OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

TIM RYLES
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMMISSIONER
COMPTROLLER GENERAL

SEVENTH FLOOR, WEST TOWER
FLOYD BUILDING
2 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DRIVE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

BEFORE THE SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	DOCKET NUMBER
MOTOR VEHICLE RACETRACKS AND GRANDSTANDS	)	SF-92-R-11

ORDER

On October 5, 1992, notice of intent to adopt rule changes and notice of hearing were given regarding the proposal of the Safety Fire Commissioner to amend the Rules and Regulations of the Office of Safety Fire Commissioner as follows:

Chapter 120-3-18 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled "Rules and Regulations for Fire Inspection and Certification of Motor Vehicle Racetracks and Grandstands" is hereby amended by deleting paragraph (2) of Rule 120-3-18-.02, entitled "Administration," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (2). Rule 120-3-18-.03, entitled "Definitions," is hereby amended by deleting paragraph (5) entitled "Grandstands" in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (5) entitled "Grandstands." Rule 120-3-18-.05, entitled "Standards for Grandstands Used for Places of Assembly," is hereby amended by deleting said rule in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof

a new Rule 120-3-18-.05, entitled "Standards for Grandstands Used for Places of Assembly." Rule 120-3-18-.07, entitled "Fire Suppression Equipment and Personnel and Ambulance Service," is amended by deleting paragraph (2), entitled "Fire Extinguishers," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (2) , entitled "Fire Extinguishers." Rule 120-3-18-.07 is further amended by deleting paragraph (4), entitled "Ambulance Service (all tracks and courses)," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (4) entitled "Ambulance Service (all tracks and courses)." Rule 120-3-18-.11, entitled "Storage, Handling and Use of Liquified Petroleum Gases" is hereby amended by deleting paragraph (1), entitled "General," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (1), entitled "General." Rule 120-3-18-.13, entitled "Severability," is hereby amended by deleting said rule in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new Rule 120-3-18-.13 entitled "Severability." Chapter 120-3-18 is further amended by adding a new Rule 120-3-18-.14, entitled "Notes."

The proposal has been approved as to legality by the Attorney General, as is evidenced by a letter dated October 27, 1992, from Rebecca S. Mick, Staff Attorney, Department of Law, State of Georgia.

Opportunity was given to interested persons to participate in the proposed rulemaking by submitting their written data, views, or arguments by November 3, 1992 and opportunity was also given to persons to participate in the proposed rulemaking by submitting oral views, data, or arguments at a hearing held on November 10,

1992. All written comments received prior to or during the hearing held on November 10, 1992, were made a part of the record of the hearing. At the hearing, Dwayne Garris, on behalf of the Safety Fire Division of the Office of Safety Fire Commissioner, appeared to explain the purpose of the proposed amendment. No interested persons appeared at the hearing to submit oral views, data or arguments in regard to the proposed amendment.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§50-13-21, 25-2-4, and 33-2-9, the Safety Fire Commissioner adopts and promulgates the proposed amendment to the Rules and Regulations of the Office of the Safety Fire Commissioner, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

It is ordered that the amendments to Chapter 120-3-18 of the Rules and Regulations of the Office of Safety Fire Commissioner shall become effective twenty days after proper filing is made with the Office of Secretary of State.

Given under my Hand and Official Seal this 14 day of December, 1992.

TIM RYLES
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

TIM RYLES
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
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BEFORE THE SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	
	)	DOCKET NUMBER
MOTOR VEHICLE RACETRACKS AND GRANDSTANDS	)	SF-92-R-11

RECOMMENDED DECISION

On October 5, 1992, notice of intent to adopt rule changes and notice of hearing were given regarding the proposal of the Safety Fire Commissioner to amend the Rules and Regulations of the Office of Safety Fire Commissioner as follows:

Chapter 120-3-18 of the Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner entitled "Rules and Regulations for Fire Inspection and Certification of Motor Vehicle Racetracks and Grandstands" is hereby amended by deleting paragraph (2) of Rule 120-3-18-.02, entitled "Administration," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (2). Rule 120-3-18-.03, entitled "Definitions," is hereby amended by deleting paragraph (5) entitled "Grandstands" in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (5) entitled "Grandstands." Rule 120-3-18-.05, entitled "Standards for Grandstands Used for

