



ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1985

**MOTOR VEHICLES (DRIVING AGES) (NO. 2)
REGULATIONS 2012**

Approved by Tynwald 17 October 2012

Coming into operation 1 November 2012

The Department of Infrastructure makes these Regulations under sections 4, 68(1) and 74 of the Road Traffic Act 1985.

1 Title

These Regulations are the Motor Vehicles (Driving Ages) (No. 2) Regulations 2012.

2 Commencement

If approved by Tynwald, these Regulations come into operation on 1 November 2012.

3 Interpretation

In these Regulations —

"the Act" means the Road Traffic Act 1985;

"agricultural tractor" means a motor tractor or locomotive constructed or adapted for use off roads for the purpose of agriculture, horticulture or forestry;

"dual-purpose vehicle" has the same meaning as in the Road Vehicles (Maintenance and Use) Regulations 2012;

"electrically assisted pedal cycle" means a bicycle or tricycle of the same class as is prescribed in regulation 3 of the Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles Regulations 1990;

"invalid carriage" has the same meaning as in the Act, except that it excludes a vehicle complying with the requirements, and being used in accordance with the conditions, prescribed under section 69 of the Act;

"kg" means kilograms;

"learner motor cycle" and "moped" have the same meanings as in the Moped and Learner Motor Cycle (Definitions) Regulations 2003;

"light goods vehicle" means a motor vehicle which --

- (a) is constructed or adapted for use for the carriage or haulage of goods or burden of any description, and
- (b) has a maximum authorised mass not exceeding 3500 kg;

"locomotive" means either a light locomotive or a heavy locomotive within the meaning of the Act;

"maximum authorised mass", in relation to a light goods vehicle, means the weight which the vehicle is designed or adapted not to exceed when in normal use and travelling on a road laden;

"minibus" means a motor vehicle which is constructed or adapted to carry more than 8 but no more than 16 seated passengers in addition to the driver;

"motor bicycle" means a two-wheeled motor vehicle (not being a moped) with an unladen weight not exceeding 410 kg;

"motor tractor" and "motor vehicle" have the same meanings as in the Act;

"passenger car" means a motor vehicle (not being a light goods vehicle) which –

- (a) is constructed or adapted only to carry no more than 8 seated passengers and a driver, together with their effects,
- (b) has at least 3 wheels and a maximum authorised mass not exceeding 3500 kg, and
- (c) is not steered by handlebars; and

"3- or 4-wheeled cycle" means a motor vehicle (without a sidecar) which –

- (a) is steered by handlebars,
- (b) has 3 or 4 wheels, and
- (c) is not a moped.

4 Preliminary

- (1) The Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles Regulations 1990 are amended as follows.
- (2) In regulation 3, for the words from the beginning up to and including "requirements", substitute –

"For the purposes of the Act other than section 4, an electrically assisted pedal cycle which is to be treated as not being a motor vehicle is a bicycle or tricycle of the following class".

5 Driving ages

A person must not drive on a road a motor vehicle of a class specified in column 1 of the following table unless he or she has attained the age specified in relation to that class in column 3 of that table.

TABLE
DRIVING AGES

1 <i>Class of motor vehicles</i>	2 <i>Description of motor vehicles comprised within class</i>	3 <i>Driving age in years</i>
1	Electrically assisted pedal cycle	14
2	Mowing machine or pedestrian-controlled vehicle	16
3	Moped or learner motor cycle	16
4	3- or 4-wheeled cycle	16
5	Motor bicycle (not being a learner motor cycle) with or without a sidecar attached	17
6	Invalid carriage	16
7	Agricultural tractor	16
8	A motor vehicle (not falling within any preceding class) which is – <div style="margin-left: 40px;">(a) a passenger car;</div> <div style="margin-left: 40px;">(b) a light goods vehicle; or</div> <div style="margin-left: 40px;">(c) a dual-purpose vehicle</div>	16
9	Minibus or any other vehicle not falling within any preceding class	21

6 Revocation

The Motor Vehicles (Driving Ages) Regulations 2012¹ are revoked.

MADE 24/ 8/ 2012

D C Cretney
Minister for Infrastructure

¹ SD 0329/12

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations prescribe for the purposes of section 4 of the Road Traffic Act 1985 the ages which drivers must attain before driving specified classes of motor vehicles. Section 4 is in the form substituted by paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 2001 (c. 32) and has effect by virtue of the Road Traffic (Amendment) Act 2001 (Appointed Day) (No. 4) Order 2005 (SD 205/05).

The Regulations amend the Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles Regulations 1990 (GC 296/90) so that a driving age may continue to be prescribed for such vehicles.

The Regulations make only one change to the driving ages that are in force at present. They relax the driving age for 3- or 4-wheeled cycles by standardising it at 16, whereas at present the driving age for 3-wheeled cycles is 17 and that for 4-wheeled is 16. 3- or 4-wheeled cycles are not motor cycles or mopeds but are typically all-terrain vehicles commonly used on farms. The driving age for them is standardised on the ground that there is no logical reason why differing ages should apply.

Regulation 6 revokes Regulations which, though made, have not been submitted to Tynwald for approval due to a change in policy.

These Regulations should be read in conjunction with the Driving Licences and Tests Regulations 2007 (SD 161/07).