



## GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR ACCREDITED PHOTOGRAPHERS

### SAFETY FIRST

Safety is of the utmost importance in motorsport, whether you are a professional or an amateur. It is crucial to always keep your distance from the track and never turn your back on the cars or motorcycles. In case of any accidents, make sure you have a safe route planned to run away from the track. Additionally, it is essential to avoid danger zones, such as the end of fast straights. While the media has a significant role in covering motorsport events, they are not exempt from following safety rules. They should be able to perform their duties without compromising on their safety or that of the competitors. MSA Accredited Photographers are provided with official Media Bibs and passes to allow them to move beyond spectator areas for better photo opportunities. However, they must never put themselves or others in harm's way while capturing the action. Safety always takes precedence over carrying out their work.

### NO SPECIAL VIEWING POSITION IS NECESSARY FOR JOURNALISTS.

As a participant in a motorsport event, it is important to meet with the race secretary and register your attendance. This not only ensures that you are officially entered into the event, but also allows for emergency contact details to be provided in case of any unforeseen circumstances. It is crucial to also ensure that all officials, especially the senior marshal at each location, are fully briefed on your whereabouts at all times. For MSA accredited photographers, it is important to be easily identifiable to the public so that they understand why they are standing in restricted areas. The same goes for accredited media, who must always be clearly visible and not covered by any other garment. Safety should always be the top priority, and if a photographer is deemed to be in a dangerous location, the senior marshal must ask them to move to a safer spot. It is important to remain calm and avoid any confrontational situations. While motorsport can be unpredictable, using common sense will help ensure a safe and successful event for all involved.

### GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES – CIRCUIT EVENTS

- Always sign-in at Race Control so officials are aware who is trackside
- Check with the marshals if it is safe to cross the track between events
- Never cross the circuit during a race
- Always stay behind the Armco barrier, or on the embankment (as applicable)
- Red Star, Dezzi and East London circuits offer no protection – stay alert and never turn your back to the circuit
- Stand as far back as possible
- Always wear your media bid when trackside

### GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES - NON CIRCUIT EVENTS

MSA accredited photographers play a crucial role in capturing the excitement and adrenaline of motor rallies and off-road events. However, it is not just about capturing the perfect shot, but also ensuring the safety of all individuals involved in these high-speed and intense competitions. Therefore, it is mandatory for MSA-accredited photographers to be well-informed and strictly follow the rules and regulations set. These rules are in place for the safety of not just the photographers themselves, but also of the competitors and event officials. By adhering to these rules, photographers can ensure that they do not put themselves or others at risk while capturing the action-packed moments of these

events. It is a crucial responsibility that photographers must take seriously in order to maintain the integrity and safety of motor rallies and off-road events.

#### **RULES OF RALLIES:**

- Zero car runs approximately ½ an hour ahead of the rally. After it has entered a stage, the stage is out of bounds to everyone (unless permission has been granted by the Clerk of the Course)
- Never drive in a stage against the direction of travel. There are various official vehicles in the stage checking the route, or a competitor running behind schedule. It is criminally dangerous.
- If you are in a stage, you may not leave until the Sweep vehicle has passed. Be aware that a competitor's service van/s may be in the stage to retrieve damaged vehicle/s. Turn your headlights on.
- Do not tamper with or remove bunting/candy tape/barrier tape or any other route marker. It is there for a sound safety reason.
- Do not tamper with, remove or obstruct the red or green direction arrows or other route markers

#### **SHOOTING POSITION:**

- If standing on the outside of a corner with a fast approach, stand well back and use a 'long' lens (at least 200mm or longer). Barrier tape is not a crash barrier and will not protect you!
- If standing on the outside of a corner with a slow approach, be aware that drivers use every inch of the road (and more!) and can slide wide. Stand back.
- Drivers cut corners! If on the inside of a corner, stand a few car widths back from the apex.
- Be aware of your surroundings: Think "what if...", "where will I go", "what obstacles could I trip over"
- Try and use solid objects like trees, tree stumps, large rocks, concrete parapets and so on to stand on, or next to.
- Ideally, wear brightly-coloured clothing

#### **GENERAL BEHAVIOUR: THESE GUIDELINES ARE SELF-EXPLANATORY**

- Rallies/Off-Road races are largely held on private property. Respect the landowners' property: close gates behind you, do not litter.
- Be courteous to land owners, their guests and staff. Introduce yourself and ask permission if you want to stand on an object on their property.
- Reduce speed drastically passing dwellings to reduce dust and be alert for excited children running into the road
- If at public spectator areas, set an example. Always wear your MSA-accreditation badge and/or event accreditation badge and/or media bib/jacket.