Places of Assembly," is hereby amended by deleting said rule in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new Rule 120-3-18-.05, entitled "Standards for Grandstands Used for Places of Assembly." Rule 120-3-18-.07, entitled "Fire Suppression Equipment and Personnel and Ambulance Service," is amended by deleting paragraph (2), entitled "Fire Extinguishers," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (2) , entitled "Fire Extinguishers." Rule 120-3-18-.07 is further amended by deleting paragraph (4), entitled "Ambulance Service (all tracks and courses)," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (4) entitled "Ambulance Service (all tracks and courses)." Rule 120-3-18-.11, entitled "Storage, Handling and Use of Liquified Petroleum Gases" is hereby amended by deleting paragraph (1), entitled "General," in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (1), entitled "General." Rule 120-3-18-.13, entitled "Severability," is hereby amended by deleting said rule in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new Rule 120-3-18-.13 entitled "Severability." Chapter 120-3-18 is further amended by adding a new Rule 120-3-18-.14, entitled "Notes."

The proposal has been approved as to legality by the Attorney General, as is evidenced by a letter dated October 27, 1992, from Rebecca S. Mick, Staff Attorney, Department of Law, State of Georgia.

Opportunity was given to interested persons to participate in the proposed rulemaking by submitting their written data, views, or arguments by November 3, 1992, and opportunity was given to persons to participate in the proposed rulemaking by submitting oral views,

data, or arguments at a hearing held on November 10, 1992. All written comments received prior to or during the hearing held on November 10, 1992, were made a part of the record of the hearing. At the hearing, Dwayne Garris, on behalf of the Safety Fire Division of the Office of Safety Fire Commissioner, appeared to explain the purpose of the proposed amendment. No interested persons appeared at the hearing to submit oral views, data or arguments in regard to the proposed amendment.

It is recommended that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§50-13-21, 25-2-4, and 33-2-9, the Safety Fire Commissioner adopt and promulgate the proposed amendment to the Rules and Regulations of the Office of the Safety Fire Commissioner, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference.

Respectfully submitted this 14 day of December, 1992.

Deborah Owens

DEBORAH OWENS
ASSISTANT HEARING OFFICER
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
SAFETY FIRE DIVISION

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE
RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
CHAPTER 120-3-18

The Rules and Regulations of the Safety Fire Commissioner Chapter 120-3-18 entitled "RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE RACETRACKS AND GRANDSTANDS" are hereby amended as follows:

In the Table of Contents add a new rule to read as follows:

"120-3-18-.14 Notes."

Rule 120-3-18-.02 Entitled "Administration" is amended by deleting paragraph (2) in its entirety and substituting in its place the following:

"(2) It is prohibited for any person, firm or corporation to operate any motor vehicle racetrack or other facility, by whatever name called, within this state without first having a Certificate of Occupancy issued by the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal. This Certificate of Occupancy shall be issued by the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal only when the authority having jurisdiction is satisfied that such Rules and Regulations have been complied with. The fee for such Certificate shall be as specified in O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-4."

Rule 120-3-18-.03 Entitled "Definitions" is amended by deleting paragraph (5) in its entirety and substituting in its place the following:

"(5) GRANDSTANDS: Any permanent structure used for the purpose of general assembly outlined in NFPA 102 as specified by Chapter 120-3-3."

Rule 120-3-18-.05 Entitled "Standards for Grandstands Used for Places of Assembly" is amended by deleting it in its entirety and substituting in its place the following main paragraphs:

"Standards for Grandstands Used for Places of Assembly

(1) New Construction: All grandstands shall be designed by a Georgia registered architect or engineer and constructed to conform with NFPA 102 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3. A complete set of plans and specifications shall be reviewed, approved and a construction permit issued by the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal prior to construction. A fee as specified in O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-4.1 shall be charged for reviewing the plans and specifications. The responsible registered architect or engineer shall notify the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal in writing 21 days before the grandstand(s) are 80% complete so that an inspection can be scheduled and conducted and again 21 days before the grandstand(s) are 100% complete. A certificate of occupancy shall be issued upon compliance with all construction standards. A fee as specified in O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-4.1 will be charged for the certificate of occupancy.

