Bluebonnet Racing Circuit Brenham Texas

Noise Management Plan

Date: **August 8th 2014**

Issue No: **1.4**

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INTRODUCTION

The Noise Management Plan (NMP) has been produced by Club Track Holdings (CTH) and Bluebonnet Racing Circuit (BRC) and provides the framework and mechanism for the management of noise relating to the motor racing circuit. CTH is the operator of Bluebonnet Racing Circuit. This Noise Management Plan has been produced by BRC with advice from multiple sources and is in full compliance with the local, State and Federal guidelines as of 1 August, 2014.

For many years motorsports has continued its efforts to reduce the sound impact on the local communities and Bluebonnet will be in the forefront of this movement. The track shall be operated under the provisions of four key planning permissions which, in summary, permit up to 355 days of operation at the standard level and up to 10 days at standard plus 10db. A key part of the planning permissions was to reduce the overall sound levels by controlling the types of vehicles that are allowed on track and to strictly monitor the results.

The NMP will be placed into service in August 2015 with the primary aim being to reduce the impact of noise within the local community while also protecting participants. In addition it provides that the necessary controls are imposed on all track related activities to ensure compliance with the planning permissions and the NAN and to mitigate the environmental impact. The NMP was subject to two reviews during the year. A comprehensive review was undertaken in early March 2014 and again in July 2014 and this version (1.4) is the result of this work.

This NMP is intended to be a dynamic management control document to ensure continual improvement. It sets out the management procedures, processes and controls which cover all aspects of mitigating the noise impact. The NMP will be constantly reviewed in line with good operational practice and in improvements in noise measurement techniques and noise silencing, and is therefore subject to revised versions being published at the discretion of CTH.

NOISE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

1. PURPOSE

1.1. The NMP is used to ensure compliance with noise Abatement Protocols and in addition to meet the requirements of CTH to ensure noise impacts are mitigated, as well as to serve as a reliable source of information for the circuit's neighbors.

2. SCOPE

2.1. The NMP applies to the use and operation of the Race Track.

3. RESPONSIBILITY & AUTHORITY

3.1. The Managing Director is responsible for overall management of the Race Track.

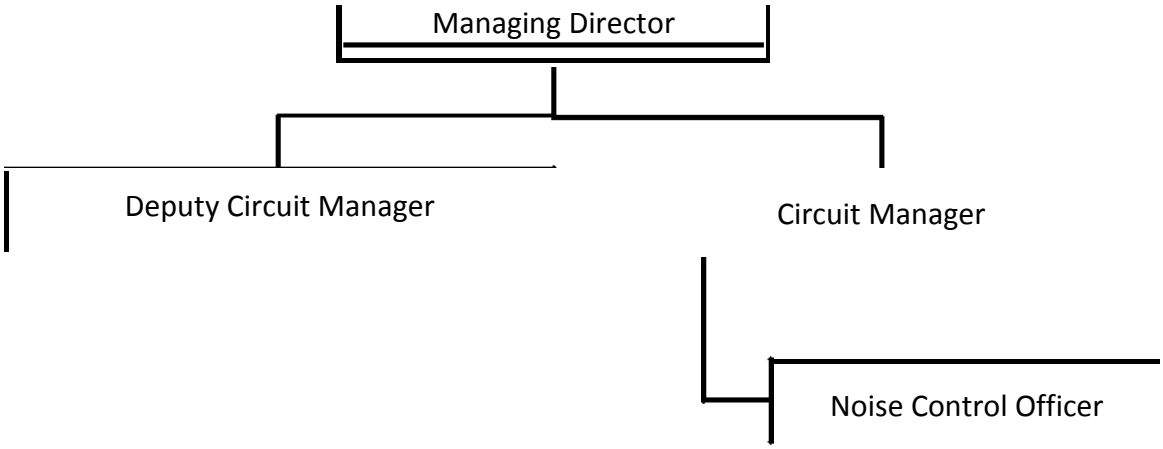
3.2. The Deputy Circuit Manager (or designee) is responsible for issuing contracts for the hire of the circuit.

3.3. The Track Manager is responsible for the day to day operation of the Race Track.

3.4. The Noise Control Officer (or designee) is responsible for noise control, by managing the noise measuring equipment and providing noise management advice for all track activity.

