

Protocol corona prevention during Circuit car and motorcycle (sport) activities KNAF and KNMV



Following the measures announced by the Dutch government to limit the spread of the coronavirus, all circuit activities have been suspended as of 15 March 2020.

This protocol was written in order to make it possible again to organise car and motorcycle (sports) activities on the circuit, if the measures are alleviated. This protocol is based on the active prevention of direct contact between participants and the prevention of large groups coming together. Basically, car and motor sports are not contact sports.

This protocol is a dynamic document that can be adapted on a daily basis, so to speak, when it appears in practice that certain procedures require a different working method or guidelines are becoming stricter to a greater extent or will offer more freedom in the future. Preventing the further spread of the coronavirus is of paramount importance. All organisations involved in automotive and motor sport and in the drafting of this document underline this point

This Protocol has been jointly drawn up by the following organisations:

- KNAF (KNAC Nationale Autosport Federatie)¹
- KNMV (Koninklijke Nederlandse Motorrijders Vereniging)²
- Circuit Zandvoort
- TT Circuit Assen
- Stichting Officials Club Automobielsport

Guiding principles:

- RIVM³ guidelines are leading at all times.
- Hygiene of users comes first.
- Applicable to all activities organised on the circuit until further notice. The organiser of an activity will assist the circuit operator in enforcing and complying with the measures.
- In order to prevent the gathering of large groups of people, spectators/visitors will not be admitted to the activities until further notice.
- Strict control and enforcement are essential to ensure successful implementation of the protocol.

A racetrack is an enclosed area and the actual practice of the sport, driving on the track can be seen as an individual activity. After all, a driver usually sits alone in a car or on a motorbike and does not come into direct contact with other drivers. In preparation for being able to take part in an activity, as well as in the organisation to make it possible to organise an activity on the track, there are times when people might come into contact with each other and for which guidelines have been drawn up to prevent this from happening.

¹ Dutch Sporting Authority for car racing

² Dutch Sporting Authority for motorcycle racing

³ Dutch National Institute for public health and the environment

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A. Organisation circuits

The circuit operators will implement the following restrictive rules:

- Continuous monitoring of people's access to the site. Only participants registered in advance of the activity will have access to the site.
- Every person granted access to the premises will be issued with an admission ticket. It is not possible to gain free access to the premises. In principle, public/spectators will not be admitted.
- There are sufficient facilities on the premises at various locations where attendees can wash and disinfect their hands.
- The sanitary facilities are cleaned and disinfected daily (paddock, buildings, marshal posts). Access to the sanitary facilities is limited in such a way that a distance of 1.5 m to each other is always maintained. To this end, urinals and toilet/shower cubicles are closed off and lines are placed on the floor.
- The general hygiene regulations are clearly visible at the entrance to the site and all accessible buildings. By means of signs on the access road and on the paddock, everyone is made aware of the applicable regulations.
- In the accessible areas the 1.5 m distance between each other is indicated by means of lines and pictograms.
- A maximum of one person may be present in a lift.
- All contact surfaces are professionally cleaned daily during the activity.
- For catering facilities, the current RIVM and industry guidelines will be applied.
- The current RIVM and industry guidelines will be applied for using and staying on the campsite.
- There are no central areas where participants can gather, other than those described for racing courses.
- At the central reception (Zandvoort) or Riders Info (Assen) participants can pick up a pit garage key. The area is set up in such a way that participants are always at least 1.5 m away from each other, as well as the circuit employee working behind the desk. The 1.5 m distance will be indicated by clearly visible lines on the ground. For extra protection, a plexiglass screen will be placed above the counter.
- Participants can use pit garages to park/prepair their vehicle. The number of vehicles per pit garage is limited (Zandvoort 2 cars per pit garage of 120 m², Assen 1 car or 2 motorcycles per pit garage of 72 m²). The number of persons allowed in a pit garage is limited to 4 per vehicle (participant and a maximum of 3 team members).
- Participants who do not park their vehicle in a pit box will be allocated a place for their vehicle on the paddock in the open air. Per vehicle, a free surface of at least 60 m² will be reserved, which is clearly marked. The available paddock area is 35,000 + 12,000 + 10,000 m² for Zandvoort and 50,000 + 14,000 + 23,000 m² for Assen.
- Making cash payments is not possible. Facilities must be paid in advance, or by pin (as far as possible contactless) or direct bank transfer.
- The fuel station is only open via the payment terminal. The payment terminal is professionally cleaned daily.

