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About the Department of Mutant Transport

The Jilakin Rock City Department of Mutant Transport “the DMT” exists to enable Blazing Swan participants to share their Mutant Vehicle creations with the community of Jilakin Rock City, and to license vehicles for use by disabled participants.

The DMT must balance the desire to have vehicles at the event, with the community standards of keeping Blazing Swan a foot and bike friendly event and maintaining a level of safety. Because of these limiting factors, not all vehicles can be licensed. While this is not an easy job, the DMT believes having Mutant Vehicles at Blazing Swan is an important part of the experience and work hard to make it possible for them to be out there.

The DMT is open at Jilakin Rock City for operator and vehicle licencing (hours: mornings from Monday before event until Friday of the event). DMT is also available in the months leading up to the event for pre-registrations and build advice related to safety.

Vehicle types

This section outlines how vehicles are classified at Blazing Swan, and the requirements of each vehicle type.

Human and low powered vehicles

These vehicles do not require licencing from DMT, and do not require a licenced operator to use. Decorating these or mutating these vehicles is strongly encouraged. They are still required to be used in a safe manner. Pedestrians always have right of way.

Vehicle	Description	Requirements
Bicycles and other human powered vehicles	Any vehicle solely human powered	Lights required for night use
Electrically assisted bicycles	Motor output must be under 750 watts (1 HP)	Lights required for night use
Motorised skateboards	Small, stand-up (no seat), one-person style “skateboards on wheels”.	We encourage you to use an electric model, or one that does not create that loud "buzzz", which many feel detracts from the event These are motor vehicles, so riders must obey the same driving rules as other vehicle drivers.
Stand-up wind powered vehicles	Only the stand up, pivoting mast type are considered low powered	Do not use in crowded areas or at night.
Electric wheelchairs or mobility scooters	Small vehicle to aid a disability	Lights required for night use

Motorised vehicles

Vehicle	Description	Rules
Street vehicles	Driven to the event and on way to camp	When you arrive at Jilakin Rock City you must drive directly to your camp and park there until you leave
Staff, emergency, and law enforcement vehicles	Vehicles critical to functioning of the event	Can drive anywhere required
Mutant vehicles	See below for definition	Can be driven during the event by a licenced operator following driving protocols
Vehicles for people with disabilities	Any vehicle to assist a disabled person	Usage on a case by case basis

Vehicles Not Allowed to Enter Jilakin Rock City

Any vehicle not listed above, including off-road recreational vehicles, may not enter Jilakin Rock City. If you attempt to bring it to Blazing Swan you will be required to leave it at the Gate in an unsupervised lot, or bring it back home before you enter the event. Be aware that operating these vehicles at Blazing Swan can result in your vehicle being impounded, and your being fined by law enforcement and/or ejected from the event.

What a Mutant Vehicle is

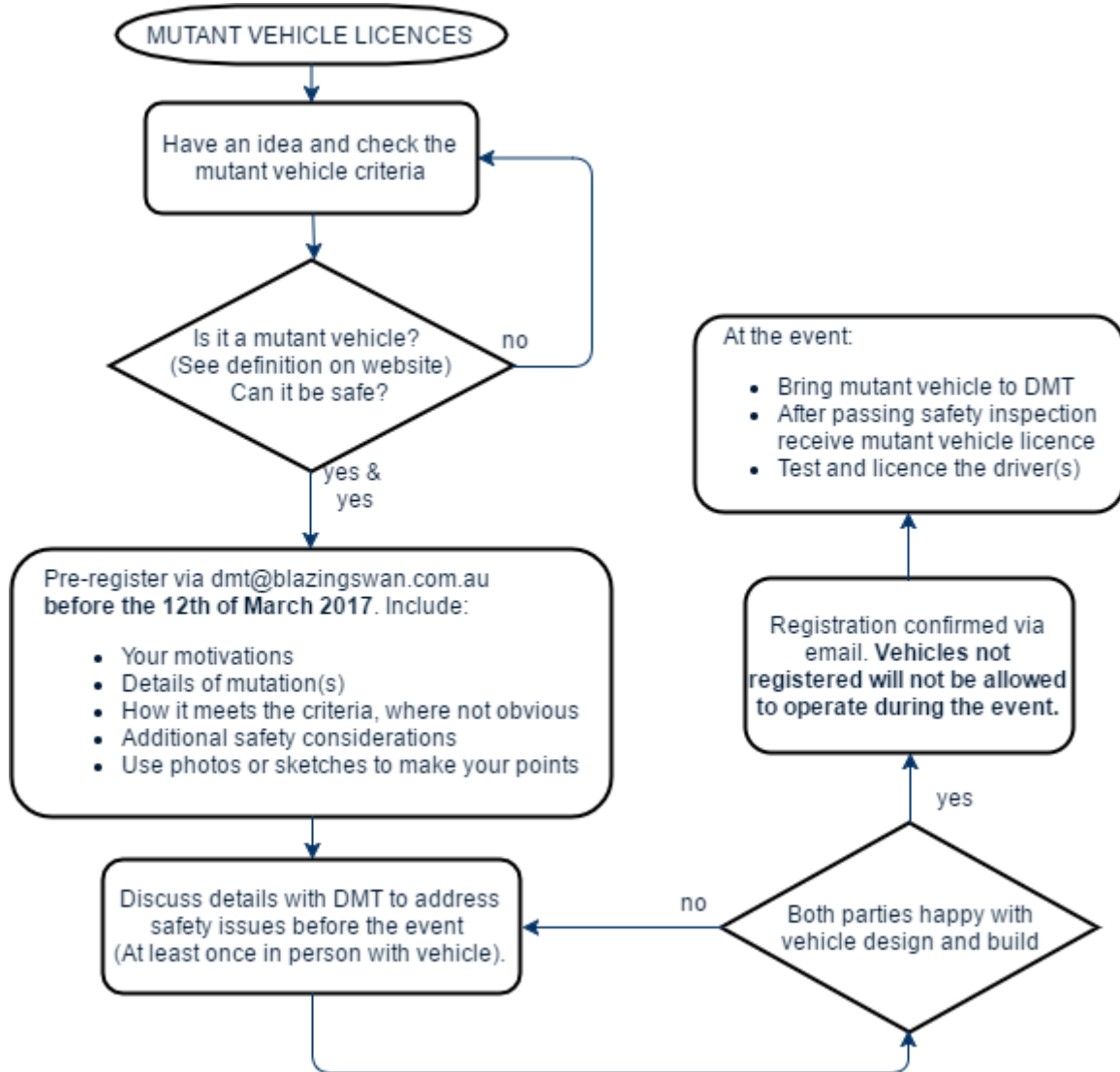
A Mutant Vehicle is a unique, motorised creation that shows little or no resemblance to its original form, or to any standard street vehicle. Mutant Vehicles are radically, stunningly, permanently (usually), and safely modified from their base vehicle. Sometimes the whole vehicle is made from scratch.

