

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ROAD TRAFFIC (MASS LIMITS) REGULATIONS, 1989

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REGULATIONS UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT, 1961

Road Traffic (Mass Limits) Regulations, 1989

being

No. 133 of 1989: *Gaz.* 29 June 1989, p. 1823¹

as varied by

No. 209 of 1990: *Gaz.* 25 October 1990, p. 1304

¹ Came into operation 1 July 1989: reg. 2.

Citation

1. These regulations may be cited as the *Road Traffic (Mass Limits) Regulations, 1989*.

Commencement

2. These regulations will come into operation on 1 July, 1989.

Interpretation

3. (1) In these regulations, unless the contrary intention appears—

"the Act" means the *Road Traffic Act, 1961*:

"gross combination mass limit", in relation to a vehicle, means the limit fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, on the combined masses of the vehicle and any vehicle or vehicles attached to it:

"gross vehicle mass limit", in relation to a vehicle, means the limit on the mass of the vehicle fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles:

"section width", in relation to a tyre means the section width specified in the Tyre and Rim Association of Australia Standards Manual in respect of a tyre of that size:

"steer axle" means an axle (or a group of two axles one metre or less apart) the wheels of which are used for steering the vehicle:

"twin steer axle group" means a tandem axle the wheels of which are used for steering the vehicle:

"wide tyre" means a tyre with a section width of at least 375 millimetres.

Mass limits of vehicles

4. (1) The mass of a vehicle must not exceed—

(a) the mass set out in schedule 1 in respect of that vehicle;

(b) —

(i) where the vehicle is registered in this State—the following:

(A) during the period up to and including 30 June, 1995—the gross vehicle mass limit fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in respect of that vehicle plus 20% of that gross vehicle mass limit;

(B) during the period 1 July, 1995 to 30 June, 1997 (inclusive)—the gross vehicle mass limit fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in respect of that vehicle plus 10% of that gross vehicle mass limit;

(C) after 30 June, 1997—the gross vehicle mass limit fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in respect of that vehicle;

or

3.

- (ii) where the vehicle is not registered in this State—any limitation or restriction on the mass of the vehicle imposed in respect of the vehicle by the law of the State or Territory of the Commonwealth in which the vehicle is registered;

or

- (c) the aggregate of the masses set out in schedule 2 in respect of the axles and groups of axles of the vehicle.

(2) The combined mass of a combination of vehicles attached to each other must not exceed—

- (a) the mass set out in schedule 1 in respect of that combination;

(b) —

- (i) where the vehicle that provides the motive power for the combination is registered in this State—the following:

- (A) during the period up to and including 30 June, 1995—the gross combination mass limit fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in respect of that vehicle plus 20% of that gross combination mass limit;

- (B) during the period 1 July, 1995 to 30 June, 1997 (inclusive)—the gross combination mass limit fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in respect of that vehicle plus 10% of that gross combination mass limit;

- (C) after 30 June, 1997—the gross combination mass limit fixed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in respect of that vehicle;

or

- (ii) where the vehicle that provides motive power is not registered in this State—any limitation or restriction on the combined masses of the vehicles comprising the combination imposed by the law of the State or Territory of the Commonwealth in which the vehicle is registered;

or

- (c) the aggregate of the masses set out in schedule 2 in respect of the axles and groups of axles of the combination of vehicles.

Mass limits on axle groups

5. (1) The mass that is carried on an axle, or group of axles, must not exceed the mass set out in schedule 2 in respect of that axle, or group of axles.

(2) The aggregate mass that is carried on two or more single axles, two or more groups of axles or a combination of a single axle or axles and a group or groups of axles must not exceed the aggregate of the masses set out in schedule 2 in respect of those axles, groups of axles or combination of axles and groups of axles.

4.

(3) Where, in a prosecution under section 146(2) of the Act for an offence against section 146(1)(c) of the Act, the aggregate of the masses carried on two or more single axles, two or more groups of axles or a combination of a single axle or axles and a group or groups of axles is proved, but the masses carried individually on those axles or groups of axles cannot be proved, any penalty imposed for that offence must be based on the assumption that the whole of the excess mass was carried on one axle or group of axles.

(4) Where a trailer is supported by a tri-axle group and not supported by any other axle or group of axles, the mass that may be carried on the tri-axle group of the trailer must not exceed the mass set out in schedule 2 in relation to that group or 18 tonnes.

Determination of mass limits by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles

6. (1) The Registrar of Motor Vehicles may, on the advice of an advisory committee appointed for that purpose by the Minister, determine gross vehicle mass limits and gross combination mass limits in relation to any vehicle.

(2) A gross combination mass limit determined by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles in respect of a prime mover and semi-trailer will apply in relation to that prime mover and all other semi-trailers drawn by it.

(3) The Registrar must enter any gross vehicle mass limit or gross combination mass limit for the time being applicable to a vehicle in the certificate of registration or renewal of registration issued in relation to the vehicle.

5.

SCHEDULE 1

Distance (in metres) between the foremost and rearmost axles of vehicle or combination of vehicles	Mass limit in tonnes
Exceeding — not exceeding	
3.1 — 3.4	18.0
3.4 — 3.6	19.0
3.6 — 3.9	20.0
3.9 — 4.2	21.0
4.2 — 4.5	22.0
4.5 — 4.7	23.0
4.7 — 5.0	24.0
5.0 — 5.3	25.0
5.3 — 5.6	26.0
5.6 — 5.9	27.0
5.9 — 6.1	28.0
6.1 — 6.4	29.0
6.4 — 6.7	30.0
6.7 — 7.0	31.0
7.0 — 7.2	32.0
7.2 — 7.5	33.0
7.5 — 7.8	34.0
7.8 — 8.1	35.0
8.1 — 8.3	36.0
8.3 — 8.6	37.0
8.6 — 8.9	38.0
8.9 — 9.2	39.0
9.2 — 9.5	40.0
9.5 — 9.8	41.0
9.8 — 10.0	42.0
10.0	42.5.

SCHEDULE 2

*Mass limits in relation to axles and groups of axles
with wheels fitted with pneumatic tyres*

<i>Axle or axle group</i>	<i>Mass limit in tonnes</i>
Single axle (or group of two axles 1 metre or less apart)	
Steer axle	6.0
Others:	
with 2 wheels not fitted with wide tyres	6.0
with 2 wheels fitted with wide tyres	6.7
with 4 wheels	9.0
Tandem axle group	
Twin steer axle group	11.0
Others:	
with 4 wheels not fitted with wide tyres	11.0
with 4 wheels fitted with wide tyres	13.3
with 6 wheels	13.0
with 8 wheels	16.5
Tri-axle group	
with 6 wheels not fitted with wide tyres	15.0
with 6 wheels fitted with wide tyres	20.0
with 8 wheels	15.0
with 10 wheels	15.0
with 12 wheels	20.0

Mass limits in relation to an axle with wheel fitted with other than pneumatic tyres

Where the aggregate of the widths of the tyres in contact with the road is 350mm or less	140 kilograms for each 10 millimetres of the aggregate width or part of 10mm
Where the aggregate of the widths of the tyres in contact with the road is greater than 350mm	5 tonnes

7.

APPENDIX

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Regulation 4(1):	varied by 209, 1990, reg. 2(a)
Regulation 4(2):	varied by 209, 1990, reg. 2(b)