
1. QMSC - Concessional 'Club' Registration

The Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads Special Interest Vehicle (SIV) registration is a concessional registration scheme for registered operators of special categories of vehicles, including motor vehicles, motorbikes and trailers that have limited use on the road. The types of vehicles eligible to participate in the scheme include both right-hand drive (RHD) and left-hand drive (LHD) which fall within one of the following categories:

- i) Classic & Historic vehicles at least 30 years old.
- ii) Historic Ambulances and Fire fighting Equipment
- iii) Street Rods (Hot Rods). Vehicles that have been modified for safe road use and have a body and frame built before 1949, or is a replica and is fitted with a modification plate, code LH9. Vehicles fitted with a modification plate, code LH10, are for open registration and are not entitled to a Special Interest Vehicle Concession.

2. Eligibility conditions for Concessional Registration

Registered operators must meet specific eligibility requirements at the initial application for concessional registration and then continue to comply with the conditions when using their vehicle. These special conditions are:

i) Club Membership

Registered operators are expected to retain current membership of an incorporated vehicle club or association. Evidence of current membership must be provided by the club or association at the time of application for a concession. This is achieved by the Dating Certificate. Street Rods can only be registered under the scheme if the registered operator is a member of the Australian Street Rod Federation (ASRF). Thus, QMSC cannot register street rods.

ii) Dating Certificate

The vehicle will need to be verified by a club official of an incorporated vehicle club or association to certify that the vehicle was manufactured not less than 30 years ago. The certificate, which must be on club letterhead or other official club documentation, will need to be presented when applying for concessional registration.

The vehicle needs to be positively identified using the full description and VIN or other unique ID as documented on the registration certificate. It may be necessary to verify the month of construction to determine if the car is in fact 30 years old.

iii) Club Requirements

Many clubs impose requirements for the issuing of a dating certificate. Generally, they require participation criteria to be met. The QMSC does not have participation requirements, but imposes an annual administration fee for this service, currently set at \$22.00 per vehicle.

At the time of annual registration renewal of your first concessionally registered vehicle, a new QMSC membership card will be issued, which covers all of your concessionally registered vehicles over the following 12 months.

3. Registration alteration process

The QMSC Application Form for a Dating Certificate is downloaded from the QMSC website and completed by the applicant. It is required to be accompanied by a payment of \$22.00, and a copy of the vehicle's current registration certificate, or in the case of an unregistered vehicle, a copy of a Safety Certificate. These documents are needed to verify the VIN and vehicle age. Photographs of the

vehicle and of the VIN are optional, but would be worth including. Please post the documents to the QMSC PO Box, and allow two weeks for processing.

You will receive from the QMSC the Dating Certificate, Applicant's Declaration, new Membership Card (with an 'S' added after the member number) and a receipt for the payment of \$22.00. The receipt will note the concession expiry date in 12 months time. Please read the Declaration and sign it. Keep this in your records.

The Dating Certificate will also require your signature, before it is taken to a Department of Transport and Main Roads Customer Service Centre, along with the current Registration Certificate. An amount of refund is then calculated, based on the remaining unexpired portion of the paid registration. If this is at renewal time, there will not be any portion unexpired. The refund is credited to your registration account, which may result in registration not having to be paid for several years.

For new registrations, the dating certificate is to be supplied along with the documentation normally required at this time.

Current annual concessional registration totals \$181.20 for 12 months (if paid on time). This is a flat fee, not dependant on the number of cylinders. It is made up of \$78.95 registration, \$53.40 CTP Insurance and \$48.85 Traffic Improvement Fee. No further concessions apply.

Note : if the fee is higher than this, it is probably due to the CTP Class not being changed. CTP Class 5 applies to concessional registered vehicles. The problem of an incorrect CTP class has been known to occur with a number of vehicles being transferred to concessional registration.

Please also advise your vehicle insurer of the change of registration. Substantial discounts apply with the use of concessional registration. Some insurers also offer discounts for club membership.

New registration plates and a new registration label will also be issued (see below).

4. Identification of Concession ally Registered Vehicles

Vehicles registered under this scheme are normally issued with 'S' plates, of regular Queensland size with 'S' followed by 5 digits, white lettering on a black base. The series commenced at S 10000 and is currently in the 20000's. Plans are underway to issue these plates on the 'US' size baseplate, which will be more suitable to fitting onto imported cars.

Owners may also use PPQ issued personalised plates of various forms, either initially or at a later time. These include the 'retro' black and white plates (N,O,P as first letter), allowing older vehicles to retain their originally issued plates.

Registration labels, although of the same format and colour as the regular labels, are distinguished by concessional use wording and a perimeter cross hatching. Labels will no longer be issued for light vehicles from 1 October 2014.

5. Renewal of Concessional Registration

When you concessionaly register a vehicle with the QMSC, you will be issued with a new membership card, which includes a notation regarding the concessional registration by way of the letter 'S' after the member number. The receipt issued for the administration fee of \$22.00 will note the concession expiry date in 12 months time.

Prior to this expiry, the QMSC will send you a Concessional Registration Renewal Form. If you desire to renew, please complete the form and return it to us, along with the annual renewal fee of \$22.00 and a copy of the current registration certificate. You will receive a new membership card and a receipt noting the next expiry date in 12 months time. Transport and Main Roads will send a registration renewal notice independently, which is paid as per a normal registration renewal.

A new Dating Certificate is not issued by the QMSC in the case of renewals.

