

APPENDIX C

AORC MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT

1. *Policy Description*

Accredited Australian Off Road Championship (AORC) Media (“Media”) will be required to comply with the Media Code of Conduct as a condition of their accreditation. All members of the media provided with accreditation shall be provided with a copy of this document.

Without limiting the terms and conditions of accreditation, CAMS &/or the organisers may withdraw media accreditation in the event that any member of the Media breaches this Code of Conduct.

2. *Media Obligations*

- 2.1 In order to obtain an increased level of access to the AORC event, (including the official media centre should one be provided) Media need a valid accreditation pass which must be worn and visible at all times, at all event areas.
- 2.2 Where issued, Media are to wear their media vest/bib at all times when in any areas on or adjacent to the competition course of the event.
- 2.3 The Media accreditation pass given at registration with the media kit is ***not*** transferable.
- 2.4 All accreditation passes and bibs remain the property of the issuer and must be returned upon request.
- 2.5 Officials are appointed to the event to assist in its smooth operation and to apply regulations and practices which affect the safety of competitors, spectators and others involved with the event. Media must, at all times, obey the directions of event officials (should a photographer /camera operator not consider an officials directions reasonable, they should follow the dispute resolution process – see separate section).
- 2.6 Off Road ‘racing’ is an inherently dangerous sport, therefore all photographers wishing to access competition areas must comply with the CAMS & Event requirements.
- 2.7 A Photographer wishing to access any of these designated positions during an event must sign the CAMS disclaimer on the accreditation application form which outlines the terms and conditions of access. The form can be found at http://www.cams.com.au/Common/About/Event_Disclaimers.aspx
By signing this form, the Photographer/camera operator accepts and assumes the inherent risk of injury or death and equipment damage.

3. *Media Briefing*

A compulsory Media Briefing will take place for all Media who are to be provided with a Media pass.

Photographic Media and camera operators must complete an information sheet for the Organiser prior to the commencement of Competition (form provided at the Media Briefing). The form includes vehicle registration details, emergency contact numbers.

4. *Levels of Media Accreditation*

The levels of media accreditation at an AORC event are as follows:

Photographic : CAMERA OPERATOR Round only accreditation, awarded by the Event Promoter at their discretion to professional and amateur motor sport photographers. 'Round Only' Photographic Media accreditation permits:

- Access to official Media Centre
- Access to prescribed media areas at spectator and media points (as outlined in the media kit);
- Access to Pits and Paddock , and where invited by a team/competitor, inside team allocated areas at the Pits and Paddock;

Unrestricted Access to 'Round Only' Photographic/Camera operators accredited media is granted by the Event Promoter only to photographers/camera operators with motor sport (in particular off road or rally) experience and demonstrated ability, subject to meeting insurance and OH&S conditions outlined in the application.

Print: Round Only Print accreditation awarded by Event Promoter to print journalist/ team public relations personnel.

'Round Only' Print Media accreditation permits:

- Access to official Media Centre
- Access to prescribed media areas at spectator and media points (as outlined in the media kit);
- Access to Pits and Paddock, and where invited by a team/competitor, inside team allocated areas at the Pits and Paddock.

Levels of Media accreditation can be identified as follows:

- Photographic/Camera Operator - via Event issued accreditation and bib/vest (bib issued to only those granted access to competition areas)
- Print – via Event issued accreditation

5. *Photographer Accreditation*

A photographer / camera operator wishing to obtain Photographic Accreditation **must provide:**

- evidence in the form of a letter or Certificate of Currency written in English, from the Photographer's or Agency's insurer or insurance broker confirming that they have, or are covered by, public liability insurance of at least AU \$10 million per claim covering his or her actions during the AORC event that they wish to attend.

OR a copy of their current CAMS Photographer Accreditation (as this is accompanied by the appropriate insurances).

AND

The Occupational Health & Safety Policy of the photographer. Lack of a suitable policy will result in the non-issue or cancellation of any accreditation.

PLEASE NOTE: Insurance (Personal Accident/Public Liability) is NOT provided as a result of the issuance of any AORC passes/accreditation. Photographers are encouraged to investigate the various insurances that are available to them, including personal accident insurance.

Series Photographers may be afforded an increased level of access to the competition course, on the proviso that a) the Clerk of the Course permits it, and b) they comply with the following conditions.

Accreditation as a photographer is a privilege afforded to you by the Series and Event Promoters and one which carries with it great responsibility for your own safety and the safety of others. In addition, the ongoing viability of the sport itself in an increasingly safety conscious and regulating society (we refer to relevant risk management and OH&S requirements) could be placed at risk.

The following requirements, if complied with, will assist in providing a measure of safety. However, motor sport is dangerous and accidents can and do happen which may result in your injury, death or property damage. In entering the vicinity of the event, you recognise this, and do so entirely at your own risk.

All reports of alleged inappropriate behaviour will be investigated and non-compliance with these requirements may result in withdrawal of your media privileges.

6. Areas of Access

An accreditation pass will not provide access to 'Prohibited Areas' within the course including parc ferme, controls and the timing facility, nor corporate hospitality areas.