3.5. HPDE Schools, Track Day Operators, Club Users, and Race organizers and their staffs, volunteers and employees are responsible for events within their hire period and for their clients, club members and race competitors.

3.6. The management structure of CTH BRC with regard to noise management is as follows;



4. EVENT ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

4.1. The Managing Director (or designee) shall manage the Track Calendar to ensure that;

4.1.1. There shall be a **maximum of 60 Race Days** held within any one calendar year, and within that overall limit, there shall be:---

4.1.2. Up to 60 events involving vehicles conforming with a 98dB(A) static test in any calendar year.

4.1.3. Up to 10 events involving vehicles conforming with a 103dB(A) static test in any calendar year.

4.2. The Managing Director (or designee) shall manage the Track Calendar to ensure that no more than two Test Days (see below) are held per week and in accordance with the limitations set out in Appendix D.

4.3. The Managing Director (or designee) are free to book all other days throughout the calendar year (not being Race Days or Test Days) as Quiet Track Days or Test Days (Quiet) subject the provisions of Appendix E.

4.4. The Managing Director (or designee) shall make any Organizer aware that for any Race Day, Test Day, Test Day (Quiet), Track Day (Noisy), Quiet/Track Day or Rally Day of all the information within and requirements of the NMP, which shall form part of any contractual arrangement between the parties. The Organizer shall in turn be obligated to advise all its officials and its clients of the requirements of the NMP.

4.5. The Managing Director (or designee) shall ensure that noise limits are included in all its contracts, track rental agreements and operational regulations. All contracts, track rental agreements and operational regulations shall require that all drivers/riders of any vehicle on the Race Track are made aware of the noise limits for each individual day.

4.6. The Managing Director (or designee) or The Circuit Manager shall make the Race organizers, Track Day Operators or track renters aware of the provisions of the relevant provisions contained in the Appendices for the following:

4.6.1. For Race Days – Appendix C

4.6.2. For Test Days and Track Days ('Unsilenced') --- Appendix D

4.6.3. For Quiet Track Days and Test Days (Quiet) – Appendix E

4.7. The Managing Director (or designee) shall ensure that all contracts, track rental agreements and operational regulations shall require the Race organizers, Track Day Operators, track renters to advise all drivers/riders of the noise management controls.

4.8. The Circuit Manager (or designees) and the Noise Control Officer shall police the noise limits, both through the static and drive by noise testing processes as well as by taking appropriate action for any transgressions.

4.9. The Managing Director or (or designee) or The Circuit Manager shall ensure that both permanent and daily temporary signage is provided within the Pits and Paddocks informing participants of the noise management limits on any given day.

5. NOISE MONITORING

5.1. The Circuit Manager (or designee) shall ensure that Noise Monitoring Equipment (NME) is used on all occasions that the track in is use. On Quiet Days, Track Days and Test Days (Quiet) the NME will be manned to ensure that noise management is undertaken to ensure compliance with the Noise Abatement Plan which requires that all vehicles pass the drive by noise limit of 98dB(A). Details are set out in Appendix E.

6. NOTIFICATION, COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY LIAISON

6.1. The Managing Director will ensure that the Bluebonnet racing circuit web site incorporates the following;

6.1.1. Track Calendar identifying each race event and the relevant noise limit. The "Track Calendar" shall be published as 'provisional' before March 1st each year and remains subject to updates as necessary.

6.1.2. A Rolling schedule of track use shall be published on the web site identifying the track activity and the relevant noise limit.

6.1.3. Background information on the requirements of the planning permissions and the NAN shall also be published

6.2. The Circuit Manager shall provide prior to the 1st day of each month a schedule of all track activity providing details of the day & date, track operator, type of day (e.g. Race/Quiet) and noise level where appropriate which is subject to update and change.

6.3. After each month the Circuit Manager shall provide within 20 days a copy of the same schedule as set out 5.2 highlighting any changes to the track use together with any additional supplementary information as deemed necessary.

6.4. BRC shall retain noise records for a minimum of 12 months but where there is any live query or a complaint, then records shall be retained for up to 2 years if so requested.

6.5. BRC shall keep a record of all noise complaints received (whether from the government or otherwise) for a minimum period of 24 months and shall use reasonable endeavors described as only by email (if address has been provided) to respond to noise complaints within 96 hours of receipt, explaining the activity and any relevant circumstances that may have led to the reason for the complaint.

