Rules of
Department of Public Safety
Division 40—Division of Fire Safety
Chapter 6—Amusement Rides

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11 CSR 40-6.010 Purpose

PURPOSE: This rule establishes the purpose for rules 11 CSR 40-6.015 through 11 CSR 40-6.100, which relate to sections 316.200 through 316.237, RSMo Supp. 1998.

(1) The purpose of this chapter is to establish—
(A) Procedures to be followed when an amusement ride accident occurs involving a serious physical injury, serious incident or death;
(B) Rules and regulations to be followed by an amusement ride owner/operator;
(C) Rules and regulations to be followed by a rider of an amusement ride; and
(D) Rules and regulations for the effective administration and enforcement of sections 316.200 through 316.237, RSMO Supp. 1998.

(2) These rules and regulations are intended to protect the general public and all persons who could reasonably be expected to use amusement rides.

AUTHORITY: section 316.206, RSMo 2000. *


11 CSR 40-6.015 Scope and Application

PURPOSE: This rule specifically identifies the scope of conducting an inspection/investigation of an amusement ride accident.

(1) These rules and regulations apply to all amusement rides in the state of Missouri as defined in 11 CSR 40-6.020. 11 CSR 40-6.010 through 11 CSR 40-6.100 shall be known and cited as the Missouri Amusement Ride Safety Act.


11 CSR 40-6.020 Terms; Defined

PURPOSE: This rule defines terminology used throughout the rules and regulations.

(1) The following definitions shall be used in interpreting this Act unless the context otherwise requires:
(A) Amusement ride—any of the following, which is primarily for the purpose of giving its patrons amusement, pleasure, thrills, or excitement, and which is open to the general public excluding skill teaching, exercise, and team building:
1. Any mechanical device that carries or conveys passengers along, around or over a fixed or restricted route or course or within a defined area;
2. Any dry slide over twenty feet (20') in height;
3. Any tram, open car, or combination of open cars or wagons pulled by a tractor or other motorized device, except hayrack rides, those used solely for transporting patrons to and from parking areas, or those used for guided or educational tours, but does not necessarily follow a fixed or restricted course;
4. Any bungee cord attraction or similar elastic device;
5. Any climbing wall over ten feet (10') in height except for not-for-profit entities that follow the YMCA Services Corporation's Climbing Walls Safety Guidelines or the Boy Scouts of America Guidelines;
(B) Board—the amusement ride safety board established in section 316.204, RSMo;
(C) Department—the Department of Public Safety;
(D) Designee—an individual acting under the authority of the Office of the State Fire Marshal;
(E) Director—the director of the Department of Public Safety;
(F) Division—Division of Fire Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal;
(G) Operator—a person or the agent of a person who owns or controls, or has the duty to control, the operation of an amusement ride or related electrical equipment;
(H) Owner—a person who owns, leases, controls or manages the operations of an amusement ride and may include the state or any political subdivision of the state;
(I) Qualified inspector—any person who is—
1. Found by the director to possess the requisite training and experience in respect to amusement rides to perform competently the inspection/investigation required by the Missouri Amusement Ride Safety Act; or
2. Be certified by the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials (NAARSO) to have and maintain at least a level one certification;
(J) Related electrical equipment—any electrical apparatus or wiring used in connection with amusement rides;
(K) Safety rules—the rules and regulations governing a rider's conduct on an amusement ride, provided such rules and regulations are prominently displayed at or near the entrance to, or loading platform for, the amusement ride;
(L) Serious incident—any single incident where three (3) or more persons are immediately transported to a licensed off-site medical care facility for treatment of an injury as a direct result of being on, or the operation of, the amusement ride;
(M) Serious physical injury—a patron personal injury immediately reported to the owner or operator as occurring on an amusement ride and which results in death, dismemberment, significant disfigurement or other significant injury that requires immediate inpatient admission and twenty-four (24) hour hospitalization under the care of a licensed physician for other than medical observation; and
(N) Stop order—a written and/or verbal order issued by a qualified inspector, state fire marshal or designee for the temporary immediate cessation of the operation of any amusement ride.

AUTHORITY: section 316.206, RSMo 2000. *


11 CSR 40-6.025 Exemptions

PURPOSE: This rule identifies those rides that are exempt from this Act.

