



Motor Cycle Union of Ireland
General Competition Rules

Revised to January 2003

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CHAPTER 1

JURISDICTION

- 1. INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF COMPETITIONS**
The Federation Internationale Motocycliste (F.I.M.) is the paramount and sole authority qualified to control organised international motorcycling activities throughout the world, and as such constitutes the supreme International Tribunal for the settlement of disputes arising therefrom
- 2. NATIONAL CONTROL OF COMPETITIONS**
The Motor Cycle Union of Ireland, being a constituent member of the F.I.M. and representing Ireland at the F.I.M., acts as the controlling body of the sport of motorcycling as laid down in Article 2 of its Constitution and Rules.
- 3. GENERAL COMPETITION RULES**
That the above powers may be exercised in a fair and equitable manner the Motor Cycle Union of Ireland has drawn up these, its General Competition Rules, hereinafter referred to as GCR, which are in general conformity with the Sporting Code of the F.I.M., and all competitions shall be held under the GCR.
- 4. TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE MOTOR CYCLE UNION OF IRELAND**
For the purposes of the GCR, Ireland shall mean all of Ireland.
- 5. APPLICATION OF THE GCR**
The GCR shall apply either without modification only (not being consistent with, or repugnant to, the International Sporting Code) as a Centre may deem necessary having regard to its circumstances or conditions.
- 6. LOYAL OBSERVANCE OF THE GCR**
No member of a club, or club affiliated to the Motor Cycle Union of Ireland, having formally undertaken to observe and comply with the GCR, and no person licensed to participate in any competition governed by the GCR shall:-

 - (a) assist any person or body that does not comply with and/or conform to the rules of the Motor Cycle Union of Ireland, or the GCR, or that acts in any manner contrary thereto, or
 - (b) belong to or lend his name to, or be an officer of, any such body. Any person being guilty of breach of this rule shall therefore become liable to the consequences and penalties provided by Rules 179, 188, 190 and 191.

CHAPTER 2

NOMENCLATURE AND DEFINITIONS

7. PHRASEOLOGY

The following nomenclature, definitions and abbreviations shall be adopted in the GCR, in any appendices thereto, in all Supplementary Regulations, and for general use.

8. F.I.M.

Fédération Internationale Motocycliste.

9. I.O.C.

International Olympic Committee.

10. F.M.N.

Federation Motocycliste Nationale. A national motorcycling organisation federated to, and recognised by, the F.I.M. as the sole governing body of the sport in its own territory.

11. M.C.U.I.

The Motor Cycle Union of Ireland.

12. CENTRE

An area to which the M.C.U.I has given power to govern the sport of motorcycling.

13. CODE

The Sporting Code of the F.I.M. including any appendices thereto which may be in force.

14. CLUB

Any body recognised by the M.C.U.I. as a Club.

15. REGISTERED MEMBER OF A CLUB

Any duly elected member of a club who shall be eligible to take part in any competition as a member of that club, provided that his/her name shall have been inscribed on the books of that club at least twenty one days prior to the date fixed for such a competition.

- 16. STANDING REGULATIONS**
Regulations supplementary to the GCR drawn up by the promoter of a competition and approved by the authority granting the permit, having for their object the regulation of the details of the competition
- 17. SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS**
Regulations supplementary to the GCR, and Standing Regulations, drawn up by the promoter of a competition and approved by the authority granting the permit, having for their object the regulation of the details of a competition.
- 18. PERMIT**
The documentary authority to organise and hold one or more competitions granted in the case of an International Competition by the F.I.M., and in the case of all other competition by the M.C.U.I., or by a Centre of the M.C.U.I.
- 19. PROGRAMME**
A document prepared by the promoters of a meeting for the purpose of informing the participants and spectators about such a meeting.
- 20. OFFICIALS**
Officials are either supervisory or executive. The supervisory officials are Stewards (Jury) of the meeting. Executive officials are all those officials such as the Clerk of the Course. Secretary of the Meeting and all those who, under the Clerk of the Course are responsible for carrying out the detailed organisation of a competition.
- 21. CLERK OF THE COURSE**
The chief executive official at the Meeting.
- 22. PROMOTER**
Any person or body proposing to hold, holding, or organising a meeting.
- 23. ENTRANT**
Any person or body having signed an entry form and having been accepted for a competition.
- 24. DRIVER**
1. Junior Driver
A person of 6 years of age or over and under 17 years of age in Junior Grasstrack, Motocross and Trials events who has been nominated as a driver of a motorcycle in a competition. For the purposes of determining the upper age limit, a driver's age will be determined by his/her age on the 1st of January in any year, and any driver who attains his/her 17th birthday during a year will have the option of completing the year before moving up to Senior Driver status.

2. Senior Driver

A person of 13 years of age or over in the case of 125 cc Aprilla Challenge Series (to be 13-16 years old on 1st. January each year.)

A person of 16 years of age or over in the case of 250cc Aprilla Challenge Series (to be 16 years old on 1st. January each year.)

A person of 15 years of age or over in the case of up to 125cc Short Circuit events, or 16 years of age or over in the case of Enduro, Grasstrack, Motocross, Trials and 200cc Short Circuit events, or a person of 18 years of age or over in Short Circuits, Road Races, Hill Climbs and Sprints held over roads closed to the public under a Road Closing Order, who has been a driver of a motorcycle in a competition. All drivers taking part in Senior events require a Senior Driver's licence. However, Senior Drivers under 17 years of age (as defined at 24.1 above) may also take part in Junior events for the remainder of the calendar year (provided he/she has not taken part in competition on a machine over 125cc capacity).

(ICC Feb 2000)

25. COMPETITION LICENCE

The documentary authority granted to an entrant or driver to enter or compete in certain competitions (GCR 91 and 94).

26. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

The documentary proof that a licence holder has undergone the prescribed medical examination necessary for him/her to hold a Competition Licence (GCR 81).

27. ENTRANT'S OR DRIVER'S REGISTER

The list, maintained by the M.C.U.I. or a Centre, of persons to whom it has issued licences.

28. NATIONALITY

The nationality of a driver for the purposes of the GCR shall, after the issue of a licence, be deemed to be that of the F.M.N. which last issued the licence.

29. PASSENGER

A person of 16 years of age or over, in the case of Enduro, Grasstrack, Motocross and Trials events, 17 years of age or over in the case of Short Circuit events or 18 years of age or over in the case of a Road Race, Hill Climb or Sprint held over roads closed to the public, conveyed on a motorcycle in addition to the driver.

30. COMPETITOR

The driver, and his passenger if any, together with his motorcycle.

31. MOTORCYCLE

A mechanically propelled vehicle having fewer than four wheels, all of which are normally in contact with the ground. Motorcycles are divided into categories:

Category A Motor Bicycle: A one track vehicle with two road wheels.

- Category B (1)** A three wheeler.
- Category B (2)** A sidecar or cyclecar. A vehicle with three road wheels minimum and a maximum cylinder volume, and each class being described by its maximum cylinder volume.
- Category C** An All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) having handlebars and two tracks, and four wheels.

32. CYLINDER VOLUME

The volume swept in a cylinder or cylinders by the upward or downward movement of the pistons in relation to such cylinder or cylinders. Cylinder volume shall be expressed in cubic centimetres.

For all calculations relating to the cylinder volume of engines the symbol π shall be regarded as equivalent to 3.1416.

33. COMPETITION

Any trial, race attempt at record or sporting event, other than a gymkhana or social event, in which one or more persons driving motorcycles compete either amongst themselves or against time, or attempt to fulfil certain conditions laid down in advance. A race included in a gymkhana is itself a competition within the meaning of the GCR. Competitions may be International, National, Restricted or Closed. No Restricted or Closed competition shall be included in, or connected with, a National competition except with the special permission of the authority which issued the permit.

34. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

A competition is International when it is open to drivers of one or more nation, and is inscribed in the Annuaire of the F.I.M.

35. RESTRICTED COMPETITION

A competition is restricted when the entrants and/or drivers and/or motorcycles concerned have to comply with some particular qualification other than those in GCR 34 and 35.

36. CLOSED COMPETITION

A competition is Closed when it is open only to registered members of one club as defined in Rule 15. In special cases the M.C.U.I. or a Centre may permit two affiliated clubs to join together in the organisation of a Closed competition to invite the members of ONE other club to take part in the competition.

For the purpose of the aforementioned clause, the two clubs need not be affiliated to the same Centre.

37. MEETING

An assembly of drivers and officials at which one or more competitions, other than an individual attempt at record, are held. A meeting shall not be deemed to be concluded until after the final publication of results.

- 38. GRAND PRIX**
A title may, once per year, be given to one meeting. The M.C.U.I. reserves the right to name the type of meeting.
- 39. CLASSIC EVENT.**
A name which may be given to a certain meeting of traditional importance, such a meeting to receive first priority in the annual calendar.
- 40. RACE**
A competition in which speed is the factor determining the result.
- 41. HEAT**
One of a series of races the whole of which constitute a particular competition.
- 42. ROAD RACE**
A race on a roadway which is generally used for ordinary traffic and continuous in circuit.
- 43. SHORT CIRCUIT**
A race, other than a road race, on a continuous circuit which has a road, or road like surface.
- 44. MOTOCROSS**
A cross country race over a continuous course which presents irregularities in surface and terrain.
- 45. GRASSTRACK**
A race on a continuous grass circuit
- 46. SAND RACE**
A race on the seashore, either on a continuous circuit or from point to point.
- 47. HILL CLIMB**
A race from point to point, including the climbing of a steep gradient, between two or more competitors at a time or against the watch.
- 48. SPEED TRIAL**
A race from point to point on a good surface on approximately level ground and over measured distance between two or more competitors at a time or against the watch.
- 49. TRIAL**
A competition in which a number of drivers take part, endeavouring to fulfil prescribed conditions.
- 50. ENDURO**
A cross country event where the purpose of the competition is to test the reliability of the motorcycles and the skill of the participating drivers who must cover the entire distance under the prescribed conditions.

- 51. CERTIFIED TEST**
A test, the purpose of which is to obtain information as to the characteristics of a motorcycle, or accessory, or material used in connection with a motorcycle, or which is conducted in accordance with certain regulations which may be laid down by the authority conducting the tests.
- 52. RALLY**
A rally may either be competitive or social, that of a competitive nature taking place over various routes converging on a point fixed in advance and in which the average speed is limited; that of a social nature being organised with the object of assembling a number of tourists at a point fixed in advance.
- 53. COURSE**
The route to be followed in a competition.
- 54. ROAD INSPECTION**
The inspection, by a duly appointed panel, of a Road or Short Circuit course to determine whether it is in a fit state on which to hold competitions.
- 55. HANDICAP**
A method laid down having for its purpose the equalising, so far as is possible, the chances of competitors. A handicap may either be published or sealed.
- 56. SEALED HANDICAP**
A handicap which is not published to the competitors until such time as may be fixed by the Supplementary Regulations.
- 57. MILE AND KILOMETRE**
For all conversions between mile and kilometres the mile shall be taken as 1.60934 kilometres, and the kilometre shall be taken as 0.62137 miles.
- 58. START**
The start is the moment when the order to start is given to the driver or drivers in any competition.
- 59. CONTROL LINE**
A control line is a line by reference to which a motorcycle is timed or its performance in a competition is determined.
- 60. STARTING LINE**
A starting line is the first control line on a course.
- 61. FINISHING LINE**
A finishing line is the last control line on a course.
- 62. STARTS**
- (a) **FLYING START**
The start by one or more drivers when the speed up to the starting line is not controlled.

