

DISPOSAL OF VEHICLES

Partially wrecked or complete vehicles, of any type, waiting for disposal can quickly become totally unacceptable to immediate neighbours and others who live in the local community.

- Vehicles for disposal should be disposed of by professional vehicle removers, or taken to a suitable vehicle recycling depot.
- Vehicles for recycling should be removed with a minimum of delay.
- Ensure that all fluids and gases have been drained from the vehicle and disposed of properly prior to disposing of the vehicle.
- When taking a vehicle for disposal at a vehicle recycling depot, ensure that it and any loose components are properly secured to the carrying vehicle.

CONCLUSION

Observance of the preceding guidelines will ensure that the hobby vehicle club movement is socially and environmentally responsible. Individual clubs should make their membership aware of these guidelines, they apply to all members – not just the club's committee.

This Code of Conduct can be used as proof of how wholesome and environmentally responsible the hobby vehicle movement really is.

Copies of this Code of Conduct can be obtained by contacting the Secretary of the AOMC, or by visiting the AOMC Information Site at Motoring Shows and Swap Meets.



Code of Conduct for Hobby Vehicle Clubs

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VEHICLE SERVICING

Due to the enormous variety of vehicles that are the foundation of the hobby vehicle club movement, it is virtually impossible to set down rules that relate to their servicing. All vehicle manufacturers publish servicing and maintenance schedules in the owners instruction book for each model. There are, however, simple guidelines which must be observed.

1. To keep exhaust emissions to the minimum hobby vehicle engines should be maintained in a proper state of engine tune.
Hobby vehicle clubs should promote vehicle maintenance schedules that minimise exhaust emissions and conserve fuel.
2. Fluids drained during vehicle servicing, in the home garage or workshop, must be disposed of in accordance with prevailing council regulations.
3. Air conditioner refrigerant gases must be skilfully removed from vehicles and disposed of by certified refrigeration technicians.
Do not vent pressurised air conditioning system refrigerant to the atmosphere.
4. Hobby vehicle clubs should promote the use of quality spare parts, or parts to exact authentic specification, in maintaining vehicles. This particularly refers to safety related components.
5. Hobby vehicle clubs should provide worthy incentive for members to ensure that the appearance of their vehicles proclaims conscientious maintenance and thus is an indication that the vehicles are safe and vigilantly maintained.
6. All hobby vehicle clubs should encourage membership participation in concour type events. These events should also contain a technical element with respect to road worthiness and acceptable exhaust emissions through conscientious engine maintenance.

VEHICLE CLUB ACTIVITIES

Hobby vehicle clubs should nurture the importance of the hobby vehicle movement being seen to be a sincere and enthusiastic section of the community. Also clubs must demonstrate that they promote environmental responsibility within the community. The operation of a hobby vehicle club should be socially acceptable.

1. Events organised by hobby vehicle clubs should cause minimum disruption to other road users.
2. Participants in club events should be regularly reminded that, on the roads, they should maintain a suitable distance behind the participating car in front, to allow other road users the courtesy of safe overtaking. Keeping the vehicle in front just in sight is a good recommendation.
3. Responsibility should be exercised when conducting events on public or private property. Hobby vehicles should be driven in a manner respecting the surroundings.
4. In the presence of small children at club events vehicles should be driven at an appropriately slow speed.
5. Parking regulations as required by councils with respect to club meetings must be observed. Street parking in the vicinity of meeting halls in residential areas may be prohibited.
6. Hobby vehicle club members should depart from late evening meetings in a quiet and responsible manner.

Code of Conduct for Hobby Vehicle Clubs

INTRODUCTION

The hobby vehicle club movement is well supported by motoring enthusiasts, be they involved with a particular vehicle marque or, be they involved purely for their club's social activities. Some hobby vehicle owners prefer to enjoy their hobby without being a member of a vehicle club. Hobby vehicle clubs are the best way of increasing the hobby vehicle experience and furthering knowledge of the activity.

