

# **Nutts Corner Circuit Ltd**

## **Noise Management Plan**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Noise Management Plan (NMP) is produced and updated annually by Nutts Corner Circuit Limited (NCCL) and provides the framework and mechanism for the management of noise relating to the motor racing circuit. NCCL is the operator of Nutts Corner Motor Racing Circuit. This Noise Management Plan has been produced by NCCL.

This NMP is intended to be a dynamic management control document to ensure continual improvement. It sets out the management procedures, processes and controls that cover all aspects of mitigating the noise impact. The NMP will be constantly reviewed in line with good operational practice and in improvements in noise measurement techniques and noise silencing, and is therefore subject to revised versions being published at the discretion of NCCL.

## **NOISE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES**

### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1. The NMP is used to ensure compliance with the Noise Abatement Notice and in addition to meet the requirements of NCCL to ensure noise impacts are mitigated, as well as to serve as a reliable source of information for the circuit's neighbours.

### **2. SCOPE**

- 2.1. The NMP applies to the use and operation of the Track.

### **3. RESPONSIBILITY & AUTHORITY**

- 3.1. The Managing Director is responsible for overall management of the Track.
- 3.2. The Circuit Manager is responsible for issuing contracts for the hire of the circuit.
- 3.3. The Circuit Manager is responsible for the day to day operation of the Track.
- 3.4. The Circuit Manager is responsible for noise control by managing the noise measuring equipment and providing noise management advice for all track activity in accordance with the NMP.
- 3.5. Meeting organisers, Track Day Operators, track hirers and their staff and employees are responsible for events within their hire period and for their clients, club members and competitors.

#### 4. EVENT ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

4.1. The Managing Director shall manage the Full Circuit (as defined in Appendix B) Calendar to ensure that:

##### FULL CIRCUIT DAYS

- 4.1.1. There shall be a **maximum of 70 Full Circuit Days** held within any one calendar year, and within that overall limit, there shall be:-
- 4.1.2. **Up to 10 days** involving vehicles unlimited noise levels at trackside in any calendar year.
- 4.1.3. **Up to 30 days** involving vehicles conforming to 87db trackside (with 57db at the nearest residential properties applying a -30db attenuation in any calendar year.
- 4.1.4. **Up to 30 days** conforming to 83db trackside (with 53db at the nearest residential properties applying a -30db attenuation in any calendar year.

##### UNRESTRICTED TRACK DAYS

- 4.1.5. **Unrestricted** Track Days conforming to 80db trackside (with 50db at the nearest residential properties applying a -30db attenuation).
- 4.1.6. The use of the Top Circuit is unrestricted for the following vehicles between the hours of 9.00 and 21.00 weekdays and 10.00 and 21.00 on Sunday:  
  
Corporate karts;  
Professional karts;  
Mini motos.
- 4.1.7 All references to noise levels are referencdes ot the highest hourly Laeq during the permitted hours of operation.
- 4.1.8 For the avoidance of doubt, trackside monitoring shall continue at all times (save in respect of the 10 unlimited days) and data shall be provided in the strerms set out in the NMP.

##### RESPITE WEEKENDS

- 4.2. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager shall ensure that there are "Respite Weekends". There shall be at least one Respite Weekend in every calendar month.
- 4.3. During Respite Weekends the Circuit operation shall be restricted to the Top Circuit only as defined in Appendix B and shall further be restricted to use of the following vehicles on the Top Circuit:  
  
corporate karts;  
Professional karts;  
mini motos.

**Respite weekends March to October:**

- 4.4. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager shall manage the Track Calendar to ensure that, in the period 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>th</sup> October in any calendar year, Full Circuit Days shall be restricted to ensure there shall be a minimum of 14 Respite Weekends that shall have no Full Circuit Days weekends, and there shall be no Full Circuit Days held on individual days in those Respite Weekends.

