

To enter Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival procession, all mounted entries are required by law to hold a valid and current Vehicle Special Order (VSO) licence issued by the Vehicle Certification Agency (VCA).

## **1 DIMENSION - OVERALL SOLID CONSTRUCTION**

All entries must comply with the terms of the VSO under section 44 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, except in so far as that the order refers to the overall length and width of the vehicle construction which during the Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival Procession be in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph.

Maximum length of cart	18.29 metres (60 feet)
Maximum width of cart	3.35 metres (11 feet)
Maximum height of cart	5.00 metres (16 feet 6 inches)

During the procession carts may temporarily exceed the above dimensions if the moving parts are instantly retractable. **NOTE:** Temporary height increase is only allowed between the Cross Rifles roundabout and the end of the procession at Morrisons Supermarket

## **2 CONSTRUCTION OF CARTS**

It is the responsibility of each club to ensure that the construction and structure of the cart and other vehicles in the train are safe, able to withstand the stresses and strains that will be experienced during the procession and travelling. **NOTE:** Trailers must be designed for quick and safe disconnection of carts in the event of an emergency during line up or procession.

## **3 DECORATED TOWING VEHICLES**

Towing vehicles **MUST** have sufficient visibility around their vehicles and/or combinations, and personnel placed on the vehicles do not obscure the driver's vision. Towing vehicles **WILL NOT BE PERMITTED** in the procession where driver's movement or visibility is restricted due to the towing vehicle build up or the position of personnel.

During lining up and the procession clubs and club members **MUST** co-operate and comply with instructions given by marshals who, under the direction of the Procession Officer, are responsible for ensuring that the procession day runs smoothly and safely.

## **4 SAFETY OF PERSONNEL ON CARTS**

Due care must be taken to ensure as far as reasonably practical, the safety and welfare of personnel on carts and ground crews walking with the entry. Including; adequate guarding of moving parts, guarding or harnessing to prevent individuals falling from a height and prevention of individuals coming into contact with live electricity.

Each vehicle in the train **MUST** be fitted at the rear of the mounted entry an easily accessible and suitable fire extinguishers with a valid expiry date. Each mounted entry **MUST** carry a First Aid Kit.

## **5 GROUND CREWS**

All mounted entries must provide a minimum of 6 and maximum of 14 ground crew during the procession, 2 of which will act as "Travelling Marshals". All ground crew members must be easily identifiable.

A nominate club person (supported by the vehicle driver) will co-ordinate the safe movement of the towing vehicle, cart and generator when lining up prior to the procession, during the procession and following the procession to the designated parking point. This will include the safety of club personnel and the general public, with the nominated person being easily identifiable to club members and crew, procession marshals and the emergency services etc.,

**NOTE: the ultimate responsibility for the vehicle train movement lies with the driver.**

A 'no-go' area must be maintained by the ground crew around the vehicle train and at all tow points to prevent access. Care must be taken with regards to personnel and public on starting off and during the movement of the vehicle train.

## **6 TOWBARS AND TOWPINS**

Towbars and towpins must be substantially constructed and properly fitted, having safety clips fitted to the towpins. Safety chains must comply with VSO Regulation condition 18. Persons are not permitted to walk between towing vehicle-cart or cart-generator when the entry is moving, including electricians and sound technicians.

A solid towbar must be available for use in the event of a breakdown to enable connection to the recovery vehicle with all decorated towing vehicles being constructed to make this possible.

## **7 WHEELS, TYRES AND BRAKES**

All tyres must meet the Department for Transport standards, with tractors tyres providing sufficient grip to the road surfaces to pull all vehicles in the train.

Clubs must ensure that all vehicles are equipped with adequate braking systems and all towed in the train meet the required standards stipulated in the VSO.

## **8 INSURANCE**

Clubs **MUST** ensure there is adequate insurance to cover: The towing vehicle (must specifically cover use in the carnival procession), third party insurance, Public Liability Claims (recommended £2 million minimum), cart personnel and ground crews associated with vehicles train should be covered by Personal Accident Insurance.

## **9 POWER WEIGHT RATIO OF PULLING VEHICLES**

Vehicles pulling the train **MUST** be more than adequate for the task.

**AS A GUIDE:** In procession tractors pulling a total cart and generator weight of 10 tons should be of a power at least 90 BHP and for 20 tons should be at least 100 BHP.

## **10 AFTER THE PROCESSION**

Following the procession all entries will be directed along Taunton Road, there will be no direct access to Broadway as the procession crosses at the junction.

Entries that are over the VSO maximum length of 24.5 metres (80 ft) and travelling outside the official dispersal areas, i.e. The Drove in Bristol Road, the Parkway junction in either Bath or Westonzoyland Road and the Huntworth roundabout, Taunton Road must uncouple. This can be at or in the vicinity of the lay-by at the Brainwave Clinic, Taunton Road.

All clubs entering Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival Procession must abide by this Code of Practice, the DfT and VSA regulations and the Procession Instructions issued by the Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival Secretary.

### **ANY CLUB FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THESE RULES IS LIABLE TO DISQUALIFICATION**

On behalf of Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival Committee:

Mr P Bastin                      President      Signed .....  ..... Dated      26<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Mr P Slocombe                      Chairman      Signed .....  ..... Dated      26<sup>th</sup> June 2011