

# The Cycle Racing on Highways Regulations, 1960 (and 1980 and 1995 amendments)

All organisers should be aware of the Regulations under which cycle racing on the highways is permitted and the following are the main points.

1, These Regulations shall come into operation on the first day of March 1960, and may be cited as The Cycle Racing on Highways Regulations, 1960'.

2 (1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say:

'time trial' means a race or trial of speed between bicycles or tricycles, not being motor vehicles, so arranged and conducted-

- (a) where the competitors are not divided into groups, that each competitor starts at a time which is separated by an interval of not less than one minute from the starting time of every other competitor, or, where the competitors are divided into groups, that
  - (i) no group comprises more than four competitors,
  - (ii) no member of a group competes against any other member of that group,
  - (iii) each member of a group starts at the same time as every other member of that group, and
  - (iv) each group starts at a time which is separated by an interval of not less than one minute from the starting time of any group; and;

- (b) The result of the trial or race depends not upon the order in which the competitors or any of them reach a particular point but upon-
  - (i) the time each competitor or, If the competitors are divided into groups as aforesaid, any member of a group to get from his starting point to his finishing point. or
  - (ii) the distance which each competitor or, as the case may be, any member of a group of competitors covers in a fixed time reckoned from the time when he starts;

'bicycle race' means a race or trial of speed between bicycles or tricycles, not being motor vehicles, which is not a time trial;

'promoter, in relation to a time trial or bicycle race, means the person who organises or arranges or is responsible for the organisation or arrangement of the trial or race;

'appropriate officer of police', In relation to a time trial or bicycle race, means the Chief Officer of Police for every police area which comprises any public highway on which the trial or race is held;

'The standard conditions' has the meaning assigned to it by sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (1) of Regulation 5.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1869, shall apply for

the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3 (1) Subject to the following provisions of this regulation, the holding of a time trial on a public highway is hereby authorised if the promoter of the trial has, not less than twenty-eight days next before the day on which the trial is to be held, or if it is to be held on more than one day, the day on which the trial is to begin, given or caused to be given to the appropriate officer of police in writing notice of the proposal to hold the trial and the following particulars with respect thereto-

- (a) the day or days on which and the time during which the time trial is to be held;
- (b) a description of the route to be followed by the competitors and the name of, or a description sufficient to identify, any public highway on which the trial or any part thereof is to take place;
- (c) particulars of the place or places where the trial is to start and finish;
- (d) the maximum number of competitors who will be permitted to take part in the trial, and
- (e) details of the arrangements which will be made for the purposes of marshalling, assisting or supervising the competitors, and
- (f) Such particulars of the rules or arrangements governing the trial as may be sufficient to show that the proposed trial is a time trial,

(2) The holding of a time trial shall not be treated as being authorised by this Regulation unless the circumstances in which it is held and conducted accord with the particulars given under paragraph (1) of this Regulation.

4. (1) if in any case where notice of a proposal to hold a time trial has been given in accordance with paragraph (1) of Regulation 3-

- (a) particulars with respect to the trial have not been given In accordance with the said paragraph (1),
- (b) changes are proposed In the circumstances affecting the trial which affect the particulars which have been given In accordance with said paragraph (1)-

the promoter, before the holding of the trial, applies or causes application to be made to the appropriate officer of police for the trial to be authorised and gives or causes to be given to the said appropriate officer in writing, In the case mentioned in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, any particulars which should have been previously given, or, in the case mentioned in subparagraph (b) particulars of the said changes, the said appropriate officer may, in the case mentioned in subparagraph (a), authorise the trial to be held with those changes or such of them as he may approve.

(2) The holding of a time trial on a public highway shall not be treated as being authorised under this Regulation unless the circumstances in which it is held and conducted

accord with the particulars given in accordance with Regulation 3 or paragraph (1) of this Regulation and, where the trial is authorised with any changes with those changes.

5. (1) Subject to the following provision of this Regulation and the provisions of Regulation 8, the holding of a bicycle race on a public highway is hereby authorised if:

(a) the race is held and conducted in accordance with the following conditions (In these Regulations referred to as 'the standard conditions')

(I) The number of competitors must not exceed:

(a) In two, not more than two, races selected in any one year by the British Cycling Federation. – **100**,

(b) in the case of any race not promoted by virtue of sub-paragraph (a) above, - **80**,

(ii) no part of the race must take place during the time between half-an-hour after sunset and half-an-hour before sunrise;

(III) where the route to be followed by a competitor is such that he must while on the highway pass a point on that highway at least twice (whether in the same or a different direction), the length of the route which he has to follow after passing that point at any time until he next passes it again, must not be less than ten miles; and

(iv) where any length of the route is comprised of any public highway on which a speed limit of 40 mph or less is imposed by or under any enactment, that length must not exceed one mile and a half and no part of it must lie within three miles, measured along the route, of any part of any other such length, and

(b) the promoter of the race, not less than twenty-eight days next before the day on which the race is to be held, or if it is to be held on more than one day, the day on which the race is to begin, gives the appropriate officer of police in writing notice of the proposal to hold the race and the like particulars with respect to the race as are required by subparagraphs (a) to (e) of paragraph (1) of Regulation 3 to be given with respect to a proposed time trial being:-

(I) the day or days on which and the time during which the race is to be held;

(ii) a description of the route to be followed by the competitors and the name of, or a description sufficient to identify any public highway on which the race or any part thereof is to take place;

(iii) particulars of any place or places where the race is to start or where it is to finish; (iv) the maximum number of competitors who will be permitted to take part in the race;

(v) sufficient particulars to show what arrangements will be made for marshalling assisting or supervising the competitors; and also such further particulars relating to the race as may be sufficient to show that it is proposed to be held and conducted in accordance with the standard conditions.

