the waste generated by his team during the event, any used tyres must be retained by the rider.

- Where refuelling or servicing of a motorcycle is being undertaken, competitors must provide and use an environment mat to protect the ground. These mats must be removed by the competitor after use.
- Ensure any generators powered by petrol or diesel engines, must be placed on an environment mat, and that mat must be removed by the user afterwards.
- If paddock/ overnight parking for event is close to residential area there must be a clear notice on the entrance to the area when generator the switch off time is, this must also be visible at the sign on area. Suggestion of 10pm- 8:30am
- Arrange for the prompt removal of all waste and rubbish, prevent litter from blowing from waste containers.
- Ensure that the disposal of medical or other hazardous waste is managed by specialist companies.
- At regular intervals make an evaluation of the event: correct any short comings and so help prevent any future errors.
- After event, remove mud from the public highway and remove any direction signage.

## **Glossary**

**SSSI:** Site of Special Scientific Interest

**Potable water:** any water taken from the land, via a spring, or from a stream destined to be used for drinking/cooking for Human consumption or animal consumption.

## **Responsibilities of the Secretary of an off road event**

### **The secretary of the event will:**

**Ensure that the supplementary regs. carry instructions to the competitor on the following**

- Each competitor is responsible for the waste generated by his team during the event.
- Used tyres must be retained by the rider.
- Where refuelling or servicing of a motorcycle is being undertaken at an off-road event, competitors must provide and use an environment mat to protect the ground. These mats must be removed by the competitor after use.
- Competitor should provide a fire extinguisher
- No smoking to be allowed in the refuelling areas.
- Where organisers or competitors use generators powered by petrol or diesel engines, they must be placed on an environment mat, and that mat must be removed by the user afterwards.
- If start finish parking for off-road event is close to residential area there must be a clear notice on the entrance to the area when generator switch off time is, this must also be visible at the sign on area. Suggestion of 10pm-8:30am
- **Power washing is not allowed.**
- **Tear off goggle lens covers are not permitted.**

## **Responsibilities of the Secretary of a Fixed Circuit event.**

### **The secretary of the event will:**

**Ensure that the supplementary regs. carry instructions to the competitor on the following**

- Each competitor is responsible for the waste generated by his team during the event. Whether the circuit has waste disposal and recycling facilities or not.
- An appropriate Waste Oil collection receptacle should be considered. The level of which should be monitored and emptied by a licensed waste oil disposal agent
- Used tyres must be retained by the rider .
- Where refuelling or servicing of a motorcycle is being undertaken at an off-road event, competitors must provide and use an environment mat to protect the ground. These mats must be removed by the competitor after use.
- No smoking to be allowed in the refuelling areas.
- Where organisers or competitors provide generators powered by petrol or diesel engines, they must be placed on an environment mat, and that mat must be removed by the user afterwards.
- If start finish parking for off-road event is close to residential area there must be a clear notice on the entrance to the area when generator switch off time is, this must also be visible at the sign on area. Suggestion of 10pm-8:30am
- **Power washing is not allowed.**
- **Tear off goggle lens covers are not permitted.**

## **Extracts from ACU handbook issue 2020 for reference.**

### **Extracts from ACU environmental code.**

#### **4 SOUND**

##### **4.1 MOTORCYCLES – INDIVIDUAL refer also to pages 60-62 sound level control**

- *Avoid all unnecessary running of engines.*
- *Respect any agreed sound level restrictions.*
- *sound levels, in all disciplines, must comply with the particular discipline's Standing Regulations*

- *the ACU maximum sound levels for all disciplines will be enforced, controlled by licensed officials with approved equipment. For details, which vary slightly between disciplines, refer to the sporting and Technical rules.*

##### **4.3 COMMUNICATION**

- *Separate address systems for riders' paddock and the public area are preferable.*
- *Position of loud-speakers: to ensure that sound pollution is prevented outside the venue.*
- *Maintain the sound level as low as possible and ensure that sound levels do not exceed 85 dB/A in areas accessible to the public.*
- *A public address system can cause more annoyance outside the track than the actual sound of motorcycles.*
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- **5.FUEL refer also to pages 63-65 Fuel regulations National ACU**
- *It is a requirement that commercially available unleaded fuel, without additives, except oil for two stroke engines, is used.*
- *For Track Racing, the use of methanol is permitted.*
- *The use of alternative fuels which are more environmentally friendly, when sanctioned by the appropriate sporting regulations, are permitted.*
- *Fuel tests are carried out in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Technical Rules.*
- *Samples of the test are sent by the organisers of the event to a laboratory selected by the ACU*
- *For International Championship Events, these responsibilities must be undertaken by an official in possession of a current FIM Environmental Officials Licence as specified In the FIM Sporting Code. ACU.*

## **6. PROTECTION OF THE GROUND**

• Measures must be taken to prevent discharges of fuel, oil, cleaning fluids, degreasants, cooling and brake fluids, etc. into the ground. For all off-road disciplines, competitors are required to use an environmental mat at all points where machines are serviced.

**Specification of Environment Mat Dimensions** 160cm × 100cm

(Track Racing Solo – 160cm × 75cm) **Absorption Capacity** Minimum One Litre e Environment Mat must be composed of an absorbent upper part and an impermeable lower part.