(2) Existing Grandstands: Existing grandstands shall be thoroughly inspected by a representative of the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal. This inspection shall be for the purpose of determining if the grandstand(s) meet the requirements of NFPA 102 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3. If determined necessary by the inspector, the owner/operator of the facility shall be notified to have the grandstands inspected by a Georgia registered architect or engineer at the owner's/operator's expense. When an architect's or engineer's inspection is required, the owner/operator shall forward a written report of the architect's or engineer's findings to the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal for review. All discrepancies noted in the grandstands shall be corrected to comply with the requirements of this regulation.

(3) All uprights and supports shall be free of dry rot and cracking. The foundation(s) shall be of concrete and steel frame. The grandstand area shall be properly maintained at

all times, and combustibles shall not be stored on or below the grandstand(s). Portable stands shall be constructed with steel frames and all brackets shall be bolted on. Backrests, handrails and footrest shall be so designed and installed to prevent spectators from slipping through them. All walks, steps and seats shall be in good repair at all times to insure that they are free from splinters and will not crack or collapse.

(4) Exit Illumination: Where races are conducted after sundown, lighting of all exitways, aisles and walkways of the grandstand(s) shall be provided as required in NFPA 102 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3 and Sections 5-8, 5-9, and 5-10 of NFPA 101 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3."

Rule 120-3-18-.07 Entitled "Fire Suppression Equipment and Personnel and Ambulance Service" is amended by deleting paragraph (2) in its entirety and substituting in its place the following:

"(2) Fire Extinguishers

All fire extinguishers installed shall be located and be recognizable so as to be readily available to anyone. Fire extinguishers shall be distributed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 10 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3, Chapter 120-3-23 and O.C.G.A. Title 25, Chapter 12."

120-3-18-.07 is further amended by deleting paragraph (4) it in its entirety and substituting in its place the following:

"(4) Ambulance Service (all tracks and courses)

During each racing event, including time trials or testing, at least one (1) ambulance licensed in accordance with O.C.G.A. Title 31, Chapter 11, Article 2, with a qualified driver and medic shall be on location prior to the event commencing. When only one ambulance licensed in accordance with O.C.G.A. Title 31, Chapter 11, Article 2, is on location and must leave, the event shall stop and not be restarted until such an ambulance has been returned to the track."

Rule 120-3-18-.11 Entitled "Storage, Handling and Use of Liquefied Petroleum Gases" is amended by deleting paragraph (1) in its entirety and substituting in its place the following:

"(1) General

Storage, handling and use of liquefied petroleum gases shall be in accordance with NFPA 54 and NFPA 58 as specified in Chapter 120-3-14 and Chapter 120-3-16."

Rule 120-3-18-.13 Entitled "Severability" shall be amended by deleting it in its entirety and substituting in its place the following:

"If any rule or portion thereof contained in this Chapter is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the rules herein and the applicability of such provisions to other circumstances shall not be affected thereby."

Chapter 120-3-18 Entitled "RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE RACETRACKS AND GRANDSTANDS" Shall be further amended by adding a new rule 120-3-18-.14 to read as follows:

"120-3-18-.14 Notes

(1) The National Fire Protection Association Standards adopted in this chapter are on file in the office of the State Fire Marshal and are available for viewing.

(2) Copies of the National Fire Protection Association Standards may be obtained from:

National Fire Protection Association
Batterymarch Park
Quincy, Massachusetts 02269"

6-25-87

RULES
OF
SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER

CHAPTER 120-3-18

RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR
FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
OF
MOTOR VEHICLE RACETRACKS AND GRANDSTANDS

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120-3-18-.14	Notes

NOTE: These regulations are directed primarily for the construction of four types of racetracks: the oval, the drag strip, road race course, and the crazy eight. No attempt has been made to establish specific design in detail for each of the four tracks primarily involved. It must be realized that the terrain of the track itself could, in some cases, create an undue hazard or on the other hand, promote a particular safety feature with reference to the elevation of the land in relation to the track itself.

An on-site inspection of all existing tracks and/or strips as well as all new proposed tracks or strips shall be made to determine the overall requirements as setforth in these regulations. This on-site inspection, along with the adherence to the written rules and regulations, shall determine whether such track or strip shall be issued a Certificate of Occupancy.

120-3-18-.01 Promulgation and Purpose

(1) These Rules and Regulations for Motor Vehicle Racetracks and Grandstands are promulgated by the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner in accordance with the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner Act, as amended. It shall be understood that these are minimum requirements that should provide reasonable safety to spectators during racing events and does not necessarily include requirements to protect participants and management of the racing activities.