**Respite Weekends November to February:**

- 4.5. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager shall manage the Track Calendar to ensure that, in the period 1<sup>st</sup> November to 28<sup>th</sup> February in any calendar year, Full Circuit Days shall be restricted to ensure there shall be a minimum of 8 Respite Weekends that shall have no Full Circuit Days weekends, and there shall be no Full Circuit Days held on individual days in those Respite Weekends.
- 4.6. If the Track is used for three consecutive Full Track Days, on the day immediately before or after the Full Track Days, operations shall be restricted to be restricted to use of the following vehicles on the top circuit only:
- corporate karts;
  - Professional karts;
  - mini motos.

**Respite Bank Holiday weekends and public holidays:**

- 4.7. During the season 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> October there are four Bank Holidays with a Bank Holiday Monday. They are:
- The Easter weekend;
  - The early May Bank Holiday;
  - The late May Bank Holiday;
  - The August Bank Holiday.;
- 4.8. Where a Respite Weekend falls on a Bank Holiday weekend, the Respite Weekend shall include the Bank Holiday Monday.
- 4.9. There shall be at least one Bank Holiday Weekend included in the Designated Respite Weekends in the season March to October.
- 4.10. Of the 10 public holidays in any calendar year, the Circuit shall be restricted to the top circuit in accordance with the NMP on no less than 5 days.

## **TRACK TEST DAYS**

- 4.11. The Circuit has been used by individual drivers and riders to test the performance of individual vehicles in preparation for racing and health and safety checks.
- 4.12. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager shall manage the Track Calendar to ensure that no more than three Test Days (see below) are held per week and in accordance with the limitations set out in Appendix D.
- 4.13. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager may book all other days throughout the calendar year (not being Full Circuit Days or Test Days) as Unrestricted Days subject to the provisions of Appendix D.
- 4.14. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager shall make any organiser or Promoter aware of all the information within and the requirements of the NMP, which shall form part of any contractual arrangement between the parties. The organiser or Promoter shall in turn be obligated to advise all its officials and its clients of the requirements of the NMP.
- 4.15. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager shall ensure that noise limits are included in all its contracts, track hire agreements and operational regulations. All contracts, track hire agreements and operational regulations shall require that all drivers/riders of any vehicle on the Track are made aware of the noise limits for each individual day.
- 4.16. The Managing Director and the Circuit Manager shall make the Meeting organisers, Track Day Operators or track hirers aware of the provisions of the relevant provisions contained in the Appendices for the following:
- 4.16.1. For Full Circuit and Test Days – Appendix C
  - 4.16.2. For Unlimited Days --- Appendix D
- 4.17. All private vehicle testing will be restricted to week days between 10.00 and 18.00
- 4.18. All cars must comply with the relevant authority testing strategy and Nutts Corner targets.
- 4.19. There will be no more than 3 vehicles permitted on the track at any one time during testing.
- 4.20. The Managing Director and Circuit Manager shall ensure that all contracts, track hire agreements and operational regulations shall require the Full Circuit Meeting organisers, Track Test Operators, track hirers to advise all drivers/riders of the noise management controls.

- 4.21. The Circuit Manager shall police the noise limits, both through the static noise testing processes as well as by taking appropriate action for any transgressions.
- 4.22. The Managing Director or the Circuit Manager shall ensure that both permanent and daily temporary signage is provided within the Pits and Paddocks informing participants of the noise management limits on any given day.

## **5. NOISE MONITORING**

- 5.1. The Circuit Manager shall ensure that Noise Monitoring Equipment (NME) is used on all occasions that the track in is use. On all days of operation (except only for the 10 unlimited days) the NME shall be operational to ensure that noise management is undertaken to ensure compliance with the Noise Management Controls.

## **6. NOTIFICATION, COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY LIAISON**

- 6.1. The Managing Director will ensure that the NCCL website incorporates the following;

### **Schedule notification March to October:**

- 6.1.1. Calendar identifying each event and the relevant noise limit: the “Full Circuit Calendar” shall be published as ‘provisional’ before 1<sup>st</sup> February each year and remains subject to updates as necessary.
- 6.1.2. Background information on the NMP shall also be published.