Hobby vehicle clubs should adhere strongly to the ethics of the hobby vehicle movement set out in this Code of Conduct. These clubs have an important role to play, firstly encouraging young people into the hobby vehicle movement and, secondly, to teach them and their older membership, how to conduct their club's activities and be involved with their hobby vehicle(s) in an environmentally responsible manner. Young people, involved with hobby vehicle clubs, are being taught to hand over hobby vehicle club activities and the environment to future generations in better shape than they are at present.

This is vitally important in these times, because there has been a comparatively recent emergence of self interest groups and environmentalists the prime aims of which are to have 'old cars and other vehicles' removed from our roads. The Association of Motoring Clubs Inc. (AOMC) has identified the necessity for a Code of Conduct to assist hobby vehicle clubs in presenting a befitting image of their conduct, when and if the need arises.

There is an element within the general community that sees association with old vehicles as being environmentally ruinous. This can easily be proved not to be the case.

It has always been the case that a club of any form or type, must present a pure and legitimate form to those who are not members of that club. In other words the image presented should be 'squeaky clean'. This applies to the club's membership and to their vehicles.

This Code of Conduct for Hobby Vehicle Clubs helps to blueprint the car club membership and hobby vehicle movement as being responsible in all respects. This means hobby vehicle club members being responsible with respect to the involvement of hobby vehicles in:

- (i) Vehicle storage
- (ii) Vehicle restoration
- (iii) Compliance with local council regulations
- (iv) Road use and competition behaviour
- (v) Vehicle club activities
- (vi) Vehicle servicing
- (vii) Disposal of vehicles

This document sets out guidelines for responsible ownership and club membership and should be used in discussions with those who are critical of the hobby vehicle movement, or are ill informed about the movement's operation – from whatever source.

This Code of Conduct can be copied or re-printed, in club newsletters without permission, for club use provided that the AOMC source is properly acknowledged. The first issue is sent to clubs free of charge, subsequent copies can be ordered and will be charged for at a nominal fee.

- 4. Participants in club events should be regularly reminded that, on the roads, they should maintain a suitable distance behind the participating car in front, to allow other road users the courtesy of safe overtaking. Keeping the vehicle in front just in sight is a good recommendation.
- 5. Hobby vehicle club members should depart from late evening meetings in a quiet and responsible manner.
- 6. Hobby vehicles should, where practically possible, emit no excessive exhaust fumes or smoke. Do not drive a hobby vehicle while it is emitting excessive amounts of smoke.
- 7. Hobby vehicles should be maintained in a condition that keeps them roadworthy and safe to use on the public roads. The vehicles should also be in a condition that is visibly respectable.
Hobby vehicle with obviously worn tyres, worn suspension, steering and braking system components, or damaged front or rear lights should not be driven. Those vehicles in obviously neglected condition attract the attention of law enforcers and self interest groups.
- 8. Oil and other fluid leakage should be kept to a minimum.
- 9. Hobby vehicles used for competition purposes should be driven with due respect to other participants and road users at the time.

6. Dispose of workshop rubbish and empty fluid containers in the local council approved manner. If in doubt, contact the appropriate department at the council offices.
Do not place workshop rubbish with household garbage for collection by council contractors.
Do not place contaminated empty/part-full containers in recycle bins.
7. Where possible, make use of Council recycling schemes and facilities.

ROAD USE AND COMPETITION BEHAVIOUR

It is during road use and participation in club events that the hobby vehicle is on display to others. It is important that the hobby vehicle movement is seen to be a sincere and enthusiastic section of the community. Also it must also be demonstrated as being environmentally responsible within the community. The use of a hobby vehicle on public roads and competition venue should be socially acceptable.

1. Hobby vehicles must comply with Registration or Victorian Club Permit Scheme requirements in force at the time of their use on public roads.
2. Hobby vehicles must have adequate third party insurance at the time of their use on public roads.
3. Hobby vehicles should be driven on public roads in such a manner as to set a conscientious example with respect to road rules.

