

**Proposals presented by Castledare Miniature Railway for review and
Consultation with the Safety Committee**

25th July 2016.

As a member of the Sunshine Coast Railway Modellers Society I wish to personally comment on some of the proposals put forward.

2. Bogies with mounted couplers.

I fully support the proposals put forward by the Castledare Club on this matter. Couplers rigid mounted or swinging will increase the lateral forces on bogies which is not the intent to free tracking bogies around curves as well problems created when the couplers are in compression.

I consider that the AALS Code of Practice should be changed to clearly indicate this situation.

3. Mounting of bogies with centre loading.

Once again I fully support the proposals put forward by the Castledare Club. Following full scale practice I consider it essential that bogies need to be supported around the centre pin and the gap side bearers located on the bolster in line with the flanges are to have a small amount of clearance so as to allow the bogies under a wagon to twist slightly when following variations in track levels.

I also had the experience of mounting advertised bogies onto a wagon with a single roller on each side supporting the wagon, that is four point inter-face to the wagon. As well as constant derailments the centre pin which was rigid, was subjected to excessive forces from the twisting of the bogie bolster. Although the bolster is supported on 4 springs or 8 springs this does not mean the bolster moves up and down squarely since springs on one side will always be weaker than the other side and the rollers allow the bolster to twist (forwards or backwards) and grab the centre pin tightly. This has the effect of not

allowing the bogie to swivel freely as well as create increased flange friction on curves and increased flange squeal.

The fitting of 4 rollers on each bolster in a radial configuration together with a centre support did overcome this problem and provide reliable service.

I completely support the recommendations from the Castledare Club on paragraphs 2 and 3; bogie couplers and bogie mountings.

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