

Tamworth & District Model Engineers Inc.

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Linda Hall,
Secretary, AALS,
secretary@aals.asn.au

7 October 2017

Dear Linda,

Re: Submission: 'Minimum Driver Age' – AALS Operations 5.2 (page 15).

At our monthly meeting held today, members of our club (TDME Inc.) accepted and endorsed the following submission to the AALS for consideration. Our recommendations are in highlighted in yellow, the current AALS code is in black print.

The reason for our changes is to encourage young members to become competent and responsible operators now, and to foster an investment in the future of both our young drivers and ultimate survival of our club. We have currently got three young drivers, fully licensed to drive 'diesels' and in training to operate steamers. They are totally competent and responsible (and as one of our members remarked, "*almost certainly better equipped to drive locomotives than some of their more senior colleagues!*")

Our Submission.

5.2 Minimum Age.

5.2.1 The minimum age for Attendants during Public Running Days shall be **twelve (12)** fifteen (15) years of age.

5.2.2 The minimum age for Operators during Public Running shall be if operating a steam boiler, **fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) years inclusive** eighteen (18) years of age and otherwise shall be **twelve (12)** fifteen (15) years of age. Persons **twelve (12) to seventeen (17)** fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) years of age inclusive shall be under the direct supervision of an Operator, eighteen (18) years of age or older at all times.

P.T.O.

We believe that the above changes would significantly allow more interest in our club from young people, and because of the strict rules regarding the close supervision by an experienced adult operator, have no deleterious effect on safe operation.

Yours faithfully,
Bob Green,
Honorary Secretary.