

# SCURRY DRIVING ASSOCIATION (GB)



## Rule book 2020

Administration Office  
Email: [secretary@scurrydrivers.co.uk](mailto:secretary@scurrydrivers.co.uk)

Registered Office: Scurry Driving Association; 67 Admers Crescent, Liphook, Hampshire, GU30 7HP.

## The Scurry Driving Association - Rule Book 2020

The Scurry Driving Association is a private company limited by guarantee number 4344079, registered in England.  
Registered Office: The British Scurry Driving Association; 67 Admers Crescent, Liphook, Hampshire, GU30 7HP.

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## **The Sport of Double Harness Scurry Driving**

Scurry driving is an exciting, high speed, competitive sport t in which driven pairs of ponies complete a set course of obstacles, the winner being the pair with the fastest overall time after time penalties have been added. Any disturbance of cones or equipment will be penalized by one or more of the penalties listed on page 9.

These rules cannot cover every eventuality. Incidents will occur outside of these rules and they should be resolved in the spirit of the sport and its rules. It will be the responsibility of the JUDGE to resolve any breach. The Judges decision will be final.

If anyone disagrees about any decisions at a show, then this should be put in writing to the council. They will not deal with it on the day

Judges and Course Builders give up their time in order that members can compete. The majority do not judge or build scurry driving courses regularly and it is inevitable that errors will occasionally occur. Please treat these people with the respect they deserve.

## RULE 1: PONIES

- 1.1 For the purpose of competing, a pair of ponies is defined as two named ponies and one spare.
- 1.2 With the exception of special events, a competition for pairs of ponies is divided into two sections:-
  - a) Ponies 122cms and under
  - b) Ponies over 122cms but not exceeding 148cms
  - 1.2.1 The height of the tallest pony determines the class in which the pair competes
  - 1.2.2 Where there is an objection to the height of a pony the Council reserves the right to require the pony to be independently measured, at the expense of the owner.
- 1.3 Ponies must be at least 4yrs old, the date of birth of the pony being taken as 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of birth.
- 1.4 Public Liability Insurance - Competitors must demonstrate adequate Third Party Public Liability Insurance. The Council of the SDA shall determine the Third Party Public Liability Insurance that shall be considered adequate. This will be detailed on the **Pony Registration Form**.
- 1.5 Vaccinations - Members are advised to ensure that their ponies are inoculated against equine influenza to the standard required for any show that they may wish to compete at.
- 1.6 Registration of ponies - All ponies competing in affiliated shows must be registered with the Association before they compete. Registration involves completion of the appropriate registration form and payment of the required fee. Applications must be accompanied by the pony's passport number and a photocopy of the diagram section of the passport, together with a photocopy of the driver's third party public liability insurance. When all the above information has been collated, the secretary will return a pony registration number which should be included on all show entry forms. Original documentation must be produced within 28 days to the Registered Office in special circumstances at the request of the SDA Council or may be produced to an authorised Council Member with prior agreement with the Council at a pre-arranged show. This does not apply to invited participants at shows. Pony registration will be renewed on an annual basis via the membership form.
- 1.7 Members are responsible for accommodating their ponies **safely** at shows.
- 1.8 Substitutions:-
  - i) A pony may not be entered for two different height classes unless it is under 122cms and is to be used as the spare pony. It may only compete in one height class per competition.
  - ii) Competitors may substitute one of a pair of ponies provided that the substituted pony is registered with the SDA and that the appropriate Substitution Form has been completed and presented to the Secretary of the SDA or in their absence a Council Member prior to competing. If the substitution is to be permanent, (**more than three times in any one season**) there will be no requirement for subsequent Substitution Forms to be completed. Substitutions in **show championships and** the finals of a series are only permitted on production of a veterinary certificate.