(1) The following rides are exempt from the provisions of this Act:
(A) Unpowered, non-mechanical playground equipment including but not limited to: swings, seesaws, stationary spring- ored animal features, rider-propelled merry-go-rounds, climbers, slides and trampolines;
(B) Any single passenger manually, mechanically, or electrically operated, coin-actuated ride, which is customarily placed singly, or in groups, in a public location and which does not normally require the supervision or services of an operator;
(C) Water slide;
11 CSR 40-6.030 Division; Promulgate Rules and Regulations; Administer Act

PURPOSE: This rule grants authority to the division to promulgate rules and regulations to administer this Act.

(1) The division shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.


11 CSR 40-6.031 Amusement Ride Inspection

PURPOSE: This rule explains the procedures to obtain a Missouri amusement ride operating permit and the requirement of an annual safety inspection of amusement rides by a qualified amusement ride inspector.

(1) No amusement ride shall operate in Missouri without a current state operating permit issued by the division. An amusement ride owner shall apply for an operating permit to the division on a form furnished by the division and containing such information as the division may require. Such permit is valid for twelve (12) months from the date of issuance and is not transferable.

(2) State operating permit(s) shall be issued by the division upon receipt of the following:

(A) Completed Application for Amusement Ride Operating Permit;

(B) Completed Amusement Ride Inspection Report signed by an approved qualified inspector, to include a state inspection checklist;

(C) Current certificate of insurance with one (1) million dollars minimum liability insurance coverage; and

(D) Permit fee of thirty dollars ($30) per ride.

(3) Ride owner shall affix permit inspection decal issued by the division to a basic structure of the ride readily accessible to the authorized inspector.

(4) Upon the sale or transfer of a state permitted amusement ride the current permit holder shall notify the division in writing within five (5) working days of such transaction and provide information concerning the recipient. The state permit inspection decal shall be removed or obliterated before the ride is sold or transferred by the permit holder. The new owner shall comply with the inspection/permit process as outlined in this rule.

(5) A renovation of an amusement ride that changes the dynamics or control system of the ride shall require a reinspection by a qualified amusement ride inspector before being operated in Missouri.

(6) The inspection required in section 316.210.1(1), RSMo shall be conducted at a minimum to meet the manufacturer’s or engineer’s specifications and to follow the applicable national standards.

(7) The department or designee may conduct a spot safety inspection of any amusement ride at any time that is operating or that is setting up to operate in this state. Upon discovery of a hazardous or unsafe condition, a temporary suspension of the operating permit will occur. The amusement ride shall not be allowed to be operated until a reinspection by the division is performed. The reinspection fee shall be based upon an hourly rate of thirty dollars ($30).


11 CSR 40-6.033 Itinerary Required

PURPOSE: This rule requires each amusement ride company/owner to provide the Missouri Division of Fire Safety with an itinerary of their event dates and locations in the state.

(1) The owner of a portable amusement ride shall file with the division an annual event itinerary on a division form indicating the information listed below at least fourteen (14) days prior to the first scheduled setup or within five (5) days when cancellations or additional locations occur:

(A) Name of amusement ride owner/company;

(B) Name of carnival, fair, or activity sponsor;

(C) Address and telephone number of the site or event sponsor;

(D) Event date(s) open to the public;

(E) Date of setup; and

(F) Name of the amusement ride company contact person on-site.


11 CSR 40-6.035 Political Subdivisions; Regulations of Rides; Inspections

PURPOSE: This rule permits political subdivisions to continue to regulate and inspect amusement rides within their jurisdiction.

(1) Nothing contained in this Act shall prevent cities and counties from licensing or regulating any amusement ride electrical equipment, carnival or circus nor prevent them from enacting ordinances which may be more restrictive than this Act.


11 CSR 40-6.040 Liability Insurance—Amusement Rides Owner; Required

PURPOSE: This rule requires liability insurance, bond or other security to be in existence prior to the operation of amusement rides.
(1) No amusement ride shall be operated unless at the time of operation there is in existence—

(A) A policy of insurance written by an insurance company authorized to do business in this state in an amount not less than one (1) million dollars per occurrence against liability for injury to persons arising out of the operation of the amusement ride and the owner shall provide a certificate of liability insurance to the division with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety listed as a certificate holder; or

(B) A bond in a like amount, provided that the aggregate liability of the surety under such bond shall not exceed the face amount thereof; or

(C) Cash or other security acceptable to the division.

AUTHORITY: section 316.206, RSMo 2000.*

11 CSR 40-6.045 Accident; Reporting of Injuries/Death

PURPOSE: This rule specifically outlines the responsibilities of the amusement ride owner/operator, the Division of Fire Safety and the contracted inspector(s) when an amusement ride accident occurs.