(2) The holding of a bicycle race shall not be treated as authorised by this Regulation unless the circumstances in which it is held and conducted accord with the particulars given under subparagraphs (b) of this Regulation

6 (1) If:

(a) notice of a proposal to hold a bicycle race has not been given in accordance with subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of Regulation 5, or

(b) particulars with respect to the race have not been given in accordance with the said subparagraph (b), or

(c) changes are proposed in the circumstances affecting the race which affect the particulars which have been given in accordance with the said subparagraph (b) and the promoter, before the holding of the race:-

(I) In the case mentioned in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, gives to the appropriate officer of police notice in writing of the proposal to hold the race together with such particulars with respect to the race as are referred to in subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of Regulation 5 and applies to that officer for the holding of the race to be authorised, or (ii) in the case mentioned in subparagraph (b) of this paragraph, gives to the appropriate officer of police any particulars which should have been previously given or, (iii) In the case mentioned in subparagraph (c) of this paragraph, gives to the appropriate officer of police particulars of the changes referred to in the said subparagraph (c), the said appropriate officer may, in the cases mentioned in the said subparagraph (a) or (b), authorise the race to be held or, in the case mentioned in the said subparagraphs (c), authorise the race to be held with the said changes or such of them as he may approve.

(2) The holding of a bicycle race shall not be treated as authorised under this Regulation unless the circumstances in which it is held and conducted accord with the particulars given in accordance with Regulation 5 or paragraph (1) of this Regulation and, where the race is authorised with any changes, with those changes:

Provided that this paragraph shall have effect subject to any condition which may be imposed on the holding or conduct of the race under

7. (1) the appropriate officer of police may authorise the holding of a bicycle race on a public highway which is not a race proposed to be held and conducted in accordance with the standard conditions if before the holding of the race the promoter thereof applies to the said officer for the race to be authorised and gives in writing the like particulars with respect to the race as are required by subparagraphs (a) to (e) of paragraph 1 of Regulation 3 to be given with respect to a proposed time trial.

(2) The holding of a bicycle race shall not be treated as authorised under this Regulation unless the circumstances in which it is held and conducted accord with the particulars given in accordance with paragraph (1) of this Regulation:

Provided that this paragraph shall have effect subject to any condition which may be imposed on the holding or conduct of the race under Regulation 8.

8. (1) An appropriate officer of police may, when authorising the holding of a bicycle race under Regulation 6 or 7, impose such conditions as he may think fit on the holding or conduct of the race so far as it takes place on a public highway.

(2) If an appropriate officer of police to whom notice has been given under Regulation 5 of a proposal to hold a bicycle race to be held and conducted in accordance with the standard conditions considers it desirable that conditions should be imposed on the holding or conduct of the race he may impose such conditions for that purpose as he may think fit and if he does so Regulation 5 shall not apply to that race but instead the holding of the race shall be treated as authorised by this Regulation, subject nevertheless to the conditions imposed under this paragraph and to the standard conditions so far as they are not affected by the conditions so imposed.

(3) The holding of a bicycle race shall not be treated as authorised by paragraph (2) of this regulation unless the circumstances in which it is held and conducted accord with the particulars given in accordance with Regulation 5

Provided that this paragraph shall have effect subject to any conditions which may be imposed on the holding or conduct of the race under paragraph (2) of this Regulation.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Regulation the conditions which may be imposed on the holding or conduct of a bicycle race by an appropriate officer of police may include conditions relating to all or any of the following matters:-

- (a) the days on which and the times during which the race shall be held,
- (b) the places on a public highway where the race is or is not to start or finish,
- (c) any public highway, or any part of a public highway, on which the race is not to be held,
- (d) the number of competitors who may take part,
- (e) the arrangements to be made by the promoters for marshalling assisting

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to help with their general meaning)*

These Regulations (which apply in England and Wales) provide for the authorisation of the holding of races or trials of speed between bicycles or tricycles, not being motor vehicles, on public highways. The Regulations distinguish between a race or trial of speed being a 'time-trial' and any other kind of race or trial (described by Regulation 2(1) as a 'bicycle race') and provide:-

- (1) That the holding of a time trial is authorised if notice of the proposal to hold the trial, containing particulars with respect to it, is given to the police (Regulation 3 (1));
- (2) that the holding of a bicycle race is authorised if it is held and conducted in accordance with the conditions specified in Regulations 5 (1)(a) and the like notice as aforesaid with respect to the race is given to the police (Regulation 3) (1);
- (3) that in the case of a time trial or such a bicycle race as aforesaid, of which the required notice has not been given or where the necessary particulars with respect to the trial or race have not been given, or where changes are proposed in the circumstances affecting the trial or race which affect the particulars which have been given, the police, if given notice the particulars or, as the case may be, particulars of the said changes may authorise the trial or race to be held (Regulation 4(1) and 6(1));
- (4) that in the case of a bicycle race which is not a race proposed to be held and conducted in circumstances which comply with the conditions specified in Regulation 5 (i) (a), the police may, if application is made to them and the like particulars as aforesaid with respect to the race are given to them, authorise the race to be held (Regulation 7 (1));
- (5) that in the case of any bicycle race, the police may impose conditions subject to which it may be held and conducted (Regulation 8).

Please note: The Sports Council is supporting a project to review these regulations to suit the requirements of modern traffic conditions, balanced against the needs of various sports, including cycle racing, to participate in races on the road.