## **RULE 2: VEHICLES**

- 2.1 Ponies to be put to a suitable, safe and clean four-wheeled scurry vehicle. Wire-spoke wheels and/or pneumatic tyres are not allowed. Delayed steering is not permitted.
- 2.2 The front axle of the vehicle must give a track width of 130cms or more at its lowest point when measured unladen. It is recommended that the rear axle of the vehicle must give a minimum track width of 100 cm. When measuring track widths, wheels may be rotated to remove the inconsistency of buckling. Any competitor whose vehicle does not adhere to the SDA's rules on measurement will be given 14 days to make the necessary adjustments to their vehicle. In the meantime 5 penalty points will be added to every round they drive with that vehicle until the rule is complied with. Track width measurements may be checked at any time throughout the competitive season by an appropriate show official and/or appointed council members. Measuring will only take place when ponies are not involved.
- 2.3 Maintenance and safety of vehicles is the responsibility of the owner/ driver.

## **RULE 3: HARNESS**

- 3.1 Bearing reins are not allowed as part of the harness.
- 3.2 The harness must be safe, clean and in good condition.
- 3.3 Quick release shackles are not permitted on pole straps.

## **RULE 4: TURNOUT**

- 4.1 If in the opinion of the judge, a turnout is not up to the required standard of condition, cleanliness and safety, the competitor will be required to withdraw.  
***Any issues must be drawn to the judge's attention before the class begins.***

## **RULE 5: WHIPS**

- 5.1 Competitors must carry an appropriate whip into the ring and from start to finish in the competition. If in the opinion of the Judge, a competitor is considered to be misusing their whip, they will receive an official warning or be eliminated.

## **RULE 6: ADVERTISING**

- 6.1 Before advertising is displayed on the vehicle and/or clothing, Company Membership must have been paid irrespective of whether the wearer/driver is sponsored by the Corporate Body or not, except in the case of rainwear, when it is permissible to have a small logo on clothing.

## **RULE 7: DRESS**

- 7.1 When inspecting the course, taking part in the competition and at the presentation of awards, all competitors and grooms **MUST** be correctly dressed, commensurate with the type of show attended i.e. County Shows standard jacket, shirt, tie or stock. Country Fair type event, smart, clean attire. Hard safety hats conforming to the appropriate British or European Standard will be worn when practicing or competing. They need not be worn whilst inspecting the course. Blue denim jeans or blue denim jodhpurs will not be worn.
- 7.2 Aprons will not be worn.

## **RULE 8: GROOMS**

- 8.1 It is the sole responsibility of the driver to ensure that their groom is competent in ability and safe to compete.
- 8.2 One groom must accompany the driver into the ring to compete. Grooms may balance the vehicle but bouncing (moving in a way which causes both rear wheels to leave the ground) to move the vehicle is forbidden and will be penalized by elimination.
- 8.3 It is the responsibility of the driver to ensure that ponies in the Collecting Ring are always under proper control. At times this will require direct supervision by the Groom.
- 8.4 The driver is responsible for ensuring the safety of the pair at all times whilst on the show ground.

## **RULE 9: COMPETITORS**

- 9.1 Drivers must be members of The Scurry Driving Association or driving under permit in the case of recruitment or special events. Membership charges are set by the Council. Each driver is responsible for the conduct of each team member or any helpers they bring to shows irrespective of whether they are members.
- 9.2 The Association is subject to the terms of 'The General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR)', which is a regulation in EU law on data protection and privacy for all individual citizens of the European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA).
  - 9.2.1 The SDA will only use a 'members' personal data once the relevant section of the Membership Application Form has been signed by the applicant. The applicant details will only be forwarded to shows in order for schedules to be supplied.
  - 9.2.2 The SDA will need members to inform of any changes to personal data to keep the members information updated
  - 9.2.3 The SDA will keep the members information safe and secure and personal information will not be shared without explicit consent of the member and the SDA will only keep personal information as long as that membership is in place. Information will be destroyed once a membership is not renewed.
  - 9.2.4 The Data Protection Office (DPO) will be the Chairman. Details of which are at the back of the rule book. Any concerns must be put in writing to the Chairman.
  - 9.2.5 Individuals have the right to have any information erased that the SDA holds and must put this in writing to the Chairman. If the individual is a current member, this may affect information received from shows.
- 9.3 **\*\* Juniors - A junior driver can compete from the beginning of the season in which they become 12 yrs to the end of the year they attain their 18th birthday. A junior may drive in Scurry competitions provided that they are accompanied by an adult member who has been approved by the Scurry Council. Applications for approval should be made to the SDA registered office before the start of the season, or a decision may be made by any two members of the Scurry Council at any time. The Secretary must be advised immediately of any such approval.**