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A1. Organisation officials and volunteers

In order to organise circuit activities in a safe and orderly manner, the deployment of various officials and volunteers is necessary. Also for this group of staff who, depending on the specific activity on the circuit, are deployed, guidelines are necessary, which deviate from regular procedures.

General

- All officials/volunteers working on the premise during an activity must be registered in advance.
- Officials/volunteers do not meet in a common area, but receive a briefing in writing every day in advance, informing them of the activity that will take place on the circuit that day and which additional instructions and measures must be observed.
- Lunch packages, radios, keys, etc. will be issued on an individual basis. The distribution desk is set up in such a way that everyone is always at least 1.5 m away from each other. With clearly marked, visible lines on the ground, the 1.5 m distance will be indicated. For extra protection, a Plexiglas screen is hung above the counter.
- Radios, keys, flags etc. that have been used will be cleaned and disinfected at the end of the day.
- After picking up radios, keys, flags, etc., officials will immediately go to their workplace. There is no central meeting.

A2. Track posts

- The number of track marshals to be employed shall be kept to a minimum, with a maximum of 2 persons per post/position to be occupied. These can be flag posts, track marshal posts and intermediate posts.
- Within the post/position, the marshals will keep a distance of 1.5 m from each other.
- When an official has to do work on or along the track, a minimum distance of 1.5 m will always be maintained.

A3. Intervention vehicles (Rescue, Medical Car, recovery etc.)

- Intervention vehicles are used to provide (specialised) support to track marshals. The number of occupants per intervention vehicle is limited. Rescue vehicles and Medical Cars are manned by a maximum of 2 people. For recovery vehicles, only the driver will be present in the vehicle.
- During all work, a minimum distance of 1.5 m between the staff will be maintained at all times.
- Door handle, steering wheel and gear lever of the used vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected at the end of the day.

A4. Race Control

- All activities on the track are monitored and controlled from Race Control. At Race Control the presence of staff and the number of attendees will be minimized.
- The workplaces on Race Control are set up in such a way that there is at least 1.5 m distance between the staff.
- Only the Race Control staff and the Clerk of the Course have access to Race Control. For participants and other persons, a desk is set up taking into account the 1.5 m distance to persons.
- The Race Control room will be cleaned daily and all equipment that people work with will be disinfected.

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A5. Timekeeping

- Timekeeping is used to record lap times and possibly monitor noise production. Timekeeping will minimize the presence of staff and the number of attendees.
- A maximum of 2 staff members will be admitted to timekeeping. In addition, only the Clerk of the Course has access to timekeeping. For participants and other persons, a desk has been set up taking into account the 1.5 m distance to each other.
- The workstations for timekeeping staff are set up in such a way that there is a minimum distance of 1.5 m between the staff members.
- Distribution of transponders is done via the specially equipped counter at the central reception (Zandvoort) or Riders Info (Assen). The participant is responsible for attaching the transponder to his vehicle. Once the transponder has been returned, it will be cleaned.
- The timekeeping room will be cleaned daily and all equipment that people work with will be disinfected.
- Results of sessions will not be distributed physically, but can only be downloaded digitally via www.raceresults.nu.

A6. Medical Service

- Staff of the Medical Service who need to take action when a participant has crashed and may need to be checked/treated will follow the guidelines that also apply to regular ambulance transportation/treatment of patients under current COVID-19 measures.
- At the Medical Centre staff will respect the 1.5 m distance to anyone other than a patient.
- Only the staff of the Medical Service, patients and staff of external ambulance services have access to the Medical Centre.
- The Medical Centre will be cleaned daily and all equipment that people work with will be disinfected.

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Overview of measures to be taken per type of activity

- B. *Track days*
- C. *Racing courses*
- D. *(Club)sport (one-day and multi-day activities), not accessible to the public (not before the national regulations permit to do so)*

B. Organisation track days

- A maximum of 3 team members are allowed per participating vehicle.
- Registration for participation is done completely in advance and completely digitally, as well as payment for participation.
- Signing of waiver is done in advance and digitally, as is payment for participation.
- In case of a track day with cars, only the driver is allowed in the vehicle, driving along is not allowed. The participant must fasten the seatbelts himself and may not be assisted in this.
- There is no central driver briefing, but this will be provided digitally.
- There will be no social gatherings, such as joint lunches, drinks or prize-giving ceremonies.

