

# Code of Conduct

Sunraysia Dirt Karters encourages good sportsmanship at all levels of competition. Here are the Codes of Conduct for your club, track, drivers, officials and parents.

1. Treat all participants in your sport as you would like to be treated yourself.
2. Control your temper: verbal abuse, threats and physical violence are not acceptable behaviours.
3. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants, regardless of their ability, gender or cultural background.
4. Be a good role model: be safe, responsible and set a good example outside of organised racing events, especially when on the road.
5. Act within the rules of the sport at all times.
6. Respect the decisions of officials at all times.
7. Remember to treat with respect and thank fans, fellow competitors, coaches, volunteers, team members and officials. Without these people, the sport could not exist.
8. Adhere to Speedway Australia Pit Rules & Regulations and the Speedway Australia Drug & Alcohol Policy.
9. Respect track operators by adhering to the rules and guidelines of each track.
10. Be environment conscious: keep your area clean and treat spills appropriately. Leave your area as you would like to find it. Use ground sheets in pit bays. Use grommets for tear offs.

## For Competitors:

- Always comply with the rules.
- Competitors are responsible for their own conduct as well as the conduct of any person associated with them, such as crews, owners, sponsors, etc.
- Most officials have volunteered their time and services to ensure the smooth, efficient and fair conduct of the race meeting. Avoid arguing with stewards and officials. If you disagree with a ruling, quietly check with the official on how the decision was reached.
- Treat all competitors as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take advantage of any other participant. This includes using email or social media to bully or slander competitors.
- Control your temper. Verbal and physical abuse of Officials or other competitors, and deliberately distracting or provoking others, is not acceptable or permissible behavior.
- Treat all competitors and Officials as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take advantage of any other participant.
- Avoid the use of coarse or derogatory language.
- Compete within your skill levels. Only try to extend these skills when there is no likelihood of danger to others, and personal risk is controlled.
- Always compete with honour and integrity.

## For Officials:

- Be impartial, consistent and objective at all times.
- Understand the purpose of the rules of competition.
- Be co-operative and understanding in the interpretation and application of rules or any penalties and/or appeals process.
- Make a personal commitment to keep informed, sound principles and rule updates. Have a sound knowledge of the appeal process.
- Seek continual self improvement through study, performance appraisal and regular updating of competencies.
- Ensure behavior is consistent with the principles of good sporting behavior. Actions speak louder than words. Don't argue publicly.
- Condemn unsporting behavior and promote respect for all participants.
- Place the safety and welfare of all participants above all else.

- Ensure the “spirit” of competition is maintained.
- Value the individual in the sport. Listen to their opinion.
- Avoid the use of derogatory language, be it in speech or on gender or race.
- Refrain from any form of sexual harassment towards Officials and competitors.
- Encourage understanding of, and access to knowledge, of all areas of officiating.
- Be a positive role model in behavior and appearance.
- Ensure that you have a current card, depending on your state regulations.

## **For Parents:**

- Encourage children to participate, if they are interested. Do not force any child who is not willing to participate.
- Focus upon the child’s efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the event.
- Assist the child to set realistic goals based on their ability.
- Teach children that an honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each meeting is accepted, without undue disappointment.
- Encourage your children to follow the rules and respect the work and decisions of any Official.
- Remember always, children are involved in speedway for their enjoyment. Gain your enjoyment from supporting them.
- Children learn best by example. Applaud good performance by all competitors.
- Set a good example by avoiding the use of derogatory or abusive language, respect officials and stewards and never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during competition.
- Respect the Officials decision. If you disagree, raise the issue through appropriate channels. Do not question the Officials judgment and honesty in public.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Recognise the importance and value of volunteers.
- Don’t be an ugly “football” parent.
- As a parent, you will only need a ‘Working with Children’ card if your child is not competing at an event and you are still working as a volunteer.

## **Social Media**

Sunraysia Dirt Karters encourages participation in online social media in a positive manner. The accessible nature of the internet however, can lend itself to the posting of threatening and derogatory material in the heat of the moment.

Once your thoughts and comments are published to the internet they are visible to the world - and they are permanent. Speedway Australia and Sunraysia Dirt Karters takes all cases of cyber bullying seriously and will treat online matters as it would ‘real world’ bullying. The penalties for these offences are severe.

**Sunraysia Dirt Karters would like to remind all Drivers, Crews, Patrons, Officials & Members of the Social Media Policy that we follow, which is in line with Speedway Australia’s policy. Sunraysia Dirt Karters has a ZERO tolerance policy on negative or defamatory comments made on social media towards the club, venues or anyone directly involved. Any breach of the policy shall be dealt with accordingly. It will also be forwarded to Speedway Australia for their records and for them to impose further penalties if they see fit.**

Sunraysia Dirt Karters expects all members and Licence holders to uphold the Code of Conduct and as such treats allegations of poor conduct and bringing the sport of Speedway into disrepute very seriously.