

## 1. Objective of Policy

- (a) Use of remotely-piloted aircraft (RPA) (commonly referred to as “drones”) is becoming more common-place at motorsport events.
- (b) The purpose of this policy is to set out Motorsport Australia’s requirements for the use and operation of RPA so as to ensure regulatory compliance, including ensuring the health, welfare, privacy and safety of competitors, volunteers, members of the public and all attendees at motorsport events.

## 2. Scope of Policy

- (a) This Policy applies to all activities involving the operation and use of RPA conducted at an Event, regardless of whether they are operated by Motorsport Australia staff, officials, volunteers or others, including contractors and members of the public.
- (b) This policy also applies to the operation and use of RPA for the purposes of carrying out any Motorsport Australia permitted activity.

## 3. Definitions

In this Policy and unless stated otherwise, capitalised terms have the meaning stated in the NCR and below terms:

- (a) **Automobile** means a vehicle running in constant contact with the ground (or ice) on at least four non-aligned wheels, of which at least two are used for steering and at least two for propulsion; the propulsion and steering of which are constantly and entirely controlled by a Driver on board the vehicle. Other terms including car, truck, and kart may be used interchangeably with Automobile;
- (b) **CASA** means the [Australian Civil Aviation Safety Authority](#) which is an independent statutory body established to regulate civil aircraft operations in Australia and the operation of Australian aircraft outside Australia;
- (c) **Course** means the route to be followed by an Automobile in a Competition;
- (d) **Drone** means a remotely-controlled or an autonomous aircraft or other air-borne device, which is often referred to as a remotely piloted aircraft or an RPA;
- (e) **Event** means any non-speed or speed (rally, off road or circuit) activity that Motorsport Australia permits;
- (f) **Motorsport Australia** means the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport Ltd. trading as Motorsport Australia;
- (g) **NCR** means the ‘National Competition Rules’ as published by Motorsport Australia and as amended from time to time;

- (h) **RPA** means a “remotely piloted aircraft”, as defined in the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998 (CASR 1998). For the purposes of this Policy, an RPA also includes large, small and micro RPA and each of the following:
- (i) Drone;
  - (ii) Remotely controlled model aircraft;
  - (iii) Remotely piloted aircraft;
  - (iv) “throw and shoot” flying camera;
  - (v) Tethered and unmanned free balloon;
  - (vi) Unpiloted air vehicle;
  - (vii) Unmanned aerial system;
- (i) **Track** means a permanent or temporary Course used for a Competition or Record attempt.

#### 4. Policy Statement

- (a) Motorsport Australia will permit the operation of RPA at Events, subject to compliance with this Policy.
- (b) RPA must be operated in accordance with relevant local laws, regulations and rules.
- (c) Any use or operation of RPA except in accordance with this Policy is strictly prohibited.

#### 5. Specific Requirements

- (a) An RPA may only be used at an Event with the permission of the Organiser and otherwise in compliance with the following:
  - (i) be listed on the Event permit;
  - (ii) all relevant local laws, regulations and rules;
  - (iii) Motorsport Australia rules, policies and procedures;
  - (iv) Motorsport Australia’s Media Guidelines (outlined in the Motorsport Australia Media Accreditation Policy, available at [www.motorsport.org.au](http://www.motorsport.org.au));
  - (v) Any direction issued by the Clerk of the Course;
  - (vi) Operators of a sub 2kg RPA may operate but only in accordance with CASA rules, found at <https://www.casa.gov.au/drones/rules/sub2kg>

- (b) Certification by CASA
- (i) Each RPA controller or operator at an Event must possess a written certification from CASA to, as the case may be, operate ('RPA Operator's Certificate') or control ('RPA Controller's Certificate') the RPA in the place and circumstances in which the RPA will be used.
  - (ii) For the purposes of this Policy and in accordance with Part 101 of CASR 1998, the use of an RPA at an Event is deemed to be for commercial (and not recreational, sporting or private) purposes.
  - (iii) The certificates referred to in (i) herein must be carried at all times and be produced on request to Motorsport Australia, any landowner, Event Organiser or the Race Director or if not appointed, the Clerk of the Course.
  - (iv) Only a person who only holds an RPA Controller's Certificate may operate an RPA at an Event and only while under the control and responsibility of a person who holds a valid RPA Operator's Certificate.
  - (v) An RPA under 2kg may operate at an Event, however, the RPA controller and/or operator is not covered by Motorsport Australia's Public Liability Insurance Policy and must ensure that a public liability insurance policy is in place which as a minimum:
    - (A) provides a minimum limit of liability of \$10M;
    - (B) covers each RPA operator and controller for loss or damage to persons or property arising out of their use of an RPA at an Event;
    - (C) notes on the policy the following as having an insured interest in relation to the use of the RPA at the Event:
      - i. Motorsport Australia and its related entities (and their directors, employees, contractors and agents);
      - ii. land-owners and occupiers;
      - iii. officials;
      - iv. participants;
      - v. organisers.
- (c) Each RPA controller and operator at an Event must ensure that an occupational health and safety management system is in place which:
- (i) Fulfils their responsibilities under the various state and territory occupational health and safety legislation and any primary duty of care requirements;
  - (ii) Provides adequate information to enable Organisers to meet both the Motorsport Australia Safety 1st documentation process and the requirements stated in Motorsport Australia Safety 1st Checklist for Contractors (available at [www.motorsport.org.au](http://www.motorsport.org.au)).

- (d) At no stage may:
- (i) an RPA operate if Motorsport Australia, an Organiser, land-owner, occupier or the Clerk of the Course identifies any safety concerns with its operation that are not managed by CASR 1998 or this Policy;
  - (ii) More than five (5) RPA be in operation at an Event and at operating at any one (1) time;
  - (iii) An RPA fly:
    - (A) at a height below 5 metres or above 120 metres;
    - (B) within 30 metres of any Automobile or person loading, unloading or recovering any Automobile;
    - (C) in the vicinity of any medical vehicle or person attending a scene of an incident unless authorised by the Clerk of the Course;
    - (D) within 30 metres of a Track or Course competition area during any competitive activity at an Event;
    - (E) in such a manner that distracts or impedes the view of a driver or co-driver;
    - (F) without a designated safety observer in place (whose role is to stop any person or Automobile entering the landing site);
  - (iv) an RPA land in an area other than one which is sign posted and separated from the general public, paddock area, staging area or any other area deemed by an organiser, land owner /occupier or the Clerk of the Course as inappropriate;
  - (v) an RPA be used by an operator or controller while such operator or controller is:
    - (A) on the Track or Course during any competition at an Event;
    - (B) on any part of the first line of protection;
    - (C) operating the device from a position that interferes with an official;
    - (D) in an area designated by an Organiser, land owner occupier, or the Clerk of Course as inappropriate.
  - (e) Motorsport Australia reserves the right to request a random drug and alcohol test for the RPA controller.
  - (f) The RPA must not be operated at night.

## 6. Implications for Non-Adherence

- (a) Any breach of this Policy may result in disciplinary action being taken by Motorsport Australia including the immediate grounding of the RPA and RPA controller and RPA operator being removed from the Event.

- (b) Failure to comply with the requirements of CASA may result in a penalty as detailed <https://www.casa.gov.au/drones/rules/enforcement>

## 7. General

- (a) The Policy Manager is the Motorsport Australia General Manager – Media and Communications and /or the Motorsport Australia Division Manager – Safety and Race Operations to whom any questions in relation to this Policy should be directed.
- (b) This Policy will be reviewed every 2 years if not sooner.

Policy Creation Date	November, 2020
Policy Review Date	
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