*However in exceptional circumstances a child under the age of 12 may be considered at the absolute discretion of the Council as there cannot be a blanket yes or no, as every child develops and progresses at a different rate and may have already gained significant driving experience. The following additional rules will apply to such an applicant*

- a) *There must be an independent assessment which will be validated by a third person. The assessment will be for driver and ponies.*

- b) *If passed then the young driver can only be permitted to compete with a different set of ponies after a new assessment with those ponies (or until 4 years of successful competitive driving has passed).*
- c) *The young driver must always be accompanied in the ring by a competent adult scurry driver who accepts responsibility for the child.*
- d) *The child always competes with the written agreement of the parent who accepts liability for the child's actions.*

**9.4 New Members | Drivers to the SDA** - New competitors must register with the SDA. The SDA is an association of people who wish to take part in or support the sport of scurry driving. It is the responsibility of each member to ensure that they are competent to compete having passed a relevant assessment or **publically demonstrated a suitable proficiency by virtue of more than five years safe, competitive pairs experience in other driving disciplines.**

**9.5 Novice Members** – New members without previous experience of scurry driving are eligible to compete for the novice awards. The Council has the discretion to identify a new member with significant other competition experience as an open driver immediately. Novice Drivers under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by an adult groom. It is highly recommended that a Novice Driver should carry an approved scurry driver to act as groom for their first three competitions. A driver starting a season as a Novice, will remain so for the entire first season and must wear a visible white armband in competition. Failure to do so will render the Novice ineligible for any special prizes or points towards the Novice Points League.

**9.6** SDA members must seek Council permission prior to scurry driving in activities not organized or approved by the SDA. This does not apply to 'fun classes' organized by the British Driving Society or to exhibitions put on specifically by a member.

**9.7** Drivers who qualify for the Championship class at shows must compete in that class. If they do not, shows may withhold any prize money won in the preliminary classes unless a medical or veterinary certificate is produced. Competitors will be exempt from this condition if, having qualified more than one pair for the Championship, they are unable to procure sufficient competent help to get any subsequent pairs to the ring safely. Under these circumstances, prize money will not be withheld but the Judge must be informed of the situation by the driver or his/her representative. The driver's Qualification from the preliminary class will not be affected.

**9.8** Hors Concours entries are at the discretion of the Judge at a county show or Council members at smaller shows. Where this happens to maintain class numbers then they should drive first but can compete at their usual speed. HC entries following an incident must be at no more than a gentle canter. HC is more likely to be agreed for preliminary classes rather than the championship.

## **RULE 10: DRIVER SUBSTITUTIONS**

Drivers may be substituted but the Judges must be informed prior to the competitor competing in the first round. No substitution is allowed in Championships.

## **RULE 11: DRAWN ORDER**

The order of starting will be drawn by a person appointed by the show. Competitors interfering with the order of starting will be eliminated. In any Championship class the slowest qualifier will start first with the fastest qualifier going last.

## **RULE 12: THE COURSE**

- 12.1 The width between the cones must be 170cms.
- 12.2 Obstacles must be at least 25m apart and at least one metre from ring perimeter.
- 12.3 'U' or 'L' shaped Multiple Obstacles should have a 3 metre minimum track width.
- 12.4 In the slalom there should be between 10 and 12 metres between each element of a maximum of four elements.
- 12.5 The course for a qualifier must be different from that used for a non-qualifying class.
- 12.6 Courses will not be walked whilst the course builder is still building unless permission is given.
- 12.7 Once a course has been built, walked and cleared by the Judge, it cannot be altered in any way except if technically incorrect or unsafe.
- 12.8 At indoor competitions, the course builder has discretion to interpret the above rules to create a safe and effective competition.

