



CONVOY DRIVING ETIQUETTE AND PROCEDURES

Instructions for Event Participants

- **BE PUNCTUAL** – Be ready to depart at the nominated time. This is not the time to discover that you need petrol or a bathroom stop.
- **BE ORGANISED** – The convoy should have a nominated lead car and tail car. If the convoy is over about 10 cars, it may be divided into groups with lead and tail cars for each group. The lead and tail cars of each should be in contact by mobile phone.
- **KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING** – The convoy leader will plan the route, nominate stopping places and check-points along the way, identify places where the convoy may be disrupted or split up and ensure all drivers know the route, the stopping places and check-points. Don't rely on the event organiser to provide you with all the maps and tourist information about where you are going. The more you know about where you are going the more you will enjoy it and be able to find where you are if you get separated from the group.
- **BE CONSIDERATE AND SAFE** – Keep a safe distance between cars in the convoy. On the highway keep 50-100 metres between cars and allow other traffic to work their way through the convoy by safe overtaking, especially on single carriage-way roads. In built-up areas, close up to about 25 metres. Remember it is your responsibility to watch behind you and slow down if the car behind drops back too far. That way the leader knows when s/he is setting a speed that it is too fast for some. In fog, slow down, drive with lights on and close up to visual distance.
- **DON'T SPEED** – Everyone is responsible for their own fines! Stay within the speed limits and the driving conditions. Where practicable, the event leader will direct participants to drive to the posted speed limit to avoid frustration to other road users by slow driving. The event leader will make separate arrangements for vehicles/people who are not capable or who do not wish to reach the posted speed limits. Before starting, agree on the maximum speed(s) to be observed. When moving off after a stop or on leaving a speed limited zone, keep your speed moderate and allow all the cars to clear the zone and space out properly before moving up to the agreed convoy speed.
- **STAY TOGETHER** – Each driver should maintain visual contact with the car in front and the one behind and check that following vehicles have made it through turn-offs or sets of traffic lights or road works, etc. If you lose contact with the car behind, slow down and if they don't appear flash your lights and stop. Don't run traffic lights and leave the following cars out of touch with the convoy. If a series of changing lights breaks up the convoy then proceed to the next check-point. Don't change positions in the convoy unless waved past by a vehicle leaving the convoy or stopping. If you want a change of scenery, change position at the next scheduled stop.
- **COMMUNICATE** – If you want to leave the convoy, take photos or stop to smell the wild flowers, stop and wave the others on. If you want to do your own thing let the leader, the tail and those immediately in front and behind you know at the start or a scheduled stop that you may drop out and where you will rejoin.
- **SEEK HELP WHEN IN DIFFICULTY** – If you are in difficulty let the others know by flashing your main driving lights. The car in front should repeat the flashing of lights so the message gets through to the leader, and all cars in the convoy group stop too. Following cars should also stop, unless waved on.
- **KEEP YOUR MIND ON THE CONVOY** – Regularly and continually keep a watch in your rear vision mirror. Watch your speed and distances between cars. Know who is behind you and keep an eye out for them. At stops don't be afraid to speak up if the speed is too fast or too slow or if you are unsure of the route details. Remember if the trip is not enjoyable driving, then you must say so.

Convoy driving checklist

This list is prepared so that you can keep copies in the car(s) that you drive on Club events.

ETIQUETTE & PROCEDURES (See also reverse side for the Instructions)

- BE PUNCTUAL
- BE ORGANISED
- KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING
- BE CONSIDERATE & SAFE
- DON'T SPEED
- STAY TOGETHER
- COMMUNICATE
- SEEK HELP WHEN IN DIFFICULTY
- KEEP YOUR MIND ON THE CONVOY

WHEN TO FLASH YOUR MAIN DRIVING LIGHTS

- When you need to – don't keep driving if you or your car is not up to it.
- When the car behind you flashes their lights.
- When the car in front of you stops.
- When you reach a pre-arranged check point.

CHECKLIST

Start time and place:

ETA at day's destination:

Convoy Leader:

- Mobile Phone:

Tail Car:

- Mobile Phone:

Agreed Convoy Speed:

Significant places along the route:

Stopping places:

Check-points and regrouping places:

Other details: