

Rules, Conditions and Standards for Gold Wing European Federation Recognised Events

1 Events

a. Types Of Events

i. International Treffens

A Member-Club may annually organise one International Treffen. Treffens are characterised by the fact that it takes place on a venue where most participants camp in tents.

ii. Tours

A Member-Club may annually organise one or more Tour events. Tour events characterize themselves by having multiple days of touring with different overnight locations.

iii. Challenges

A Member-Club may annually organise one or more Challenges. A Challenge is a special kind of tour, where there must be proof of having followed the given routes.

iv. Meetings

A Member-Club may annually organise one or more Meetings. This can be characterised as a small International Treffen, but the overnight can be in a hotel instead of a campground.

b. Event Co-ordination and Responsibility

i. To establish a balanced annual program of events, organisers shall co-ordinate their plans with the GWEF Officers and each other at the earliest opportunity.

ii. Final responsibility for the date, location and organisation of an event shall rest with the organisers.

c. GWEF Recognition

i. Recognition of an event by GWEF shall be at the discretion of the Committee.

ii. Dates for recognised events for the following year must be finalised by the last committee meeting of the previous year.

iii. Once a repetitive event has been recognised and the conditions for GWEF recognition continue to be met, this recognition remains implicitly in force unless the organisers annul the recognition in writing to the GWEF secretary or is withdrawn by the committee. The recognition can be withdrawn when the character of the repetitive event changes drastically.

iv. Organisers shall allow no individual personally to profit in any way from the event other than in the course of a normal commercial relationship. Reasonable expenses incurred in the organization of the event are excepted.

d. Events and Touring Award Program

i. GWEF-recognised events shall be part of the annual Super Touring Award (STA) program.

2 Publication of Event Information

Details of the date, address, GPS coordinates, purpose, inscription price and items or services included in that inscription price must be submitted for publication at least 90 days before the event or by the end of January if inclusion in the help guide is required.

The organisers alone shall be responsible for the completeness and punctuality of this information.

Each International Representative (IR) shall be responsible for his Member-Club publishing complete and punctual information on a minimum A5 page of his national club magazine. If a club doesn't have a magazine, then they shall publish it by any other means.

No inscription price shall be increased, no event-program or facility offered for that price shall be reduced after their formal submission to any of the GWEF Committee.

An IR and a Member-Club shall:

a. Not be required to publish information which is late or incomplete with respect to date, location, inscription price or facilities provided for that price.

b. Not be required to publish events not recognized by GWEF.

3 Inscription

There where event-site is mentioned, it applies to International Treffens.

a. No motorcycle shall enter the event-site without an inscription form being completed and signed by its rider.

b. Inscription and Admission of GWEF Members riding Gold Wings

i. At inscription for an event offering advantages to GWEF members, any inscriber shall show a valid GWEF membership card bearing his name and Member-Club to receive those advantages.

ii. A GWEF card is valid only for the individual(s) named on the card.

iii. Organisers shall refuse such advantages if a valid GWEF membership card is not shown.