## **RULE 13: STARTING AND FINISHING**

- 13.1 It is the responsibility of the driver to ensure that the bell or any other official signal is heard and understood during a round.
- 13.2 Competitors must start their round within one minute of the starting signal. Failure to comply may result in elimination.
- 13.3 If ***in very exceptional circumstances*** the judge has made an error, or if the timing equipment has ceased to work then the driver will invited to drive again at the end of the drawn order.
- 13.4 After completing the round, a competitor should wait in the ring until the next competitor enters. He/she should then leave at a walk or trot.

## RULE 14: SCORING

Scurry driving is a competitive sport in which driven pairs of ponies complete a set course of obstacles, the winner being the pair with the fastest overall time after time penalties have been added. **The whole course is 'live' once the competitor activates the start gate until the finish line has been crossed.** Penalties incurred, and examples are as follows:

Rule	Infringement	penalty
14.1	A ball falls from a cone (first time this happens). Every subsequent ball dislodged. <b>One ball maximum counted per gate or per element of a gate if a multiple such as a 'box'</b>  Penalties will not be incurred for displacing a ball after finishing the round by passing through the finish gate	5 seconds 10 seconds
14.2	A ball knocked from a cone, yet to be driven.	Elimination
14.3	A ball knocked from a cone, already driven.	5 second if this is first knock down, 10 seconds if a subsequent knock down.
14.4	An obstacle is driven in the wrong order including driving a cone already driven (eg driving no 5 to get to number 11).  <b>NOTE:</b> A course is considered driven if at least two wheels go through the cones. This does not include crossing a slalom to get to the next set of cones if the course dictates.	Elimination
14.5	If any part of a multiple obstacle other than a cone is knocked down, the round may be paused at the judge's discretion for the obstacle to be rebuilt. The bell will be rung. At the sound of the second bell the whole obstacle will be retaken. A competitor making an error of course in a multiple obstacle may continue at the point where the error was made, or retake the whole obstacle.	5 seconds if this is first knock down, 10 seconds if subsequent knock down.
14.6	Knocking over the timing equipment at any time	Elimination
14.7	Starting before the bell (judge's discretion)	Elimination
14.8	Failure to pass through the start and/or finish	Elimination
14.9	Outside assistance including directions from the groom (except in the case of a novice). Vocal encouragement is permitted	Elimination
14.10	'Bouncing' the vehicle by the groom	Elimination
14.11	Excessive or inappropriate use of whip (judge's discretion)	Elimination or warning
14.12	Failure to carry a driving whip throughout the competition	10 seconds
14.13	If the driver and/or groom is in contravention of any other rule in this book, then the judge has discretion to award any of these penalties as he/she feels most appropriate	Elimination, warning or added time penalties

## **RULE 15: OBJECTIONS**

The judge's decision is final.

## **RULE 16: DISCIPLINE**

The SDA Council is responsible for the day to day running and organisation of the sport. The show judges and stewards are responsible for ensuring the rules of the sport are adhered to at events and that behaviour at events complies with their standards. In the event of complaints or alleged misconduct, the Council will within 30 days of receiving the complaint set up a disciplinary panel to adjudicate. Each disciplinary panel will contain up to three members taken from an approved list. The chair of the panel will be independent from the membership of the SDA. A complaint which in the opinion of the disciplinary panel is found to be vexatious will lead to a minimum of a three show ban (maximum full season) for the competitor or groom making the complaint.

Examples of behaviour below acceptable standards include:

- Mistreatment of an animal including competing with a pony that is lame, sick or exhausted
- Arguing with a judge, a course builder or show official
- Disobeying or deliberately ignoring any reasonable instruction given by a judge or show official
- Conducting him/herself in a manner which may cause alarm, harassment or distress to any other person
- Arguing or bickering in the line-up for prizes. All queries should be brought up calmly after the class and without bringing the sport into disrepute.

