

## **Pontiac Car Club Queensland Cruise Rules**

- Please ensure your car is prepared for the journey and has adequate fuel to make it to the next scheduled stop.
- Club runs will all have a nominated leader, who will direct the activity and monitor the timetable. If we are proceeding in convoy fashion, please stay behind the leader.
- Safety is a priority of all club runs. We have been very fortunate to have not had any accidents involving member's cars on our activities. Speeding, dangerous passing and other high-risk activities are to be avoided. We are also on display to the general public and should seek to promote the club in a positive light. Or as one club put it 'if we behave like idiots, we will get a reputation as idiots'.
- If we are proceeding in convoy we present a formidable obstacle for other road users. On single lane highways we must maintain close to the posted speed limit, once the group has reached a convoy formation following a stop. The leader will initially travel at a lower speed to allow the convoy to form, then increase speed to close to the limit. If you're part of our tour group and you want to travel at a lower speed (e.g. 80km/h on a 100km/h road), please remain at the rear of the group from the departure point. The destination information will be available in the preceding week's e-news, and in some cases where navigation is difficult, a handout will be provided at the start point. You will be easier for other road users to get around as a slower car on your own rather than slowing the whole group down.
- If we come up behind a slower vehicle, including a significantly slower vehicle such as a truck, car and caravan, motorhome, vintage car etc., we will NOT commence passing on a single lane highway due to the presence of left-hand drive vehicles in the convoy which may not have a passenger for sighting. We will continue to cruise at the lower speed until a safe opportunity arises such as a passing lane or the vehicle turns off. If only a short passing lane is available, all of our group may not get through. In this case the lead cars that did get through will slow to remain in view of the others behind the obstacle vehicle.
- On dual lane highways, we will generally travel in the left-hand slower lane. Be mindful of the need of other vehicles to cut into our convoy so they can use an exit. If we come up behind slower traffic, the leader may judge it safe to pass using the right lane, but this will be particularly dependant on where our scheduled exit is. If it is nearby, we run the risk of some of our cars being in the wrong lane passing the slower vehicle when the exit appears. In these cases we will reduce speed behind the slower traffic to ensure we can all take the nearby exit safely.
- In any case, there is no mandatory requirement for any member to travel to the destination as part of the convoy. You're welcome to attend the meet point, receive any handout being provided, then proceed either in advance of or behind the main group.
- Prior to departure you should have the run leader's phone number in case of any breakdowns or problems. The run leader will have a hands-free phone available to answer calls. Depending where the problem is in the convoy, it may be possible for others to stop and assist. However keep safety in mind and rejoin the run if you aren't required. Fortunately breakdowns have been a very rare occurrence in this club as members tend to keep their cars in good condition and prepared for the run.
- Members should be compliant with road rules at all times during club activities. Speeding is a particular issue members should be cautious of. While enforcement may seem to be limited, it doesn't take much for you to lose your license and hence your ability to enjoy your hobby. You can lose your license for six months for as little as 30km/h over the limit. There's no work license either, unlike for drink-driving. More and more cameras are being rolled out, including the point-

to-point ones which are particularly effective. The ramifications of a high-range speeding infringement are savage. Don't risk it and keep enjoying your hobby.

- The Pontiac Car Club's constitution has the intent of including in the club either Pontiacs or other historic motor vehicles, but the focus is predominantly Pontiacs. The allowance of other historic vehicles was mainly to enable Pontiac-owning members to bring their other historic vehicles along on occasion. These vehicles can also be placed on club registration by us. In addition, we have a social membership category for those without a Pontiac or other historic vehicle. These members may bring along any non-historic, non-Pontiac vehicle to participate, as may a member whose qualifying vehicle is not available that day. However, in line with the wider club scene it is a well-established practice that vehicles that do not qualify (including daily-drivers):
  - a) travel at the rear of the convoy
  - b) do not park amongst member's qualifying cars at a nominated meet point or parking location and
  - c) do not park amongst member's qualifying cars at any display location including show.
- Members are expected to behave in a socially acceptable manner on club activities. Unacceptable behaviour including outbursts of anger will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary processes, up to expulsion from the club. It not only makes it difficult for other members but brings the club into disrepute with the general public. If you have a problem then see the run leader and address the issue in a mature manner.
- Members are also asked to be on guard for other bad attitudes when attending a club event. The club is not a dumping ground for all your problems or challenges of the past week. Club activities are meant to be a positive experience and that won't be the case if it's dragged down by member attitudes. The amount of swearing is a good gauge of bad attitudes infecting the club. There's no such thing as positive swearing, and it discourages families from participating and reflects the club badly to the general public. So, please, leave your anger and bad attitudes at home - or stay at home with them.
- Members are also asked to keep their alcohol consumption in check when visiting venues. Some clubs have resorted to not visiting pubs on their runs as their members could not drink in moderation. We must be aware of the potential for this to become a problem. This issue can discourage family involvement and hence the future viability of the club.
- Members may bring their domestic pets on club activities, but at all times they are the responsibility of their owners and must at all times be under their control. Normal hygiene requirements apply, requiring owners to collect and dispose of their pet's waste. Some venues we visit may not allow pets either. Owners bringing their pets along on club activities bear full and sole responsibility for any damages or injury caused by their pets. These pet owners agree to indemnify the club, its executive, the Run Leader and other club members, in respect of any claim for medical expenses, damages or compensation of any kind made as a result of their pet's actions and/or their lack of control of their pets during any club activity.

Chris Malone  
President  
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