- iv. Beyond their normal right to refuse any admission, organisers of a GWEF-recognised event or any GWEF Committee member shall have the right to confiscate a GWEF membership card if they have grounds to believe that it is being misused. In the case of an individual GWEF membership card holder, the matter shall be referred to the committee of the member club for further action. The member club shall notify the GWEF committee of its decision.
 - v. For the purposes of GWEF National Club prizes, the organisers shall assign the participation to the Member-Club issuing the membership card presented by the inscriber.
- c. Onus of Proof. The onus of proving any conditions governing inscription, admission or distance rests with the inscriber.
- d. Inscription and Admission of others.
 There where event-site is mentioned, it applies to International Treffens.
- i. An individual member of GWEF riding a motorcycle other than a Goldwing, and his passenger(s), shall be admitted to the event-site without his vehicle.
 - ii. A spouse, or one immediate-family member or one partner who is riding a motorcycle other than a Gold Wing accompanying a Gold Wing rider shall be admitted to the event-site with that motorcycle. They shall not be assigned a separate inscription number but be added to gold wing rider's inscription form.
 - iii. A Gold Wing rider, and his passenger(s), who is not an individual member of GWEF shall be admitted to the event-site with his Gold Wing.
 - iv. The admission to the event-site of others to participate, on a day-visitor basis, shall be at the discretion of the organisers. No vehicle of a day visitor will be allowed on site.
 - v. The inscription price for International Treffens must include camping facilities for tents.
 - vi. Inscription fees for fully participating non-GWEF members under d(ii) and d(iii) and d(iv) shall be minimum 20% higher than those of the GWEF members.
 - vii. A passenger of a GoldWing driver having a valid GWEF card must be admitted at GWEF price.
 - viii. At International Treffens there shall be free admission for:
 - 1. Children less than sixteen years old when inscribed by an individual member of GWEF.
 - 2. The nominated International Representative ONLY of a member club.
 - 3. GWEF Officers and Honorary Life GWEF Members
 - ix. No GWEF member on a day-visitor basis shall enter the event-site with his motorcycle.
 - x. Apart from the motorcycles specified above and vehicles directly serving the organisers, no other motorcycle or vehicle shall be admitted to the event-site.
 - xi. Organisers shall have the right to refuse admission to persons known to show bad conduct, and to eject persons, without refund, showing conduct not in accord with local or GWEF standards. The latter matter shall be dealt with according to Section 9(a, b or c) of the Constitution.
 - xii. Provision of parking space for vehicles arriving to a Treffen with a Gold Wing in tow shall be at the discretion of the organizers. This parking space, if available, must be in a separate area, not interfering with the tents.
- e. Touring Award Cards
- i. Organisers of GWEF-recognised events shall, with a unique mark, stamp the TA card of a fully participating GWEF-member arriving on a GoldWing. The TA card must bear the same name, address and Member-Club and Member number as the GWEF membership card and must be signed by the holder. Incomplete cards shall not be stamped.
 - ii. Organisers shall not stamp cards of day-visitors.
 - iii. Organisers shall have the right to confiscate a STA card if they have grounds to believe that it is being misused. The matter shall then be dealt with according to Section 9(c) of the Constitution.
- f. Admission Conditions regarding Liability
- i. The organisers shall take reasonable care to ensure the security of persons and their property on the event-site. This shall, where practically possible, include a Third-Party/ Public liability insurance to cover the event.
 - ii. Unaccompanied minors shall not be admitted to the event-site.
 - iii. The organisers shall make it a Condition of entry to the event-site for every adult entrant that:
 - 1. He/she accepts all responsibility for all loss, damage or injury caused by him / her or minors accompanying him / her while on the site.
 - 2. He/she absolves GWEF, its committee members, the organisers and their agents from all responsibility for any loss, damage or injury caused to him or minors accompanying him / her, while on the site.
 - iv. This Condition of entry shall be:
 - 1. For full participants, a disclaimer in English, German and French on the inscription form, stating that the event is organised according to GWEF rules and conditions. The conditions in (f)(iii.1 and 2) above must be reproduced on the inscription form and the participant must sign

the form to the effect he understands and accepts these rules and conditions before admission.

2. for all other entrants to the event-site, a clearly visible notice in the local national language, posted at the entrance, stating the entry conditions under (f)(iii.1 and 2) and that the act of entry constitutes an acceptance of them.

4 Awards at GWEF Treffens

- a. GWEF International Awards and Individual Prizes
 - i. Member-Clubs organising a GWEF-recognised International Treffen shall give rankings and awards to all participating GWEF Member-Clubs, except themselves.
 - ii. The organisers shall calculate the rankings of participating clubs as follows:
 1. The Secretary informs all clubs of the road kilometre distance from the centre of each GWEF Member-Club country to the centre of the host country. These distances can be found on the GWEF website on the results page for the interrep.
 2. At the close of inscription, the organisers shall multiply the total of Gold Wings inscribed for each GWEF Member-Club by two times the road-kilometre distance assigned to that Member-Club (i.e. Total Member-Club Gold Wings x road-kilometres) This gives the number of points for deciding the rankings of the awards.
 3. GWEF card holders not arriving at a GWEF event with a Gold Wing or and participants not belonging to a GWEF Member-Club shall not be counted in these totals.
 - iii. Organisers shall determine the size of the awards which should be suitable for carrying on a Gold Wing.
- b. Club Attendance Award (CAA)

At the close of inscription organisers shall determine the member club in attendance which has the greatest number of GoldWings inscribed as a proportion of that club's total membership as notified to the secretary after 31st December of the previous year and that club shall receive an additional award known as the 'Club Attendance Award'. The method of calculation shall be the number of the inscribed GoldWings, divided by total membership multiplied by 100.
- c. Individual Riding Distances and Participation Totals
 - i. If, in their absolute discretion, Treffen organisers choose to make individual awards **to GWEF members** for distances ridden to a GWEF recognised international event **with a Goldwing**, candidates for such an award must record their distance travelled on the inscription form.
 1. This distance shall be the direct distance after leaving his/her home address or, if another GWEF event has been attended since leaving home the direct distance from that GWEF event.
 2. It shall not be a cumulative event, touring or holiday distance.
 3. Distance claims falling outside the above conditions may be considered on individual merit.
 4. Organisers shall have the right to refuse any distance claim which they consider inaccurate.
 - ii. For GWEF administrative purposes and for determining award rankings, organisers shall maintain lists as follows:
 1. The total number of participants.
 2. The total inscription from each GWEF Member-Club
 3. Organisers supply copies of these lists to the GWEF Secretary and update the GWEF admin page results table, within fifteen days of the event ending.
 - iii. At the end of each touring season, as a recognition of participation in GWEF's International programme, GWEF will provide 'Super Tour awards' consisting of a patch and diploma to GWEF drivers who participated in four or more GWEF recognised events. If required, a black patch will be provided to the regular passengers of those participants at additional cost.
- d. Other Awards. Any other awards shall be at the discretion of the organisers.
- e. Award-giving Ceremony. The award-giving ceremony at an international Treffen shall be conducted in firstly English then, if possible, at the discretion of the organisers, in German and French, followed by the local language, if different from these. To prevent the ceremony to get too long, there shall be no advertising for coming events during the pick-up of the price. It must be kept as short as possible.

5 Riding Safety

- a. In the interests of safety, GWEF shall, with or in the Help Guide or by other means from time to time, publish guidelines concerning safe group-riding behaviour.
- b. Organisers organising group-rides must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the riders and public.
- c. Except during a Light Parade, motorcycles with trailers shall not be permitted to take part in group-rides unless the trailer serves the tour-needs of a disabled rider or passenger.

- d. Organisers shall have the right to exclude a rider showing persistently dangerous riding during a group-ride. If such a rider ignores the exclusion the organisers may eject him from the whole event. The matter shall then be dealt with according to Section 9(c) of the Constitution.

6 Standards for GWEF recognised Treffens and Events

a. Treffen definition

- i. Treffen is the Dutch/German word for 'Meeting'.
- ii. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for the GoldWing rider to make new friends, meet old friends and to exchange information and ideas about motorcycling in general and GoldWings in particular. It also provides an opportunity to share the pleasures of riding the GoldWing motorcycle in another country and experience the host nation's culture, society, language, customs and geography. It implies therefore a responsibility for organisers to ensure their Event reflects these aims.
- iii. The word 'International' means that the main objective must be hosting and entertaining the visitors and their families from other countries, rather than the members of the host nation. Otherwise, the event is a 'National Treffen'.
- iv. There are many ways of achieving this and different countries have different possibilities and restrictions, but there must be minimum standards that all members can expect on what an Event should provide. The most luxurious, biggest or noisiest event is not necessarily the best meeting place for friends and family.
- v. Organisers should never forget that members will always 'vote with their wheels'.

b. What make a good Treffen or Event?

i. Dates

1. There are certain dates which by tradition are adopted by countries which have national holidays on those dates. France at Ascension and Holland at Whitsun / Pentecost. This was formally agreed in 2000. Then Great Britain asked for, and received, the last Bank Holiday weekend in August for its Treffen. All other clubs agreed to fit dates within this framework.
2. It was also agreed at the same meeting that wherever possible, neighbouring countries try to organise Treffens, Tours and events on close dates so riders could arrange their Touring holidays to include more than one Event.
3. In arranging dates (and locations) many clubs have restrictions. The Scandinavian countries (Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark) have a limited riding season; therefore, their Treffens must all be packed into the months of June, July and August. Equally, the Mediterranean countries have to avoid the main tourist season because of campground availability and costs.
4. Although sometimes it has been unavoidable, GWEF tries to organise its program so that only one Treffen takes place over any given weekend to the benefit of the touring riders. When a clash of dates seems unavoidable the clubs involved **must** discuss the matter with each other at the earliest opportunity and then with the GWEF secretary. If the events do not appear to compete then GWEF may give recognition to both.
5. Early publication of dates is not only important to the clubs themselves but also to individual wingers. They also need to plan their holiday absences, touring plans, ferries etcetera. For these reasons, Treffen, Tour and Event dates agreed at the last GWEF meeting of the year **must** be adhered to for the following year.

