



# Track Car Excursion Operating Rules & Standards

## Transition Guide

**Effective 01/01/2023**

This guide contains changes from  
WCRG Track Car Excursion Operating Rules & Standards, Effective 01/01/2019  
to  
WCRG Track Car Excursion Operating Rules & Standards, Effective 01/01/2023



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## **Rule Changes**

Note: This transition highlights important changes, but is not all inclusive. All rules have been renumbered.

### **General Release of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement**

Rule has been modified to include the currently required “General Release of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement.”

### **Track Car Excursion Participant Duties**

Rule has been rewritten in its entirety.

### **Physical Capabilities**

Rule has been modified to clarify the Employee in Charge’s use of discretion relating to a participants condition and ability to safely participate in excursions.

### **Operator Requirements for Operating a Track Car on WCRG Excursions**

Rule has been modified to clarify requirements for operators on WCRG Excursions.

### **Excursion Participant Passengers**

Rule has been modified to discourage excessive passengers and to permit the Employee in Charge the discretion to limit the number of passengers.

Added reminder that Operators and Passengers are jointly responsible for “On Car Communication.”

Clarification that prohibition of animals applies to pets and service animals.

### **Job Briefings and Required Documents**

Specifies required documents to be in excursion participant’s possession, or immediately available.

### **Electronic Devices**

Rule written in its entirety.

Includes modifications regarding the use of electronic devices when “Suspended Operations” is in effect.

Includes a new recommendation regarding outward facing cameras.

### **Hearing Protection**

New rule, recommendations regarding the use of hearing protection.

### **Safety Vests**

Rule rewritten in its entirety.

### **Walking On or About Tracks**

Rule changed to include prohibitions against dismounting track car on bridges, walking on bridges, and crossing bridges.

### **Passing Trains or Engines**

Clarifies proper positioning of excursion participants and passengers when trains or engines are approaching or passing.

### **Types of Track Cars Allowed on Excursions**

Changed to include prohibition of Railbikes, Handcars, All Terrain Vehicles, Utility Terrain Vehicles, and other similar vehicles on all WCRG excursions.

## **Supplies Required**

Added requirement to carry a minimum of 3 copies of the current WCRG General Release of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement.

## **Window Glazing**

Adds "... other defects which impairs vision."

## **Brake lights**

Rule name change to "Brake lights."

Discontinuation of the term "stoplight." Now referred to as "brake lights."

## **Headlight and Marker Display**

Rule name changed to "Headlight and Marker Display."

Includes requirement that "All track cars must be equipped and display a white headlight ..."

## **Radio Requirements/Use of Mobile Radio**

Rule adds emergency call procedures and recommendation that mobile radios be equipped with Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) capabilities.

## **Turntables**

Turntable Requirements from previous Rule Change Notice added to new rulebook.

## **Track Car Daily Inspection**

Rule name changed to "Track Car Daily Inspection."

Rule rewritten.

## **Attaching Push-Cars or Handling Disabled Track Cars**

Additional requirements regarding proper handling while towing/pushing of disabled track cars.

New specifications regarding tow bar and attachment point requirements.

## **Track Car Occupants Safe Operating Position**

Rule name change to "Track Car Occupants Safe Operating Position."

## **Red Flags Displayed Between the Rails or Next to Track**

Rule name changed to "Red Flags Displayed Between the Rails or Next to Track."

## **Grade Crossings Equipped with Automatic Warning Devices**

Rule has been rewritten in its entirety.

## **Grade Crossings Not Equipped with Automatic Warning Devices**

Rule has been rewritten in its entirety.

## **Signal to Slow or Stop**

Rule name changed to "Signal to Slow or Stop."

## Railroad Crossings/Junctions at Grade

“Junctions” added to rule title.

## Securing Track Cars Left Unattended

Rule has changed to require both sides of one wheel to be chained with a 5/16 proof coil chain.

Definition of “Unattended” has been changed to “...more than 5 feet” from on-track equipment.” Also see “Unattended” in definitions.

## Definition Changes

“Adjacent Tracks” - New definition added.

“Electronic Device” - Definition name change.

Definition rewritten.

Stand alone “inward/outward facing cameras” are excluded for Electronic Device definition.

“On Track Equipment/Railroad Maintenance Machine” - New definition.

“Out of Correspondence” - New definition.

“Suspended Operations” - New definition.

“Track Car” - Definition changed.

“Unattended” - When operator is more than 5 feet from on-track equipment.



***Always take the SAFE course. When in doubt -STOP the Movement***