



ADVICE TO PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS RE RIDING ON FLOATS

The safe carriage of people on vehicles is of concern to police, and organizers. Additionally there are Police and civil liability issues for organizers, drivers and persons operating pageant floats and vehicles.

The Australian road rules prohibit persons riding in or on any part of a vehicle (or trailer) that is not designed for passengers.

Rule 268 Australian Road Rules, (In part)

How persons must travel in or on a motor vehicle

- (1) A person must not travel in or on a part of a motor vehicle that is not a part designed primarily for the carriage of passengers or goods*
- (2) A person must not travel in or on a part of a motor vehicle that is a part designed primarily for the carriage of goods if the part is not enclosed*

This effectively means no person rides anywhere on a vehicle except in a seat provided with a seat belt. Should all seating positions be filled, additional persons (Not children) may use a fully enclosed part of a vehicle.

The safety of pageant participants riding on floats is ensured by the issue of a road closure order. This order suspends some provisions of the Road traffic Act and permits people to ride on floats and vehicles WITHIN the closed road area in a safe and controlled environment.

It has been noted that many people are traveling to the pageant assembly point and leaving the dispersal areas with participants on the floats and vehicles.

The dispersal and assembly points are within the road closed area and are there to ensure the safety of everyone,

Drivers have also been setting down people from their floats outside the dispersal area and in particular in the Morphet St.

This is unnecessary and potentially dangerous and has caused serious congestion and blocking of surrounding intersections requiring police intervention.

Please help with the safe management of this pageant by planning for the delivery and collection of the people on your float and ensure it is a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

**Brian Schmidt.
Traffic Manager,
Hills Murray Traffic Police.**