- (b) **ROLLING START**
The start made by one or more drivers when the speed to the starting line is regulated.
- (c) **STANDING START**
The start made when the motorcycle has been stationary, with the engine dead, until the order to start is given.
- (d) **CLUTCH START**
The start made when the motorcycle, with the engine running, has been stationary until the order to start is given.
When drivers in a competition are all started together it is known as a **MASS START** — when started singly it is known as an **INDIVIDUAL START**.
- 63. OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE**
The doing by any person, other than the driver, his passenger (if any) or an official in the course or performance of his duty, of any act involving contact with the vehicle.
- 64. RECORD**
A best result obtained under prescribed conditions.
- 65. WORLD RECORD**
A record for which the conditions were prescribed by the F.I.M..
- 66. NATIONAL RECORD**
A record for which the conditions were prescribed by the M.C.U.I..
- 67. HOLDER OF RECORD**
The driver or drivers of a motorcycle used in a successful attempt at record.
- 68. STEWARDS REPORT**
The report on a competition made to the authority granting the permit, and signed by the Stewards of the Meeting (see GCR No. 85)
- 69. PROTEST**
A formal statement of objection to an alleged irregularity on the part of any person concerned in a competition.
- 70. APPEAL**
A formal demand made to a higher tribunal for relief from the decision of a lower tribunal.
- 71. EXCLUSION**
The prohibition of a person or body of persons from taking part either in some particular capacity or in any capacity whatsoever in a certain competition, or the prohibition of a certain motorcycle, or of motorcycles of a certain make, or of a motorcycle accessory, from being driven or used in a specified competition.
Exclusion may be pronounced by a competent authority either before, during or after the competition.

72. SUSPENSION

The prohibition of a person, or body of persons, from taking part in any capacity whatsoever in certain competitions or the prohibition of a certain motorcycle, or of motorcycles of a certain make, or of a motorcycle accessory from being driven or used in certain competition.

73. DISQUALIFICATION

The loss for all time of any right to take part in any capacity whatsoever in any motorcycle, automobile, motoraquatic or aeronautic competition.

CHAPTER 3

OFFICIALS

74. THE GOVERNMENT OF COMPETITIONS IN GENERAL
Every competition shall be directed and carried out by certain officials whose duties are either supervisory or executive.

75. OFFICIALS
The officials responsible for the supervision of a competition are the Stewards of the Meeting. At a meeting there shall be from three to five Stewards of the Meeting, excepting that in the case of a Closed meeting there may be from one to five. Stewards may also be termed to be Jury Members in certain International events.

The Chief Executive at a competition is the Clerk of the Course under whose control come all the executive officials necessary to run the competition in a competent manner.
All executive officials may have assistants.

76. NOMINATION OF OFFICIALS
The M.C.U.I. or a Centre may nominate a majority of the Stewards at any meeting. At all meetings at least one of the Stewards shall be nominated by the M.C.U.I. or a Centre. All other officials shall be nominated by the promoters, subject to the approval of the authority issuing the permit.

77. QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR OFFICIALS
To be eligible to act in the capacity of Clerk of the Course of Steward at an event a person must hold an M.C.U.I. Officials Licence. An Officials Licence will be valid for three calendar years. To qualify for such a licence a person must have attained his/her 18th birthday and must attend an M.C.U.I. training seminar and successfully complete a written examination which will form part of the seminar. Participation in a seminar is obligatory at least once every three years. At least one training seminar shall be held annually.

Each Centre shall maintain a register of all persons to whom an Officials Licence has been issued and shall licence those members who comprise its Panel of Stewards. Other applications for an Officials licence shall only be accepted from an affiliated club/body which shall make application to its respective Centre on behalf of the official(s) it wishes to have licensed.

The timekeepers, scrutineers, travelling marshals, etc. shall, for Road Race and Short Circuit events and if possible for all other events, be selected from the approved panels. All other appointed officials shall be competent and experienced.

78. QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR SCRUTINEERS

To be eligible to act in the capacity of Scrutineer at an event, a person must hold an M.C.U.I. Scrutineer's Licence. This Licence will be valid for three calendar years.

To qualify for such a licence, a person must attend a training seminar.

Participation in a seminar is obligatory at least once every three years.

Each Centre shall hold at least one Scrutineer's Seminar each year.

(ICC Feb. 2000)

79. PLURAL APPOINTMENTS

At a meeting a person, other than a Steward of the Meeting, may be appointed to undertake several different duties, provided he/she is qualified therefore. A Steward of the Meeting shall not undertake any other duty, and an official shall not be eligible to enter or drive in that meeting.

80. RESTRICTION ON OFFICIALS

No official shall perform any duties other than those attached to his appointment or appointments. In addition to the duties and powers attached to his appointment, it is the duty of an official to report to the Clerk of the Course any irregularity which has come to his notice.

81. POWERS OF THE STEWARDS

The Stewards of the Meeting shall have no responsibility for the organisation of the meeting nor have any executive duty in connection therewith, but shall be in supreme supervisory control over the carrying out of the programme of the meeting in accordance with the Regulations. The Stewards are the only tribunal competent to adjudicate upon protests arising out of the meeting. They may give summary judgement on any protest which may arise, subject to the right of appeal, as is provided in these rules, or they may refer a protest for decision to the authority which granted the permit.

82. DUTIES OF THE STEWARDS

It is the duty of the Stewards of the Meeting to ensure that the meeting is carried out in accordance with the GCR and the applicable Supplementary Regulations, and to reprimand, fine or exclude from a competition or from the meeting any driver, or other person reported to them by the Clerk of the Course for misbehaviour or unfair practice, whom they find to be guilty. A person reprimanded or excluded may also be reported by them to the M.C.U.I. or a Centre for further disciplinary action.

83. EMERGENCY POWERS OF THE STEWARDS

The Stewards of the Meeting may, either on their own initiative, or on the request of the promoter or from the Clerk of the Course for urgent reasons of safety or other unavoidable necessity, postpone the start of a competition, modify the course, stop a competition prematurely or cancel the whole or part of a meeting.

No such decision of the Stewards shall be questioned or challenged by appeal or otherwise.

A heat of a race, or a race which has been prematurely stopped, may not be re-run unless provision has been made in the Supplementary Regulations for the competition for so doing.

84. MEETING OF STEWARDS

If, at any meeting of the Stewards, there is not a majority of Stewards present, those present shall appoint a temporary substitute or substitutes so as to bring the number to three.

85. STEWARDS' REPORT

The Stewards shall prepare and submit to the authority granting the permit a report within 14 days of the protests lodged, and any exclusions or decisions made, together with any remarks or any recommendations they may have as to future events.

86. POWERS OF THE CLERK OF THE COURSE

The Clerk of the Course may also be the Secretary of the Meeting and may have various assistants. He shall be responsible to the Stewards of the meeting and the promoter for the good management and conduct of a competition in accordance with the Supplementary Regulations and the Official Programme, and for the direction and control of all executive officials necessary for that purpose.

87. DUTIES OF THE CLERK OF THE COURSE

The Clerk of the Course shall control the drivers and shall prevent any driver or passenger excluded, suspended or disqualified or otherwise ineligible, from taking part in a competition.

He shall prohibit, from starting in a competition, any driver who has not qualified to start, such driver being classed as a "non-starter". He shall prohibit any driver or passenger from competing, or any motorcycle from being driven whom he considers is, or might be, a source of serious danger. If a driver commits an act or offence for which the penalty follows automatically, as specifically laid down in the Supplementary Regulations, the Clerk of the Course shall impose the penalty. He may also order the removal from the Course and its precincts of any person who refuses to obey the order of a responsible official. In both cases an immediate report must be made to the Stewards of the Meeting.

He shall report to the Stewards of the Meeting any driver, passenger or other person whom he considers guilty at the meeting of misbehaviour, unfair practice, or any failure to comply with the GCR or the applicable Supplementary Regulations.

The Clerk of the Course shall be responsible for the transmission to the Stewards of the Meeting, without undue delay, of any protests that may be made.

He shall collect the reports of the timekeepers and other executive officials, together with such other official information as may be necessary for the determination of the results.

He shall prepare and publish the provisional results of the meeting, and any final amendments, or arrange for the Secretary of the Meeting to do so.

88. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY OF THE MEETING

The Secretary of the Meeting shall be more particularly responsible for the organisation of the meeting insofar as the supply of all necessary documents, etc. is concerned, as well as for the transaction of official correspondence. He may act as the Secretary to the Stewards.

89. DUTIES OF STARTER AND JUDGE

The Clerk of the Course may undertake the duties of starter or judge, or he may instruct a timekeeper to so act, or an official or officials may be appointed for these duties. In the case of a handicap competition where the handicap is wholly or partly by time, the Starter shall be a timekeeper.

The use by the Starters, or by the Judge, of mechanical appliances for facilitating starting or for recording of finishes is permitted, provided such apparatus has first been approved by the M.C.U.I. or a Centre. No protests may be made against the decision of a Starter or Judge which shall be accepted as final unless corrected as hereinafter provided.

The Judges may perform one or both of the following duties:

- 1) Starting Judges whose duty is to point out any false starts to the Clerk of the Course immediately they occur.
- 2) Finishing Judges whose duty is to declare the order in which competitors cross the finishing line.

A mistake made by a Judge may be corrected by him with the approval of the Stewards of the Meeting.

90. DUTIES OF TIMEKEEPERS

The principal duties of the timekeepers shall be:

- (i) At the commencement of the meeting, report themselves to the Clerk of the Course, who shall give them the necessary instructions.
- (ii) If so required, to act as a Starter and/or Judge.
- (iii) To use for timekeeping only official approved apparatus.
- (iv) To record and report such times as are required by the conditions of competition as instructed by the Clerk of the Course.
- (v) To prepare and sign their reports, according to their individual responsibility, and to send them, together with all the necessary documents, to the Clerk of the Course.
- (vi) Not to communicate any official information to any other person except as they may be required to do so in the performance of their duties.

CHAPTER 4

ENTRANTS AND DRIVERS

91. NATIONAL COMPETITION LICENCE

Any person ordinarily resident within the territory of the M.C.U.I., as defined in the GCR, who wishes to qualify an entrant or driver in national competitions shall make application for a National Competition Licence to the appropriate Centre. Application forms for a Competition Licence may be obtained from an Affiliated Club.

Each application must be accompanied by the appropriate fee which shall be set annually by each Centre individually and two recent passport size photographs of the applicant, which must bear the applicant's signature on the reverse. Any application not fully completed, accompanied by the correct fee, or any other information a Centre may request the applicant to provide, will be returned to the applicant and a licence will not be issued until such times as the applicant furnishes the application properly completed.

Each Centre will maintain a register of all persons to whom National Competition Licences have been issued. Licences issued by the Motor Cycle Union of Ireland (Southern Centre) Ltd., shall be prefaced by the letters SC and those issued by the Motor Cycle Union of Ireland (Ulster Centre) Ltd., shall be prefaced by the letters UC.

A Centre **MUST NOT** issue a licence to an applicant who resides in an area which is under the control of another Centre.

A National Competition Licence enables the holder to take part in any OPEN event of the type for which the licence is valid (GCR 92)

The Centre which issues a licence shall have the right to restrict any licence for such purposes, events or type of events as it considers necessary, in which case an endorsement to this effect will be clearly written on the face of the licence by the Licence Registrar.

An applicant must sign, as part of the application, the following declaration:

I declare that the information I have given is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I agree to abide by the General Competition Rules and Standing Regulations of the M.C.U.I. and any further Rules and Regulations which the M.C.U.I. may subsequently introduce.

If the applicant is under 18 years of age the application must be countersigned by the Parent/Guardian of the applicant.

There are two categories of Competition Licences - Driver's Competition Licence (GCR 92) and Entrant's Competition Licence (GCR 93).

