



Queensland RACEWAYS

Ipswich ~ Lakeside ~ Moto Park

ACN: 098 088 610

www.queenslandraceway.com.au

Email: admin@queenslandraceway.com.au
PO Box 100, Amberley QLD 4306

Tel: 61 7 5461 9100
Fax: 61 7 5461 9111

Queensland Raceways wants Lakeside to be enjoyed, not endured. Its all about preservation of an icon for at least another 40 years and that is a serious undertaking.

Why do we have to do noise testing at Lakeside?

Lakeside International Raceway, or Lakeside Park as it is now known, has many residents within ear shot of the track which means the freedoms Lakeside used to have with regard to operating hours and noise generation is no longer feasible due to the inconvenience it will bring to its neighbours. In addition, there are laws which govern the amount of noise which a resident can be expected to accept. Whilst Lakeside existed long before any of these people moved into the area and these laws were drafted, the "we were here first" argument does not carry much weight.

In short Queensland can have a quiet Lakeside; or no Lakeside; and I am betting most people would agree that the former is far preferable even though some nearby residents would disagree.

How did you arrive at the noise levels you are permitting?

An acoustic engineering study was undertaken by a recognised company from which an initial regime of testing for decibels could be implemented. These decibel numbers are theoretical at this stage and represent what the engineers believe will deliver noise levels that are below, but within a reasonable tolerance of, the EPA guidelines. Without wanting to get overly technical we are aiming to achieve a maximum of no more than 70 dB at the reference house.

At this stage we are operating with a "drive by" noise level of 95 dB. This number is subject to downward revision in the event that we discover we are delivering noise levels above 70 dB. When we have established the correct drive by number we will be able to increase the number of cars on track and measure the difference at the reference house. In this way we will be able to build up to 20 car fields for races.

What is the sound testing procedure for Lakeside?

We have developed two static tests for vehicle noise by which we hope to establish the drive by volumes before your vehicle actually goes on the track. The three tests are:

Test 1: maintain 5000 rpm for five seconds. Requires a reading of less than 92 dB when measured 5 m directly in line with the exhaust tail pipe. (known as "Rev Test")

Test 2: From the same position; return the engine to idle rpm then flatten the accelerator pedal to 5000 rpm for a reading of less than 95 dB (known as "Blat Test")

Test 3: Dynamic readings will be taken from various points around the track. (known as "Drive-by Test") If your vehicle, consistently exceeds 95 dB at any of these points your car will be black flagged. You must come in IMMEDIATELY and you are not to compete again until you have clearly reduced the noise output from the vehicle. This means you must undertake and pass tests 1 & 2 again but at lower levels, (determined by the noise scrutineers) than you did previously.

When & where do you do the testing?

Test 1 will be carried out by the scrutineers in the pit/paddock area.

Test 2 will be carried out by the scrutineers immediately following test 1 but only if the vehicle passes test 1.

Remember, these two tests are only an indication of the expected drive by volume. We have already measured some vehicles that are lower on the drive by than when measured with the static tests whilst other vehicles are louder on the drive by. Therefore you need to accept that the static tests are done to give you the opportunity to actually get on track to check your real drive by dB number.

Do I have to get my car tested every time I go to Lakeside?

At the moment, yes, but we expect to define and specify the correct maximum sound output levels from the sound test meetings we ran in April and June. With these levels established you can have a "Lakeside exhaust system" certified at the beginning of the season and run on that system for the entire season. The noise output level of your vehicle will continue to be monitored by the trackside measuring equipment so that you can be notified should the exhaust system begin to make more noise than the maximum allowable drive by level. This will be an honour system and people abusing it will be severely dealt with – probably by their peers.

Will these sound levels be revised downwards at some time in the future?

Probably; as people encroach on the area around Lakeside it will become necessary to impose stricter noise regimes. There is no point expending energy trying to fight the inevitable in this regard.

What if I don't agree with your sound restrictions or methods of testing?

If you are not going to willingly accept some part of the responsibility for ensuring the future of Lakeside as a place for our children and grandchildren to enjoy please do not come to any of the events there. You are most fortunate because you do have the alternative of the QR Ipswich circuit where you can enjoy your motorsport without these noise restrictions.

Don't you think you're being a bit Draconian or overly sensitive about this issue?

No, it is essential that the people who enjoy motorsport at Lakeside be seen as good citizens and considerate of other people's needs if it is to get the public support that it most rightly deserves and seldom receives. Whilst you may have invested a lot of time, money, and heartache you're your motorsport you must remember that these decisions are made by you, of your own free will, and did not impose an expectation or obligation on others.

In our ideal world these restrictions would not be necessary but to preserve Lakeside they are! Because Lakeside is not a horsepower track the minimal amount of power you will lose will make little difference to your lap times and certainly will not reduce your ability to enjoy the circuit or pay a severe price when optimism exceeds ability.

What about my road car?

Road cars are measured differently under the Australian Design Rules, however a legal road car conforming to the ADRs will make a maximum of 82 dB in test 2 and is unlikely to exceed 85 dB on the drive-by test. In any case the absolute maximum permitted for a road vehicle (including a truck under exhaust braking) is 87dB. If you decide to have your ADR compliant exhaust system modified, ensure you go to a reputable exhaust system supplier who will be able to measure the output from the system and should be willing to certify it for you so that if the testing at Lakeside does not conform you will have a comeback on the supplier.

We do not expect you will have a noise problem with any type of road registered, road legal motor vehicle including motorbikes.

Thank you for your understanding and support,

John Tetley
CEO – Queensland Raceways