

# NAFLIC

*National Association For Leisure Industry Certification*

## Standards & Related Documents Subcommittee

### TECHNICAL BULLETIN - MARCH 1994

#### 078. Elderly Persons using Rides

Two incidents occurred last summer in which elderly people were injured by fairground rides. In the first incident a 71 year old man riding on steam hoppers attempted to change horses while the ride was running. He fell and sustained serious head injuries. The second incident involved an 87 year old woman who cut her leg while attempting to enter the car on a 90 year old Venetian Gondola Switchback ride.

The Joint Advisory Committee for Health and Safety in the Fairground Industry (JAC) briefly discussed the issues involved when elderly (or handicapped) persons ride on passenger carrying amusement devices. The two incidents described above, particularly the man changing horses, were not thought to hold any lessons of especial relevance to the elderly and it was not considered necessary to issue any new guidance.

We remind NAFLIC members of paragraphs 116 and 117 of "Fairgrounds and Amusement Parks - A Code of Safe Practice" if they become involved in reviewing the safety provisions of rides. These state :-

"116. It is foreseeable that particular passengers or sections may be at risk on certain passenger carrying amusement devices because of the nature of the ride and their own physical characteristics. They should be identified and excluded, so far as is reasonably practicable, unless sufficient additional protection can be given to them."

"117. Legal notices and signs should be prominently displayed, clearly and simply stating any limitations as to who has to be excluded from being carried on the device. Attendants and operators should, so far as they can reasonably do so, see that such exclusions are enforced."

Committee Members :- Dr Garry Fawcett (Chairman), Mr Richard Barnes, Mr Bob Nicholls, Mr Les Howson,  
Mr Malcolm Tennant, Mr Peter Steffens

P.O. BOX NO. 9, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE. SK17 9XF  
TEL: (0298) 77468 FAX: (0298) 70784