92. DRIVERS COMPETITION LICENCE

A Driver's Competition Licence entitles the holder to enter him/herself, and drive in, a National Competition but does not permit the nomination of any other licensed driver. An applicant for a Driver's Competition Licence must have the medical certificate, which forms part of the application, completed to certify that he/she is medically fit and capable of having full control of a motor cycle in a motorcycle competition (GCR 108).

A Licence will only be issued to an applicant over 60 years of age on the approval of the M.C.U.I. Medical Officers.

An applicant for a type 'D' Competition Licence shall not have to provide a medical certificate, as required by GCR 108. Exceptionally, the M.C.U.I. may require an applicant for a type 'D' licence to undergo a medical examination before a licence is issued.

There are four different types of Driver's Competition Licence:

TYPE 'A' entitles the holder to take part in any Open Road Race, the minimum age to be 18. A Type 'A' licence also enables the holder to take part in those events for which a Type 'B' or 'C' licence is required.

The general qualification for a Type 'A' licence shall be that a driver/passenger must have completed a MINIMUM of six Short Circuit meetings held over more than one venue, and have completed 80% of the full distance in a MINIMUM of two finals, and show a general competence in his/her riding ability.

A driver who qualifies in the 80cc, 125cc and 200cc will be issued with an 'A' licence restricted to Races up to 200cc for one calendar year.

A driver who qualifies in Vintage/Classic Bike races will be issued with an 'A' licence restricted to Vintage/Classic Bike Races Only.

All 'A' licences will be reviewed annually and may not be renewed if the holder has not attained 83% of the winner's time in his/her class in a minimum of THREE road races within the previous two years.

An 'A' licence holder must return his/her previous 'A' licence to the Licence Registrar when making application for the renewal of the licence.

Should the licence application be incomplete, or the application turned down, the application will be returned to the applicant by the Licence Registrar together with a note which will indicate the licence is refused for:

- (a) incorrect information
- (b) insufficient information
- (c) insufficient experience to date, etc.

TYPE 'B' entitles the holder to take part in any Open Short Circuit.

The minimum age to be 18 years with the following exceptions:-

15 years for events up to 125cc.

13 years on 1st. January each year for 125 cc Aprilla Challenge Series.

16 years on 1st. January each year for 250 cc Aprilla Challenge Series.

A holder of a Type 'B' licence wishing to upgrade his/her licence to a Type 'A' licence must have the record card issued with each licence completed by the timekeepers at the conclusion of each meeting and the onus of having it completed rests with the holder. A Type 'B' licence also enables the holder to take part in those events for which a Type 'C' licence is required but NOT in those events for which a Type 'A' licence is required.

(ICC Feb. 2000)

TYPE 'C' licence entitles the holder to take part in any Open Enduro, Grasstrack, Motocross or Trials event, the minimum age to be 16. A Type 'C' licence does NOT enable the holder to take part in those events for which a Type 'A' or Type 'B' licence is required.

TYPE 'D' licence entitles the holder to take part in any Open Trial; the event to which the licence applies shall be stated on the licence.

A Type 'D' licence does not enable the holder to take part in any event other than the Trial specified on the Licence. The minimum age shall be 16 years.

NOTE: The minimum age limit only applies for Trials and Enduros on condition that it does not contravene National Traffic Regulations.

The fee for a Type 'D' licence shall be 20% of the current annual fee for a Type 'C' licence.

Administration for Type 'D' Licence. The promoting Club shall ensure that a licence form is completed and signed by the applicant at the time of lodging their entry to the event. The Club will be responsible for returning a schedule of licences issued, and the proper fee to the Licence Registrar, within 7 days of the issue of the Licence.

93. ENTRANT'S COMPETITION LICENCE

An Entrant's Licence, which is denoted Type 'E', entitles the holder to enter a licensed driver in any National Competition but does not permit the holder to drive in any such competition unless he also holds a Driver's Competition Licence. A Medical Certificate is not required for this type of licence.

94. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION LICENCE

Any licensed National Entrant or Driver who has qualified as Entrant or Driver for International Competitions shall make formal application, through his Centre, to the M.C.U.I. for an International Competition Licence. An application should be with the Licence Registrar (Ulster Centre) or the Licence Registrar (Southern Centre) at the very latest 21 days before the date of the event for which the licence is required. Applications received after the time limit has expired will be subject to a surcharge of Stg. £25 or €37.50 up until 7 days prior to the event. If the application is made within 7 days of the event a

surcharge of Stg. £50 or €75 will be levied. (N.B. The “date of the event” and “the event” are taken as the first day of practice, when applicable).

The M.C.U.I. may grant an International Entrant’s or Driver’s Licence to such National Entrants or Drivers as it thinks fit. An International Licence may be granted for all international competitions of a certain type, or for one or more specified international competitions. These conditions shall be as stated on the licence. The age limits for international competition will be as stated in the latest version of the F.I.M. code. The general qualifications for each type of International Licence will be as follows:

MOTOCROSS AND TRIALS:

Licence issued on the approval of the Centre which granted the applicant’s National Licence.

SHORT CIRCUITS:

As the above, but subject to final ratification by the Management Council of the M.C.U.I.

ROAD RACES:

The issue of licences is at the discretion of the Road Race Committee of the relevant Centre. Drivers must have gained 30 points during the previous 2 seasons based on the following:

Road Races (Irish Championships) Short Circuit (Irish Championships)

1st-3rd on full race distance 15 pts	1st-3rd on full race distance 12 pts
4th-7th on full race distance 12 pts	4th-7th on full race distance 8 pts
8th-10th on full race distance 8 pts	8th-10th on full race distance 4 pts
11th-i 5th on full race distance 6 pts	Finisher on full race distance 2 pts
Finisher on full race distance 3 pts	

Sidecar Passengers must have competed in two Road Races.

Classic Riders: As above, but will be for International Classic races only.

All applications shall be reviewed each year and licence may not be renewed unless the applicant has attained the qualification necessary to hold the licence over the previous two years.

SUPER A/B LICENCE TO BE ISSUED FOR M.C.U.I. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS ONLY

These licences will be issued subject to the same conditions applicable to International Competition Licences and will be available only from the Centre Licence Registrars.

N.B. A Super A (Road Race / Short Circuit) and Super B (Off Road) Licence will only be available as an annual licence.

95. WITHDRAWAL OR REFUSAL OF ENTRANT'S OR DRIVER'S LICENCE

The M.C.U.I. may refuse to issue or may withdraw an Entrant's or Driver's licence, whether National or International, without stating a reason for such withdrawal or refusal but in such a case the applicant shall, on demand, be notified of such a refusal in writing and may then appeal against the refusal to the F.I.M. whose decision on whether or not a licence should be granted or returned shall be immediately operative.

96. AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION OF DRIVER'S COMPETITION LICENCE

Any driver/passenger receiving hospital attention and/or treatment for any injury or condition, whether hospitalised or not, which would impair his/her control of a competition motorcycle, and has not surrendered his/her licence within seven days, will be suspended for one month from the date of production by him/her of a medical certificate certifying that he/she is fit to compete. The penalty may be increased at the discretion of either the Centre or the M.C.U.I.

97. SURRENDER OF COMPETITION LICENCE ON MEDICAL GROUNDS

Any competitor, driver/passenger who has to return his/her competition licence having had hospital attention or treatment, whether hospitalised or not, which in medical opinion would impair his/her control of a competition motorcycle must return his/her licence in compliance with GCR 96 to the Liaison Officer for Surrendered Licences or the Licence Registrar.

98. PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF ENTRANT'S OR DRIVER'S LICENCE

All Entrant's and Driver's licences shall expire at the end of each calendar year.

99. PRODUCTION OF LICENCE

An Entrant or driver at an International or National meeting shall carry his/her licence, duly signed by him/her, and shall produce it on demand of an official of the meeting.

100. MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY OF ENTRANT AND DRIVER

An Entrant shall be responsible for all acts or omissions on the part of his/her drivers, mechanics or passengers, but each of these shall be equally responsible for any infraction of the rules contained in the GCR.

101. ASSUMED NAME

A person shall not take part in any competition under an assumed name unless special permission for the use of such assumed name has been granted by the M.C.U.I. In such cases a licence will be issued in the assumed name, if approved, on payment of an additional fee. The licensee, for so long as he/she is registered under an assumed name, shall not take part in any competition under any other name and shall not revert to the use of his/her own name until he/she has obtained permission and obtained a fresh licence in his/her own name.

102. CHANGE OF DRIVER, PASSENGER OR MOTORCYCLE

- (i) It is not permitted to change a driver, passenger, make or capacity of motorcycle after the start of any competition, unless such change is authorised in the Supplementary Regulations.
- (ii) Unless specifically prohibited or otherwise provided for in the Supplementary Regulations, a change of driver, passenger or the make or capacity of motorcycle may be considered by the Secretary of the Meeting after entries have been closed, provided the entrant notifies him in writing at least twenty-four hours before the official starting time of the competition of some good and sufficient reason why
 - (a) the entered driver or passenger is unable to take part in any competition on that date, or
 - (b) the entered motorcycle cannot produced on that date.
- (iii) If the composition of any team is affected by changes as authorised above, the entrant of that team or his/her representative may, up to the official starting time of the competition, replace the driver so affected by any other entered driver otherwise eligible for that team, including the driver substituted for the original entry, provided always that the Supplementary Regulations do not otherwise provide for alterations of the composition of nominated teams.
- (iv) A change of both driver and make of motorcycle is not permitted unless the authority granting the permit has specifically approved the Supplementary Regulations providing for such changes to be made.

103. HELMETS

At all competitions (including official practising therefore) in which speed is the determining factor, and at other competitions where it may be required by the authority granting the permit, a protective helmet of a design approved by the M.C.U.I. for racing shall be worn by each driver and passenger.

The Clerk of the Course, or his Deputy, or a person deputised by him, is empowered to impound any helmet considered to be of incorrect pattern, or to have become ineffective.

104. HELMET STAMP

An M.C.U.I. driver using a helmet which does not bear a current M.C.U.I. helmet stamp, or has been previously rejected by a helmet examiner or scrutineer, will receive a Mandatory penalty of 30 days suspension. The entire period to be within the racing season.

105. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

At all competitions (including the official practising therefore) in which high speed is a determining factor, and at other competitions where it may be required by the authority granting the permit, complete protective clothing including gloves, jacket or long sleeved jersey or other garment of a material of at least equivalent strength to a serge battledress blouse, breeches, knee-length boots without metal studs, or leather boots with a complete extension of leather, or M.C.U.I. approved detachable, shall be worn by each driver and passenger except that passengers may wear footwear of their own choice. The minimum standard of protective clothing as regards jackets shall be a serge battledress blouse. At competitions for racing on roadways or similar hard surfaces, the protective clothing shall invariably be of leather or M.C.U.I. approved substitute.

Goggles or protective glasses, if worn, must be of non-splinterable material.

Back Protectors: It is recommended that back protectors be worn inside the (leathers) by all solo drivers whilst taking part in races in Short Circuit and Closed Public Road events.

106. IRREGULAR ENTRIES OR ABSENTEES

Any driver who has entered or who has been nominated for a competition and does not drive therein, but drives or has been nominated to participate in another competition at another meeting on the same day shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions made in the GCR under "Penalties" unless he can justify his/her absence. In the case of International competition see the F.I.M. International Sporting Code.

107. MALINGERING

Any driver who, having entered in any competition, does not make a bona fide attempt to succeed, may be deemed to be guilty of a breach of the GCR.