If you have multiple vehicles being renewed (usually at different times of the year), the process is the same for each vehicle, except that only one membership card will be sufficient to cover all vehicles over a 12 month period.

6. Use of Concessional Registered Vehicles

Vehicles registered under the Special Interest Vehicle Scheme have certain limitations placed on their use. Registered operators must agree that they will confine their vehicle's use to:

- i) Participating in rallies organised by incorporated vehicle clubs.
- ii) Participating in processions for which a Special Events Permit has been issued under the Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Accreditation and Other Provisions) Regulation 2005.
- iii) Exhibiting the vehicle in displays, fetes or similar functions conducted for religious, charitable or educational purposes.
- iv) Use for ceremonial purposes involving immediate family members, for example weddings or school formals (immediate family means parents, grandparents, sons, daughters, grandchildren but not extended family relationships such as nephews and nieces), provided this is not done for a fee or reward.
- v) Preparing for, proceeding to, and returning from the above activities.
- vi) Direct travel to and from an Approved Inspection Station (AIS) for the purposes of obtaining a safety certificate before offering the vehicle for sale.
- vii) Road testing within a 15 kilometre radius from the place where the vehicle is garaged. The purpose of the travel must be to road test the vehicle following repair or restoration and not for any other purpose. This does not include use as a means of transport.
- viii) Travel in order to have the vehicle repaired. There is no distance restriction in these circumstances. However such travel must be reasonable and openly justifiable by the vehicle driver.

If a Special Interest Vehicle is being used for any other purpose, the registered operator either needs to upgrade to full registration or carry a letter of authorisation from Department of Transport and Main Roads for that particular use.

There is no option for a temporary upgrade to full registration (e.g. for unlimited use on a particular weekend). Unregistered vehicle permits are not applicable and the vehicle would have to be returned to full registration. It may be a better option to use another vehicle not on concessional registration.

The above are conditions relating to historic vehicles. Street rods include an additional use - events sanctioned by the Australian Street Rod Federation (ASRF). As the majority of our cars are not registered under the street rod provisions, this use is not considered here.

When operating a concessional registered vehicle to a public event, it is advisable to have your current QMSC membership card, as well as a copy of information pertaining to the event you are attending. This may be in the form of a flyer, or a copy of the QMSC calendar entry for the event. While there is no requirement to produce such documentation at the time of operation, it will have to be taken to a police station subsequently if requested.

7. Penalties for misuse

Section 123 (4) of the Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2010 states :

A person who is granted concessional registration for a vehicle must not use the vehicle, or permit the vehicle to be used:

- (a) for a purpose other than the purpose for which the concession is granted; and*
- (b) other than under any conditions of the concessional registration.*

Maximum Penalty - 20 Penalty units.

The value of a Penalty unit under the State Penalties Enforcement Act of 1999 is currently \$110. Thus the maximum fine applicable is \$2200. No license demerit points apply, and the concession is not forfeited.

Common breaches include use of the vehicle for going to work, going to the shops or other transport purposes, recreational use not associated with a car club run or car show, and hire use for school formals, weddings etc.

The other major problem with use outside of the scheme boundaries is that the car is effectively unregistered. In the event of an accident, your insurance may be invalid. Remember your insurance is already discounted in consideration with the boundaries of the scheme (if you have notified your insurer and have taken advantage of the discount). CTP is also discounted, so you may not be covered here also.

If you are doubtful as to whether your use of the vehicle is acceptable, then don't.

Fines of up to \$8800 apply for driving an unregistered vehicle.

In addition, if your club membership has lapsed and you are no longer financial, the insurance company may deem that you are not complying with the scheme and therefore not registered. They may ask you to provide proof of current membership at a time of claim. The QMSC will not, under any circumstances, backdate a lapsed membership.

8. Interpretation of allowable vehicle use

- i) Participating in rallies organised by incorporated vehicle clubs. This covers what is termed 'club runs or events'.

Note: this can be any club run - not just the club which you are a member of, or the one who processed your club registration application.

For the QMSC, all listings on our Calendar are deemed to be club runs for the purposes of club registration.

Interstate use on club runs is allowed, to which the same Queensland rules apply - not the rules of the similar schemes in the other states.

- ii) Exhibiting the vehicle in displays, fetes or similar functions conducted for religious, charitable or educational purposes. This covers all car shows and similar functions and are usually all included in our club run listing. If not, they are covered here.
- iii) Use for ceremonial purposes involving immediate family members, for example weddings or school formals. This has been extended to include grandchildren. Use in this area must not be for any hire fee. Limousine operators have been known to complain to authorities about concessional cars being used in this role.
- iv) Road testing within a 15 kilometre radius from the place where the vehicle is garaged. Road testing is just that - not a trip to the shops. It would include refuelling and stops for other car requirements.
- v) Travel in order to have the vehicle repaired. This would usually be within a reasonable distance of 'home'. It would be handy to have a business card, quote, parts etc. to justify the trip..

Summary

Registration concessions for car enthusiasts have existed in Queensland for over fifty years. Their continuing availability will depend on clubs and members abiding by the requirements. In Queensland, the onus is particularly on the individual club members (registered owners).

Links

A SIV scheme download is available on the Department of Transport and Main Roads website at : <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/registration/registering-vehicles/the-special-interest-vehicle-concession.aspx>
Parts of this pertaining to the QMSC have been included in this document.

Personalised Plates Qld : <http://www.ppq.com.au/>