



Fire Fighting Services at AASA Sanctioned Events

Appendix 17

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1. BACKGROUND

Each Motor Sport Event conducted at a AASA Licensed Venue or Sanctioned Event must have Incident Response Services as part of their Event Plan. As part of this an appropriate Fire Fighting Service should be engaged with fire appliances which will be used for combating fires, resulting from incidents at Events. These may include Course, Venue, Track, Pit or Paddock fires. For all other areas there may need to be, due to legislation, State Fire Agency Services arranged by the Organiser which will be in conformity with Local Government requirements e.g. Victorian Guidelines for Planning Safe Public Events & the Event Emergency Plan.

A significant factor in any successful fire-fighting operation is the interaction between personnel in each Incident Response Service with the Officials of the Event, therefore the importance of properly trained operators cannot be over emphasised.

Fire-fighting arrangements must fulfil two basic requirements:

- to reach the fire and isolate the Driver/Passenger from it within the shortest time;
- to have an adequate and appropriate means to completely extinguish the fire.

To achieve these goals it is recommended that an appropriate number of portable fire extinguishers are located at Events, for use by Marshals who may be first to arrive (on foot) at the scene of the incident, where there is fire. They should be backed up by at least one suitably equipped Fire and or Rescue Unit, which will carry a range of extinguishers (in both type and quantity) and a more extensive range of rescue equipment than could be expected to be provided at Event Marshal Posts e.g. Flag Point or SOS Points.

2. APPAREL

All dedicated Fire Fighting Personnel must wear fire-resistant clothing, boots, gloves, balaclava and eye-protection. It is recommended that rescue helmets be worn by fire & rescue personnel. Nomex Fire Jackets and or approved race suits as a minimum of 2 layer are required for State + National Events or any permanent Circuit. Single Layer are acceptable for low Level Events not major Events.

3. ATTENDANCE AT SCENE OF FIRE

At races:

- 1st Response Intervention: Ideally the 1st Response Intervention should aim to be the shortest possible time depending on the Event Type and category e.g. the aim for permanent Venues is 30 seconds of an incident that could result in a fire. Marshals with portable extinguishers should be able to reach the scene of an incident and be capable of intervening. These marshals, or appropriate back-up, should be expected to clear or isolate the Driver from the fire in an appropriate time. The purpose of the 1st response intervention is to establish the necessary conditions for saving the Driver and or Passenger. Intervention may vary depending on Event e.g. Tarmac & Gravel Rallies response times would be longer due to the nature & layout of the Event. See the [AASA Standing Regulations](#) or Event Safety Plan for each category.
- 2nd Response Intervention: A mobile Fire Unit should be deployed to the scene, which means to completely extinguish the fire. Ideally the aim, no later than 40 seconds after the 1st Intervention for permanent Venues, See the [AASA Standing Regulations](#) or Event Safety Plan for each category for Event specific details.



At all Events:

The 1st and 2nd response intervention system of Marshals & Fire Units should be fully integrated as the quantity of portable extinguishers which can be carried on foot during 1st response intervention may be insufficient for the circumstances of the Incident.

4. MOBILE APPLIANCES – FIRE UNITS

Rapid Response mobile Fire Units should be provided, the Level and amount of Units should conform with the type & category of Event. They should be placed in protected areas at the Venue or along the course of the Event, each with at least two Crew. This is to assure the 2nd response intervention is within a reasonable time. They should be equipped with a minimum of 6 x fire extinguishers of varying types & sizes with a minimum of 2 x 9kg powder, 2 x 9 litre foam portable fire extinguishers.

There should be a minimum of 2 x Fire Units for permanent Venues that should have 70 litre fire bomb on board. See Event Safety Plan for Events specifics.

For permanent Venues e.g. Race Circuits, a back up fire appliance e.g. fire trailer or fire truck with at least 500 litres of water and a fire pump, should be available for flash-back re-ignition or grass fires. A foam branch attachment is highly recommended for these Units.

For Events such as Off Road Racing, Gravel & Tarmac Rallies mobile Fire Units should be based at regular intervals on the Event or closed road. The Units should be so equipped as to include rescue equipment as well as fire fighting equipment. These vehicles should be capable of being able to be dispatched to the site of an incident and reach such an incident with an aim of being at the site within ten minutes of such notification. See the [AASA Standing Regulations](#) or Event Safety Plan for each category.

5. EQUIPMENT

5.1. Event Equipment

Depending on the Event portable extinguishers should be placed at all Marshals Posts, Flag Points, SOS Points and throughout Pit Lane.

5.2. Event Equipment – non-race Speed Events

Marshals Posts should be equipped with extinguishers and this information given to competitors at the Drivers briefing prior to the Event.

5.3. Rescue Equipment

One Fire Unit or a separate Rescue Unit should have the following complementary of equipment where required for Events: Level A & B or as per the Safety Plan.