108. MEDICAL, REQUIREMENTS FOR DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS

An applicant for a driver's licence must have the medical certificate which forms part of the application completed to certify that he/she is medically fit and capable of having full control of a motorcycle in a motorcycle competition. Any fee in respect of the medical shall be as determined by The M.C.U.I. from time to time. The requirements of the medical examination shall be as determined by the M.C.U.I. from time to time.

Notwithstanding the completion of the medical certificate on the licence application a Centre, or the M.C.U.I., may require an applicant to undergo a further medical examination with a doctor nominated by a Centre or M.C.U.I. before issuing a licence, or at any time after a licence has been issued. Furthermore, the promoter of any event may require a licenceholder to be examined by a doctor appointed by them and at the promoters expense at any time during a competition.

109. MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

Medical Certificates for a 3-year period are approved for Off Road Competition Licences, etc. Grasstrack, Motocross, Trials and Enduro events.

CHAPTER 5

THE ORGANISATION OF COMPETITIONS

110. SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITY

Every competition shall be held under the GCR and if an International competition, also under the International Sporting Code of the F.I.M.

Every person promoting, organising or taking part in a competition shall be deemed to be acquainted with the GCR, and with any Supplementary Regulations that may be applicable, and to have renounced the right to have recourse to any Court or Tribunal whatsoever other than is specifically provided for in the GCR.

111. UNAUTHORISED COMPETITIONS

The organisation for holding within the territorial jurisdiction of the M.C.U.I. of any motorcycle competition, otherwise than in conformity with the GCR, shall render every person connected therewith, or taking part therein, whether as promoter, entrant, driver, official, or otherwise, liable to the consequences and penalties provided in the GCR

If such a competition is included in a meeting for which a permit has been granted the permit shall be null and void, and the promoters shall return to the entrants all entry fees received for any competition at such meeting.

112. PROMOTION OF COMPETITIONS

Any of the following may act as promoters and hold any type of competition, subject to the approval, as necessary, of the M.C.U.I. and/or Centre concerned, and the issue of the appropriate type of permit:

The M.C.U.I.

A Centre of the M.C.U.I.

A body or club affiliated to a Centre

Permits for all events may be issued by the M.C.U.I. and/or Centre. The M.C.U.I. and/or Centre shall approve the date, course and Supplementary Regulations before issuing the permit.

An International Permit is issued by the F.I.M.

113. SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

For every competition there shall be drawn up special regulations, supplementary to the GCR and the Standing Regulations, known as the Supplementary Regulations. Each Supplementary Regulations shall be drawn up by the promoter of the competition and approved by the authority granting the permit.

No alteration shall be made to the Supplementary Regulations after the commencement of the period for receiving entries unless:

- (i) the approval of the authority granting the permit is first obtained.
- (ii) the Stewards of the Meeting decide that it is, in their opinion, essential for urgent reasons of safety, or necessity to make such alteration; no such decision of the Stewards of the Meeting shall be questioned or challenged by appeal or otherwise.

114. ANNOUNCEMENT ON OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

All Supplementary Regulations, programmes, announcements, entry forms or other official communications relating to any competition shall give a description of the competition, whether it is National, Restricted or Closed, and shall be conspicuously marked with the words Held under the General Competition Rules and Standing Regulations of the M.C.U.I. and the Centre concerned (if applicable). In the case of any documents relating to an international competition the words shall be Held under the International Sporting Code of the F.I.M., and the General Competition Rules and Standing Regulations of the M.C.U.I. and the Centre concerned (if applicable).

115. USE OF TITLES SUCH AS GRAND PRIX, CLASSIC, ETC

The use of these titles is reserved exclusively for such international competition as are so described in the International Calendar and may only be granted as the M.C.U.I. rules decide.

116. POSTPONEMENT OR ABANDONMENT OF A COMPETITION

A meeting or a competition forming part of a meeting shall not be postponed or abandoned unless provision for so doing has been made in the Supplementary Regulations, save as provided in GCR 83

In the event of abandonment, entry fees shall be returned unless otherwise laid down in the Supplementary Regulations. On being notified of the postponement of a competition entrants shall be given the opportunity of withdrawing their entries by an agreed date.

117. PROHIBITION OF BETTING

At any meeting held under the GCR public betting shall not be permitted.

118. MIXED MEETINGS

No event, other than a motorcycle competition, shall take place at a meeting held under the GCR without the consent of the authority granting the permit.

119. OVER-RIDING AUTHORITY OF THE MOTOR CYCLE UNION OF IRELAND

The M.C.U.I. shall have the right to declare any competition, the holding of which would, in the opinion of the M.C.U.I., be prejudicial to the interests of either the sport or the M.C.U.I., to be an unauthorised competition and also to veto any decision of a Centre promoter or body of promoters, club or association of clubs, and Steward or body of Stewards which, in the opinion of the M.C.U.I., would be prejudicial.

120. INSURANCE

The authority granting the permit for any competition shall require the promoters of that competition to be adequately insured against claims for damages arising out of the competition and to effect such other insurance as may be necessary.

121. NECESSARY PERMISSION AND APPROVAL

No competition shall be held without a permit having been granted, and approval signified as laid down in GCR 112. The M.C.U.I., or a Centre of the M.C.U.I., may decline to grant a permit, or may withdraw a permit granted, without assigning a reason.

122. APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

An application for a permit to organise a competition shall be made on the appropriate form, be accompanied by the fee laid down, and be accompanied by a draft of the proposed Supplementary Regulations and Entry Form.

123. ENTRIES

A permit having been granted, the promoters may invite and receive entries. Entries shall be made in writing on the proper form supplied by the promoters, which shall provide for a statement of the name and address of the Entrant and Driver, if nominated, and of their licence numbers. Every entry form shall be signed by the Entrant (if any) and shall be signed personally by the driver, accepting the conditions and regulations of the competition, and agreeing to be bound thereby, and the OCR.

Every Entrant, driver and passenger shall sign, as part of the entry form, the agreed form of disclaimer.

Every entry of a driver in an International competition is subject to the approval of the M.C.U.I. and for International competitions held outside the jurisdiction of the M.C.U.I. entry forms must be endorsed by the M.C.U.I.

- 124. ENTRY FEE**
Any entry not accompanied by the entry fee, if any, shall be null and void.
- 125. STATEMENT OF LICENCE NUMBERS**
For any competition any entry that does not state the Entrant's and driver's licence numbers shall be null and void.
- 126. ANNOUNCEMENT**
Every entry form or invitation to enter sent out by the promoters shall be accompanied by the Supplementary Regulations of the competition which shall contain an announcement of all the information required to be furnished under GCR 122, as approved by the authority issuing the permit.
- 127. ENTRY MADE BY TELEGRAM, TELEX OR FACSIMILE**
Entries, with the appropriate fees, may be made by telegram and Telegraphic Money order provided they are received before the time fixed for the closing of entries, but such entries shall be confirmed by a duly authorized entry form dispatched on the same date as the telegram.
- 128. TIME LIMIT FOR ENTRIES**
Entries for National road races shall close not later than 14 days before the published date of the competition.
- 129. ENTRY CONTAINING A FALSE STATEMENT**
An entry which contains any false statement shall be considered null and void. The entrant may be deemed to be guilty of breach of the GCR and the entry fee may be forfeited. The matter shall be referred to the authority granting the permit for further action.
- 130. ACCEPTANCES**
If the number of entries received shall exceed the maximum number laid down in the Supplementary Regulation those to be accepted shall be chosen either in order of receipt, or by ballot, or by some other method laid down in the Supplementary Regulations and approved by the authority granting the permit. Promoters must, at the earliest opportunity, notify entrants and drivers of the definite position with regard to entries. Entrants and drivers offered reserve positions may withdraw their entries provided they notify, in writing, the promoter 48 hours after having received notification of being placed on the reserve.
A notice posted to an entrant or driver shall be deemed to have been received 24 hours after the time of posting (such 24 hours to exclude Sundays and Public Holidays). In such circumstances GCR 106 shall not apply.
- 131. NOMINATION OF RESERVE**
Should any entrant be eliminated in accordance with GCR 130 he may be accepted as a reserve if the Supplementary Regulations so provide. Such entrant shall signify his acceptance of being so classified within the time limit laid down in the Supplementary Regulations.

132. UNAUTHORISED ENTRIES

The promoters shall not enter a driver in respect of whom they have not received a duly authorised entry form.

133. REFUSAL OF ENTRIES

The promoters of a competition may, without assigning any reasons, refuse to accept any entry, providing that notification of such refusal is given, in writing, so as to reach the entrant as soon as possible, and in any case at the latest seven days after the closing of entries, such seven days to exclude Sundays and Public Holidays.

In the case of a series of events, the results of which constitute a Championship, an entry may only be refused with the permission of the Centre issuing the permit.

134. OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

For all meetings, excluding “closed” meetings, the promoter shall publish a programme, a copy of which shall be sent to the authority granting the permit. The programme shall be prominently marked on the outside page OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

The Official Programme shall contain the following information:

- (i) A statement as to the type of meeting and that it held under the GCR and Standing Regulations of the M.C.U.I. and Centre concerned (if applicable).
- (ii) The permit number.
- (iii) The names of the principal officials of the meeting.
- (iv) The time, place and list of events.
- (v) The names of entrants and drivers, their machines and numbers, together with licence numbers, if applicable.

In the case of a closed competition an official programme, or list of entries, shall be published. A copy of the programme or list of entries shall be sent to the authority granting the permit, and shall be issued to each official and driver, or posted up, so that it may be read by each official or driver prior to the commencement.

135. NATIONAL ENTRANT’S LICENCE/PROGRAMME

Any club promoting a National event will not be permitted to have an MCUI entrant’s name in the programme unless that entrant holds a current Entrant’s licence. If this rule is broken then a fine of £25 or €37.50 will be imposed on the club for each name appearing.

(Licence Registrar of each Centre to monitor and advise the Treasurer of the Centre involved).

136. INTERNATIONAL ENTRANT’S LICENCE/PROGRAMME

Any club promoting an International event will not be permitted to have an M.C.U.I. Entrant’s name in the programme unless that entrant holds a current F.I.M. International Entrant’s Licence. If this rule is broken, then a fine of £100 or €150 will be imposed on the club for each name appearing. (Union Secretary to monitor and advise the Union Treasurer).

137. ASSUMED NAME IN PROGRAMME

Any assumed name, if duly registered, shall be indicated in the official programme between inverted commas (“...”)

138. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

On the conclusion of an International or National competition the promoter shall, as soon as practicable, send a copy of the detailed provisional results to any entrant, on request. The results of a National competition shall be published by the promoter no later than 14 days after the competition has concluded.

CHAPTER 6

MOTORCYCLES

139. ENGINE CAPACITIES

Engine capacities shall be as follows:

- (a) 200cc Class over 129cc to 200cc
The oversized 125cc machines permitted will be up to and including 1994 models. This applies to both engine and frame. This will be reviewed every two years, if necessary.
- (b) All 200cc machines must be registered at the beginning of the season with the person appointed as a Technical Steward to police the class.
- (c) 350cc Class: Over 325cc and up to 350cc.
- (d) Solos: For 3 and 4 cylinder machines the upper limit will be 10 10cc and for twin cylinder machines the upper limit will be 1000cc.
For Classic motorcycles the maximum is 1000cc regardless of the number of cylinders, and sidecar machines 1300cc.
- (e) Drag Racing machines are unlimited.

140. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Every motorcycle which takes part in a competition on a public road, other than when a road is closed to traffic by virtue of a Road Closing Order, shall comply with all legal requirements.

141. FINAL EXAMINATION OF MACHINES

Every motorcycle finishing in a competition must, if so required, be submitted for final examination and any motorcycle may be retained by the promoters for such period as may be necessary for its examination; such period shall not be unreasonable.

