



## **ADVICE TO PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS RE RIDING ON FLOATS**

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

The Australian Road Rules prohibit persons from riding in or on any part of a vehicle (or trailer) that is not designed for the carriage of passengers.

Rule 268 Australian Road Rules, (in part) states;

### **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 unless:
  - (a) the part is enclosed; and*
  - (b) he or she occupies a seating position fitted with a seat belt.**

This effectively means that no person should ride anywhere on a vehicle except in a seat provided with a seat belt. If all seating positions with seat belts are occupied then additional people, not being children, may occupy any fully enclosed part of a vehicle.

The safety of pageant participants riding on floats is ensured by the issue of a Road Closure Order pursuant to the Road Traffic Act. This order suspends some provisions of the Road Traffic Act and permits people to ride on floats and vehicles but only within the defined road closed area which is deemed a safe and controlled environment.

Assembly and dispersal points are within the road closure area and are there to ensure the safety of participants and other members of the community.

It has been noted that many people are travelling to the pageant assembly area and leaving the dispersal area with participants remaining on floats and vehicles. This is unnecessary, potentially dangerous and breaches the Australian Road Rules.

Please assist in the safe management of this pageant by planning for the delivery and collection of the people on your float from the designated areas only and ensure it is a safe end enjoyable experience for everyone.

For any further information please contact the Mount Barker Police Station on 8398 1700.

Martyn Bond  
Traffic Manager  
Hills Fleurieu Local Service Area.