After this meeting no alterations of dates will be accepted for GWEF recognition unless there are exceptional circumstances beyond the club's control.

ii. Location (*International Treffens*)

1. If organisers want to share local culture, customs and motorcycling environment with participants, they should choose a location which allows this. Traditionally motorcycle events are based on camping. Every Treffen **must** include camping facilities for tents at no additional cost. The site can vary from 'green field' where the facilities are 'imported', to a commercial campsite where everything is available. Some countries have no choice in taking one or the other. Each type of site has merit and offers variation which appeals to all tastes. But regardless of which option is chosen all facilities must be properly planned.
2. Although it is difficult to predict the number of visitors there must be sufficient camping space available. 'Too much' is better than 'too little'. In this respect the GWEF committee agreed that when space becomes limited, campers could be required to take down pavilions and gazebos to make room.
3. Wherever possible, Treffen organisers should make every effort to ensure the tent site is reasonably well drained and not susceptible to flooding. Entrances in particular, should be firm enough to withstand thousands of motorcycle journeys through them and remain solid enough

to ensure driver stability. In wet weather, consideration should be given to providing wood shavings at the site entrance.

4. If the camping area is at a distance from the main location where the festivities are held, the Treffen organisers **must** provide a transfer service, to prevent participants from having to drive to the camping site after consuming alcohol. This transfer service must rotate regularly, have enough capacity to transport larger groups (8-person van is not enough), start early enough for all participants to join the festivities, and end not earlier than 30 minutes after the main location is closed. If the capacity of the transport is not enough to transport all waiting persons back to the camping, it should continue until everybody is back.

iii. *Facilities (International Treffens)*

1. With motorcycle Treffens based on camping, the most important facilities for participants and their families are toilets and showers. Experience has shown if these are good, everything else becomes more enjoyable. (See 'Sanitary provision' below). Consideration should be given to make electric points available. If this is at extra costs, it should be mentioned on the invitation.
2. We must recognise our sport appeals to all age groups and there will be those who choose not to camp. As a service to these members, information of nearby hotels may be published in Treffen adverts. However, it is the responsibility of the member to make a hotel reservation. Hotel information is a courtesy service by each club but not their responsibility.
3. There are those members who travel in a motorhome and bring their motorcycle on a trailer. It has become the practice for some clubs to make a separate area available to these members. This can not be in the main camping area. Tents and campers may not be mixed. This is a courtesy for members where space is available and not a GWEF requirement.

iv. *On Site Activities (International Treffens)*

1. Entertainment

- a. The type of entertainment at a Treffen is at the discretion of the Treffen Organisers. Special forms of entertainment should reflect the cultural heritage of the host club. E.G. Swiss carnival bands, Welsh choirs, Scottish bagpipes, Spanish Flamenco etc.
- b. If possible, organisers should consider the provision of a quiet bar for those who choose not to attend the performance of a live band.

2. Program

- a. The event program is also at the discretion of the Treffen organisers but will include organised 'runs' to local places of interest or provide 'road books' which participants can use to make their own way in smaller groups. Whatever is chosen, it should reflect local culture and includes ride-outs, places to visit and demonstrations. The highlights of the program must be included in the published Treffen advertisement.
- b. Treffen advertisements **must** include:
 - i. Dates (Event start and end);
 - ii. The exact location: Address and GPS coordinates in digital minutes format (Example: N 50° 27.367, E 5° 48.615).
 - iii. The inscription fees. The fees for non-GWEF participants must be at least 20% higher than those for GWEF participants.
 - iv. What is included in the costs (diner, excursion(s) etc).
 - v. Highlights of the program.
 - vi. Date and time the camping/venue is open.
 - vii. Whether electricity is available for tents / motorhomes and if a charge applies for this.
 - viii. If pre-inscription is necessary for electricity, motorhomes etc.
 - ix. If working with pre-inscription and pre-payment, the rules of reimbursement or where to find them.
- c. Publishing of Treffen adverts
Each club will publish, free of charge, at least ONE advertisement of each other club's Treffen and all other GWEF recognised events, minimum size A5. This **must** be published no later than three months before the event, if available. Each club should include in it's calendar the dates of future GWEF recognized Treffens and events. If the club doesn't have a magazine, it can be on their website or any other means.

v. *Awards*

Awards are only given at an International Treffen. The only mandatory awards are the country awards and the Club Attendance Award (CAA). Full details are available in the 'Rule and conditions for the Touring Award Programme of the Gold Wing European Federation'.