VEHICLE STORAGE

Within the hobby vehicle movement, because of its alignment with vehicle preservation, there can be a significant number of vehicles in storage. These vehicles can be awaiting restoration when the time is right, or they could be stored as a source of spare parts. No matter what the reason for storage, it must be done in a socially acceptable manner:

1. Preferably a vehicle should be stored out of the sight of passers-by and neighbours. Ideally they should be stored in a garage or shed which complies with local council disciplines. This has several benefits – the vehicles are kept dry, they do not rot due to the accumulation of wet leaves, they are accessible, there is a degree of security against vandalism and components being stolen.
2. Vehicles should not be stored at the front of a property where they quickly can become an eyesore, invite pilfering, graffiti and vandalism. If there is no shed space, discuss yard storage with neighbours before placing a vehicle into long term storage. Perhaps a suitable screen can hide the vehicle.
3. Spare parts and component assemblies should be stored in buildings in a tidy manner away from the front of the property to prevent pilfering and scattering.
4. Vehicles on trailers or on recovery vehicles should be securely tied to the trailer/truck bed during transportation. Loose components must also be secured in such a manner so that they are not a danger to other road users.
Trailer towing must comply with those regulations in force regarding the tow vehicle's towing capacity, trailer's carrying capacity and the trailer's braking and lighting systems.
5. Oils, coolants and other fluids, leaking from vehicles or components, should not be permitted to drain to soil or storm water to avoid pollution of rivers and water supplies.
6. Air conditioner refrigerant gas, of any type, must not be permitted to escape into the atmosphere.

VEHICLE RESTORATION

It is the ambition of many enthusiasts to accomplish that restoration one's self, in the home workshop or garage. This is a very worthwhile ambition to have, however, there are some simple guidelines that should be observed:

1. Use safe working practices at all times. Wear masks, safety goggles, gloves. Excessive accidents in home restoration activities could result in calls for the banning of this hobby.
2. Keep a suitable fire extinguisher close by while welding and grinding or while using volatile liquids.
Store fuels, paint and chemicals in suitable containers in an area separate from the work area. Safety regulations limit the amount of flammable liquids on a site.
3. Keep the work area tidy at all times.
4. Use proper restoration techniques, by conforming to the vehicle's original design specification, with respect to vehicle's safety and related components. Be aware of chassis/body changes that require an Engineering Report.
The hobby vehicle movement can not tolerate vehicles that are unsafe to drive and are unsafe to other innocent motorists and pedestrians.
5. Advise neighbours of those proposed activities that may affect them. These could be fumes, dust and noise, electrical interference and loading due to welding etc. Maintain an awareness of wind direction as a consideration to neighbours.
6. Keep as much of the restoration process in the garage/workshop as possible. Install a suitable fume and dust extraction system. Collect dust particles and dispose of them properly.
7. Abide by council regulations with respect to paint removal and application. Health and safety regulations should be observed when spray painting.

8. Keep noise to a minimum, use such noise emitting equipment as angle grinders, drills, compressors and sanders during 'working hours'. Neighbours should be informed about noisy activities, temporary noise reduction screens can be erected.
Do not commence noisy activities late at night or early in the morning.
9. Finished, or part finished vehicles should not be driven on public roads in an unregistered or non club permitted state – even for test purposes.

COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL COUNCIL REGULATIONS

At all times activities which involve hobby vehicles should comply with local council regulations. Be aware of any new regulations/laws that are introduced.

1. Some councils require that vehicles must not be parked/stored on the nature strip fronting residential properties.
2. Vehicles should not be serviced or dismantled on a public roadway.
3. Some councils provide engine coolant, oils and battery reclamation facilities.
4. Councils can impose a limit on the number of vehicles kept on a residential property.
5. Vehicles should not display 'For Sale' notices, either while being driven or when parked on public roads.