



General Rules & Club night information

We are known for, and always try, to run a relaxed club...however...the following rules have been written to help everyone enjoy their racing more. **THEY APPLY TO EVERYONE!**

Some are just the unwritten rules the more experienced racers already know and love. Some of these are based on local rules that apply to us here at Caerwent Community Centre. But most are based on the rules and etiquette that are used throughout all BRCA affiliated clubs and events in the UK.

Some of these rules are important because they are a requirement for us all to comply with the insurance that the BRCA provides all its members and clubs in the event of an accident.

Serious stuff aside, they also prepare those of you who go on to race at other clubs, and the bigger regional and national RC events. A few rules between racers help to make these events some of the best racing and most fun you can have in this sport!

As BRCA members, at the start of each year you will be sent a handbook containing the General rules for the year ahead. These rules are reviewed and updated each year, so it is your responsibility to read and refresh your knowledge of these rules accordingly. It's not a daunting as it sounds, and everyone at the club is in the same situation and important news travels fast around the pits.

If anyone has any queries, or would like any more information or advice, please approach one of the committee members, or even some of the more experienced members, who will always be happy to help.
So here goes:

Personal Behaviour

This is a public venue and we will encourage the public to view our activity. This in itself brings personal requirements which we ask you to comply with

- * No Inappropriate language, i.e. **no swearing**
- * Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated
- * Personal belongings should be stored in a safe location and manner
- * All attendees are asked to be vigilant and protect their own belongings along with the belongings of their fellow racers
- * This is a **no smoking** venue, please can you step outside the building to smoke. The smoking area is half way down the building, not right outside the door. This includes E-Cigarettes/Vaping.
- * Rubbish – All rubbish needs to be taken home, if you bring something with you, please take it home.

Junior Racers

All children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian whilst at the venue.

Spectator Rules

If you are not racing, you are welcome to stay and watch, however spectators must stay off the track and watch the racing from behind the orange fencing.

On arrival

Parking

- * Keep the road clear for residents, so **do not park on the road** and only park in the car park.

Tables & Chairs

- * All furniture should be returned where it came from **in a tidy manner**, if you used it, then put it away!

Electricity

- * The pitting area has some extension reels, but it's best to bring a long extension or 12v (in a suitable container), or share an extension with someone else.

Charging

- * **All LiPo and LiFe cells to be charged within 'Lipo Sack'** (Please see your BRCA handbook for further details). This is mandatory, and should you be found not to be using one the only course of action we have been given is to ask the offending person to leave.
- * All types of battery are dangerous, and should be treated with care and respect. The latest battery technologies are offering more and more power and capacity all the time, with this comes new risks that you should make yourself aware of to allow for safe usage.

Setting up the track

- * Please offer your help! There is a small and dedicated group of people who might appear to just get on with on their own, but they will always be grateful for more help, so come and join in. The sooner we get set up the sooner we all race, and the more racing we can fit in!

Transmitters

- * If you using 2.4Ghz radio gear then theoretically there should be no risk of interference, but we would ask you to only power up if absolutely necessary for testing, and be very careful when powering up your equipment in the pits as it can be very crowded and busy around you.
- * If you're using the older 40Mhz or 27Mhz radio gear and you need to power up your car please ensure that no one is the same is on your frequency before switching it on.

Practice

- * The track will be open for a short time for practice while booking in is completed and the heats organised and printed out.
- * **DO NOT** start practising until the track build is complete. This will only be once there are no people on the track, and the rostrum has been stood up.
- * Practice is open to everyone at the same time, but care should be taken not to go out if the track is too busy.



- * Practice is not actively marshalled, so it is your own responsibility to right your car if you crash. In reality there are often people around the track at this time, so you might get lucky!
- * Please take care to give way to other cars, you are not racing at this point and abilities can be very mixed during this time.
- * Please be aware of people walking on the track.

When racing

Race format

- * We normally run qualifying based on the FTD (fastest time of the day) system. This means your best time of all the qualifiers is used to place you on the grid for the final at the end of the night, with the fastest being at the front.
- * We aim to run 4 (5 mins) qualifiers and 1 (5 mins) final for all races, although on some rare occasions timing and excessively high numbers on the night can sometimes effect this, and we appreciate your understanding and patience in these instances.