142. MEASUREMENT OF MACHINES

Where it may be necessary for promoters to verify any fact that this shall be done at the cost of the driver. If the measurement is to determine a protest, the party against whom the decision is made shall bear the costs and the motorcycle may, if the engine is found to be oversized, be retained by the promoters until such costs are paid.

143. ADVERTISING

Advertising may be displayed on a motorcycle and on the driver's/passenger's clothing and helmet in any competition held under the permit of the M.C.U.I. or a Centre of the M.C.U.I., subject to the following conditions:

- (a) No advertisement shall be displayed within three inches (75mm) of any number plate or number plate panel

- (b) No advertisement shall be displayed on a driver's/passenger's clothing below the knee.
- (c) The name of the motorcycle and/or sidecar and /or the name of the driver will not be regarded as advertising.
- (d) Notwithstanding the above conditions, the promoters of any competition may, at their sole discretion, prohibit the display of any advertisement or any particular advertisement on a motorcycle, or on the clothing or helmet of any driver or passenger.
- (e) Where advertising, or any particular advertisement, is prohibited all drivers must be notified at least seven days before the date of the meeting.

NOTE: Advertising at International Competitions must be in accordance with the International Sporting Code.

144. FALSE ADVERTISEMENTS

Any entrant or firm advertising the results of a competition or record attempt shall state the exact conditions of the performance referred to, the nature of the competition, the category and class of the motorcycle where applicable, the make of the engine (if not the maker's own construction) and the position obtained in its category and class.

Any infraction of this rule, whether by way of omission from, or addition to, the particulars required to be stated or otherwise, shall render the person or body by whose authority or on whose behalf the advertisement is published or issued, liable to the penalties provided in GCR 178 and 182. This rule shall apply also to any advertisement in connection with any tour or test not officially observed.

145. BRAKES

All motorcycles in Category A taking part in any competition must be equipped with one efficient brake operating on each wheel and operated independently/

146. DANGEROUS CONSTRUCTION

The Clerk of the Course may exclude any motorcycle, the construction or condition of which he deems to be dangerous.

147. MODIFICATIONS

Modifications made to a competition motorcycle due to competitor's disability or injury must be agreed by the Centre concerned. A Certificate of Suitability acceptable to both Centres must be issued.

Any modifications suggested or made to a machine must be advised to the relevant bodies in reasonable time.

148. POSITIONS OF DRIVER AND PASSENGER

During a race drivers should adopt a position with their feet on the footrests. If a driver adopts any other position, and this is deemed to be dangerous, he must be excluded by the Clerk of the Course. The footrests on a motorcycle must not be fixed above a line joining the centres of the two road wheels. During a race the passenger, if any, must be effectively and continuously carried on the vehicle in the place provided for him. He may, however, leave his seat when starting, or on bends of the course, and when the motorcycle is stationary.

The penalty for a breach of this rule is exclusion.

CHAPTER 7

STARTS AND HEATS

149. METHODS OF STARTING

There shall be only two methods of starting:

- (a) The Standing Start (b) The Clutch Start

The method of starting must be stated in the Supplementary Regulations, or in the programme.

150. ORDER OF STARTING

Drivers may be started individually, in groups or all together. With the individual or group type of start each driver, or group of drivers, starts in succession from the same position immediately behind the starting line and in such numbers and at such intervals as may have been laid down in the Supplementary Regulations.

With the massed type of start all drivers start together from positions that have been assigned to them behind the starting line, but it shall be assumed that they have started from the starting line what the position from which they actually started. Where practicable, the positions in a massed start shall be based on practice times so that the fastest competitors take the front positions on a grid. Otherwise the positions shall be decided by lot or as may be prescribed in the Supplementary Regulations.

151. STARTERS ORDERS

Only those drivers in the starting area, or on a grid, are deemed to come under Starter's Orders. No other driver is subsequently permitted to start in a race.

152. NON-STARTER

Any driver not coming under Starter's Orders shall be deemed a non-starter. Any driver will be considered as having started if under Starter's Orders at the start.

153. FALSE START

A false start occurs when, before the start, a driver under Starter's Orders moves forward from his prescribed position.

154. PENALTY FOR FALSE START

In the case of a massed start, the driver concerned shall be penalised by the addition of one minute to the time taken by him to complete the course.

In any case, where the Supplementary Regulations provide, the Clerk of the Course shall have the power to increase the amount of the above mentioned penalty, or to impose other penalties within the limits prescribed in such Supplementary Regulations.

Where applicable, any such penalty shall immediately be notified to the depot or the representative of the driver concerned.

155. HEATS

Races may be arranged in heats and the make-up of heats shall be published in the programme. The qualification to start in a final, if any, must be stated in the Supplementary Regulations and only those drivers qualifying as finishers in the heats shall be eligible to take part in the final.

156. CONSOLIDATION OF HEATS

The Clerk of the Course may merge heats if the number of starters are not available, or any other conditions so warrant.

157. DEAD HEATS

In the case of a dead heat the drivers tying for a place shall divide amongst themselves any prize, or prizes, attributable to their placing. When two or more drivers have tied for a place, the next driver to finish shall be placed according to the numerical order of finishers, e.g. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, etc. OR 1st, joint 2nd, 4th, joint 5th, 7th, etc.

158. PUNCTUALITY IN STARTING

All meetings must commence punctually at the published time and the time of start of each event, if published, must be adhered to as nearly as possible, and in no case be anticipated.

CHAPTER 8

COURSES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

159. COURSES

The use of any road, short circuit, or land used for a competition shall be subject to the approval of the authority issuing the permit. Any road, or short circuit, shall be inspected by the Roads Inspection Committee and the decision of the Committee shall be final. The M.C.U.I., or the authority issuing the permit may inspect any course to be used for a competition.

160. PERMISSION OF CENTRE

No Centre or Club shall apply for a permit to promote a competition, the course for which lies within the territory of another Centre.

161. PERMISSION OF CENTRE

No competition shall be promoted on either a public or private road or elsewhere until such permission as may legally be necessary is first obtained from the appropriate public authorities, or private individuals as the case may be. Failure to do so shall render the permit for the meeting null and void.

162. MEASUREMENTS OF DISTANCES ON THE ROAD

These distances shall, up to 3 miles 188 yards (5 kilometres), be measured along the center line of the road, by a duly qualified person, if over this distance they shall be determined by means of the Ordnance Survey map of a scale of not less than 2.5 inches to 1 mile.

163. COURSE INSPECTION

Each road and short circuit course for which an application is made on which to promote a competition shall be inspected by the officially appointed Road Inspection Committee. The general condition as to the safety of the public, the suitability of the course, the number of starters permitted, and any other such requirements as are deemed necessary shall be within the terms and references of the Committee. The Committee shall issue a Track Certificate setting out the conditions under which the events may be organized over the course. A copy of this certificate shall be made available to the authority issuing the permit, and to each organizer wishing to promote an event over the course.

164. GRASS TRACK, MOTO CROSS, ETC.

The M.C.U.I., or the authority issuing the permit reserve the right to inspect, any Track, Moto Cross (Scramble) etc. The minimum width of a grass track course shall be 25 feet, and the number of starters determined by the width divided by three feet. The number of three wheelers shall be 50% of that permitted for solos.

165. Deleted

(ICC Feb. 2000)

166. NUMBER OF DRIVERS PERMITTED ON ROAD COURSES

The maximum number of drivers permitted in any one solo race on a road course shall be calculated on the basis of one driver for every 40 inches of the width of the course at its narrowest point, multiplied by one driver for every 5/8 of a mile of the length of the course. If group starts are to be used the Road Inspection Committee may increase the number of starters agreed by the aforementioned formula by a maximum of 30%. For three wheel races the number shall be calculated on the basis of 80 inches of the width of the track at its narrowest point, or 50% of the number permitted for solo races.

167. NUMBER OF DRIVERS PERMITTED ON SHORT CIRCUITS

The F.I.M. formula to be used as follows:

$$N = \frac{\sqrt{5600 \times L \times B}}{V}$$

N= Maximum number of Solos allowed
L=Length of circuit in Kms
B=Minimum width in metres
V=Average speed of winner in Km/H

Using this formula the number of starters at the following circuits may be:

Aghadowey	—	25	maximum
Bishopscourt	—	36	maximum
Kirkistown	—	30	maximum
Mondello	—	31	maximum
Nutts Corner	—	23	maximum

168. PROTECTION OF SPECTATORS

At all events promoters must make adequate arrangements for the protection of spectators.

Each Centre shall lay down specific instructions for various types of meetings.

169. POSITIONS OF SPECTATORS

The positions of spectators at all forms of racing must always be chosen with due regard to public safety.

170. POSITION OF PADDOCK

There must be a suitable paddock for the use of competitors.

171. TRADE AREAS

Designated areas to be set up in the paddock at all events.

172. MACHINES – START

All machines must be pushed to the assembly paddock for the start of practice or racing.

173. MACHINES - END

All machines returning to the paddock must be stopped at the gate, riders to dismount and push machines.

174. MACHINES

Machines must only be started in designated areas provided.

175. WARNING AND PROHIBITION NOTICES

At all meetings at which the public have access, notices worded as follows, warning the public that a motor competition is in progress or prohibiting the public from certain areas, shall be prominently displayed wherever applicable.

WARNING NOTICE

NOTICE
WARNING TO PUBLIC
MOTOR RACING IS DANGEROUS
and spectators attending at
this meeting do so
ENTIRELY AT THEIR OWN RISK

PROHIBITION NOTICE

NOTICE
PROHIBITED AREA
the public are not permitted
in this area

WARNING
the public must not go beyond this notice

176. ANIMALS AT EVENTS

Promoters must take all reasonable steps to ensure that there are no unleashed dogs at a circuit, or within the Paddock area.

177. ADMISSION TO SPEED EVENTS

At all meetings to which the public is invited, admission if controlled, must be by ticket. Every ticket issued must bear the following disclaimer which must not be defaced on cancellation of the ticket.

WARNING
MOTOR RACING IS DANGEROUS
AND PERSONS ATTENDING THIS MEETING
DO SO
ENTIRELY AT THEIR OWN RISK

“It is a condition of admission that all persons having any connection with the promotion and/or organisation and/or conduct of the meeting, including the owners of the land, and the drivers and owners of the vehicles, are absolved from all liability arising out of accidents howsoever caused resulting in damage and/or personal injury to spectators.”

All official passes must also bear the disclaimer, and every official armband issued. Official programmes must contain the disclaimer.

CHAPTER 9

PENALTIES

178. BREACH OF RULES

Any of the following offences, in addition to other offences specifically referred to previously or hereafter, shall be deemed to be a breach of the GCR.

- i) Bribery or attempt, directly or indirectly, to bribe any person having official duties in relation to a competition, or employed in any manner in connection with a competition, or the acceptance of, or offer to accept, a bribe by such official or employee.
- ii) Any attempt to influence any official in the course of his duty.
- iii) Any action having its object the entry of participation in a competition of a person or motorcycle known to be ineligible therefore.
- iv) Any fraudulent act or proceeding in connection with a competition or the sport of motorcycling generally.
- v) Competing for, accepting or offering to accept, or advertising an award in the nature of a title or championship in respect of motorcycling competition, unless such award is recognized by the M.C.U.I.
- vi) Any proceeding or act prejudicial to the interest of the M.C.U.I., or a Centre, or the sport of motorcycling generally.

179. PENALTIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN AN UNAUTHORISED COMPETITION

Any person or body who shall promote, enter for, drive in, officiate at, or in any manner whatsoever take part in, or advertise, or obtain publicity from the results of a competition not organized or held in accordance in all respects with the GCR, or who shall become disqualified or suspended by the governing body of any sport recognized by the F.I.M., shall be disqualified or suspended.

