



**THE ASSOCIATION OF CARAVAN & CAMPING EXEMPTED ORGANISATIONS**

6 THORNES OFFICE PARK, MONCKTON ROAD, WAKEFIELD. WF2 7AN 07423 652581

[www.acceo.org](http://www.acceo.org)

**RALLY STEWARDS' GUIDE TO SAFETY SPACING OF UNITS**

A minimum space of **six metres** in any direction between units (including any form of awning) must be maintained, both as a fire break and as a clear access route for emergency vehicles to any unit on site. Units should ideally be staggered in relation to those in the next line and all units in a line should face in the same direction to facilitate rapid and unconfused removal in an emergency situation.

The DEFRA guide says not less than **three metres** should be permitted between units. For this purpose, a unit **includes** the caravan/tent **plus any awning, gazebo or “pup” tent and the tow car** (which should be parked on the “blind side” of the unit and can normally be quickly moved in the case of an emergency).

Many stewards equip themselves with a six metre length of rope with which to simply measure off from the wall of the last sited unit (or awning if erected) to the required position of the wall of the next arrival. Alternatively, it is sometimes possible to mark pitches out in advance and in such cases – provided that all units are uniformly sited on the marker (e.g front right corner) and using average caravan (7'6”) and awning (8’) specifications – **8.3 metres** is required between pitch markers, or **10.75 metres** allowing for an awning to be erected. Should you wish to site the units in a “herringbone” formation, this equates to approximately **8.8m** or **11.6m** respectively. Of course, unless specifications and intentions are declared on the rally booking slips, it is not always possible to know what size or types of unit are to be expected or who will be erecting awnings so, in the absence of this information and provided the size of the rally field permits, it is advantageous to pre-mark out the pitches under the assumption that every unit will be of maximum size and with an awning attached.

Tents of course come in many diverse shapes and sizes so these must be given particular consideration, especially if marking out the pitches in advance. They must be sited separately from caravans & motorhomes although that does not necessarily mean segregated. If the layout of the field does not allow for separate lines of tents it is permissible to continue a line of caravans/motorhomes with a line of tents but they must be sited en bloc and not be interspersed. Trailer tents are classified as tents and must be sited accordingly.

**Children’s “pup” tents may be erected alongside the parents’ unit and should be considered as part of the unit for spacing purposes.**

**The diagram shown overleaf is intended only as an example to illustrate the safety spacing required in any possible scenario.**

**Please Note:-** In order to permit the attendance of tents & trailer tents (with the exception of children’s “pup” tents) on caravan rallies a Camping Exemption Certificate, issued by DEFRA under section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936, must be held in conjunction with the Caravan Exemption Certificate. For more information on tents on caravan rallies and Camping Certificates, please see **ACCEO Information Sheet N<sup>o</sup> 9.**