(2) The purpose of these rules and regulations is to prevent injury and loss of life to spectators while observing and viewing motor vehicles engaged in contests of speed and/or endurance. These rules and regulations supersede former rules and regulations promulgated by the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner pertaining to motor vehicle racetracks and grandstands when such are in conflict with these rules and regulations.

120-3-18-.02 Administration

(1) General

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to operate any motor vehicle racetrack or other facility, by whatever name called, within this State whereby motor vehicles engage in any contest of speed and/or endurance unless such track or other facility is designed and constructed in such a manner to conform to the standards set forth herein.

(2) It is prohibited for any person, firm or corporation to operate any motor vehicle racetrack or other facility, by whatever name called, within this state without first having a Certificate of Occupancy issued by the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal. This Certificate of Occupancy shall be issued by the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal only when the authority having jurisdiction is satisfied that such Rules and Regulations have been complied with. The fee for such Certificate shall be as specified in O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-4.

(3) This Certificate of Occupancy shall run for the life of the occupancy provided the internal or external features of the occupancy are not materially altered, the type of occupancy remains unchanged, or there has been no fire of serious consequence or other hazard discovered.

(4) Penalty for Violation

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provisions of Title 25, Chapter 2 relative to the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner, or who shall fail or refuse to comply with any regulation promulgated hereunder shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be punished as prescribed by law, unless otherwise herein provided for.

(5) The Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner may enter into reciprocal agreements with corresponding officials from other states to establish uniform standards and qualifications for racetrack fire suppression personnel, and to provide for mutual recognition of qualified fire fighters in the respective states.

(Effective November 10, 1980)

120-3-18-.03 Definitions

The definitions contained in this section are in addition to, or in clarification of those contained in the adopted standards:

(1) COMMISSIONER: The Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner
(2) AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION: The State Fire Marshal of Georgia
(3) FIRE INSPECTORS: Properly qualified and authorized inspectors of the State Fire Marshal's Office

(4) RACETRACK: Places for holding motor vehicle races, competitive events, and exhibitions.

(5) GRANDSTANDS: Any permanent structure used for the purpose of general assembly outlined in NFPA 102 as specified by Chapter 120-3-3.

(6) QUALIFIED FIRE FIGHTER: Any active member of an organized fire department who has at least one (1) year of fire fighting experience or any person who has satisfactorily passed a written and practical test given by the State Fire Marshal's Office or any person who has been certified by the appropriate official of another state pursuant to an executed reciprocal agreement as having satisfied the requirements of the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(Effective November 10, 1980)

120-3-18-.04 Inspection Procedures

The State Fire Marshal's Office may make periodic inspections of each racetrack to determine if the required racetrack rules and regulations are being complied with. Results of each inspection shall be made available in writing to the responsible owner/operator.

The owner/operator of the facility shall be responsible for the correction of noted violations and for maintaining the facility in accordance with these rules and regulations, and shall correct any and all violations which he is aware of prior to any racing event. The State Fire Marshal and any member of his staff may conduct a fire safety inspection of any racetrack facility to ascertain whether or not the rules and regulations are being complied with. This inspection can be made prior to, or during any racing activity.

120-3-18-.05 Standards for Grandstands Used for Places of Assembly

(1) New Construction: All grandstands shall be designed by a Georgia registered architect or engineer and constructed to conform with NFPA 102 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3. A complete set of plans and specifications shall be reviewed, approved and a construction permit issued by the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal prior to construction. A fee as specified in O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-4.1 shall be charged for reviewing the plans and specifications. The responsible registered architect or engineer shall notify the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal in writing 21 days before the grandstand(s) are 80% complete so that an inspection can be scheduled and conducted and again 21 days before the grandstand(s) are 100% complete. A certificate of occupancy shall be issued upon compliance with all construction standards. A fee as specified in O.C.G.A. Section 25-2-4.1 will be charged for the certificate of occupancy.

(2) Existing Grandstands: Existing grandstands shall be thoroughly inspected by a representative of the State Fire Marshal's Office or the appropriate local fire code enforcement authority or appropriate local fire marshal. This inspection shall be for the purpose of determining if the grandstand(s) meet the requirements of NFPA 102 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3. If determined necessary by the inspector, the owner/operator of the facility shall be notified to have the grandstands inspected by a Georgia registered architect or engineer at the owner's/operator's expense.

