

RACT Policy #15 – Towing and trailer safety

Organisation	RACT
Business Unit	Road and Traffic Committee

Version	Author	Description	Date Revised	Review Date
1	R&T	Board endorsed	December 2012	May 2016
2	R&T	R&T Committee reviewed	May 2016	May 2018

15 : TOWING & TRAILER SAFETY

This Policy relates to Class “A” vehicles, not exceeding 4.5 tonne gross vehicle mass.

It refers to all towed items, including:

- trailers
- caravans
- boats, jet-skis and other leisure craft
- horses, large animal floats and similar

15.1 VEHICLES AND TRAILERS MUST COMPLY WITH REGULATIONS

- a) Vehicles must use a trailer which is a suitable size and type for the intended task.
- b) Drivers should comply with the manufacturer’s recommendations regarding maximum towing weight under load and other features as indicated in the owner’s manual.
- c) All vehicles and towed items must be registered and roadworthy at all times.
- d) It is the responsibility of the driver to ensure all trailers are properly secured and loads are contained within the trailer.

15.2 SPEED LIMIT FOR THE VEHICLE TOWING

- a) RACT supports a publicly recommended maximum speed limit of 90km/h for all vehicles towing.
- b) RACT would support a subsequent trial (and adoption if proven) of a regulated maximum speed limit of 90 km/h for all vehicles towing.

15.3 EDUCATION

- a) Towing requires additional knowledge and skill to that currently incorporated in driver training programs.
- b) RACT supports the introduction of such training for drivers intending to tow a vehicle.
- c) This could be incorporated in the registration process when applying for registration of the trailer or other item to be towed.