Provided that when the prescribed competition has been, or is to be, held outside the jurisdiction of the M.C.U.I., the M.C.U.I. and the other F.M.N. concerned shall agree as to the penalty and, should they fail to agree, the question shall be referred to the F.I.M. whose decision shall be final.

180. PENALTIES

Any person, or body of persons, official, entrant, driver, passenger, or any other person committing a breach of the International Sporting Code, or of the appendices thereto, or of the General Competition Rules of the M.C.U.I., or any appendices thereto, or of any Supplementary Regulations, or any official instructions or of any conditions attached to the permit issued for a meeting, may be penalised as hereinafter provided.

181. IMMEDIATE EFFECT OF PENALTIES

Any penalty inflicted in accordance with the GCR shall take effect immediately unless otherwise ordered by the court.

182. IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES

The penalties which may be inflicted are as follows:

- (i) Reprimand
- (ii) Fine
- (iii) Exclusion (GCR 186)
- (iv) Suspension
- (v) Disqualification

The M.C.U.I. may also sentence any person, or body of persons, to be deprived of any rights or privileges. Before imposing the penalty not provided for in the Supplementary Regulations, the Stewards of the Meeting, or a Centre of the M.C.U.I., as the case may be shall summon the parties concerned before them. Such summons shall either be delivered personally, or in appropriate cases by registered post, to the appropriate address (GCR 228). The procedure at any hearing by the Stewards of the Meeting, of the M.C.U.I. acting as a Court of first instance, shall be in accordance with GCR 209.

The procedure at any hearing of any appeal, by a Centre, or the M.C.U.I. shall be in accordance with GCR 209.

183. SENTENCE TO A REPRIMAND OR FINE

A reprimand, or fine, may be imposed by the Stewards of the Meeting, a Centre, or the M.C.U.I., on any Club, Official, Entrant, Driver, Assistant, Mechanic or Passenger, who does not comply with the requirements of the Supplementary Regulations, or of the Official Instructions. A fine imposed by the Stewards of the Meeting shall be limited to a maximum of £100 or €150

184. LIABILITY TO PAY FINE

An entrant shall, if called upon, be responsible for the payment of any fine inflicted on his drivers, assistants, or passengers, and in such circumstances, in the event of non-payment, may be suspended under GCR 185, equally and simultaneously with the person on whom the fine has been inflicted.

185. TIME LIMIT FOR PAYMENT OF FINES

Fines shall be paid within 5 days of their being ordered. Any delay in making payment shall entail suspension for the period during which the fine remains unpaid.

186. EXCLUSION

Exclusion shall mean the prohibition of a person, or body of persons, from taking part either in some particular capacity, or in any capacity whatsoever, in a certain competition or meeting, or the prohibition of a certain motorcycle, or motorcycles of a certain make, or of a motorcycle accessory, from being driven, or used, in a specified competition or meeting.

187. SENTENCE OF EXCLUSION

A sentence of exclusion may be pronounced by the Clerk of the Course, or by the Stewards of the Meeting, and may be made retrospective in operation.

188. SUSPENSION

Suspension shall mean the prohibition for a definite period or sine die, of a person, or body of persons, or of a certain motorcycle, or of motorcycles of a certain make, or of a motorcycle accessory, from taking part in any capacity, or being driven or used, as the case may be, in motorcycle competitions within certain territories, according to whether the suspension is International, National or Local.

189. SENTENCE OF SUSPENSION

- a) International suspension may be pronounced only by the M.C.U.I., and is subject to confirmation by the F.I.M.
- b) National suspension may be pronounced by the M.C.U.I., or a Centre.
- c) Local suspension may be pronounced by the M.C.U.I., or a Centre.

190. EFFECT OF SUSPENSION

- a) A person, or body of persons, suspended Internationally or Nationally shall, during the period of suspension, thereby forfeit the rights to:
 - i) Hold any M.C.U.I. licence, be granted a permit, and/or
 - ii) Hold any official appointment in connection with the F.I.A., the F.I.M., the M.C.U.I, or any Centre or Club of the M.C.U.I., or in connection with any meeting or competition, and/or
 - iii) Be registered as a member of a club for competition purposes or otherwise.
- (b) International suspension shall entail the loss of the right to take part in any capacity whatsoever in any competition held within the territory of any country in which the authority of the F.I.M. is recognised. Such suspension also involves a similar prohibition from taking part in automobile, motor-aquatic and aeronautic competitions.
- (c) National suspension shall entail the loss of the right to take part in any capacity whatsoever in any competition held within the territory of the M.C.U.I.
- (d) Local suspension shall entail the loss of the right to take part in any capacity whatsoever in any closed, or restricted competition within the territory of the Centre imposing the sentence.
- (e) A sentence of suspension shall render void any entry made for any competition which may take part during the term of such suspension, and in which the suspended person has lost the right to take part, and the promoter shall retain any fee for such entry.
- (f) A sentence of suspension may be retrospective, to a date not earlier than the commitment of the offence, or may be suspended in its operation for a specified period.

191. DISQUALIFICATION

Disqualification shall mean the loss for all time of any right to take part in any capacity whatsoever in any motorcycle, automobile, motoraquatic or aeronautic competition.

192. SENTENCE OF DISQUALIFICATION

A sentence of disqualification may be pronounced only by the M.C.U.I., and confirmed by the F.I.M., on any person or body of persons, or on one or more motorcycles or accessories thereto. The rights lost under a sentence of disqualification can only be restored by the F.I.M.

193. EFFECT OF DISQUALIFICATION

A sentence of disqualification shall always have International effect and may be retrospective to a date not earlier than the committance of the offence. It shall render void any previous entry by the person disqualified and the promoter shall retain any fee paid for such entry

194. NOTIFICATION OF SUSPENSION OR DISQUALIFICATION

Suspension, if International, and disqualification will be notified by the F.I.M. to all other constituent associations of the F.I.M. and to the recognised International Sporting Federations governing automobile, motor aquatic and aeronautic competitions. Any sentence of suspension pronounced by a Centre shall be notified to the M.C.U.I. immediately.

All sentences of suspension or disqualification shall be published by the M.C.U.I. from time to time.

195. WITHDRAWAL OF A LICENCE

Every Internationally or Nationally suspended entrant, driver or passenger, if a licenced person, shall hand over his/her licence, or licences, to the M.C.U.I which will not return the licence, or licences, to the holder until the term of the suspension has expired.

Delay in handing in a licence shall automatically result in the extension of the suspension for a period equal to the delay.

196. SUSPENSION OR DISQUALIFICATION OF A MOTORCYCLE

A sentence of suspension or disqualification may be pronounced on either a particular motorcycle, or accessory, or a make of motorcycle, or accessory, provided that a make of motorcycle, or accessory, shall not be penalized until it has been proved to the satisfaction of the M.C.U.I. that the offence in question was committed by, or with the connivance, or at the instigation of the manufacturer or his agent.

197. LOSS OF AWARD

Any entrant, driver or passenger who is excluded, suspended, or disqualified in any competition shall thereby forfeit all right to any award in that competition.

198. AMENDMENT OF AWARDS

In such cases as provided in GCR 197, the Clerk of the Course shall publish the resulting amendment in the placings and awards, and the Stewards of the Meeting shall decide whether any of the remaining drivers shall be advanced.

199. PUBLICATION OF PENALTY

The F.I.M. or the M.C.U.I., or a Centre, shall have the right to publish, or cause to be published, a notice stating that it has penalized any person, body of persons, Motorcycle, make of motorcycle, or motorcycle accessory.

The party, or parties, referred to in such notices shall have no right or action against the F.I.M., the M.C.U.I., or a Centre, or against any person publishing the said notices.

200. REMISSION OF SENTENCE

The M.C.U.I. shall have the power to remit the unexpired term of a sentence of National suspension. A Centre of the M.C.U.I. shall have the power to remit the unexpired term of a sentence of local suspension which it has imposed.

Only the F.I.M. has the right to remit the unexpired period of an International suspension, and to remove a sentence of disqualification.

CHAPTER 10

DISPUTES, COMPLAINTS DISCIPLINARY MATTERS AND PROTESTS

201. JURISDICTION OF THE M.C.U.I.

Except as provided in GCR6, 82, 83, 182 and 202, and by the Rules as to Appeals hereinafter contained, all offences against the GCR, all disputes, complaints, and disciplinary matters, relating to the sport of motorcycling, and all cases of conduct prejudicial to the sport of motorcycling, and all cases of conduct prejudicial to the interests of the sport shall be adjudicated upon by a Court appointed by the M.C.U.I. For the purposes of this rule the M.C.U.I. shall mean the Management Council of the M.C.U.I.

202. JURISDICTION OF CENTRE

Court appointed by a Centre consisting of not more than six persons, and not less than three persons shall adjudicate upon any dispute, complaint, or disciplinary matter arising between, or relating to any Club, or any member or any members comprising that Centre.

The maximum penalties which may be imposed by such Court are:

- (a) A reprimand
- (b) A fine not exceeding £200 or €300
- (c) Local suspension
- (d) National suspension, subject to confirmation by the M.C.U.I.

203. JURISDICTION OF STEWARDS

Subject to the provisions as to Appeals hereinafter contained, and to GCR 87, 106, 130, 133, 143, 182 and 213, the Stewards of the Meeting shall have exclusive jurisdiction to adjudicate upon any matter falling within GCR 83, any matter reported to them pursuant to GCR 87, and any protest arising out of the meeting.

204. RIGHT OF PROTEST

- (a) The right of protest lies solely with any entrant or driver who may consider himself aggrieved by any circumstance connected with any competition in which he is, or has been taking part.
- (b) Nothing in this Rule shall affect or prejudice the right and duty of an official, acting in his official capacity, to take such action as he may deem proper in any circumstances regardless of whether a protest has been lodged.

205. LODGING A PROTEST

Every protest shall be in writing, signed by the entrant, or driver, making the protest, clearly specifying the matter protested against, which shall refer to a single subject only, and be accompanied by a fee of £25 or €37.50. The protest fee will only be returned if the protest shall be held to be justified, or upon a direction by the Stewards of the Meeting, a Centre, or the M.C.U.I.

206. TO WHOM ADDRESSED

During a meeting, protests shall be handed to the Clerk of the Course, or his representative, for transmission to the Stewards of the Meeting.

At all other times, protests shall be addressed to the Secretary of the Meeting, for transmission to the Stewards of the Meeting.

207. TIME LIMIT FOR PROTESTS

- a) A protest as to the validity of entry, eligibility of entrant, or driver, or vehicle, shall be lodged at least twenty-four hours before the start of any National Competition, and before the start of any other competition, save when the conditions under which the competition is held render this impracticable. In such circumstances, the protest shall be made with the minimum of delay, and at least within half an hour of the conclusion of the Competition.
- b) A protest against a decision of a scrutineer or of an official measurement, shall be lodged immediately after the decision.
- c) A protest against any mistake, or irregularity, alleged to have occurred during the course of a race must be made within thirty minutes of the finish of the race. No protest lodged after this time shall be considered, except with the special permission of the Stewards of the Meeting who, before admitting the protest, must be satisfied that there has been no unnecessary delay on the part of the protester.
- d) A protest concerning the results of a competition, and any matter not referred to above, shall be lodged within three days of the publication of the detailed results unless for any special reason, of which the Stewards of the Meeting shall be sole judges, it could not have been lodged within that time. Proof of publication of the results to be furnished by the promoters, if necessary.
- e) The hearing of a protest shall take place as soon as possible after the lodging of the protest.

