Reg. No 1995/005605/08

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MSA GENERAL CIRCULAR 7 OF 2023

Affected parties are hereby advised of the following amendment, with immediate effect, of GCR 239 D. i) of the 2023 MSA General Competition Rules:

239. SAFETY APPAREL AND EQUIPMENT

D. Safety Harnesses/Belts

i) Unless specific exemption has been granted by MSA, the use of internationally-approved FIA or SFI safety harnesses/belts is mandatory for all forms of four-wheeled competitions (excluding karting and quads).

ii) Unchanged

- iii) FIA Safety harnesses/belts may continue to be used for up to five (5) years beyond their normal expiry date.
 - SFI Safety harnesses/belts may continue to be used for up to two (2) years beyond their normal expiry date.
 - subject to the following:
- iv) Competitors are best positioned to know the history regarding their safety equipment, and the onus must therefore logically rest with each individual competitor to decide whether or not to continue using his/her safety harness beyond the normal expiry date.
 - Technical officials retain the right to reject any safety harness obviously damaged/defective, regardless of whether such harness is within, or outside, its expiry date.
 - Where the relevant date is not legible on any one element of a set of safety belts, i.e. on one shoulder, lap or crotch strap, the Scrutineer may at his/her discretion approve the set of safety belts in question, provided he/she is satisfied, that all the other elements of the set bear legible and valid expiry dates, all of the safety belts appear to form part of a single set and there is no other visible defect in any of the elements of the set. This does not include the FIA hologram, the hologram must be attached to one of the belts. All risks arising from the use of a non-compliant set of belts shall be borne by the user.

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Where it is impossible to determine the expiry date on more than one element of a safety harness (such as in instances where the labels are missing or damaged) such harness shall automatically be rejected.

• The above 5 (five) year extension in the case of FIA approved safety belts or 2 (two) year extension in the case of SFI approved safety belts is in no way intended to compromise safety, but simply empowers competitors to, after consideration of all relevant factors, make a conscious decision that their safety harnesses are still in a serviceable condition beyond their normal expiry date and therefore to continue using them in competition. Competitors are accordingly reminded to, at all times, act responsibly in the interests of their own safety.

IT MUST BE BORNE IN MIND, THAT THE ABOVEMENTIONED GUIDELINES MUST AT ALL TIMES BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REGULATIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES OF MOTORSPORT.

VIC MAHARAJ

SPORTING SERVICES MANAGER

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15 November 2023