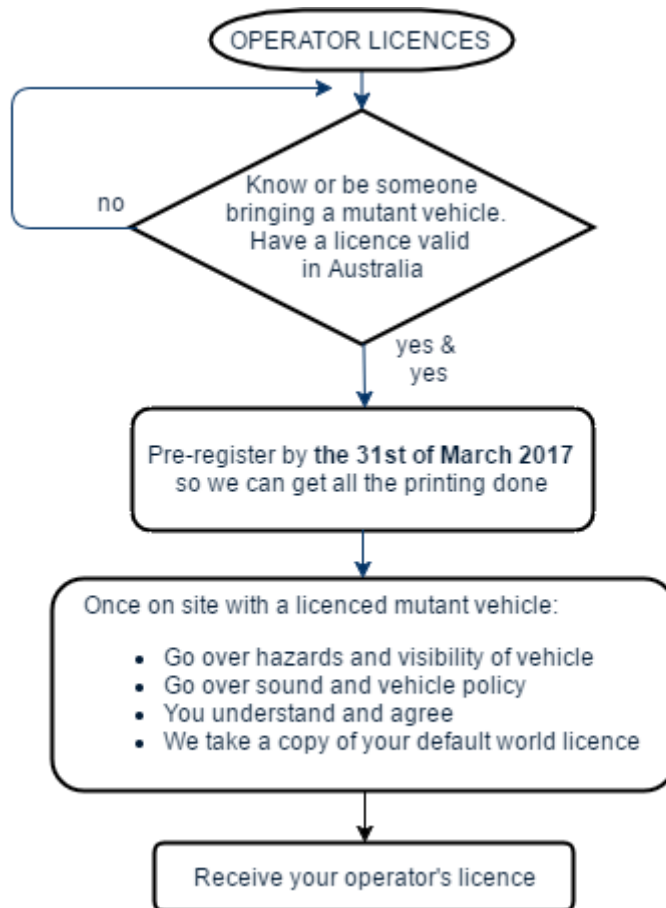
Mutant Vehicles may include such non-standard motorized forms such as furniture, other non-street vehicles such as a boat or train, animals, or just about anything imaginable. For safety reasons, they must not mimic any type of emergency service or law enforcement vehicle.

Vehicles merely stripped to the frame and engine, and vehicles with minimal changes or temporary decorations, are not considered Mutant Vehicles. If the convenience of personal transportation is your primary goal, please rethink your intent. A primary factor driving your urge to drive should be the sharing of your creation with the rest of the community.

Mutant Vehicles are integral to the culture and community at Blazing Swan. They contribute to the surreal, visual quality that binds Jilakin Rock City together. If you are interested in bringing a Mutant Vehicle to Jilakin Rock City, see the Mutant Vehicle Criteria section below.

Vehicle and Operator licencing process overview





Mutant Vehicle Licensing Criteria

These criteria stem from the two basic requirements of a mutant vehicle, that it has a positive impact the event, and that it is safe to be at the event. These criteria are not immutable, and special cases are always considered.

