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Standard Safety Guide for Consumer Recreational Use of Fun-Karts¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This guide relates to the use and maintenance of commercially manufactured fun-karts intended for private use, on suitable off-road terrain, by consumers.

1.2 This guide is intended to reduce hazards, other than those inherent in the sport of fun-karting, to the users of fun-karts during normal intended use.

1.3 This guide applies to fun-karts for private use and does not apply to concession, race, home-made, consumer-modified karts, karts that are pedal-powered, unpowered karts, or karts that are used for commercial purposes.

1.4 This guide specifically recognizes that there are operational hazards relating to fun-karts that operators and passengers are deemed to have accepted by their use and operation of the fun-kart including, but not limited to, falling out, running into, through, under or over objects, upsetting the kart, general operator recklessness, pinches, scratches, or bruises, or a combination thereof.

1.5 This guide does not cover product performance or quality, labeling, maintenance, or safety devices.

2. Terminology

2.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

2.1.1 *axle guard, n*—a device, which covers the drive axle on fun-karts, so that the possibility of injury resulting from hand, hair, loose clothing, or body parts contacting the axle is reduced.

2.1.2 *brush bars, n*—any device supplied by the manufacturer intended to deflect loose vegetation from the path of the fun-kart operator and passenger, if any (on two-seat karts).

2.1.3 *concession kart, n*—karts used by the public for a fee.

2.1.4 *engine stop switch, n*—a toggle switch, or other two-position positively engaging switch, which when activated causes the engine to stop or not operate, or both.

2.1.5 *fun-kart, n*—a gas powered motorized vehicle with four wheels sold commercially as consumer goods and intended for private personal recreational use by consumers for off-road use on suitable terrain, as recommended by the manufacturer, at speeds over 12 mph, but not exceeding 40 mph.

2.1.6 *race kart, n*—karts intended by the manufacturer for racing on tracks, streets, or other areas in competition.

2.1.7 *supervisor, n*—a competent person of legal age of consent knowledgeable with regard to the fun-kart, its safe operation and maintenance, who is responsible for ensuring that each operator and passenger(s) (in any two-seat kart) comply with the manufacturers' written materials for use, maintenance, and operation.

2.1.8 *throttle stop, n*—a device used to limit the travel of the throttle control.

2.1.9 *two-seat fun kart, n*—a fun-kart with designed seating to accommodate one operator and one passenger.

3. Qualifications for Fun-Kart Users

3.1 Fun-karts, unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, are restricted to use by consumers with a minimum age of eight years old, who meet the physical and cognitive capabilities set out by the manufacturer in the material provided with the fun-kart.

4. General Guidance for Safe Use and Maintenance of Fun-Karts

4.1 Fun-karts shall not be modified from the manufacturer's original design and configuration.

4.2 Fun-karts shall not be operated to perform racing, stunt riding, jumps, spin-outs, donuts, or other maneuvers, which may cause loss of control, or may cause uncontrolled operator/passenger or kart actions or reactions, as such activities are likely to result in possible injury to the operator or passenger, or bystanders, or a combination thereof.

4.3 Fun-kart engines shall not be started unless the operator and any passenger (in a two-seat kart) are seated in the proper position for vehicle operations with the operator's hands on the steering wheel, and the brake fully engaged.

4.4 Fun-karts shall not be operated with any modifications to the kart or its components.

4.5 No person shall allow hands, feet, hair, body parts, clothing, or similar articles to come in contact with moving parts of the fun kart, wheels or drive train, while the engine is running.

4.6 Prior to each cycle of operation, a supervisor shall perform the preoperation checks specified by the manufacturer, and further verify:

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