

Subject: PITCH SPACING ON RALLIES  
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To: MSTRINGER@caravanclub.co.uk;  
Date: Thursday, 20 February 2014, 11:57

To: Centre Secretaries, Grouping Secretaries

Copy to: Executive Committee, Division/Region Secretaries, Director General, Directors, Head of Site Operations, Head of Events

## PITCH SPACING ON RALLIES

You will be aware that 2013 saw some changes to pitch spacing on Club sites to ensure that The Club continued to maintain an adequate separation between outfits. That separation is also a requirement of The Club's Exemption Certificate, which is granted to us by Natural England and which gives us the freedom to hold rallies.

The Exemption Certificate pitch spacing requirements, which have been in place for many years, are quite specific in that there should not only be 6 metres between units, i.e. the actual caravan or motorhome, but also 3 metres clear around the entire outfit, where an outfit is taken to mean the unit (caravan or motorhome), awning, pup tent and a car. To assist in understanding the requirement, I have attached the spacing diagram issued by Natural England, which shows the 6 and 3 metre spacing under a number of different scenarios. I have also clarified the wording in Section II, 2.2.8 and 2.4.1 of General Letters to Centres with the following amendment (significant changes shown in yellow):

### General Letters to Centres, Section II

#### 2.2 Code of Conduct for the Organisation of Rallies

##### Safety on the Rally Site

8. The density of caravans is not to exceed 20 to the acre. A minimum spacing between facing walls of adjacent motorhomes and caravans (the unit) of 6 metres is required. There should also be 3 metres clear around the entire outfit, where an outfit is taken to mean and include the unit, an awning, pup tent and a car. Emergency vehicles should also be able to secure access at all times to within 90 metres of any unit on the site.

#### 2.4 Layout of Rallies

1. The Club places great importance on the correct layout of rallies to ensure that safety standards are maintained and that we meet the requirements of our Exemption Certificate. Every effort should be made to keep the density as low as possible and certainly never to exceed the overall density of 20 caravans to the acre. A minimum spacing between facing walls of adjacent motorhomes and caravans (the unit) of 6 metres is required. There should also be 3 metres clear around the entire outfit,

where an outfit is taken to mean and include the unit, an awning, pup tent and a car. For health and safety purposes, emergency vehicles should also be able to secure access at all times to within 90 metres of any unit on the site.

When rallying on Club site pitches, there is a requirement to comply with the pitch spacing that is in place on that particular site, as defined by the designation of particular pitches and the marker pegs. Wardens are tasked with managing all such pitching and Rally Marshals will need to liaise with and take advice from the wardens accordingly. Similarly, when rallying on Club site rally fields, Rally Marshals will need to work with the wardens to ensure that the pitch spacing requirements continue to be met.

I should be grateful if you could bring this to the attention of your Committee as a matter of urgency, in particular Rally Secretaries and Marshals, who will need to continue managing carefully the pitching on rallies to ensure compliance with the spacing requirements. Where spacing is more difficult to achieve, consideration could be given, for example, to parking tow vehicles in a different location or not allowing awnings.

If you require any further clarification on this, please contact Janet Pereira at [janet.pereira@caravanclub.co.uk](mailto:janet.pereira@caravanclub.co.uk) or 01342 336707.

Kind regards

Martin

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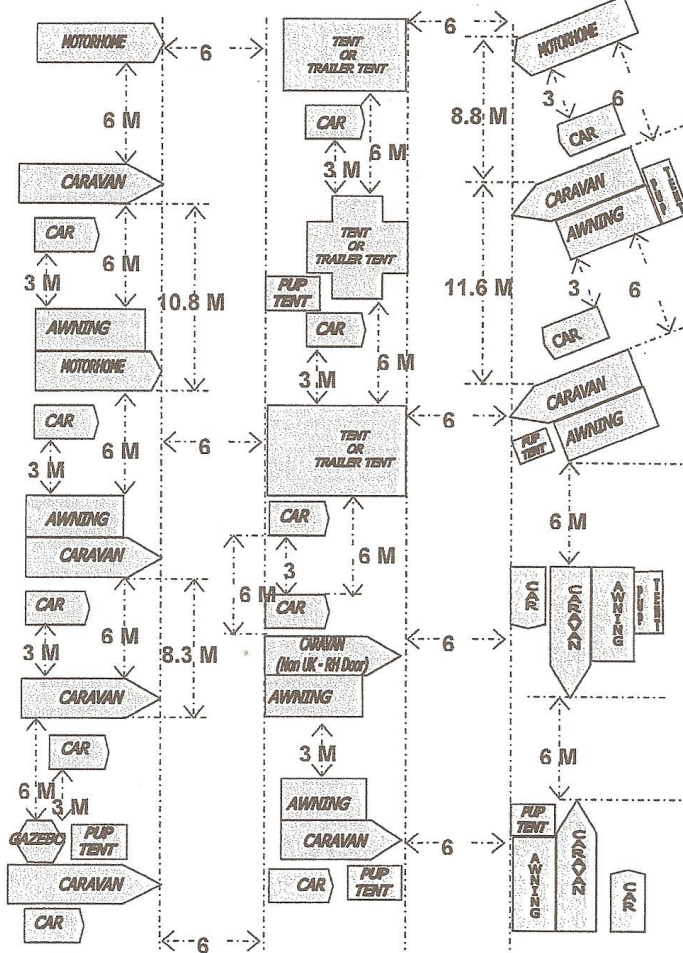
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## Annex 1d: Safety Spacing of Units

The following diagram (reproduced by kind permission of ACCEO\*) is intended only as an example to illustrate the safety spacing requirements under varying scenarios:



This guidance recommends that not less than three metres should be permitted between units. For this purpose, a unit **includes** the caravan/motor home/tent plus any awning, gazebo or "pup-tent" and the vehicle/tow car

**Please Note:** - To allow the attendance of tents & trailer tents (with the exception of children's "pup-tents") on caravan rallies a separate Camping Exemption Certificate must be held in conjunction with a Caravan Exemption certificate.

\* - Further details can be obtained from the Association of Caravan & Camping Exempted Organisations (ACCEO), Head Office, PO Box 5191, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 9BS. Tel: 0845 419 1520; Website: <http://www.acceo.co.uk/>