

1977 No. 2155 (N.I. 26)

NORTHERN IRELAND

The Road Races (Northern Ireland) Order 1977

*Laid before Parliament in draft*

*Made*

21st December 1977

*Coming into Operation*

4th January 1978

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 21st day of December 1977

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas a draft of this Order has been approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Act 1974 (a) and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

*Title and commencement*

1. This Order may be cited as the Road Races (Northern Ireland) Order 1977 and shall come into operation on the fourteenth day after the day on which it is made.

*Interpretation*

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 (b), except section 38, shall apply to Article 1 and the following provisions of this Order as it applies to a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

(2) In this Order—

“authorised person” means a person authorised in writing by the promoters;

“the Department” means the Department of the Environment;

“the Dundrod Circuit” means the race-course in the County of Antrim approximately twelve thousand, three hundred and sixty-five yards in length, constructed by the Council of the County of Antrim by virtue of the Scheme and particularly delineated by means of an unbroken red line on the map or plan annexed to the Scheme; and includes such portion not exceeding two hundred and fifty yards in length as may be designated in any order made under Article 4 (2) of this Order of any road opening off the said race-course which the Department thinks it expedient to close for the safety of the public;

“enactment” includes any provision in any Act (whether public, general, local or private) of the Parliament of Northern Ireland or of the Parliament of the United Kingdom and a provision in any Order in Council, order, regulation, rule, bye-law, scheme or other instrument made under any such Act;

“hill-climbing competition” means any test or trial of speed to ascertain the time taken by competing motor cars in the ascent of a length of hilly road not exceeding three miles;

“motor car” includes motor cycle;

“motor race” means a race held on roads with motor cars, and, except for the purposes of Article 3 (2) and (3), includes any hill-climbing competition;

“promoter” means any person promoting or intending to promote a race;

“the race area” means an area contained within a perimeter consisting of straight lines connecting road junctions surrounding the Dundrod Circuit and distant from it not less than half a mile nor more than two and a half miles;

“race” means any motor race held by virtue of an order made under this Order, or any race with pedal bicycles so held, and includes any practice or trial authorised by the relevant order as preliminary to any race;

“road” means public road, and includes trunk road;

“the Scheme” means the scheme formulated by the Council of the County of Antrim in relation to the Dundrod Circuit and approved on the 3rd of November 1949 by the Ministry of Health and Local Government under section 26 of the Development of Tourist Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1948 (a) and includes any variation or modification made in the Scheme after the making of this Order;

“spectator badge” means such badge or ticket as the promoters of any race may be authorised by any order made under Article 4 (2) to provide in respect of persons and to place on sale;

“vehicle badge” means such badge, disc or ticket as the promoters of any race may be authorised by any order made under Article 4 (2) to provide in respect of vehicles and to place on sale.

(3) For the purposes of section 42 (2) of the Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 (b) (validity of Acts of the Parliament of Northern Ireland), provisions of this Order which re-enact provisions of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland shall be deemed to be provisions of such an Act.

### *Motor races*

#### *Orders authorising motor races*

3.—(1) The Department may, upon the application of any promoter, by order declare that any roads specified in the order may be used for motor races during the whole or any part of any days so specified.

(2) Subject to paragraph (7), the Department shall not make an order under paragraph (1) in any year except where an application is made under this Article and the Department, not later than 31st March in that year, grants the application.

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(a) 1948 c. 4.

(b) 1973 c. 36.

(3) Subject to paragraph (7), the Department may not make more than ten orders under paragraph (1) in any calendar year.

(4) Notwithstanding anything in paragraphs (1) to (3) a road shall not be used for motor races on more than three days in any calendar year.

(5) An order under paragraph (1) shall contain all such provisions as the Department thinks fit including, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, provisions—

(a) requiring the promoter to secure such insurances and indemnities against such liabilities, injuries or damages as may be specified in the order;

(b) for the temporary suspension of the right of way of other traffic;

(c) for the temporary suspension of, and regulation of, other traffic for the safety of the public;

(d) for the restriction of speed in populous places;

(e) for other purposes incidental to the proper conduct of the motor race.

(6) The Department shall give such public notice of the provisions of an order under paragraph (1) as the Department thinks fit.

(7) Paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not apply to an order under paragraph (1) in respect of a race in which the only motor cars taking part are four-wheeled motor cars the unladen weight of each of which does not exceed three hundred-weight.

(8) For the purposes of paragraph (7), the unladen weight of a motor car shall be taken to be the weight of the motor car inclusive of any body or seating and all parts (the heavier being taken where alternative bodies or parts are used) which are necessary to or ordinarily used with the motor car when racing, but exclusive of the weight of fuel used for the purpose of the supply of power for the propulsion of the motor car and of loose tools and loose equipment.

#### *Special provisions as respects the Dundrod Circuit*

##### *Orders respecting the Dundrod Circuit*

4.—(1) Article 3 shall have effect in relation to the Dundrod Circuit with the substitution for paragraphs (1) and (4) of the following provisions of this Article.