C. Racing courses

- Theory sessions and the theory exam will be organised in a room with a minimum distance of 1.5 m.
- Participants will not gather in a room but will go directly to a pre-defined pit garage. Per pit garage 2 students and 1 instructor will complete the curriculum, with a minimum distance of 1.5 m.
- In case of a racing course with cars, only the driver will be allowed in the vehicle. An instructor gives directions remotely (from his own car or from a position along the track) by means of a radio or telephone. When it is necessary to allow an instructor to drive along, in addition to the personal safety equipment applicable to a circuit, all requirements for corona prevention from the sector guideline for driver training must also be met.

D. (Club)sport (one-day and multi-day activities), not accessible to the public (not before the national regulations permit to do so)

D1. Algemeen

- Documents are sent digitally in advance of the activity.
- Registration, license control and signing of waiver is done digitally prior to activity.
- Access tickets, parking tickets and passes, to be picked up in a closed envelope at the organisers' desk. A maximum of 4 access tickets and 10 paddock tickets per participant (vehicle).
- Briefing takes place digitally via video prior to activity. A printed version can be found in the driver's envelope.
- Results of timekeeping will only be published digitally via raceresults.nu. A signed version will be published on the publication board with digital notification via group app.
- Communication from organisation to participants is done digitally via group app.
- No prize ceremonies will be held.
- Pre and post scrutineering will be done by the Technical Committee in the Scrutineering Bay or a specially equipped pit garage. Only the participant (or 1 team member) offers the vehicle for the inspection. The participant (or 1 team member) remains available at an appropriate distance during the inspection. Once the vehicle has been released, the competitor (or 1 team member) may pick it up/take it away. The 1.5 m distance shall be maintained for all activities of the Technical Commission.
- The assembly area is spacious so that a minimum distance of 1.5 m is maintained around each vehicle. Only the necessary officials, the participants and 1 team member per participant will be admitted to the assembly area.

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- In the Parc Fermé compartments are created with lines so that a minimum distance of 1.5 m is maintained around each vehicle.
- Race secretariat will be staffed by 1 person. The room is closed off by a desk so that no people can enter the room.

D2. Competitors

- It is the participant's responsibility to amply equip their own racing tent with disinfecting liquid and paper tissues for personal hygiene of team members.
- The number of vehicles per garage is limited (Zandvoort 2 cars per pit garage of 120 m², Assen 1 car or 2 motorcycles per pit garage of 72 m²).
- When using racing tents, sufficient space must be applied between vehicles to guarantee the 1.5 m distance in all cases.
- A maximum of 2 mechanics may carry out work on a vehicle at the same time.
- Data engineers only give 1 on 1 instruction to the rider with a minimum distance of 1.5 m between them.
- When taking place in a racing car, the driver is assisted by one permanent mechanic to fasten the seatbelts. The driver must wear a balaclava and helmet with a closed visor at all times. At a pit stop/driver change, only the outboarding driver, wearing his balaclava and helmet with his visor closed, may assist the boarding driver in fastening the seat belts, connecting communication cables, changing drinking bottles, etc.
- Communication between driver/rider and team during practice sessions, qualifying sessions and races takes place as much as possible by radio and via a permanent team member.
- At the pit lane signalling wall a maximum of 2 team members will be admitted per vehicle, who also have to keep a distance of 1.5 m from each other and other people.

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E. Enforcement

Successful implementation of the measures set out in this protocol will only be possible if all parties concerned are fully aware of the need for the measures taken and act accordingly.

Clear and unambiguous instruction prior to activities that take place on the circuit is therefore important. These instructions will be sent to the participants in advance by e-mail. In addition, an instruction document will be given to each person entering the premises. On this document all measures will be explained once more.

In addition to the matters mentioned above, it will be continuously monitored that all staff members, participants and any team members present adhere to the established rules.

Monitoring will be carried out in the following ways:

- Camera surveillance from Race Control. A Race Control staff member will use the CCTV cameras to supervise the persons present on the premises.
- In the buildings and around the paddocks at least two enforcement marshals will be walking around who will address those present who do not comply with the 1.5 m distance/gathering rules on their behaviour. In case of a second offence, the persons in question will be immediately excluded from further participation in the activity and must leave the premises immediately.