

to the participation of children in events. An education campaign explaining how consent forms work and the notion of guardianship could perhaps be undertaken.

- E. Should we be concerned about defactos signing indemnity forms? Is it sufficient for us to have on the form – “parent or legal guardian”?

Given the person declaring or signing the deed is stating that they are the parent or legal guardian that should be enough for MA to rely upon in assuming that person is the legal guardian. How far does MA have to go to ascertain whether a person is or isn't the parent or guardian of a particular junior rider? The answer is as far as reasonable. The declaration that they are the legal guardian is sufficient for MA to rely upon.

- F. Is one parent's signature on the indemnity form sufficient in cases where the parents are separated but share custody?

Again how does MA know if a couple are divorced or separated or if there are custody issues? How far does MA have to go? If a person declares a form and represents that they have custody and or control of a junior rider then MA can rely upon that declaration. Where parents are separated or divorced and MA knows about this then it may be prudent to write and seek written (preferably) confirmation that both parents have no difficulty in the rider competing. This would avoid any challenge against MA where one parent allows a junior rider to ride contrary to the other parent's wishes.

- G. How should we treat 16/17 year olds who are able to drive themselves to meetings either as competitors or officials when it is time to sign-on for the day?

16/17 year olds still require parental consent to ride. In these circumstances (grey as they are) it may be useful to seek and obtain from the parents a written standing consent at the start of the year or season, particularly where the 16/17 year old is an official.



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