6.6. BRC shall retain copies of any complaints they receive directly from local residents for a period of 24 Months.

6.7. BRC shall update the Washington County Commissioners as and when the body meets on any relevant noise management matters.

7. NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW MECHANISM

7.1. The Noise Management Plan will be reviewed at least annually and may be updated as required through the racing season.

APPENDIX A - GLOSSARY

In this Noise Management Plan, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

"Quiet Vehicles"	means those vehicles complying with a drive-by noise measurement limit of up to and including 98 dB(A)
"**98 dB(A) Vehicles"**	means those vehicles that have passed a static noise test limit of up to 98 dB(A) measured in accordance with the measurement criteria of the Relevant Motor Sport Governing Body.
"103 dB(A) Vehicles"	means those vehicles that have passed a static noise test limit of up to 103 dB(A) measured in accordance with the measurement criteria of the Relevant Motor Sport Governing Body.
"CTH"	means Club Track Holdings, LLC the Circuit Owner
"BRC"	means Bluebonnet Racing Circuit the circuit operator
"Drive-by Noise Limit"	means 98dB(A) Lmax on fast response from a fixed noise meter
"**Fence Limit**"	means 75dbA on the LA10 scale at the fence lines of the property computed based on the operational day.
"Noise Control Officers"	means any employee or agent of BRC who has been trained in the testing and recording procedures of the noise monitoring equipment
"Noise Management Plan"	means this entire document
"NME"	means the noise monitoring equipment used to monitor noise at Bluebonnet Racing Circuit consisting of a Cirrus 243/1 noise monitor hard wired to a PC and running Socar and Corvus specialist software with a pre-set alarm function. Or such other system as provided in updates of the NMP
"Quiet Day"	means any day which vehicles comply with the 98dB(A) drive by noise limit
"Race Day"	means a day or number of consecutive days consisting of practice, qualifying and racing involving vehicles which takes place on the Race Track.
"Race Track"	means the asphalt track upon which circuit activity takes place .

"Relevant Governing Body" includes the following:

FIA - the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile, the international governing body of motor sport.
FIM - the Federation Internationale de la Motorcyclisme, the international governing body of motorcycle sport.
PCA – Porsche Club of America
NASA- National Auto Sport Association
SCCA- Sports Car Club of America

"Static Testing" means the rules and procedures for static testing as set out by the relevant motor sport governing body.

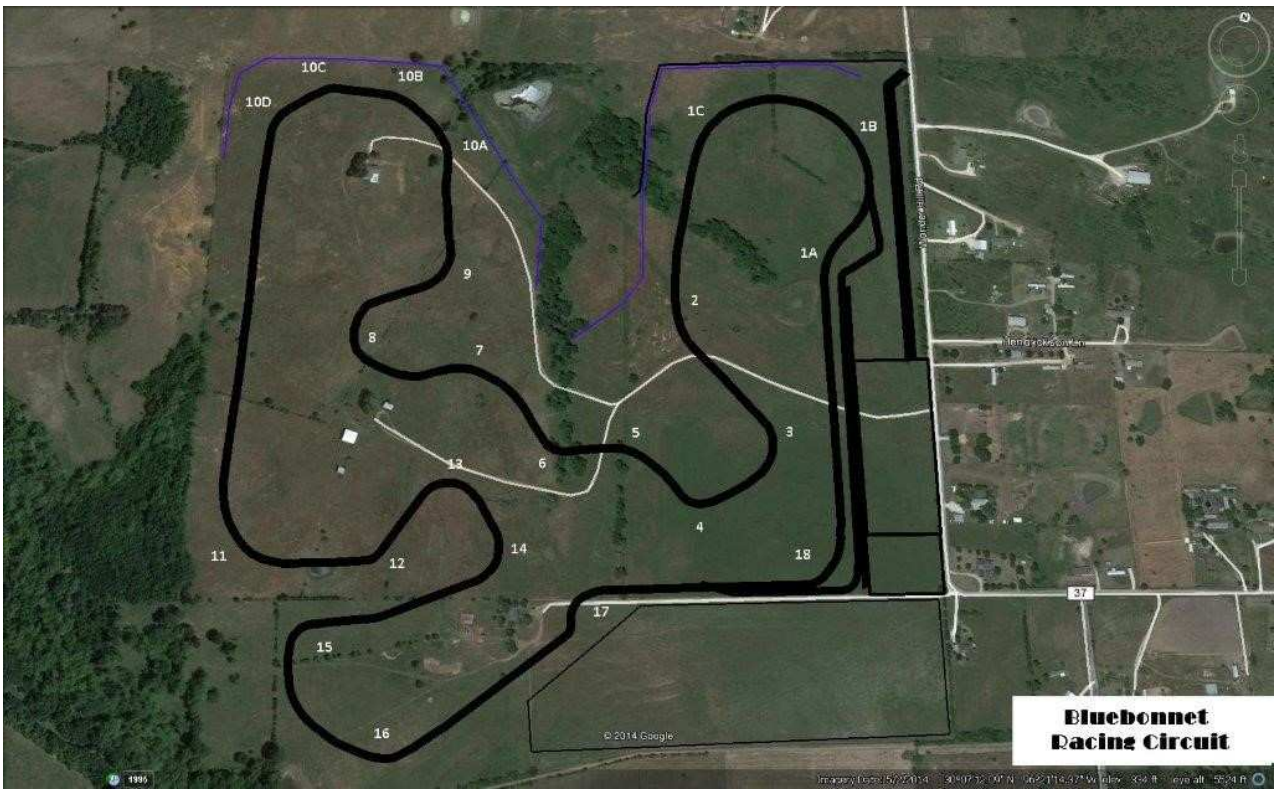
"Test Day" means the use of the Race Track by any type of vehicle particularly racing cars and motorcycles for the purposes of the performance improvement of the vehicle and driver/rider.

