

Dudley Radio Car Club – Rules (last updated 25/11/2016)

OUR NUMBER 1 PRIORITY: you should have fun, be safe and at times win, whilst also allowing others to have equal fun and safety, along with incident free racing.

We all must keep in mind club nights are not an “event”, where rules are rightly so much tighter and stricter. Remember the number 1 priority, we are all here to have a fun, stress free night.

But as with all motor sports, be it 1:1 real cars or 1:18 model cars, they sadly do require some rules to keep yourself and everyone else safe along with helping improve your driving standards.

Parents or guardians of child spectators / racers must ensure these rules are followed by those in their care, and if racing yourself ensure adequate supervision during that time is available.

Racers or Spectators are not allowed in any other part of the site except where the racing is taking place other than when visiting the toilets facilities anyone found to be where they should not be, will be expelled from the meeting immediately.

Spectators **MUST NOT** obstruct the view of racers and unless a BRCA member, **MUST NOT** marshal, enter the track or put themselves in a situation where they could get hurt. We recommend standing at least 1 meter away from the track side.

Please leave anything which has been borrowed from the school, e.g. chairs / tables in a clean and tidy state please put all rubbish in bins.

Racing Etiquette

1) Passing / Cutting the track & Racing beyond your ability

In the qualifying heats remember you are only racing yourself. If you are significantly slower or are being lapped, don't fight the position to a faster car, let them pass on the inside of the racing line at a safe point and as soon as possible, so not to slow them up. Do this by moving to the outside of the racing line.

In the finals if you and the other driver are competing for position you must wait for the appropriate time to overtake if you have the faster car don't just bully your way through, make the pass as safely as possible and remember, everyone is racing. Let lapping cars pass as they are way ahead of yourself, by moving off the racing line.

No corner-cutting or short-cutting the track. If you should accidentally short-cut, wait either for a marshal to return you to the correct part of the track, or wait long enough to ensure that no advantage is gained, even if you accidentally short-cut due to a crash that was not your fault.

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If your car is too fast to handle / your car is not setup correctly and is not under your full control. Please SEEK HELP & ADVICE, everyone's more than willing to help you out. Probably the first thing to do is reduce your speed, this will allow you to improve your driving and get the correct lines and ability to place your car in a safe place for cars to pass.

Should any poor driving standards be seen, please do not feel offended, it is not personal but normal for someone to have a chat with you offering advice. Most of the time the advice will be that you are not driving within your ability and need to look at ways to improve that. This protects other racers who don't want their racing or cars damaged and most importantly this helps you improve your racing so you can get better results in the long term.

2) On the rostrum

- Be courteous to the other drivers
- Communicate with the other drivers e.g. "Blue car Lapping" etc.
(COMMUNICATION IS KEY)
- Don't lean forward and obscure the view of the track
- No profanity
- If you make a mistake let the other driver know you're sorry, so they know you didn't do it deliberately
- If for some reason, your car ends up on the straight and you are waiting to be marshalled make a nice loud announcement such as, "CAR ON THE STRAIGHT", remember this is the fastest part of the track and where the most damage can happen from an impact
- Once your car is clear from a potentially dangerous spot, announce the track location is clear, such as "STRAIGHT CLEAR"
- Sometimes the marshal may have missed your car or may be helping another car, please be patient, remember the CRASH was not the marshals fault, shouting at them will not help most of the time
- DRIVERS should NEVER REV their car until the marshal is clear and no longer touching the car

3) Marshalling

- EVERYONE is required to marshal, following the race they have raced or would have raced. Unless they have supplied a substitute BRCA member to marshal for them and informed Race Control
- Concentrate on your marshalling, you should always be looking at the track and covering as much track as possible in your visual field. So please **do not** use your **mobile phone** etc.
- Marshal the car as you would like your own car to be marshalled.
- If you feel a car is broken, take a quick look. The last thing you want to do is to put a car that has some kind of failure back on the track and have it /other cars get further damage.