vi. *Food*

1. The provision of food – burger bars / regional specialities, is a matter for the organisers. It is clearly beneficial for meals and snacks to be provided at a competitive price. This will be appreciated.
2. When a main meal forms part of the program, the event organisers must make sure this meal is available to **all** visitors who wish to attend, especially if entertainment is offered during it.

vii. *Sanitary provision (International Treffen)*

1. The health and welfare of hundreds of people gathered in a relatively small area is of primary importance. It is therefore vital that sufficient toilets, showers and washing facilities are provided. Apart from this, a responsible approach by the host club shows the members of the community that we take our duties very seriously. In this way we help to engage the support of local people and are welcomed back.
2. Water taps for drinking water must be provided on the campsite at a convenient distance.
3. Equally important is the maintenance of those facilities throughout the event. They must be cleaned regularly and maintained in good working order. Sadly, there may be a few irresponsible persons who think it is funny to block toilets or otherwise interfere with the facilities. A member found engaging in this behaviour will be immediately expelled from the Event with the full support of the GWEF committee and the offender's club will be invited to deal with the person as appropriate.

viii. *Security*

1. The security of our visitors is of paramount importance and contributes largely to the overall success of a Treffen. Those who perform this role have three functions.
 - a. To provide protection to property and members.
 - b. To oversee the responsible behaviour of participants.
 - c. To provide a visible point of reference to get help.
2. Organisers must make every effort to protect member's motorcycles, tents and property. It must be remembered the campsite will often serve as a cooking area as well. Due regard must be paid to fire safety, and on safety grounds, a minimum space **must** be strictly enforced between each tent. Consideration **must** be given to providing water buckets / fire extinguishers in the event of an outbreak of fire. This is particularly important when bikes are parked next to tents.
3. Therefore, they **must** provide site security 24 hours each day for the duration of the Treffen. Before the Treffen opens, organisers should make a risk assessment to identify potential hazards and act upon it to remove or reduce the risk. (see Public Liability Insurance below)
4. For pedestrian safety, only motorcycles or service vehicles should be allowed on site driving at low speed.

ix. *Medical care*

1. Clubs should appreciate that prompt and efficient response to medical emergencies can make the difference between life and death. Events in the past have highlighted the importance of having medical assistance ON SITE to respond to emergencies. Qualified first aiders must be available 24 hours per day to offer emergency treatment. These could be club members or a local 1st Aid organisation.
2. The information pack handed out at Inscription **must** include the host country's number for emergency services like ambulance, police or fire department and preferable also the names and phone numbers of local doctors and hospitals. This information must be in English, French and German and the national language. This information should also be clearly displayed at Inscription for easy reference by all.

x. *Public Liability Insurance*

1. Where practicable GWEF recognised events should be covered by appropriate public liability insurance. This is of course, an additional expense which can only be passed on to our guests, but that is the reality of the 'blame' culture, and we cannot ignore it.
2. Fortunately, there are certain actions we can take. We can show we have made every effort to reduce the possibility of loss or damage then Insurance companies may take a more lenient view on premium costs. One of the ways to minimise the risk is to carry out a 'risk assessment' then act upon it. Even if this is not a legal requirement, common sense dictates each club should do so. A record should be kept of the risk assessment.

c. **General**

i. *Tickets / Tokens refunds*

When tickets or tokens must be purchased and exchanged for refreshments and / or food, organisers must enable unused tickets/tokens to be refunded. Refund of the tickets/tokens **must** be available at

the same counter at which they are sold, at all times the counter is open for sale. At the closing day of the event, the counter **must** be open until noon.

ii. *Pre-registration refunds*

When there is a possibility for prepay for any event, the organisers must have information on their invitation what the rules for refunding are, or where to find them.

iii. *Inscription forms*

In order to make inscription forms understandable and recognisable to visitors, organisers must use the standardised GWEF Inscription form downloadable in the documents section on the GWEF website.

This does not prevent organisers from asking additional information if they wish, i.e. for the purpose of calculating additional awards.

iv. *Online inscription*

If for a GWEF recognised event online inscription is preferred, the GWEF inscription system **must** be used. Send all necessary information to the GWEF secretary, at least one month before the inscription should start.

Adoption

These rules, conditions and standards for events, recognised by the Gold Wing European Federation, were accepted as binding and adopted by the GWEF Committee, meeting at De Steeg, The Netherlands 17 May 2024.