208. ADJUDICATION OF PROTESTS

Any protest arising out of a meeting shall be adjudicated upon by the Stewards of the Meeting, subject to the rights of Appeal provided by the GCR. The decision of the Stewards of the Meeting upon any protest shall be by a majority of the Stewards present at the hearing, including the Chairman, who shall be the Steward, or one of the Stewards, appointed by the authority issuing the permit. In the case of equality of votes among the Stewards of the Meeting, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

209. PROCEDURE

In exercising their respective jurisdiction under GCR 202 and 203, the Courts therein referred to shall in all cases observe the following principles of procedure:

- (a) Any person, or body of persons, against whom any complaint or charge is made in any such proceedings shall be given reasonable, sufficient and timely notice specifying the nature of the complaint or charge.
- (b) All parties concerned must be given adequate notice of the hearing; such notice may be delivered personally, or sent by registered post in accordance with GCR 228.
- (c) The parties may conduct their own case personally, or may be represented by Solicitor, or Counsel, or by any other person allowed, by leave of the Court, to appear on their behalf, provided that reasonable notice to that effect has been given to the Court, and to the other parties involved.
- (d) The parties shall be allowed to be present throughout the proceedings, except while the Court is considering its decision.
- (e) The parties shall be entitled to call witnesses and they, and their witnesses shall be given an opportunity of being heard. Witnesses shall be excluded from the proceedings until called upon to give evidence and may be required to remain in Court after giving evidence.
- (f) In the absence of any party, or parties, of his or their witnesses, judgement may go by default. Before giving a decision by default the Court shall satisfy itself that the party, or parties concerned, is aware of the time, date, and the place of hearing, or has been summoned to appear by a notice delivered personally, or sent by registered post, in accordance with GCR228.
- (g) Provided the parties concerned have declared, in writing, that they do not intend to appear in person before the Court, then the Court may deal with the matter either at a formal hearing, or in such manner as the Court may deem convenient.
- h) The Court may, when giving judgement, make such order as to the return or forfeiture of the protest fee and as to costs, as it may think fit, but any order as to costs awarded by the Stewards of the Meeting, or by a Court appointed by a Centre, shall be subject to confirmation by the M.C.U.I.
- i) The Court shall cause to be made a summary of all proceedings and a record of all decisions. In the case of proceedings before the Stewards of the Meetings, the Secretary of the Meeting shall retain such summaries and records for six months during which time, if so required, he shall forward them to the Centre concerned, or the M.C.U.I.

- j) Except as provided by (c), (d) and (e) above (GCR 209), the proceedings shall be in private, and no person shall be entitled to be present except with the permission of the Court.
- k) Any person who has taken part in the decision of the awards in any event, or the decision of a protest or appeal, or who has taken part as a competitor in the event, shall not subsequently adjudicate upon any further protest or appeal hearing on the same case.

210. WITHHOLDING OF AWARD

An award gained by an entrant, or driver, against whom a protest has been lodged, shall be withheld until the protest has been adjudicated upon, and either the result of any possible appeal arising out of such adjudication is known, or the time for appeal has expired without notice of appeal having been given.

If, after the distribution of an award, or awards, a decision is made in accordance with the GCR which affects the results of a competition, any entrant, or driver to whom an award has been made, but who is adjudged ineligible therefore, shall return such award, or awards to the promoters on demand.

211. RE-RUN.

Neither the Stewards of the Meeting, nor any other authority shall have the power to order either a part, or the whole of a competition which has been completed to run again.

212. JUDGEMENT

All parties concerned shall be bound by the decision given, subject only to appeal as provided in the GCR, and shall thereby renounce any right to have recourse to any arbitration, civil court, or other tribunal not provided for in the GCR.

If a decision cannot be given immediately after the hearing all parties concerned must be advised of the decision without undue delay.

213. QUASHING A COMPETITION

The authority granting the permit may declare any competition null and void, subject to any right of appeal as provided in the GCR.

CHAPTER 11

APPEALS

214. EFFECT OF ADJUDICATION

Lodging an appeal will not set aside the penalty or decision appealed against pending the outcome of the appeal.

215. RIGHT OF APPEAL

Except as provided by GCR 83, 113, 157 and the rules for the prevention of Drug/Alcohol Abuse in Motor Cycle Sport (Chapter 16), any person or body effected by a decision given under the GCR shall have a right of appeal as provided in GCR 216 and 219.

216. APPEAL FROM A DECISION OF THE STEWARDS OF THE MEETING

Any person, or body, effected by a decision of the Stewards of the Meeting, shall have the right of appeal to the authority which granted the permit.

217. APPEAL FROM A DECISION OF A CENTRE

Any person, or body, effected by a decision of a Centre in the exercise of its jurisdiction under GCR 202 and 216 shall have a further right of appeal to the M.C.U.I. whose decision shall be final. Where an appeal is made to the Management Council such appeal should be heard within 30 days of being lodged unless there are circumstances, of which the Management Council shall be the sole judges, which render this impossible. In such cases the appeal shall be heard as soon as possible after the 30 days. An appeal to the Management Council, or subsequent adjournment of appeal, will not be heard if the time elapsed following the appeal or adjournment is more than three months.

218. APPEAL TO THE F.I.M.

Any person or body effected by a decision of the M.C.U.I. in connection with a dispute arising out of an International competition may have a further right of appeal to the F.I.M. in accordance with the provisions of the International Sporting Code.

219. LODGING AN APPEAL

A party desiring to appeal from any decision shall give notice of appeal to the appropriate authority specified in the GCR. Any notices of appeal shall be in writing and addressed to the Secretary of the authority to which the appeal lies, shall specify briefly the decision appealed against and the grounds of the appeal, shall be signed by the appellant or his authorized agent, shall state an address to which communications can be sent, and shall be accompanied by a fee of £10 or €15 if the appeal is to a Centre or the M.C.U.I. The fee for an appeal to the F.I.M. shall be as stated in the current version of the F.I.M. Code.

220. TIME LIMIT FOR APPEALS

The right to lodge an appeal shall expire, in the case of an appeal arising out of an International meeting, in 30 days; in any other case 7 days after the date of notification of the decision appealed against.

221. PROCEDURE

Except as provided by GCR 218, the provisions of GCR 209 shall apply to the procedure to be followed in an proceedings on appeals.

222. JUDGEMENT ON APPEAL

Courts of Appeal may quash, revise or vary a decision appealed against, or any penalty inflicted except a Mandatory penalty provided for in the GCR, Standing Regulations, Supplementary Regulations, Championship Regulations, Championship Rules or other rules applicable to an event held under the GCR. Courts of Appeal cannot order either part or the whole of a competition to be re-run.

223. ORDER AS TO APPEAL FEE AND COSTS

The Court of Appeal must, when giving judgement, make such order as to the return or forfeiture of the appeal fee, and to costs, as it may think fit.

224. APPLICATION OF MONIES

The income from fines and from forfeited protest and appeal fees shall, after the deduction of M.C.U.I. expenses, if any, be paid into a Benevolent Fund, or a Fund for the provision of prizes.

225. PUBLICATION OF JUDGEMENT ON APPEAL

A Centre, or the M.C.U.I. shall have the right to publish, or cause to be published, a judgement on appeal, and to state the names of all parties interested.

No person referred to in such publication shall have any right of action against a Centre, or the M.C.U.I., or against any person making such publication.

CHAPTER 12

TECHNICAL RULES

The Technical Rules consist of the Rules detailed in the previous year's version of the F.I.M. Technical Rules, subject to the under noted amendments and any other exclusions /amendments which the M.C.U.I. shall decide from time to time.

1. ALL DISCIPLINES

a. Throughout the booklet all references to the Technical Steward shall mean the Technical Steward or the Scrutineer with the proviso that at any event at which there is a dispute regarding eligibility, and both a Technical Steward and a Scrutineer are present, the matter shall be decided by the Technical Steward except in the case of helmets and drivers clothing when the matter shall be decided by the Scrutineer.

1.2 Classes (solo machines)

200cc class: Over 129cc and up to 200cc

350cc class: Over 325cc and up to 350cc

Maximum capacity limit for solo machines at all events, including National and International, within the M.C.U.I. is 1010cc for 3 and 4 cylinder machines and 1000cc for twins, with the exception of Production Classes at Endurance Races which shall be 1100cc. This limit of 1100cc also applies to Production Classes at the North West 200 and the Ulster Grand Prix.

2. ALL DISCIPLINES EXCEPT TRIALS

a. Number Plates:

The plates may also be elliptical in shape provided they are of the same dimensions.

b. Number Plate Colours:

Colour of side plates. The colours shall be as listed for each class with the following additions:

200cc class White background, Black numbers

350cc class Blue background, White numbers

C. Front Plate - Road Races and Short Circuit.

Black Matt background with white numbers.

3. MOTOCROSS AND GRASSTRACK

a. Sidecar capacity limit from 1st January 1989. This clause does not apply.

4. TRIALS

a. Mudguards and wheel protection.

If non wire spoked wheels are used, a protection as outlined in this rule must be provided for the driving wheel only.

a. Lighting, Warning Equipment and Speedometers.

The requirement for lights is only applicable if it is necessary to comply with the terms of the Road Traffic Act in the Centre in which the event takes place.

5. HELMETS

In all motorcycling competition competitors must wear an approved helmet. For speed events, only helmets which provide full temporal protection and only helmets of the approved F.I.M. types can be used. (i.e. FIM Road Racing Technical Rules 2000 01.67 Wearing of Helmets & 01.07 Recognised International Approval Marks) (Europe ECE 22-03 & 22-04. Great Britain BS6658 Grade A) (ICC Jan 2001)

Helmets must carry the current M.C.U.I. Helmet Stamp of Approval and may be stamped on being presented to one of the helmet examiners.

Applicable to Speed Events only

All helmets used in competition must be no more than five (5) years old from the date of manufacture.

Super Moto

Deleted

(ICC Jan 2001)

CHAPTER 13

ADMINISTRATION OF RULES

226. INTERPRETATION OF RULES

The M.C.U.I. is empowered to decide any question raised within Ireland, concerning the interpretation of the International Sporting Code, or of the GCR.

227. ALTERATION OF RULES

The M.C.U.I. reserves to itself the right at any time, and from time to time, to alter the GCR, and periodically to revise any Appendices thereto, by notice of motion to Inter Centre or Special Conference, approved by simple majority of voting delegates.

228. NOTICES

- (a) Any communication required under the GCR to be made to the M.C.U.I. shall be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the M.C.U.I., and to such address as may be duly notified from time to time.
- (b) Any communications required under the GCR to be sent to an entrant or driver shall be sent to the address on his entry form or, if he is a holder of a licence issued by the M.C.U.I., to the address on his licence. Any communications to be sent to a promoter shall be sent to the address on the relevant application form for Permit, or to the organising Club at the last known address.
- (c) Any communication to be sent to an appellant under the GCR, shall be sent to the address upon the notice of appeal. Any communications so sent by registered post shall be deemed to have reached the address by normal delivery of post.

CHAPTER 14

MOTOR CYCLE UNION OF IRELAND (MCUI) DOPING CONTROL POLICY

1. **What is MCUI's position on doping?.**
 - 1.1 The MCUI is the governing body of the sport of Motor Cycle Racing In Ireland.
 - 1.2 The MCUI condemns the use of prohibited substances or methods, a practice generally known as doping, in sport. The use of such substances or methods is contrary to the ethics of sport and potentially harmful to the health of persons involved in sport. The purpose of this policy is to prohibit doping in order to protect the rights and health of participants in sport and to protect the values of fair play in sport.
 - 1.3 The MCUI, in pursuance of this policy, shall within its jurisdiction regulate the prohibition and control of doping in the sport of Motor Cycle Racing and thus makes, and shall maintain and enforce. These rules relating thereto.
 - 1.4 The MCUI aims to stop doping practices in sport by:
 - a) Imposing affective sanctions on persons who commit doping offences.
 - b) Educating and informing persons about drugs in sport issues.
 - c) Supporting the drug testing programs and education initiatives of the Irish Sports Council and other testing authorities.
 - d) Keep a register of persons who are subject to out of competition testing.
 - 1.5 The MCUI shall:
 - a) Give the Irish Sports Council timely and accurate contact information of persons involved with Motor Cycle Racing in Ireland.
 - b) Support and assist the Irish Sports Council in conducting doping testing.
 - c) Make this Policy available to all its members, coaches, officials, medical, health practitioners and any person involved with Motor Cycle Racing in Ireland.
 - d) Develop and implement, in consultation with the Irish Sports Council and the FIM drug education and information programs for members, coaches, officials, medical health practitioners and any person involved with Motor Cycle Racing in Ireland.