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- Marshals can carry out small quick repairs to get a car back on track, otherwise the car should be removed from the track
- Put the cars back down on the same side of the track where they went off. Do not advance them on the track.
- Ensure that you check for oncoming cars before you place a car back on the track. Don't be the cause of another crash.
- Be alert and attend to cars quickly, appropriately and most importantly safely.
- As per the BRCA insurance when you yourself decide to marshal, you have deemed it safe to do so and are NOT covered by the BRCA insurance. (You could consider personal accident insurance.) **N.B. From Jan 1st 2017 onwards your BRCA insurance should have suitable cover for you when you Marshal, but please make your own enquiries to ensure it meets your personal needs.**
- Check for oncoming cars before running across a section of the track, as you do not want to affect or damage other cars racing.
- Try and power down cars that have had to be removed from the track
- If you need to wait for a gap between cars before returning to your marshalling position, squat down to ensure that you do not obstruct the view of the drivers.
- If you see a race with not enough marshals volunteer, every member is responsible for the enjoyment of all other members.

4) Setting up / Packing away

Please do not wait to be asked / reminded to do this task, it should happen without asking or prompting, remember this is your club and as a member requires your help and commitment.

If you are going to make use of the club facilities, please help where you can. For example, setup / clean and put away tables, pack / unpack the cupboards, setup / pack away the track.

Remember doing just single small task, be it carrying a track weight back to the cupboard has reduced the time it takes to setup or pack away for everyone.

The most important thing to remember is the faster we get it all complete, the more racing / enjoyment we all get.

We know there are reasons some may not be able to help at all times, but in truth most should be able to at least complete a single item / task before they go home or when they arrive, helping everyone out. If you really cannot do any small task or need to leave early, please let people know so you don't get accused of not helping out.

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General Health & Safety

- PITTING Areas have LIMITED space, please ensure everyone can exit the area easily and safely without any obstruction from chairs / tables / haulers etc.
- No access to any other part of the school / leisure centre other than where racing is taking place or the toilets.
- FIRE EXITS MUST be kept clear at all times NO pit tables etc.
- Be certain you KNOW where your CLOSEST FIRE EXITS are
- SMOKING / VAPING / E- CIGARETTE'S is NOT permitted on the school grounds.
- ALCOHOL is NOT permitted.
- 12 Volt batteries must be in a spill proof watertight container.
- LIPO/LIFE Batteries used for racing, must be designed for model car racing and encased in a HARD CASE with no bare or damaged connection to cause a possible short. The BRCA rules on LiPo Batteries must be followed, see General Rule 4 (Always charge/discharge in a LiPo/LiFe sack, No Over Volting the Cells, No Charging Cells over Manufactured C rating, if in doubt charge at 1C i.e. 4000mah = 4amp charge max). Always follow the manufactures charging instructions.
- DRIVING STANDARDS & ETIQUETTE should be followed so not to put anyone in danger.
- KNOW where the FIRE BUCKETS are located, if they are not out, let race control know
- JUMP POSITIONS are to be carefully considered when laying the track to avoid injury to spectators when airborne cars leave the track perimeter NB: If this cannot be controlled safely then the jump features may have to be REMOVED
- If not on 2.4GHz, check your frequency and have alternative crystals available. Turn your car and transmitter OFF as soon as the race has completed, to avoid causing other cars to go out of control.
- OBSERVE and COMPLY with any Race Director / Committee Member directive given
- TRANSMITTER AERIALS which are of a Metal Telescopic Type MUST have the Tip covered to prevent eye injury to others
- CHILDREN, **especially young children** MUST be supervised & kept away from the track edge
- NO CARS are permitted on the track until the track is fully built and all members are off the track.
- ONLY Marshalls should be at the trackside marshalling during the race, everyone else should be a safe distance from the track, if marshal cones have been put out, you should be on your car numbered cone, if not be sensible and spread out into a safe position.
- YOUR ROLE. Let other racers / visitors you see who are putting themselves and/or potentially others in a danger know they are doing so. But remember to do it in a helpful friendly way, as we are all here to look after one another and have fun. If you

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feel you cannot speak to the person, let a committee member know your observations.