"Test Day (Quiet)" means the use of the Race Track by any type of vehicle particularly racing cars and motorcycles for the purposes of the performance improvement of the vehicle and driver/rider and the vehicles comply with the 98dB(A) drive by test use the Race Track.

"Track Day" means any day which vehicles comply with the 98dB(A) drive by noise limit

"Track Day (Noisy)" means any day which vehicles exceed the 98dB(A) drive by test used the Race Track

APPENDIX B – CIRCUIT PLAN



APPENDIX C --- RACE DAY MANAGEMENT

1. Scope

1.1. The following shall apply in respect of "Track Days" at Bluebonnet Racing Circuit.

2. Operating Hours

2.1. Vehicle movements on the Race Track including practice, testing, qualifying and racing may only take place during the following hours: 08:00 to 20:00

2.2. No racing engines shall be permitted to be started before 08:00.

3. Noise Limits and Measurement

3.1. For the avoidance of doubt for "unsilenced" classes, there is noise testing required.

3.2. The sound levels generated by all vehicles participating in Race Events must be tested in accordance with the regulations of the Relevant Governing Body.

3.3. All 98dB(A) and 103dB(A) vehicles will be subject to a static test by an approved BRC Environmental or other Relevant Motor Sport Governing Body Scrutineer prior to entering the circuit.

3.4. The Scrutineering shall take place in area(s) designated by the organizing club and the requirements of its Environmental or other Relevant Motor Sport Governing Body Scrutineer.

3.5. If a vehicle fails the static test it may not be permitted to enter the track but may be modified or repaired and re-presented for a further similar test.

3.6. The race meeting's responsible Scrutineer shall provide by close of the meeting, both the Clerk of the Course, and to BRC a copy of his report for each race identifying the make (and if required the model of vehicle) and the vehicle race number together with confirmation that the vehicle has passed or failed the static noise test together with the results of any re-tests.

3.7. The Track Manager shall retain a copy of the Scrutineers Report for a period of 12 months.

4. Public Address System Use

4.1. BRC will operate and maintain a public address system and ensure that sound levels are kept to the minimum level to maintain clear audibility for the drivers over the background noise.

APPENDIX D --- TEST DAYS (Noisy) and TRACK DAYS (Noisy)

1. Scope

1.1. The following shall apply in respect of "Test Days (Noisy)" at Bluebonnet. While any vehicle can participate in a Test Day there are additional restrictions and all vehicles must comply with the NMP.

1.2. The following shall apply in respect of "Track Days (Noisy)" at Bluebonnet . While any vehicle can participate in a Test Day there are additional restrictions on unsilenced vehicles.