When an architect's or engineer's inspection is required, the owner/operator shall forward a written report of the architect's or engineer's findings to the State Fire Marshal's Office for the appropriate local fire marshal for review. All discrepancies noted in the grandstands shall be corrected to comply with the requirements of this regulation.

(3) All uprights and supports shall be free of dry rot and cracking. The foundation(s) shall be of concrete and steel frame. The grandstand area shall be properly maintained at all times, and combustibles shall not be stored on or below the grandstand(s). Portable stands shall be constructed with steel frames and all brackets shall be bolted on. Backrests, handrails and footrest shall be so designed and installed to prevent spectators from slipping through them. All walks, steps and seats shall be in good repair at all times to insure that they are free from splinters and will not crack or collapse.

(4) Exit Illumination: Where races are conducted after sundown, lighting of all exitways, aisles and walkways of the grandstand(s) shall be provided as required in NFPA 102 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3 and Sections 5-8, 5-9, and 5-10 of NFPA 101 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3.

120-3-18-.06 Racetracks - Motor Vehicle

Oval Racetracks

(1) Spectator Exposure: Guard rails shall be designed to be reasonably effective in preventing vehicle penetration and redirecting errant vehicles. The minimum requirements for guard rail posts shall be six inches by six inches and of treated timbers or the equivalent, embedded a minimum of four feet and exposed a minimum of three feet, and placed on 6 foot centers. These posts shall be embedded in holes packed tightly with loose gravel and dirt. The guard rails shall be constructed two inches thick by eight inches wide oak planking or the equivalent. There shall be at least four such guard rails. The first guard rail shall be placed even with the top of the post, and the other three rails shall be placed even with the top of the post, and the other three rails shall be at one inch intervals to constitute the required four, two inch by eight inch rails. Guard rails shall be provided to protect spectator and other occupied areas where the design, layout or grand level of the areas must by protected as determined by the authority having jurisdiction. Guard rails or the equivalent are required on both sides of the track where spectators are permitted in the field.

(2) The Spectator Area(s): Shall be maintained by the owner/operator of the facility. Spectator area shall be located behind a spectator and debris control fence. This fence shall be constructed of heavy gauge wire mesh, installed on 2 5/8 inch (outside diameter) or 2 inch inside diameter pipe or the equivalent. The fence posts shall be installed on eight foot centers. All wire fences shall be grounded. These posts shall be embedded in a minimum of four feet of loose gravel and dirt. The fence shall be a minimum of 15 feet above the track level. This fence shall be so constructed and erected to withstand normal crowd control use and deflection of debris from the racetrack side.

Where metal posts are used, the wire shall be affixed to the post by lacing the wire to the post with wire of the same gauge as the wire fence. Where wood is used, the wire shall be affixed to the post with wire staples, the same size of the wire. The wire shall be hung loosely in a fashion that will permit a basket type arresting system. This fence shall be constructed to prohibit spectators access to the track area. No spectator(s) shall be permitted on the racetrack during trial runs, testing or racing events.

(3) Non- Spectator Exposed Area: Adequate metal deflectors, similar to those in highway construction and equivalent in strength, are permitted where there is no spectator exposure as determined by the authority having jurisdiction.

(4) Vehicle Mounted Fire Extinguishers: All cars that participate in racing events shall have at least one (1) 2 lb. Dry Chemical fire extinguisher installed. This extinguisher shall be Underwriter's Laboratory approved, adequately mounted, and easily accessible to the driver at all times.

(5) The pit areas shall be properly segregated from spectator exposure and where necessary, physical barricades made of adequate fencing material shall be installed. Close policing and supervision of the pit area shall be enforced at all times. Adequate type and size portable fire extinguishers shall be installed throughout the pit area. This need shall be determined by the on-site inspection.

(6) Flagman: The Flagman shall be provided with a working area that will insure his safety at all times. The flagman shall not be permitted to work on the track surface under any circumstances after racing event is in progress.

Drag Strips

Guardrails shall be designed to be reasonably effective in preventing vehicle penetration and redirecting errant vehicles. The minimum requirement for guard rail posts shall be of the highway type "I" beam with guard rails on 12-foot centers or equivalent. Posts shall be embedded in a minimum of 3 feet in concrete and exposed a minimum of 2 feet. The guard rail shall be mounted on the "I" beam beginning at the top of the "I" beam and secured with bolts and nuts a minimum of 5/8 inch diameter. Guardrails shall be erected on both sides of the strip to extend from the start to finish line. Where spectators or automobile parking are permitted beyond the finish line, the guard rail shall be extended to include these areas. Guardrails shall be erected no more than 3 feet from the edge of the track surface. The entire racing strip shall be paved.