(1) When any serious physical injury, serious incident or any death occurs as a result of an amusement ride accident—

(A) Unless authorized in writing by the division, no amusement ride subject to the provisions of this Act may be operated, moved, altered, repaired, or tampered with, except to protect life, limb, and property after such injury or death occurred until the inspection/investigation is completed;

(B) Immediately after such occurrence the owner shall notify and provide an initial accident report which involves a serious physical injury to the Division of Fire Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal by—

1. Requesting local law enforcement agency or local fire service agency to contact the Division of Fire Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal; or

2. Telephoning the Division of Fire Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal;

(C) Within twenty-four (24) hours after receipt of any such report, the Division of Fire Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal shall cause an investigation of the occurrence and an inspection of the ride to determine the cause of such serious physical injury, serious incident or death and perform the inspection/investigation in a manner that proceeds with all practicable speed and minimizes the disruption where the ride is located;

(D) The division, or its designee may enter into any place or upon any premises where such accident occurred;

(E) The amusement ride owner shall provide the qualified inspector or the director’s designee all information or facts known as to the cause of such accident.

(2) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting or otherwise affecting the liability and responsibilities of an amusement ride operator. In addition, nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting or otherwise affecting the responsibility and liability of an amusement ride owner/operator to provide reasonable supervision for riders.

(3) Within seven (7) calendar days upon completion of the accident inspection/investigation, the inspector shall provide to the division an incident report stating the findings and conclusions of said inspection/investigation.

11 CSR 40-6.050 Cessation Order; Operation

PURPOSE: This rule requires an unsafe amusement ride to immediately cease operation by order of the division’s contracted inspector(s).

(1) The division or a qualified inspector contracted by the division may order verbally or in writing as soon as practicable a temporary disruption where the ride is located;

(2) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting or otherwise affecting the responsibility and liability of an amusement ride owner responsible for the cost of an inspection/investigation resulting from an accident falling within the purview of this Act.

11 CSR 40-6.055 Cost; Inspection/Investigation

PURPOSE: This rule holds the amusement ride owner responsible for the cost of an inspection/investigation by the contracted inspector at a rate of one hundred twenty-five dollars ($125) per hour plus actual expenses.

11 CSR 40-6.060 Director; Qualified Inspectors

PURPOSE: This rule authorizes the Division of Fire Safety to certify qualified inspectors to conduct the inspection/investigation resulting from an accident.

(1) The director or his/her designee shall certify such qualified inspectors as may be necessary to carry out the Missouri Amusement Ride Safety Act. The inspector shall be considered an independent contractor and not a state employee. The inspector will provide personal references and credentials relating to education and experience to the division. The division will maintain this information on file.

(2) Minimum qualifications of inspector are as follows:

(A) Shall provide to the division a resume detailing inspector’s educational/experience history; and

(B) Shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

(C) Shall possess a high school diploma or equivalent General Education Development (GED); and

(D) Possess a minimum of three (3) years experience in the design, repair, operation or inspection of amusement rides and devices; and

11 CSR 40-6.065 Assignment/Contract Criteria-Qualified Inspector

PURPOSE: This rule is to reduce potential conflict of interest issues between the contracted inspector and amusement ride owner.

1. No qualified inspector will be assigned/contracted to conduct an investigation into an incident under this Act if a “conflict of interest” issue is present. The division will resolve questions involving a potential “conflict of interest.”

2. The manufacturer of the ride;
3. An insurance carrier lawfully doing business in Missouri and carrying public liability insurance on the ride; or
4. A registered licensed professional engineer;
5. A complete history file, to include current owner’s manual, any operational manuals or maintenance guides, complete maintenance, inspection, accident, and testing records for each amusement ride shall be maintained by the company for at least three (3) years. The current year’s history file shall be available on-site and the owner shall make such records available to the division or his/her designee or qualified inspector upon request. Failure to have, maintain, or make available for review the materials described above constitutes grounds for the division to temporarily suspend a ride’s operating permit during the term of failure or refusal.

11 CSR 40-6.070 Liability Insurance Coverage-Qualified Inspector; Required

PURPOSE: This rule requires the contracted inspector to have liability insurance.

1. A qualified inspector, assigned/contracted by the division is required to show proof of liability insurance in the amount of one (1) million dollars.

11 CSR 40-6.075 Owner; Maintain Records

PURPOSE: This rule specifies maintenance record keeping requirements by the amusement ride owner and authorizes access to such records by the Division of Fire Safety.