The judge/disciplinary steward at a show may impose all or any of the following:

- A reprimand
- Disqualification from the class
- Suspension from the whole show
- Referral to the disciplinary panel of the SDA (within 14 days of the end of the show.)

Any SDA member wishing to make a complaint of misconduct against another member of the SDA must do so in writing and send it to the registered office. The complaint should be accompanied by a cheque made payable to the SDA for £20. The Council will within 30 days refer this matter to the disciplinary panel who will adjudicate on the matter.

There will be three possible outcomes:

1. The complaint is upheld, the £20 is returned and action taken as appropriate to rectify the problem.
2. The complaint is found to be 'not proven' in which case the £20 will be returned and no further action taken.
3. The complaint will be rejected in which case the £20 will be used towards the cost of the hearing.

The disciplinary panel will invite both parties to present their case either in person at a hearing or in writing. A member who has a complaint made against them may if they so desire be accompanied and/or represented by a third party. The disciplinary panel may cross examine both parties, but no other questions will be allowed. If either party is under the age of 18 then he/she must be accompanied by an adult.

The disciplinary panel, having considered the evidence must reach a majority verdict. They may impose one or more of the following penalties:

1. Take no further action
2. Issue a verbal reprimand. A note of this will remain on file at the registered office for a period of 24 months from the date of the hearing.

3. Issue a written warning. A note of this will remain on file at the registered office for a period of 24 months from the date of the hearing.
4. Disqualify the competitor from further competition for a period of up to 10 shows. A note of this will remain on file at the registered office for a period of 24 months from the date of the hearing.
5. Fine the member up to and including a sum of £100. If a fine is imposed, the member upon whom it is imposed shall not participate in any competition or event to which SDA rules apply until the whole of the fine is paid to the Scurry Driving Association. A note of this will remain on file at the registered office for a period of 24 months from the date of the hearing.
6. In the event of the most serious of breaches or in the case of persistent misbehaviour, the membership of the association will be revoked.

The outcome of the disciplinary panel's adjudication will be communicated in writing to all parties within 7 days of the hearing. There is a right of appeal to the Council of the SDA. A member wishing to appeal against the decision must appeal in writing within 7 days and this appeal must be accompanied by a cheque for £20. The Council will within 14 days appoint an independent person to review the appeal. He/she may ask for further written evidence.

There will be two possible outcomes of the appeal:

1. The appeal is upheld, the £20 is returned and action taken as appropriate to rectify the problem.
2. The appeal is rejected in which case the £20 will be used towards the cost of the appeal.

#### **RULE 17: PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES**

Competitors must comply with the rules of the FEI as current at the date of each competition.

#### **RULE 18: MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES**

Should an issue arise in competition that is not covered by these rules, then it is for the judge to make a decision and to communicate the issue and reasons for the decision to the Council after the competition.

#### **RULE 19: HEALTH AND SAFETY**

All equestrian activities can at times be dangerous both to the participant and to the public at large. All scurry drivers and their grooms participate in the sport of scurry driving at their own risk. Each is responsible for ensuring that they do not put the general public at risk.

#### **RULE 20: COMPETITIONS AND LEAGUES**

All open & novice drivers are encouraged to participate in as many shows as they are able, however, the following criteria applies;

##### **The British National Scurry Driving Championship**

The County Show Series takes place over a published series of shows. The winner of each height class at each show automatically qualifies for the championship class at the final show. In the event that the class winner has already qualified the qualification place can be passed down the line as far as 6<sup>th</sup> place. Where the list of qualifying shows is 12 or less only 5 must be attended. When the list exceeds 12 the 30% + 1 must be attended. This formula permits the Council to reduce the number of qualifying events due to the cancellation of events for any reason.

**\*\*Neither driver or turnout can be substituted for the championship of this competition.**

Any competitor who has not qualified for the final championship at qualifying shows cannot qualify at the final championship show.