Crowd Control Fence: (Drag Strips) A crowd control fence shall be installed a minimum of 20 feet from the guard rails. The fence shall be of the heavy chain link fence type. The fence shall be a minimum of 48 inches high and mounted on steel posts a minimum of 1/ 1/2 inch inside diameter and on 8 foot centers. A metal top rail shall be installed the entire length of the fence. The fence shall be installed in such a manner to ensure that spectators are not permitted on the track. No spectator shall be permitted on the track side of the fence during time trial runs, testing or racing events. All wire fences and metal guard rails shall be grounded.

ROAD COURSE RACETRACKS

Prior to any given race or contest, track surfaces shall be maintained in good condition.

Spectator Exposure: Guard rails shall be designed to be effective in preventing vehicle penetration and redirecting errant vehicles. Double row guard rails or other barriers shall offer similar protection such as reinforced concrete, earthen embankments, and other approved barriers shall be provided in primary spectator areas. The guard rails shall be made of steel or other materials of equivalent strength. Spacing, strength, and installation requirements shall be similar to those used in highway construction. The height, spacing, and strength shall be determined by the Inspector. A fence shall be installed not less than 25 feet behind the track guard rail for spectator control. The fence shall be constructed of adequate wire to prohibit spectator access to the immediate track-area. The minimum height of this fence shall be not less than 48 inches, and so erected that it will withstand normal crowd control use. All wire fences and metal guard rails shall be grounded.

EXCEPTION: The 25 foot distance between the track guard rails and the spectator control fence shall be reduced to a minimum of five feet when the guard rail is four feet below the spectator area elevation.

Fences shall be installed on 2 5/8 inch outside diameter steel posts or the equivalent and on 10 foot centers, and embedded in a minimum of 30 inches of concrete. A suitable metal railing or the equivalent shall be firmly secured at the top of each fence, and shall run the entire length of the fence in the primary spectator areas.

The racing pit area shall be properly segregated from spectator exposure and where necessary, physical barricades made of adequate fencing material shall be installed. Close policing and supervision of the racing pit area shall be required at all times. Adequate type and size portable fire extinguishers shall be installed throughout the racing pit area. This need shall be determined by the on-site inspection.

120-3-18-.07 Fire Suppression Equipment and Personnel and a Ambulance Service

(1) Mobile unit(s) capable of reaching any point of the track and/or grandstand(s) area(s) within two minutes after receipt or observation of an emergency, shall be on location and in service during all racing events where spectators are in attendance. This unit shall be equipped with a minimum of two (2) 25 lb Dry Chemical extinguishers. A complete approved American Red Cross Firest-Aid Kit shall be on this mobile unit and readily available at all times. At least two (2) qualified fire fighters shall be assigned to operate each unit.

(a) Super Speedways Only

Special mobile fire fighting units capable of responding and reaching any point of the track, grandstand and other areas where spectators are permitted to observe racing events shall be available during all trial runs and racing events. Sufficient fire fighting units shall be in service and equipped with a minimum of 100 lb. Dry Chemical extinguishing agent, 100 feet of hose and an all purpose discharge nozzle. Two 15 lb. CO2 fire extinguishers shall be mounted on each of these units. A complete approved American Red Cross First-Aid Kit shall be on this mobile unit and readily available at all times. A minimum of two (2) qualified fire fighters shall be assigned to operate each unit assigned.

The preceding fire equipment and personnel are minimum requirements. Additional equipment and personnel shall be determined by the senior fire officer in charge and by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

(2) Fire Extinguishers

All fire extinguishers installed shall be located and be recognizable so as to be readily available to anyone. Fire extinguishers shall be distributed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 10 as specified in Chapter 120-3-3, Chapter 120-3-23 and O.C.G.A. Title 25, Chapter 12.

(3) Dry Chemical Fire Extinguisher Preventive Maintenance

All extinguishers shall be recharged and serviced in accordance with the instructions given on the extinguisher nameplate.

Internal moisture in a Dry Chemical fire extinguisher creates a serious corrosion problem.