1. The owner of an amusement ride shall maintain the following records and make them available to the division and/or the contracted qualified inspector:
   A. Daily inspection records shall be prepared and maintained by the owner or operator who shall be experienced and knowledgeable in the proper assembly and operation of the ride. The inspection and tests shall include operation of control devices, speed-limiting devices, brakes and other safety equipment. The inspection shall be made each day the ride is open to the public;
   B. Tests recommended by the manufacturer, to include but not limited to nondestructive testing, shall be recorded and a copy made available to the division and/or contracted qualified inspector.

11 CSR 40-6.080 Operator; Requirements

PURPOSE: This rule provides specific safety procedures to the operator of an amusement ride.

1. No person shall operate an amusement ride unless he or she is at least sixteen (16) years of age.
2. The operator shall operate no more than one (1) amusement ride at any given time, even if automatic timing devices are used to control the time cycle of the ride.
3. An operator shall be in attendance at all times and within arm’s length of the operator’s station when the ride is in operation.
4. The operator shall be trained in the proper use and operation of the amusement ride as provided for in American Society of Testing and Materials F770 and American Society of Testing and Materials F853. Verification of such training shall be made available upon request.
5. The operator shall ensure that all passengers’ safety devices are in place around patrons before starting.
6. The operator shall not operate or be in physical control of any amusement ride while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or drug, or any combination thereof. For the purposes of this section, the term “controlled substance” includes substances defined by Chapter 195, RSMo.
7. The operator shall ensure that no one is permitted on a ride while carrying any article, i.e., food, beverages, packages, lighted cigarettes, etc., which could endanger the rider or spectators.
8. The operator shall be an employee of the owner.
9. Based upon probable cause, the operator of an amusement ride shall submit to a breath test or chemical tests of blood, saliva, or urine to determine the alcohol or drug content.
11 CSR 40-6.085 Passenger/Rider Responsibility/Conduct; Posting Rules

PURPOSE: This rule is to specify passenger/rider rules and make these rules known by posting signs outlining such rules, responsibilities and conduct of the passenger/rider.

(1) No amusement ride shall be operated in this state unless there are posted safety rules and responsibilities of passenger/rider based upon standards set forth by the American Society for Testing and Materials. Signs presented for instruction to the public shall be prominently placed at each ride, bold in design, with wording short, simple and to the point.

(2) Any amusement ride, which is subject to guardian, height, or weight requirement established by manufacturer, owner, or operator, shall have such legible restriction in plain view at the loading area to the ride. Such restrictions shall not be waived.

(3) A passenger/rider on an amusement ride shall, at a minimum—

(A) Obey the reasonable safety rules posted in accordance with this act and oral instructions for an amusement ride issued by the amusement ride owner or such owner’s employee or agent.

(B) Refrain from acting in any manner that may cause or contribute to injuring such passenger/rider or others, including:

1. Interfering with safe operation of the amusement ride;
2. Not engaging any safety devices that are provided;
3. Disconnecting or disabling a safety device except at the express instruction of the operator;
4. Altering or enhancing the intended speed, course or direction of an amusement ride;
5. Extending arms and legs beyond the carrier or seating area except at the express direction of the ride operator;
6. Throwing, dropping or expelling an object from or toward an amusement ride;
7. Getting on or off an amusement ride except at the designated time and area, if any, at the direction of the ride operator, or in an emergency;
8. Unreasonably controlling the speed or direction of such passenger or an amusement ride; and
9. A rider may not board or attempt to board any amusement ride while under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or drug, or any combination thereof, as defined by Chapter 195, RSMo.

11 CSR 40-6.090 Denial of Entry; Passenger/Rider

PURPOSE: This rule prohibits any person entry to an amusement ride if such entry may jeopardize their safety or the safety of others.

(1) The operator of an amusement ride may deny a person entry to an amusement ride if, in the owner’s or operator’s opinion, such entry may jeopardize the safety of such person or the safety of any other person.

(2) Nothing in this Act will permit an owner or operator to deny a division contracted inspector or designee access to an amusement ride when such individual is acting within the scope of his/her duties under this Act.

11 CSR 40-6.095 Violation; Penalty

PURPOSE: This rule defines the penalty for violations of this Act.

(1) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. Each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(2) Any person who interferes with, impedes, or obstructs in any manner the director or any authorized representative of the department in the performance of their duties under this Act shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

11 CSR 40-6.100 Application for Injunction

PURPOSE: This rule authorizes the director to petition the circuit court for an injunction against any amusement ride owner.

(1) The Division of Fire Safety or its designee, or the county attorney in a county in which an amusement ride is located or operated may apply to the circuit court, pursuant to the rules of civil procedure, for an order enjoining operation of any amusement ride operated in violation of the Missouri Amusement Ride Safety Act.