## Grand League

The Grand League comprises all of the listed shows in the UK. **In order to qualify for a financial award for the League drivers will have completed at least 8 shows in the current and been allocated an official finishing position in the preceding year.** Competitors count their best eight scores from any show. The winner of the Grand League will be known as The Scurry Driver of the Year. Points are awarded as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place: 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> 5 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> 4 points, 4<sup>th</sup> 3 points, 5<sup>th</sup> 2 points, 6<sup>th</sup> 1 point. A competitor will only count their best performing pair to count towards a league placing. It is not relevant if the same pair is driven in preceding or subsequent years as it is the performance of the driver that counts.

Financial Awards will be made to the individuals positioned 1st, 2nd and 3rd in this league.

The member (not in the top 3 of the league) climbing the most positions in the league from the previous year, will be awarded £100. Please note that to qualify for this, the member must have completed at least 8 shows in the previous and the current year.

## Novice awards and the Novice Points League

Novice drivers are eligible to compete for the best novice award at each show in each height class. See Rule 9.4.

Points are also awarded to the novices in each height class. This is called the Novice League. The winners of the novice league will be used to determine who will de-novice at the end of the season. The Council reserves the right not to issue this invitation. The winner of each height league may be invited by the Council members to compete in the County Show National Championship at The Royal Berkshire Show. The Council reserves the right not to issue this invitation.

The novice with the highest score from the two height leagues will be awarded the Pavlov and Peanuts Trophy and become The Novice Champion. A table will be maintained to monitor novice progress in each class. Points are awarded as follows:

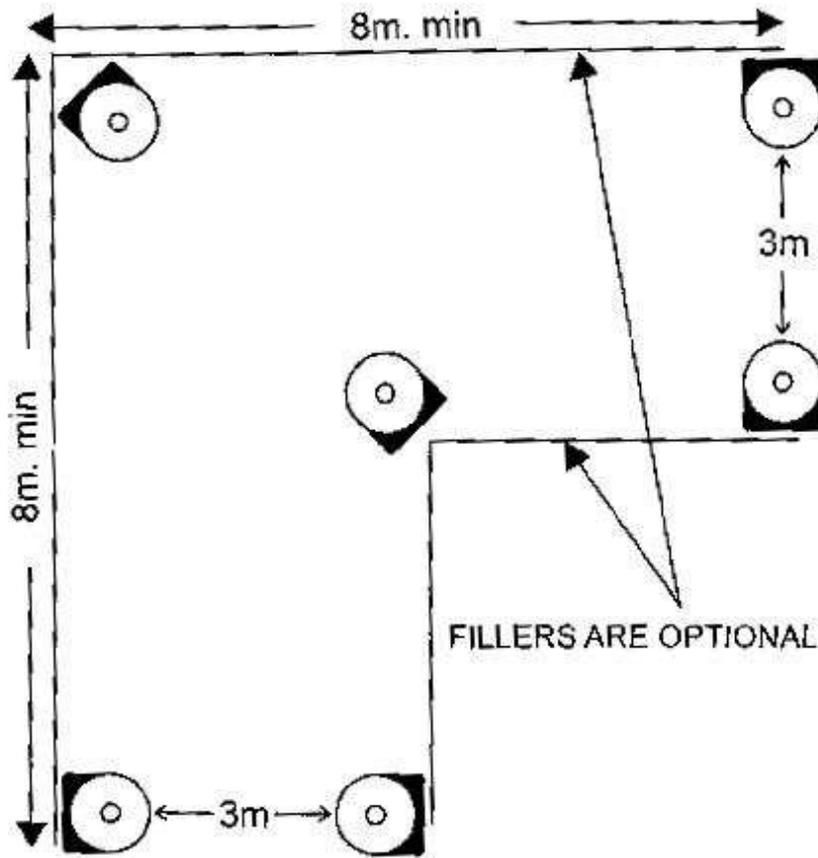
- 1<sup>st</sup> place: 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> 5 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> 4 points, 4<sup>th</sup> 3 points, 5<sup>th</sup> 2 points, 6<sup>th</sup> 1 point.

Competitors count their best 5 show scores.