Periodic maintenance to ensure that moisture is not permitted to cause the unit to become unserviceable shall be accomplished by qualified personnel. An exterior identification tag shall be affixed to the extinguishing unit and shall bear the day, month and year of the maintenance check and the name of the individual making the test.

There are many various name brand Dry Chemical fire extinguishing units. Each design has a significant procedure on servicing and use. Therefore, only general inspection procedures shall be made. It is important that only those charging materials and procedures specified on the extinguisher nameplate be used. The use of other recharging materials may impair the efficiency, cause malfunction or result in rupture of the system. Recharging and testing shall include a leak test where specified. The Senior Track Official shall be responsible to see that the Dry Chemical extinguishing systems are inspected and maintained. A FM 63 form shall be completed on each system.

(4) Ambulance Service (all tracks and courses)

During each racing event, including time trials or testing, at least one (1) ambulance licensed in accordance with O.C.G.A. Title 31, Chapter 11, Article 2, with a qualified driver and medic shall be on location prior to the event commencing. When only one ambulance licensed in accordance with O.C.G.A. Title 31, Chapter 11, Article 2, is on location and must leave, the event shall stop and not be restarted until such an ambulance has been returned to the track.

(5) Access Highways and/or Roads

Each racetrack facility shall maintain a minimum of two (2) private vehicle roads for ingress and egress. Each road shall have at least two (2) lanes that shall permit two way traffic.

(6) Areas in which emergency fire trucks, wreckers, and ambulances must operate shall be free, accessible and serviceable at all times.

120-3-18-.08 Fire Evacuation Plan

The owner/operator shall be solely responsible to design a fire evacuation plan and to secure qualified personnel in crowd control measures. These personnel shall be responsible to insure that all spectators standing or seated remain in designated spectator areas. Designated aisles and other means of egress established shall be free and easily accessible at all times. Each person assigned to crowd control duties shall have a 2 1/2 gallon (loaded stream) water extinguisher or a 10 lb. multi-purpose ABC type fire extinguisher available to him within 100 feet in his assigned area. The entire spectator area shall be zoned to ensure that a crowd control officer shall not have more than 2500 spectators under his jurisdiction. Where spectators number less than 2500, at least one (1) crowd control officer shall be assigned. Crowd control officers shall be thoroughly trained in crowd control and fire extinguisher type and application.

The crowd control officer shall constantly patrol his responsible area to make sure that control is maintained at all times. In the event of fire, or other emergencies, the crowd control officer shall assist spectators in his zone to evacuate safely the area to a pre-designated place and then assist other officers as required to secure the area.

120-3-18-.09 Reporting Accidents/Injuries/Fatalities and Fires

Injuries, Fire and Fatalities

The State Fire Marshal's Office shall be notified should the following accidents occur. The notification shall be made by the quickest means available and a follow-up written report on Form FM 64 made within 24 hours.

1. A report shall be made out when:

   (a) A fatality is experienced from any cause.
   (b) When a race car injuries a spectator, racing official, participant, member of the assisting crew of a participant, employee of the track, or other person.
   (c) Any injury or fatality is caused by a failure of grandstands, guardrails, or fences.
   (d) Any injury or fatality is caused by a fire or from the fear of fire.
   (e) Any injury or fatality is caused from panic.

2. A report shall be made out on any fire which occurs within the boundaries of the racetrack.

EXCEPTIONS: This fire report excludes carburetor fires, brake fires, and electrical fires that may involve race cars and which do not create a hazard to the spectators.

120-3-18-.10 Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids

(1) General

Bulk storage, handling and dispensing of Flammable and Combustible Liquids shall be in accordance with the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner's Rules and Regulations, Chapter 120-3-11.

(2) Special provisions for Oval and Road Tracks and other tracks having defined pit areas where flammable or combustible liquids are dispensed to competition vehicles:

(a) Storage in each vehicle assigned pit area shall not exceed thirty (30) gallons of fuel in approved containers of not more than two (2) ten (10) gallon capacity containers, and except where the approved organizations sanction and rules provide for a greater quantity, and such variation is made known and approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

(b) The allowed pit storage shall be located so as to provide maximum protection from physical damage and accidental overturning of portable fuel containers.

(c) Each vehicle assigned pit area shall have at least one (1) portable Dry Chemical fire extinguisher of rating of at least 12 B.C. available and in good condition. Such extinguishers shall be checked by the senior fire official or his appointed representative prior to the start of daily events.