- e) Support the initiatives of the Irish Sports Council, The FIM and the IOC to stop doping offences in sport
 - f) Establish, as required, a Disciplinary Panel comprising at least three independent, suitably qualified persons appointed by the MCUI to determine and apply sanctions to persons who commit a Doping Offence.
 - g) Establish, as required, a Appeal Panel comprising at least three independent, suitably persons, none of whom have been members of the Disciplinary Panel in the case being heard by the Appeal Panel, appointed by the MCUI to determine appeals from decisions of the Disciplinary Panel and apply sanctions to persons who commit a Doping Offence.
- 1.6 To be eligible to participate in or assist any participant in any event or activity organised by or held under the rules of the MCUI wherever held, a person must comply with these rules.

2. What is a Doping Offence

- 2.1 In these rules the expressions “prohibited substance” and “prohibited method” shall have the meanings as set out in the Appendix to these Rules.
- 2.2 Under these Rules doping is illegal and an offence is committed when:
- a) A prohibited substance is found to be present in a person’s body tissue or fluids. Or
 - b) A person is found to have used a prohibited substance or a prohibited method. Or
 - c) A person admits using a prohibited substance or method. Or
 - d) A person assists, procures, induces or causes others, or admits having assisted, procured, induced, or caused others to use a prohibited substance or a prohibited method or to commit any other offence under these Rules. Or
 - e) A person is convicted of a criminal offence involving a prohibited substance. Or
 - f) A person supplies or deals in or is or has been in possession of a prohibited substance or admits supplying, dealing in or possession of a prohibited substance. Or
 - g) A person fails or refuses to comply with any provision of these Rules after having been requested to do so. Or

h) A person willfully obstructs or interferes with the carrying out of anything in these Rules.

2.3 The MCUI may conduct investigations into the activities of any person who it has reasonable cause to believe may have committed an offence under these Rules and that person shall co-operate with these investigations,

3. How does Doping Control work?

3.1 A person shall submit to a doping test at any time when requested by the MCUI or anyone or anybody authorised by them. Tests may be random or specific and without prior notice. Although every reasonable effort will be made to avoid inconvenience to the person being tested, no liability will be accepted for any inconvenience or loss resulting there from.

3.2 A person must keep the MCUI or any body authorised by the MCUI informed of the addressees and telephone numbers where that person can be contacted for testing at any time.

3.3 A person who retires from events or activities which are the subject of these Rules shall promptly notify the MCUI or anyone or anybody who is directs of their retirement whereupon testing of that person shall cease as soon as practicable thereafter.

3.4 Testing will consist of urine sample collection, separation of the samples into two parts and analysis thereof. If the test on the first part of the sample “ the A sample” does not indicate the presence of a prohibited substance or the use of a prohibited method, the second part of the sample “ the B sample” will be disposed of and no further action will be taken.

3.5 If analysis of the A sample indicates the presence of a prohibited substance or the use of a prohibited method, the MCUI will then inform the person who was tested of the test results and that the MCUI believes that an offence may have been committed. The MCUI may ask for an explanation from that person.

3.6 Upon receipt of the notification that analysis of the A sample indicated the presence of a prohibited substance or the use of a prohibited method the person who was tested may request a test on the B sample. If no request for a test on the B sample is received by the MCUI within seven days of notification of the person, the person shall be deemed to have accepted the result of the A sample analysis.

3.7 If an analysis of the B sample is requested, the person who was tested and a representative of their choice are entitled to be present when the B sample analysis is carried out. A representative of the MCUI may also be present. The B sample

analysis result will be notified by the body carrying out the testing to the MCUI, who will then inform the person who was tested.

- 3.8 In the case of a person requesting analysis of the B sample the cost of this will be borne by the person unless the result is negative in which case the cost will be borne by MCUI.

4 What are the Disciplinary Procedures?

- 4.1 A person will be suspended from all events and activity organised or authorised by or held under the laws of the MCUI wherever held from the time that the MCUI receives notification that the A sample indicated the presence of a prohibited substance, or the MCUI becomes aware that any other offence under these Rules may have been committed.
- 4.2 If the body carrying out the testing advises that the results of the analysis of the B sample do not support the findings of the test on the A sample, all suspensions imposed on the person who was tested shall be withdrawn with immediate effect and no further action will be taken.
- 4.3 If a person is suspended and that person is participating in a team event, no suspensions will apply in respect of the other members of the team. The event in which the team is participating, and the result of the event.
- 4.4 The Disciplinary Panel of the MCUI shall determine the sanctions to be imposed on the person if the Disciplinary Panel decides that the person has committed a Doping Offence. The person shall have the right to request a hearing before the Disciplinary Panel of the MCUI.
- 4.5 In making its decision, the Disciplinary Panel must be satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that a Doping Offence has been committed.
- 4.6 The Disciplinary Panel will give notice in writing to the person concerned of its decision when it is reached and of the person's right of appeal.
- 4.7 The person and the MCUI shall have the right of appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Panel to the Appeal Panel. The appellant shall give notice in writing of the appeal to the other party and either party may request a hearing before the Appeal Panel. The Appeal Panel shall have the power to vary any decision or sanction under appeal. The Appeal Panel will notify in writing the person concerned of its decision when it is reached. There shall be no appeal of the decision of the Appeal Panel under these Rules.

- 4.8 The person concerned or the MCUI may make written representations to either or both Disciplinary Panel or the Appeal Panel. At a hearing of the Disciplinary Panel or the Appeal Panel, the person and the MCUI may be represented and shall have the right to give and call evidence and to address the Disciplinary Panel and Appeal Panel. Failure of the person concerned to attend a hearing or to answer any question shall not prevent a decision being reached. Decisions of the Disciplinary Panel and the Appeal Panel shall be by a majority. All hearings shall be in private.
- 4.9 The MCUI, Disciplinary Panel and the Appeal Panel shall accept the result of any test, unless there was not substantial compliance with applicable drug testing procedures, and the non-compliance cast's significant doubt on the result. The onus of proof is on the person who claims the MCUI, Disciplinary Panel or Appeal Panel, as the case may be, should not accept the result. Any certificate, notice or form of the body carrying out the testing shall, until the contrary is proven, be sufficient evidence of the contents thereof.
- 4.10 The decision of the Disciplinary Panel or, in the event of an appeal, the decision of the Appeal Panel, shall be binding on the person concerned and the MCUI.

5 What are the sanctions

- 5.1 Where the Disciplinary Panel or the Appeal Panel determines that a person has committed a Doping Offence, it will apply the following sanctions:
- a) For a first offence suspension from all competitions for a period of one to six years
For a repeat* offence suspensions from all sport competitions for a period of between four years and life.
AND
 - b) A fine of up to £64,000 or €95,000 in the case of a first offence.
A fine of up to £640,000 or €950,000 in the case of a repeat offence*. And / or
 - c) Make the person ineligible to receive direct or indirect funding or assistance from MCUI. And/ or
 - d) Ban the person from holding a position within MCUI..And/or
 - e) Withdraw awards, placing's and points won in events and competitions conducted by or under the auspices of the MCUI on and from the date of the Doping Offence.
 - f) All sanctions shall be effective from the date the sample is provided.

* A repeat offence being constituted by a further case of positive doping perpetrated within a period of ten years after the preceding sanction became final.

5.2 Where the person is a holder of an international Licence the International Licence shall also be suspended for the duration of the sanctions.

5.3 Where a person has been declared ineligible and wishes to resume competing after their period of ineligibility has expired, they will be required to make themselves available for testing throughout the period of ineligibility. A person may not apply to the MCUI for consideration of reinstatement before their period of ineligibility has expired.

6 Alcohol Tests

Licence holders will be selected for alcohol tests at random on the day of an event, or practice thereof (also applies to officials). The test will be carried out by means of breath analysis using an approved Breathalyser Unit and set at zero reading. Any licence holder whose test is above zero will be classed as a positive and incur the following penalty.

- a) First offence one calendar month suspension.
- b) Second offence three calendar months suspension.

A positive result obtained by breath analysis cannot be applied retrospectively, i.e. if a competitor has already finished in an event prior to the positive result being obtained, the competitor cannot be excluded from that event.

The MCUI shall take all measures to ensure the Breathalyser Unit(s) used to undertake alcohol testing are properly maintained and accurate in operation, but shall not incur any liability whatsoever should it subsequently be proved that a result deemed to be positive was false.

All samples collected under section 3 of these rules will also be tested for alcohol. Any positive results will be subject to the sanction outlined above.

The permitted level of alcohol is zero in all cases.

Sanctions applied under this rule are not subject to appeal

7 What else is relevant?

7.1 The MCUI may recognise the doping regulations and sanctions of any other bodies. If it does so it shall take such reciprocal action within the jurisdiction of the MCUI as it considers necessary in respect of such regulations and sanctions.

7.2 Where the MCUI recognises the regulations and sanctions of any other body, then any person who is or has been in breach of the regulations of the other body shall be deemed to have breached these Rules and the MCUI may impose any of the sanctions in these Rules on that person.

7.3 Any deviations from these Rules or the procedures referred to therein shall not invalidate any procedure, finding or decision

unless it was such as to raise material doubt as to the reliability thereof.

- 7.4 The MCUI will inform FIM of all Doping and Alcohol Controls, whether positive or negative. FIM must also be informed of all sanctions imposed on any rider resulting from a positive test.
 - 7.5 In the event of a competitor selected for testing, by virtue of his finishing position in an event, being injured in a subsequent, the Stewards of the Meeting, in consultation with the Medical/ First Aid Liaison Officer at the meeting, shall decide whether or not the competitor is fit to undertake the test. The decision shall be final, and not subject to appeal.
 - 7.6 These Rules shall come into force on 1st January 2002 and cancel all previous Rules. These Rules are subject to amendment from time to time by MCUI.
8. These rules apply to all participants in events organised under the authority of the MCUI. It is an obligation of all participants in such events to comply with the provisions and procedure contained therein. All participants must not recommend, propose, authorise, condone or facilitate the use of any substance or method by any competitor or trafficking as defined in these rules. Notwithstanding the obligations of other participants to comply with these rules it is the personal responsibility of any competitor to ensure that they do not use or allow the use of any prohibited substance or method. All competitors are subject to doping controls and any competitor must, if requested, at an event submit to a doping control test. Failure to comply or a refusal or failure to provide a sample or otherwise to comply with the sampling procedures shall be deemed to be equivalent to a positive test and be subject to sanction accordingly. For the purposes of these rules a participant is defined as any official, coach, trainer, manager, team member, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating a competitor participating in an event organised under the authority of the MCUI. A rider will be deemed to be a competitor in an event immediately upon registration as such on the day of the event or practice therefore.

APPENDIX

Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods

Prohibited Substances and Prohibited Methods are the substances and methods included in the International Olympic Committee List of prohibited Classes of Substance and Methods and amended from time to time.