2. Operating Hours

2.1. Track vehicle movements on the Race Track including practice, testing, qualifying and racing may only take place during the following hours: 08:00 to 18:00

2.2. No racing engines shall be permitted to be started before 08:00.

2.3. Test Days (Noisy) or Track Days (Noisy) shall take place on not more than two non--- consecutive days in any week.

3. Operational Matters

3.1 Not more than 6 fully unsilenced vehicles participating in the Test Day (Noisy) or Track Days (Noisy) shall be operated at any one time on the Race Track.

4. Noise Limits and Measurement

4.2. BRC may inspect any vehicle intended to be used on the Circuit to check that it has an effective silencer, or be in compliance with all sound requirements.

4.3. BRC will require any vehicle intended to be used on the Circuit to be subject to a static noise test and receive an annual certification. While it is not general practice to undertake supplemental static testing on Test Days or Track Days (Noisy) of certified vehicles occasionally the collection of this data may be done and used to assist BRC with its general noise management planning

APPENDIX E – QUIET, TRACK DAYS and TEST DAYS (Quiet)

1. Scope

1.1. The following shall apply in respect of "Quiet Days", "Track Days" and "Test Days (Quiet)" at Buebonnet Racing Circuit.

1.2. The key governing criteria is that all vehicles must be "Quiet Vehicles" and comply with the drive-by noise limit of 98dB(A).

2. Operating Hours

2.1. While there are not any time or operating hour restrictions for vehicles which comply with the Drive By Test, it is usual practice for vehicles not to operate on the Race Track before 08:00 or after 18:00. It should be noted that the Race Track may sometimes be used for Quiet Use outside these hours.

3. Operational Matters

3.1. Users of the circuit may be required to display or wear some form of identification as stipulated by the Noise Control Officer to facilitate the identification of any vehicle responsible for high noise levels.

3.2. On motorcycle track days the number of participating motor bikes on the track at any one time shall not exceed the numbers specified in the Insurance Licensing documents.

3.3. Drive-by testing will be undertaken continuously and subject to enforcement as described below so that the relevant vehicle can be removed from the circuit. If in the opinion of the Track Manager or his Deputy the NMP is not being adhered to he/she may as their own discretion temporarily shut down all track activity, by showing the all Black flag or/Red lights.

4. Noise Limits and Measurement

4.1. The use of Unsilenced Vehicles is prohibited at Bluebonnet Racing Circuit during Quiet Days.

4.2. Vehicles will only be permitted to participate in any Quiet Day provided that they conform to BRC's drive-by noise limit up to and including 98 dB(A).

4.3. All vehicles will be visually inspected to ensure that silencers are fitted prior to using the Race Track. A sticker maybe applied to every vehicle to demonstrate that the visual inspection has been undertaken.

4.4. Designated Noise Control Officers, who have been trained in the testing and recording procedures, will operate the NME from the Race Control Building for the duration of any Quiet Day.

4.5. If BRC is of the opinion that any vehicle may exceed the 98dB(A) drive-by limit, a static test may first be required prior to the vehicle entering the track. This information will help ascertain probable noise levels and avoid unnecessary breaches of the noise limits.

On some events vehicles are "on track" for very short periods and effective noise control and management issues can arise because of this. An example of this would be demonstration or show

vehicles on track during breaks in the day's usual activity. BRC will if deemed necessary conduct static tests on the same basis as 4.5 above.

5. Enforcement

5.1. If BRC is of the opinion that any vehicle does not comply with the applicable noise limits for it will require the organizer to prevent such vehicle(s) from continuing to use the Race Track unless such vehicle(s) can be modified to be re-tested and thereafter comply with the noise limits.

5.2. Any vehicle exceeding 98dB(A) will be shown a black flag and this requires the driver/rider to complete the lap in a safe manner and leave the track via the pit lane as soon as it is reasonable and safely practical.

5.3. Should any driver/rider ignore the black flag then the standing black will be used to close the track and remove all vehicles from the Race Track, until such time as the offending vehicle has left the circuit.

5.4. Vehicles exceeding the relevant drive-by limits will be allowed to undertake repairs and modifications including the fitting of improved or additional silencing and in doing so provide evidence to the Noise Control Officer of the works undertaken. A vehicle may only be re-tested once. If the vehicle fails the second test it will not be allowed back onto the Race Track during that event.