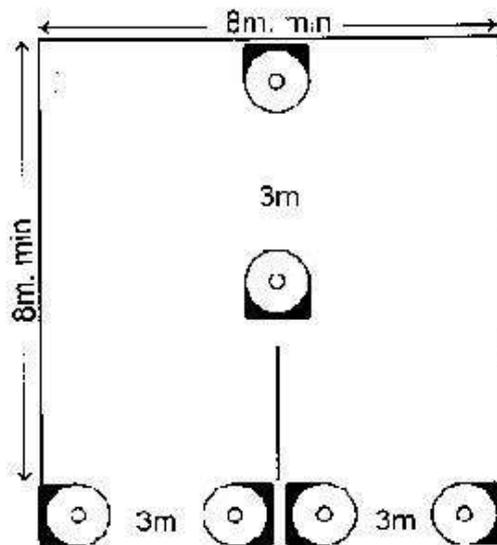
## PRIVACY POLICY

The Privacy Policy will be published on the website.

"L" or "V" SHAPED OBSTACLES



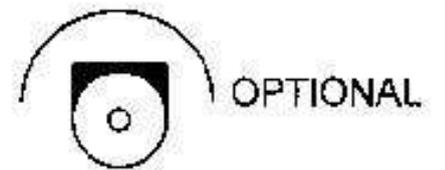
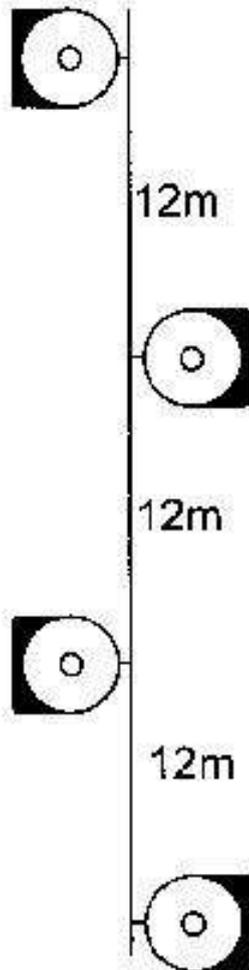
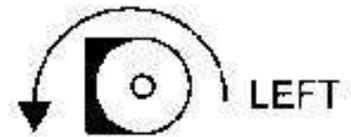
"U" SHAPED OBSTACLE



# SINGLE CONE TURNS



# SLALOM



## COUNCIL MEMBER LIST

All council members may be contacted about any issues concerning scurry driving and the SDA, however, all council members do have specialist tasks within the council which are listed below to aid members contact the right person for the information or advice sought.

ALL correspondence, including complaints and concerns must be directed to the Registered Office address.

CHAIRMAN DPO REGISTRATIONS	<b>KAREN MORRIS</b> Retires AGM 2021	FLAT 8 MOSS COURT 51 PORTSMOUTH RD LIPHOOK HANTS GU30 7GG
REGISTERED OFFICE	<b>VERONICA KELLAND</b> Retires AGM 2020	67, ADMERS CRESENT LIPHOOK HANTS GU307HP
VICE CHAIRMAN	<b>PAUL ISAAC</b> Retires AGM 2021	THE GRANGE DYFRYN NEATH SOUTH WALES SA107BQ
ORGANISATION OF AND SHOW CONTACT	<b>HAYLEY ISAAC</b> Retires AGM 2020	THE GRANGE DYFRYN NEATH SOUTH WALES SA107BQ
	<b>LYNDSAY CLARKE</b> Retires AGM 2022	WILLOW FARM, MAIN DROVE LITTLE DOWNHAM ELY CAMBS CB6 2ER
	<b>SANDRA FISHER</b> Retires AGM 2022	TUMP HOUSE TUMP LANE UNDY CALDICOTT NP26 3BW
	<b>JOHN MARSTON</b> Retires AGM 2021	COED Y RHYD FARM BLACKHILLS LANE FAIRWOOD SWANSEA SA27JP

## ASSESSORS

<b>JOHN MARSON</b>	<b>PHILIP LITCHFIELD</b>	<b>KAREN MORRIS</b>
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