### **Schedule notification November to February:**

- 6.1.3. A Calendar identifying each event and the relevant noise limit: the “Full Circuit Calendar” shall be published as ‘provisional’ before 1<sup>st</sup> October each year and remains subject to updates as necessary.
- 6.1.4. Background information on the NMP shall also be published

### **Recording Additional Race Events taken at any time:**

- 6.1.5. Additional race event (comprised in the 70 days stated above) bookings or amendments shall be published on the website within 24 hours of the booking.
- 6.1.6. No amendments shall be permitted to the Respite Weekends designated and notified at 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 above.



## **7. NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW MECHANISM**

- 7.1. The Noise Management Plan will be reviewed at least annually and may be updated as required throughout any racing season.
- 7.2. The Noise Management Equipment shall be the system installed by Datum or another supplier as agreed with the ANBC and LCCC, such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld. It shall be the subject of calibration and certification every six months, or within 72 hours of any damage being sustained to the Noise Management Equipment confirming that repairs have been undertaken and that the system is operating.
- 7.3. The Circuit Manager shall provide Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (ANBC) and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) prior to the end of the first week of each month a schedule of all track activity providing details of the noise level The noise levels will be provided by Datum (save as provided by another supplier in the terms of 7.2 above) and shall be provided by Datum in spreadsheet format. .
- 7.4. ANBC and LCCC shall be provided with the spreadsheet recording the noise levels recorded during the hours of operation of the circuit and those recordings shall be used for checking the relevant noise levels.
- 7.5. The original noise recordings shall be retained for a period of 12 months, and ANBC and LCCC shall have access to those original recordings upon request for the purposes of cross-checking the materials provided.
- 7.6. After each month the Circuit Manager shall provide ANBC and LCCC a copy of the same schedule as set out 6.2 highlighting any changes to the track use together with any additional supplementary information as deemed necessary.
- 7.7. NCCL shall retain noise records for a minimum of 12 months but where there is any live query or a complaint, the records shall be retained for up to 2 years if so requested by ANBC AND LCCC.
- 7.8. NCCL shall keep a record of all noise complaints received (whether from the Council or otherwise) for a minimum period of 24 months and shall use reasonable endeavours to respond to noise complaints within 72 hours of receipt, explaining the activity and any relevant circumstances that may have led to the reason for the complaint.
- 7.9. NCCL shall provide ANBC and LCCC with copies of any complaints they receive directly from local residents.

## APPENDIX A --- GLOSSARY

In this Noise Management Plan, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

- “ANBC AND LCCC”** means Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
- “Full Circuit Day”** is as prescribed in 4.1.1 to 4.1.4.
- “NCCL”** means Nutts Corner Circuit Limited, the circuit owner and operator
- “Noise Management Plan”** means this entire document
- “NME”** means the noise monitoring equipment used to monitor noise at Nutts Corner consisting of a Datum noise monitor and running specialist software.
- “ Day”** means a day or number of consecutive days consisting of practice, qualifying and racing involving vehicles which takes place on the Full Circuit Track.
- “Track”** means the Nutts Corner Track.

The Full Track is defined by a map attached at Appendix B hereto.  
The Top Circuit is defined by a map attached at Appendix B hereto.  
Use of the Top Circuit shall not preclude or prevent use of the paddock areas.

<b>“Test Day”</b>	means the use of the Track by any type of vehicle particularly racing cars and motorcycles for the purposes of the performance improvement of the vehicle and driver/rider and not in competitive or racing.
<b>“Respite Weekend”</b>	means the period 18.00 Friday to 09.00 Monday inclusive.
<b>“Unlimited”</b>	refers to the 10 days with no noise limit.
<b>“Unrestricted”</b>	refers to the activities on the full track falling at 50db or below as defined at 4.1.5.