Must have a positive impact:	Level of mutation	Not resemble or represent a car, truck, golf cart or any other readily identifiable street vehicle
	Must be interactive	Interactivity is defined as an opportunity for any village citizen to participate in some activity offered by your vehicle. The theme and/or size of the vehicle is what's considered here. What service to the community does your vehicle provide Lack of interactivity can be compensated for by visually adding to the event (e.g flame effects or art on wheels)
	Sound	Engine noise must not draw attention or take away from the experience of others Once in event see vehicle sound policy section below
Must be safe:	Must pass basic safety checks	Maintain 8km/h steady
		Brakes must be effective
		Sturdy hand railings and stair railings
		No sharp protruding objects
		Safe access area and procedure for (un)loading passengers

	Fire extinguisher and first aid highly recommended
	Good field of view, hazardous blind spots will require walkers while driving
Lighting (24 hour licences only)	Front, rear, sides, and all extremities must be lit
	Anywhere someone would walk, step, or climb must be lit (especially stairs and ladders)
Fire/flame effects	Need an additional fire permit from Fire Tribe

Day and 24 hour licences

Vehicles given a day licence can only operate between sunrise and sunset. Vehicles with a 24 hour licence can operate through the night so must be FULLY and RADICALLY illuminated.

Trailers

Trailers are strongly discouraged at Jilakin Rock City. This is because of a number of injuries and deaths at Burning Man and other regionals involving trailers. If the trailer is not a necessary part of the design it will likely not be licenced. For a mutant vehicle trailer to be licenced it must not be possible for a person to come between the vehicle and trailer, from the side or from above.

Quads and motorbikes

Quads and motorbikes are discouraged because they are often only for personal transport, and the drivers tend to exceed the speed limit. If a quad or motorbike is heavily mutated and meets the criteria above it can be licenced.

Fire Licenses

If your vehicle incorporates flame effects or fire in any way then it will require an additional permit from the Fire Tribe. Read the fire page on our website and utilise the fire safety guidelines that we have developed. You must also contact the Fire Tribe by the 1st of April 2017 to apply for a burn permit; fire@blazingswan.com.au.

Operator Licencing Criteria

At the event, after your mutant vehicle is licenced you can get your operator's licence. The process should take about 10 minutes.

- You must have a driver's licence valid in Australia (P plates are okay, L's are not), we take a copy of it
- You must read the Mutant Vehicle Driving Protocols and Mutant Vehicle Sound Policy below and agree to abide by them
- Go over the vehicle's inspection sheet to cover its particular operation, visibility and hazards
- We remind you of the potential to lose your vehicle and operator's licence if you act unsafely

Mutant Vehicle Driving Protocols

Jilakin Rock City is designed for pedestrians and bicycles. Mutant vehicles drive carefully and give way to pretty much everything else. The following rules must be followed by all mutant vehicle operators:

- Only drive vehicles licensed or allowed to drive in Jilakin Rock City
- Only licenced operators may drive mutant vehicles
- Abide by all applicable state and national laws
- Drive at a speed of 8 km/h or less (less if kicking up dust, or in hazardous situations such as tight crowds)
- Give the right of way to pedestrians, bicycles, and emergency services vehicles
- Follow the reasonable and applicable vehicle laws for road safety
- Stop immediately upon being hailed by any Jilakin Rock City staff member, Bush Ranger, or law enforcement officer
- No driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Obey mutant vehicle sound policy below
- Clearly display the Mutant Vehicle License in a location specified by the DMT

Mutant Vehicle Sound Policy

	Sound level	Analogy	Areas permitted
Level 1	<90 dBA at 10m	Normal car stereo or living room	These systems may play anywhere on the playa, but must be mindful of volume and surroundings, especially in quieter areas in the city or later at night.
Level 2	<90 dBA at 30m	Dance club or theatre	Systems may only play at high volume in open areas (not in or pointing right into the village streets) and must be mindful of where you are playing e.g. around art pieces, burns, etc. and turn it down when appropriate
Level 3	>100 dBA at 30m	Large dance club, arena, or stadium	These systems may only play at high volume by the Large Scale Sound Camps, with speakers pointing out to the lake.

Note: All dB levels refer to maximum potential dBA. The important thing here is the impact of the sound itself. The numbers (DB) are guidelines and the important thing is the impact your sound is having. If you get more than two warnings about your sound system, you may lose your vehicle and/or operator's licence.

Enforcement

Minor incidents will generally just result in a warning. Repeated minor incidents may result in temporary loss of your vehicle and/or operator's licence. Major incidents or wilful negligence may result in permanent loss of your vehicle and/or operator's licence.

In extreme cases your vehicle may be impounded, you may be subject to a fine by law enforcement, and ejection from the event.

All incidents will be recorded and may affect your vehicle and operator's licence application at future Blazing Swan events.