Media accessing any 'controlled' media/spectator areas must be aware that every care is taken to provide areas which minimise the risks at these points. However, Media should be aware of the additional dangers involved by being close to the action and by entering such area, and that they do so at their own risk.

All vehicles accessing media points must have the appropriate vehicle access pass for the roads used to gain access.

Media must not, under any circumstances, drive along the competitive route or pass in their vehicle any road closure or road closure official, sign or bunting. When parking a vehicle please ensure it is not obstructing any emergency access or egress route or other area required for the operation of the event.

Media may be required to be located in specific areas. If such requirement exists, there shall be no other access for Media for safety reasons.

7. Conduct Guidelines

Due to the nature of motor sport, as well as the need to observe conditions of use of private, shire, and forestry land covered by the course of the event, it is necessary to define the access rights and responsibilities of media personnel.

As outlined earlier, it is a requirement that Media follow the advice of officials in compliance with this Code of Conduct policy. Officials have been briefed to report any incidence of Media not complying with their advice and accreditation may be revoked at any time if it is evident that these conditions have not been complied with.

You are reminded that the officials are volunteers who are vital to the running of the event and the sport in general, and any instances of inappropriate behaviour towards officials will not be tolerated.

When at an AORC event, please do not interfere with the duties of officials. For example, keep clear of officials' line of sight and area of activity at control points. Any interference leading to timing or other error could potentially result in an entire section being cancelled, and any such action could see the removal of your accreditation.

In specified control areas you must not interfere with the route or progress of the official or competing automobiles or crew. Specific permission to access controls must be obtained from the Clerk of the Course prior to the commencement of the event, and for safety reason there shall be no Media access to crews once they have entered a start control.

The access and liaison roads on which you travel are open to the public and, especially in forests, due care must be exercised. Many tracks are narrow, with blind corners and crests, and at any time a car could come from the opposite direction. Always travel with your headlights on in dusty conditions.

9. Dispute Resolution at an Event

If a dispute arises between an official of the event and Media personnel regarding access to a specific area, the matter must be referred to the appropriate senior event official in that area for resolution.

If for perceived safety reasons you do not agree with the direction of an official and if the matter is not able to be resolved by negotiation with that official (eg. find an alternative but mutually agreeable location to stand), you should take the matter up with that official's immediate superior.

If either party is still not satisfied with the outcome, the senior official must then refer the matter to an appropriate Event Control official (such as the Clerk of the Course, Assistant/Deputy Clerk of the Course) via radio communications for final resolution.

Where radio communications are not available, the most senior event official present will state the areas that he/she believes are **not** appropriate to stand.

Should the Media Personnel choose to stand in the area indicated to be inappropriate, the event official will complete an incident report with time and date for submission to the Clerk of the Course, to be investigated later which may result in that person's accreditation being withdrawn.

In accepting Series Photographer accreditation for the event, you accept the following Media Safety Requirements:

DO comply with directions of event officials. Should a member of the Media not agree with an instruction of an official (eg. they do not feel it is safe) the member of the media remains responsible for their own safety and must change to a location agreeable to all parties or depart for another location.

ALWAYS have an escape route planned when choosing a position, (in the event that a car heads toward you). Do not stand with your back to a solid object such as a tree. Notwithstanding, it is highly unlikely there will be enough time to avoid an oncoming out of control car, particularly when you are focused on the scene in front through the lens of a camera.

ALWAYS be aware your peripheral vision and sense of perspective may be compromised when using a camera.

DO take into account the possibility that automobiles may cut corners.

DO take into account that rocks and other debris will be 'thrown' by the driving wheels of competing automobiles in many directions, which may cause injury (and has in the past).

DO take into account that roadside objects (eg posts, logs etc) may be propelled toward you if hit by competing automobiles.

DO consider where an out of control vehicle will likely end up, noting also the possibility of mechanical failure, and consider the likely passage of dislodged car components (wheels etc).

ALWAYS try to stand with something solid and capable of stopping a car (like a substantial tree) between you and the competing automobiles. Use the available terrain for your protection (e.g. up a bank).

ALWAYS remain behind the first line of protection when events are utilising permanent or semi-permanent motor sport facilities,

DO NOT drive along the competitive route unless specific approval has been granted by the Clerk of the Course.

DO NOT pass any road closure official or sign, unless specifically permitted by the responsible event official.

DO NOT stand in the natural run off area at any location and, in particular, do not stand on the outside of corners. Be warned that competing automobiles also often spin to the inside of a corner.

DO NOT place yourself in a position where the need to move out of the way of a car is reasonably foreseeable. If it is foreseeable, you are in the incorrect position.

DO NOT lie down when taking photographs.

DO NOT choose a position down an embankment, on the exit of a corner, or at the end of a heavy braking zone.

DO NOT stand in prohibited areas.

DO NOT stand in any area that could be considered the competition driving line.

DO NOT place yourself in a position that may distract competing crews, which may endanger both yourself and/or the crew and/or affect the competition.

DO NOT enter private property without authorisation.

DO NOT climb trees or other structures.

DO NOT smoke or consume alcohol in the pits or any of the competition areas.