



Elevating and Amusement Devices Safety Division	Ref. No.: 527 / 07	Rev. No.:
Safety Alert Bulletin	Date: February 28, 2007	Date:

Subject: Go Kart Entanglement Protection
Sent to: All Amusement Device Licensees & Consultants

1. INTRODUCTION

Due to a serious incident in October 2006, every Go-Kart facility's written Operating Procedure shall be subjected to an immediate review. Effective immediately, operators shall carefully and thoroughly scrutinize their current procedures regarding patrons with long hair, loose clothing or other objects such as scarves, strings, laces, etc., which could become entrapped in the equipment.

1.1 Incident Summary

An 11-year old girl was riding as a passenger in a double seat go-kart with her father. The girl's hair, which had been tucked inside her jacket became loose, and in the course of riding came into contact with the moving parts of the engine. The entanglement resulted in severe head injuries.

2. INSTRUCTIONS TO LICENCEES – EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

2.1 Operating Manual

Every Go-Kart facility operator in Ontario shall immediately review their operating manual and update their procedures, in practice and in writing, to ensure compliance to the Amusement Devices Code Adoption Document section 2.(5), that requires conformance to Section 8 of Z267-00 Safety Code for Amusement Devices, which deals with owner operator responsibilities related to instructions and training.

The review shall ensure that sufficient, explicit instructions are included to address potential hazards as a result of patrons with long hair and/or loose clothing as specified in the Amusement Devices Code Adoption Document sections;

- 22.(9) A person who has hair longer than shoulder length shall not be permitted to use a kart unless the person's hair is tied up so as to make it shoulder length, and
- 22.(10) A person who is wearing loose clothing so as to interfere with the safe operation of the kart shall not be permitted to use a kart unless the person's clothing is safely secured.

All track staff shall be trained in the new procedures, and the record of training shall be documented in the logbook. For further clarification refer to sections 2.2 and 2.3 as a guideline when reviewing and/or writing any new procedures.

2.2 Long Hair

- Any patron who is unable or unwilling to abide by the requirements shall not be permitted to ride.
- Patrons shall have their hair secured with a hair elastic or equivalent at the nape of the neck. If, once tied to at the back of the neck, the hair remains longer than shoulder length, the hair shall be folded up on itself and re-tied to reduce the hair length further. Braids or hair nets in conjunction with elastics may also be used.

- Hair must be secured in such a fashion that wind, movement and even intentional contact by the person in the kart will not cause the hair to become loose and possibly come in contact with any moving parts of the kart's engine, body or wheels.
 - Methods such as tucking the hair inside of clothing as the only means of "securing" shall not be permitted. The hair can become loose after a few turns of the head or similar movements.
 - Long hair cannot simply be folded up inside the helmet as it may become loose.
 - Hair shall not be tied up *inside* the helmet if doing so leads to an improper fit, and/or obstructs visibility.
 - Hairnets or balaclavas shall not be used as the sole means of securing a patron's long hair.
 - Hair nets or balaclavas may be used in conjunction with elastics or an equivalent means of tying.
 - Hair nets on their own will not secure long, heavy hair when subjected to the wind and movement experienced during riding.
 - String or ribbon longer than the hair shall not be used, as it may become its own source of entanglement.

2.3 Loose Clothing

Patrons wearing loose clothing, such as a scarf for example, shall have the item secured, or preferably removed so as to prevent the item from becoming a hazard or a means of entanglement.

3. INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Compliance

All documentation generated to prove compliance of this Order shall be included in the Technical Dossier, and a note shall be recorded in the maintenance logbook indicating the update to the Operating Procedure and the training of the staff as required by Ontario Regulation 221/01 (Amusement Devices).

The Operating Procedure shall be made readily available to the inspector. The inspector shall perform an operational inspection to verify that all staff has been trained.

Your new Operating Procedures are meaningless without training of all employees, and routine reiteration of the track rules and guidelines. Exceptions shall not be permitted, and persons who refuse to comply shall not be permitted to ride.

Rob Kremer, P. Eng.,
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Failure to comply with the Technical Standards and Safety Act is an offence punishable upon conviction, to a fine of not more than \$50,000, or imprisonment for a term of not more than one year or both, or if the person is a body corporate to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000.

This Bulletin has been developed in consultation with the Amusement Devices Advisory Council.