**APPENDIX B – CIRCUIT PLANS**

## **APPENDIX C --- FULL CIRCUIT DAYS AND TEST DAY MANAGEMENT**

### **1. Scope**

- 1.1. The following shall apply in respect of the 70 Full Circuit “ Days” at Nutts Corner set out in section 4.1.1 to 4.1.3 above.

### **2. Operating Hours**

- 2.1. vehicle movements on the Track including practice, Testing, qualifying and racing may only take place on the Full Circuit/Track during the following hours: 09:00 to 18:00 Monday to Saturday; and 10.00 to 18.00 on Sundays.

- 2.2. No engines shall be permitted to be started before 09:00.

### **3. Noise Limits and Measurement**

- 3.1. For the avoidance of doubt for “unlimited” noise days, there is no noise measurement required.
- 3.2. The sound levels generated by all vehicles participating in meetings (other than unlimited noise days) must be tested in accordance with the regulations of the Relevant Governing Body.
- 3.3. All vehicles other than on unlimited days shall be subject to a static test prior to entering the circuit.
- 3.4. The Scrutineering shall take place in area(s) designated by NCCL and the requirements of its Environmental or other Relevant Motor Sport Governing Body.
- 3.5. If a vehicle fails the static test it shall not be permitted to enter the track but may be modified or repaired and re-presented for a further similar test.
- 3.6. The meeting’s responsible Scrutineer shall provide before commencement of any race, both the Clerk of the Course, and to NCCL a copy of his report for each race identifying the make (and if required the model of vehicle) and the vehicle number together with confirmation that the vehicle has passed or failed the static noise test together with the results of any re-tests.
- 3.7. The Track Manager shall retain a copy of the Scrutineer’s Report for a period of 12 months.

### **4. Public Address System Use**

- 4.1. NCCL will operate and maintain a public address system and ensure that sound levels are kept to the minimum level to maintain clear audibility for the spectators over the background noise.
- 4.2. The public address system shall not operate prior to 9.00am on any day.
- 4.3. Test Days or Full Circuit Days shall take place on not more than three consecutive days in any

week.

## **5. Noise Limits and Measurement**

6.1 NCCL may inspect any vehicle intended to be used on the Circuit to check that it has an effective silencer.

6.2 NCCL may require any vehicle intended to be used on the Circuit to be subject to a static noise test. This type of data may be collected and used to assist NCCL with its general noise management planning.

## **APPENDIX D – UNRESTRICTED DAYS**

### **1. Scope**

1.1. The following shall apply in respect of unrestricted days at Nutts Corner.

1.2. The key governing criteria is that all vehicles must comply with the trackside noise limit of 80dB(A).

### **2. Operating Hours**

2.1. No vehicles of any kind shall operate on the Track before 09:00 or after 21:00 Monday to Saturday inclusive or before 10.00am and after 21.00 on Sundays at any time.

### **3. Noise Limits and Measurement**

3.1. Vehicles will only be permitted to participate in any unrestricted day provided that they conform to NCCL's static test noise limit approved by Relevant Motor Sport Governing Body.

3.2. The Managing Director or the Circuit Manager or a suitably trained designated employee who has been trained in the testing and recording procedures, will operate the NMP.

3.3. If NCCL are of the opinion that any vehicle may exceed the 80dB(A) limit, a static test may first be required prior to the vehicle entering the track. This information will help ascertain probable noise levels and avoid unnecessary breaches of the noise limits.

3.4. On some events, vehicles are "on track" for such short periods – example, one or two laps for a demonstration run – that effective noise control and management issues could arise. NCCL will if deemed necessary conduct static tests on the same basis as 3.3 above.

### **4. Enforcement**

4.1. If NCCL finds that a vehicle that does not comply with the applicable day's noise limits, it will require the event organiser to prevent such vehicle(s) from continuing to use the Track unless such vehicle(s) can be modified, then re-tested and thereafter comply with the noise limits.