General driving etiquette

- * RC Racing is a **non contact** sport, **do not** hit other cars intentionally.
- * If you do hit another car off or onto its roof it is considered good sporting manners to stop and wait for the other car to be put back on before you continue behind them. Although there are not always referees for this during club nights, other drivers know when it's happened to them, and have long memories ;-)
so give respect as you wish to be respected yourself!
- * At bigger events where referees are being used, you can be punished for over aggressive driving and intentional 'take outs', so waiting is good practice for that.
- * As we run FTD during the qualifiers, you are racing against the clock to achieve your fastest time of the day, and you are not racing each other directly, so when you are in front of a faster car move over ASAP to let the other car through, it'll improve your own race time in the end!
- * If you are the faster car do not force the slower car off the circuit, use the car in front as your braking system or shout "lapping" from the rostrum (please thank those drivers who let you by at the first opportunity).
- * Do not rev your wheels whilst being marshalled, spinning components may cause injury.
- * If your car is stuck, let off the throttle, otherwise you will damage the carpet, please wait to be marshalled.
- * If you crash and there is a delay to you being marshalled, do not shout at the marshals. Remember it is your fault you crashed, and not their fault you're losing time.
- * Remember, the best way to avoid 'slow' marshalling is not to crash in the first place!
- * Under **no** circumstances should cars be driven the wrong way around the track before, during, or after you have finished the race (this includes reversing). Do not stop on the straight, these actions can and do cause unnecessary breakages, usually to an innocent party.
- * Should you crash at a fast part of the track, like the main straight, or on a jump call out to the other drivers on the rostrum to make them aware so they can take avoiding action. "Car on the straight" or "Car on the jump" can often be heard during races as warnings and frequently prevents crashes and damage that might otherwise occur.
- * Once you're running again you can then call "clear" to let everyone know it's safe to proceed at race speed.
- * On your warm up lap, be mindful that marshals are making their way to their marshal points – do not hit the marshals, you may need them during your race!
- * Anyone driving in a manner which endangers marshals (eg: going flat out over a jump) will be asked to leave.
- * As soon as your number is called as having finished, pull over at a safe point and wait for the call that the race is over. Then come straight off the rostrum and place your car & transmitter onto the table next to the rostrum and get out to marshal.

Rostrum

- * Please ensure you stand with your back against the wall at all times whilst on the rostrum. This ensures all drivers have an uninterrupted view of the circuit during racing.
- * At bigger events the rostrum is a quiet zone. No shouting or talking to other drivers or marshals. Please respect the other racers and do not try to distract anyone unnecessarily during a race.
- * Please stay on the rostrum and wait until the end of the race. At the end of the race please wait for the 'race over' call before leaving the rostrum, as others may be trying to finish their last lap.

After your race...MARSHAL!

- * Marshalling is as much a part of RC racing as the racing itself, so get used to it!
- * **You always marshal the heat following your race** or you may be asked to marshal another heat if instructed by the organisers.
- * Even if you didn't take part in your heat for some reason, **you must still marshal**.
- * If the racer/parent/guardian cannot marshal for some reason, find a substitute marshal and tell the race controller or other committee member.
- * All marshals must be BRCA members.
- * Failure to marshal a heat may result in you losing your FTD time for the final.
- * Failure to marshal regularly may result in you being asked to leave the venue.
- * After your race, come off the rostrum, place your car & transmitter on the table next to the rostrum and ensure that you are at a marshal point (small orange cones) prior to the 10 second countdown starting for the next race.
- * When marshalling, marshal the track in front of you, position yourself to provide the best marshalling coverage of the track and do not congregate in one location or chat to others.
- * When retrieving a car be aware of the other cars on the track, always check for oncoming cars before crossing the track.
- * When returning a car to the track make sure it is facing in the correct direction & at the same point it left.
- * When returning a car to the track **do not** put a car down in front of another car that is travelling at racing speeds.
- * Should a car need repairing, do not try to repair it on the track, please remove it to the side.
- * If a crashed car is spinning its wheels as you approach **do not** attempt to pick it up, and **do not** pick it up by its wheels, it will hurt you! Wait for the driver to stop spinning the wheels.
- * Your friend's or family's cars are not the only cars on the track!



- * Model car racing can be dangerous/hazardous, especially when marshalling. The club will not be held responsible for any injuries incurred or sustained whilst at a meeting.
- * Marshalling can be difficult at times, with multiple cars and quick decision making. Try to be safe first, then fair on the cars that have crashed next. Ideally try to recover them in the order they crashed. However this may not always be the quickest or easiest way to do it.
- * **Marshal for others as you would like to be marshalled yourself!**

At the end of the night

- * Help pack away, racing isn't finished until the track has been packed away!
- * Pack away all your things, and clear up the area you've pitted in.

Our conditions of use mean that we have to leave the venue as we find it. So please ensure that:

- * Any spillage of any fluid is cleaned up immediately.
- * Whilst soldering all fluxes and solder must be handled carefully to keep the floor clean.
- * All rubbish must be taken home
- * All furniture should be returned to where you found it
- * Fire extinguishers are for use in emergencies only.

Due to some complaints from local residents, we have to be gone from the hall by 11.30pm and everyone has to follow these guidelines to keep noise and disturbance to an absolute minimum

- * No-one is to gather outside the hall after 10.30PM, stay in the hall until you are ready to leave then get in your cars and go. No shouting goodbyes across the car park!
- * No revving of car engines, wheel spins or horn tooting when leaving!
- * Keep headlights off until you get out of the car park (sidelights only till you get to the road, this is legal as the estate has street lighting).

AND AFTER ALL THAT...REMEMBER THIS CLUB IS ABOUT RACING FOR FUN. SO ENJOY YOURSELF!