(d) Each track shall be equipped with sufficient space portable extinguishers as called for above to provide for one (1) spare for every ten (10) extinguishers in the pit area. Such spares shall not be in the pit area, but shall be located so as to be available to replace expended units as quickly as possible. All spares shall be checked by the senior fire official or his appointed representative prior to the start of daily events. It shall be the responsibility of the pit area to notify the senior fire official or his appointed representative of an extinguisher which has been expended or otherwise needs replacing.

(e) Prior to the start of any event, the portable storage containers may be filled and placed in a designated area outside the pit area. Such area shall be designed to prohibit the flow of spilled liquid to any other area. Diking or natural protection is acceptable, but the diked area or natural barriers shall be capable of handling 110% of the maximum total quantity of liquid which will be placed in the area. While containers with fuel are in the area, adequate fire fighting equipment and personnel shall be stationed in the immediate vicinity and with primary duty to maintain security of the area. Container openings shall have adequate caps or lids to minimize the escape of vapors. A fully approved safety container is recommended but where sanctioning organization rules permit, open top, dump type containers with a semi-tight cap or cover may be used.

(f) Bulk storage and dispensing of flammable and combustible liquids shall be in accordance with existing regulations (120-3-11). Above ground tanks shall be protected by dikes or natural barriers to prohibit the flow of spilled liquid into any area open to spectators or other areas not directly associated with dispensing of the liquids.

(3) Special Provisions for Drag Strips

(a) Each Drag Strip shall provide defined areas for competition vehicles. Such areas shall be supervised to restrict or control spectators in the immediate area where flammable and combustible liquids are stored or handled.

(b) Flammable and Combustible Liquids for competition vehicles, or any vehicle to be driven on the strip, shall be stored in approved safety containers, except that small quantities of additives may be stored in original containers provided pouring can be done without spilling. All such flammable and combustible liquids shall be kept within the area assigned to the vehicle or other defined area approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

120-3-18-.11 Storage, Handling and Use of Liquefied Petroleum Gases

(1) General

Storage, handling and use of liquefied petroleum gases shall be in accordance with NFPA 54 and NFPA 58 as specified in Chapter 120-3-14 and Chapter 120-3-16.

(2) Portable or temporary installations for concession stands.

(a) Portable cylinders shall be located outside concession stands unless other location is approved by the authority having jurisdiction. They shall be placed on a firm, level non-combustible foundation and be protected from accidental striking or overturning. Such protection may be by substantial protective posts or by securing the cylinder to the sidewall, if the stand is of substantial construction and storage capacity of the cylinder does not exceed that which can be stored immediately against a building.

(b) Portable cylinders for service to concession in permanent facilities in grandstands shall be located so that if a gas leak develops, the gas cannot be trapped in a low area or closed space. Protection as described in the above paragraph shall be provided as necessary.

(c) Portable equipment shall be maintained and kept in proper operating condition. Connections for cylinders and appliances shall be inspected prior to hook-up to ensure flares, flare nuts, or other type connectors are in good condition, and if not, they must be repaired or replaced before connections are made.

(d) All appliances, pipe or tubing, cylinders, regulators, and other equipment shall be approved for use with liquefied petroleum gases and where appropriate shall bear the approval seal or symbol of the approving agency. All equipment shall be kept in good operating condition.

120-3-18-12 Special Provisions

(1) Modification

Upon receipt of a sworn affidavit stating all relevant facts and circumstances and such other information as may be required, the State Fire Marshal may recommend to the Commissioner that specific requirements of this Chapter and the NFPA codes, standards and recommended practices adopted herein, be modified to allow alternative arrangements that will secure as nearly equivalent measures as practical for the prevention of injury to persons and property. The Commissioner in his discretion may accept the State Fire Marshal's recommendation and grant the requested modification.

120-3-18-.13 Severability

If any rule or portion thereof contained in this Chapter is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the rules herein and the applicability of such provisions to other circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

120-3-18-.14 Notes

(1) The National Fire Protection Association Standards adopted in this chapter are on file in the office of the State Fire Marshal and are available for viewing.

(2) Copies of the National Fire Protection Association Standards may be obtained from:

National Fire Protection Association
Batterymarch Park
Quincy, Massachusetts 02269