**Thickness** Minimum 5mm

• Environment mats must also be placed under mobile generators and oil/fuel storage facilities to avoid pollution of the ground. • Containers/facilities to recover catering waste, used rags and oil filters, waste oil and coolant must be provided by the organisers. • Leave no long-term evidence of any activity.

## **7. CLEANING OF MOTORCYCLES**

- Cleaning of motorcycles can only be carried out at places designated by the organisers.
- No detergents are permitted.
- Cleaning facilities must be constructed and managed to avoid pollution of the ground.

**9. Event Environment Management Plan** is plan must include at least the following points:

- a) An assessment of the environment impact of the event on the paddock, start area and the entire course and its surroundings, having regard to the number of competitors and the expected number of spectators.
- b) Provision of adequate and appropriate direction signs to the event which must be removed within 24 hours of the event. Do not allow parking on vulnerable areas (verges, green lanes, etc.), or where soil damage may occur (eg after heavy rain). Where large numbers of spectators are envisaged consultation with the Police is recommended.
- c) Measures taken to prevent the pollution of streams where used as a drinking source for either animals or humans.
- d) Provision of a machine cleaning area in accordance with the appropriate discipline regulations for events where the cleaning of motorcycles is permitted.
- e) Provision of Containers for used oil, brake fluids and cooling liquid or any other liquid. ese may be a requirement of the sporting discipline. Where required they must be clearly marked "waste oil only" and have an opening sufficiently large to avoid spillage and a captive funnel.
- f) Ensure that all fuel and waste oil, and all generators are placed on an environment mat. Provide containers for oil filters and cleaning rags.
- g) Provision of sufficient containers for competitors and spectator's general litter. Consideration to be given to providing competitors with a rubbish bag on arrival and instructions on what to do with it.
- h) Provision of Sanitary facilities. Further guidance on numbers is provided on page 106.
- i) Judicious positioning of any loudspeakers. i) Where a central refuelling point is provided,



- j) *ensure that motorcycles are only refuelled when parked on an environment mat. Provide Fire Extinguisher and have it clearly signed.*

*Display No Smoking signs*

## **9.2 INFORMATION TO THE SPECTATORS**

- *Inform the public about responsible behaviour on the site*
- *Request spectators to use the rubbish containers provided.*

## **9.3 AFTER THE EVENT**

- *Signposts, billboards and posters must be removed immediately after the event.*
- *Clear away tapes and markers around the event site.*
- *Event site must be returned to its original condition as soon as possible.*
- *Arrange for prompt removal of all waste and rubbish.*
- *Ensure that the disposal of medical or other hazardous waste is managed by specialist companies.*
- *Remove mud from public highways and remove direction signs etc*

## **9.4 PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING**

- *Place billboards and posters only after having obtained permission from the owner of the property, and the local highway authority if appropriate.*
- *Take Government regulations into account when positioning billboards.*
- *Do not distribute leaflets/pamphlets under windscreen-wipers of cars, on motorcycles, nor to spectators (do not allow others to do so during an event).*
- **AFTER THE EVENT** *Signposts, billboards and posters must be removed immediately after the event.*
- *Clear away tapes and markers around the event site.*

## **10.1 RIDER CONDUCT**

- Individual motorcyclists should develop riding habits to ensure full integration with other types of users.
- Ride safely and avoid aggressive and competitive riding.
- Save petrol and reduce pollution by avoiding unnecessary idling of engines.
- Ride politely and limit noise pollution by using your horn only in an emergency.
- Noise annoys. Use a legal exhaust system and keep audio systems at a low level.
- Use only routes which are legally available to motorcyclists.
- Ride responsibly at all times.
- Respect nature by not travelling on routes that risk being damaged beyond a point of natural recovery.
- Protect wildlife and its natural habitat by riding intelligently.
- Take responsibility for ensuring that your used oil, tyres, batteries and other recyclable items are properly disposed of.

- Encourage fuel efficiency and space economy by riding motorcycles instead of driving automobiles.

## **SANITARY FACILITIES page 84**

### ***recommended standards for the provision of sanitary facilities at ACU events***

#### **1. PROVISION FOR RIDERS/ PARTICIPANTS**

*As specified in the rules for each discipline.*

#### **2. PROVISION FOR SPECTATORS, ETC.**

##### **FEMALE**

- *1 WC per 100 or fewer females who it is anticipated will attend.*

##### **MALE**

- *1 WC per 100 or fewer males who it is anticipated will attend.*
- *2 WC per 100–500 males who it is anticipated will attend.*
- *1 additional WC for every additional 500 males who it is anticipated will attend.*
- *1.5 metres of urinal facility for every 500 males.*

#### **3. DURATION**

*For events lasting for less than four hours, this standard can be reduced by 25%.*

#### **4. MAINTENANCE**

*These facilities must be maintained in a clean condition and kept fully supplied for the duration of the event.*

#### **5. WASH BASINS**

*Should be provided in the ratio of 1 per 5 sanitary facilities*

**6. DISABLED PEOPLE** *One of the facilities, in each separated spectator area, should provide for wheelchair users.*