(2) On the application of any promoter the Department may make an order declaring that the Dundrod Circuit may be used for motor races during the whole or any part of any days (not exceeding three in number) specified in the order.

(3) An order under paragraph (2) may—

(a) provide that persons or vehicles shall not be permitted to enter the race area during the days or parts of days specified in the order other than—

(i) any person or vehicle exempted by that order or otherwise in pursuance of this Order;

(ii) any person by or in respect of whom a spectator badge is produced to a constable or authorised person;

(iii) any vehicle displaying a vehicle badge, or any vehicle the driver or person in charge of which produces a vehicle badge to a constable or authorised person;

- (b) fix a price or prices for a spectator badge and vehicle badge not exceeding in respect of each person or, as the case may be, each vehicle such amount as may be prescribed by regulations made by the Department subject to affirmative resolution;

and, so far as practicable, the order shall provide for the exemption from the requirements imposed by virtue of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of—

- (i) persons residing in the race area;
- (ii) vehicles usually kept in the race area; and
- (iii) persons or vehicles entering or leaving the race area for purposes unconnected with the races in respect of which the order is made.

#### *Application of proceeds of sale of badges*

5.—(1) Where motor races have been held by virtue of an order made under Article 4 (2), the promoter, where he is a person other than Lisburn Borough Council, shall submit to such audit as may be required by that Council the accounts relating to the provision and sale of vehicle and spectator badges and shall pay to that Council the proceeds of such sale.

(2) Lisburn Borough Council shall apply as receipts in accordance with Clause 8 of the Scheme—

- (a) any money paid to it under paragraph (1);
- (b) the proceeds of the sale of vehicle and spectator badges in respect of any motor race promoted by the Council.

#### *Pedal cycle races*

6. Articles 3 to 5 (other than Article 3 (2) and (3)) shall have effect in relation to the use of the Dundrod Circuit for races with pedal bicycles as they have effect in relation to the use thereof for motor races.

#### *General*

##### *Regulation of traffic*

7.—(1) The Chief Constable may give such directions as he thinks fit respecting the control, during the continuance of any race and such time before and after the race as he may direct, of vehicular and other traffic of every description proceeding to and from the races and within the race area, and the Department shall give such public notice of the directions as the directions shall require.

(2) Directions given under paragraph (1) shall have effect notwithstanding anything in any enactment.

(3) Where an order has been made under Article 4 (2), the Department may, after consultation with the Chief Constable, by public notice specify the roads or other approaches which shall, or shall not, be permitted to be used for entry into the race area, and the points on the road or approaches permitted to be so used at which—

- (a) the driver or person in charge of any vehicle, other than a vehicle exempted from the requirements of the order, will be required to display or produce a vehicle badge, and
- (b) any other person, other than a person exempted from the requirements of the order, will be required to produce a spectator badge, before entering the race area.

*Suspension of certain restrictions as to speed, etc.*

8. No provision of any enactment which—

- (a) restricts the speed of, or affects the manner of driving, motor cars or use of pedal bicycles; or
- (b) prohibits or restricts the driving or use or speed thereof on specified roads or within specified limits or places; or
- (c) imposes any penalty in respect of the infringement of any such provision;

shall apply to any motor car or pedal bicycle or the driver or rider thereof, while actually engaged in a race, save in so far as any such provision may be incorporated in the relevant order.

*Enforcement*

9.—(1) Any person who—

- (a) wilfully and unlawfully obstructs or interferes with the conduct of any race;
- (b) without due authority enters or remains on any road closed by virtue of an order made under this Order; or
- (c) otherwise wilfully contravenes any provision made under this Order or of any directions or notice under Article 7;

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £10.

(2) Any person—

- (a) who obstructs or interferes with the conduct of a race; or
- (b) without due authority enters or remains on a road closed by virtue of an order made under this Order;

may together with any vehicle or animal in his charge be removed by any constable or authorised person.

*Expenses*

10.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), any expenses incurred by the Department under this Order shall be defrayed by the promoters; and the Department may, as a condition precedent to the making of an order, require the promoters to deposit or give security for such sum as in the opinion of the Department is sufficient to defray such expenses.

(2) Any expenses incurred by Lisburn Borough Council as promoters of any race held on the Dundrod Circuit shall be defrayed by the Council in accordance with Clause 8 of the Scheme.

*Repeals*

11. The enactments specified in the Schedule are hereby repealed to the extent shown in column 3 of the Schedule.

*N. E. Leigh,*  
Clerk of the Privy Council.

Article 11.

SCHEDULE

REPEALS

Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
1950 c. 17.	The Road Races Act (Northern Ireland) 1950.	The whole Act.
1967 c. 17.	The Road Races (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1967.	The whole Act.
1972 c. 1.	The Road Races (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1972.	The whole Act.

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This Note is not part of the Order.)*

**This Order consolidates the Road Races Act (Northern Ireland) 1950 and related enactments.**