- a) tools for righting an overturned car or gaining access i.e. ropes, hooligan tool, hammer, pry bars & or long crowbars;
- b) fire-resistant blankets for smothering fire (6ft x 6ft | 1.8m x 1.8m. minimum size);
- c) safety glasses, fire-resistant gloves & rescue gloves;
- d) hydraulic tools (eg Jaws of Life) for bending sheet-metal cutting roll cage and other specialised tools for releasing persons trapped by damaged bodywork;
- e) large shears, bolt cutters & tool kit (suitable for cutting debris fencing).



Level C & D Basic equipment means, Hooligan Tool or Prybar, bolt cutters, fire blanket, hacksaw & tool kit.

5.4. Equipment in Refueling Area (Circuit Pit Lane & General Events)

Circuit: Besides portable extinguishers, minimum one every 3rd Pit Bay, it is recommended that there is a mobile 70 litre fire bomb based in Pit Lane. It should be accessible to Fire Marshals, Officials or Pit Crew for vehicle fires and fuel spills where fire breaks out on Pit Lane. (It is not be permitted to stock fuel in the Pits unless under conditions stipulated in the Supplementary Regulations for the Event)

General Event: For Events with temporary refuel areas e.g. Tarmac Rallies, Organisers must comply with Venue, Council or Civil Regulations or comply with the [AASA Standing Regulations](#) or Event Safety Plan for the Event.

5.5. Equipment in the Paddock

Paddock and areas used by competing or trade vehicles connected with the Event, should be provided with sufficient portable extinguishers. Fire Units should have easy accessibility at all times.

6. EXTINGUISHERS

The factors to be considered in choosing the extinguisher are: efficiency, speed, absence of slippery residues, minimal effect on visibility, low toxicity, reasonable price, and compliance with the relevant Federal and or State Government Authorities policies on fire extinguishing equipment.

The two most common extinguishers used in motor sport are:

- Foam
- Dry Powder

Each is available in a variety of sizes. "Hand-held" size is 4.5kg and 9kg (dry powder) and 9 litre (foam).

7. EVENT REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be in place when running these types of Events:

Level A – Critical Care

These Events require a detailed Safety Plan, which should include maps of the course and road closures, road closure times, information regarding the fire & rescue services & numbers or Units & Crews detailing their locations. An appropriately trained fire & rescue Crew/s must be in attendance with minimum two Crew per vehicle with a response time aimed at 10 minutes to an incident site. Thus, Events such as Off Road need to ensure compliance to these Regulations.

Level B – Advanced Care

These Events require a detailed Medical Response Plan for National Events, for State & Club Levels Events the requirement is 2 x Fire Units with 1 required Rescue Gear which should include location of fire & rescue Units in relation to Event activities. The Events should comply with 1st & 2nd Response Interventions as per these Appendices. Appropriately trained fire & rescue Crew/s must be in attendance with a minimum two Crew per vehicle with a response time aimed at 30 seconds of an advised incident via the Clerk of Course.

Level C – High Intermediate Care



There must be a team (minimum of four) of appropriately attired Fire Crew to do 1st Response Intervention (as per these Appendices) to be able to respond on foot to a fire on the competition area e.g. Burnout Pad. There must be sufficient personnel to be able to attend to an incident in the competition area as well as being able to check each and every vehicle that leaves the area. There must be 1 Fire Unit at the Event and a secondary fire truck, or fire trailer with a minimum of 500 litres of water and it is highly recommended that it has a foam attachment, The Fire Unit must not enter the competition area.

Level D – Intermediate Care

There must be an appropriate Fire Unit at these Event that has as a minimum two personnel appropriately attired as per these appendices. The Fire Unit must be equipped with a minimum of 3 x 9kg powder, 3 x 9 litre foam portable fire extinguishers and have basic rescue gear. Call 000 for major fire & entrapment rescues.

Level E – Basic Care

There must be at least one person with a minimum of 2 x 9kg extinguisher, 1 x powder & 1 x foam to be able to extinguish a fire should the situation arise.



Event Type	Level *
Circuit Racing - National Level	B
Circuit Racing - State Level	B
Circuit Racing - General Speed Level	D
Tarmac Rallies	A
Gravel Rallies	A
Rally Sprint/Rally Test	A
Rally Cross	D
Off Road Racing - National or State Level	A
Off Road Racing - General Speed Level	A
Recreational Off Road incl. Extreme 4WD Events	A
Recreational Off Road Events - Other	D
Drag Racing	B
Grudge Matches	B
Speedway	B
Advanced Driver Training	D
Extreme Events (Nats Style - Multiple Events)	C
Burnouts	C
Drifting	D
Karting - Race Events	D
Karting - Other Events	D
Sprints/Lap Dash	D
Corporate/Drive Days	D
Come & Try/Fun Days	D
Motorkhana/Autokhana/Khanacross	E
Photo Shoot - Speed	D
Car Shows/Static Photo Shoots	E
Hill Climb	A
Touring Events	E
Tractor Pull Events	D
Ride On Mower Events	E
Test & Tune - Circuit Events	D
<p>The Levels shown here are the minimum requirements by AASA. Should you wish to conduct an Event of a type not listed above please contact AASA directly.</p>	