



THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1985

THE DRIVING LICENCES (FOREIGN LICENCES) REGULATIONS 2002

Approved by Tynwald: 21 May 2002

Coming into operation: 1 June 2002

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Department of Transport by paragraphs 2(1)(d) and 22 of Schedule 3 to the Road Traffic Act 1985¹, and of all other enabling powers, the following Regulations are hereby made:—

1. Citation, commencement and interpretation

(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Driving Licences (Foreign Licences) Regulations 2002 and, subject to section 74(3) of the Act, shall come into operation on the 1 June 2002.

(2) In these Regulations —

“the Act” means the Road Traffic Act 1985;

“international driving permit” means a document in any of the forms for an international driving permit annexed to the Paris Convention on Motor Traffic², the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic³ or the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic⁴;

“maximum laden weight” means —

(a) in the case of a vehicle in respect of which a weight is prescribed by regulations under paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Act as the gross weight which is not to be exceeded in the Island, that weight;

¹ 1985 c.23

² 1926, Cmd.3510

³ 1949, Cmnd.578

⁴ 1968, Cmnd. 4052

- (b) otherwise, the weight which the vehicle is designed or adapted not to exceed when in normal use and travelling on a road laden;

“vehicle with manual transmission” means a vehicle in which the driver is provided with a means (including a clutch pedal or lever which he may operate manually) of varying the gear ratio between the engine and the road wheels independently of the accelerator and the brakes;

references to a group followed by a number are to the group of classes or descriptions of motor vehicles so numbered in Schedule 1 to the Driving Tests Regulations 1992⁵

2. Foreign licences — general

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a foreign licence issued in respect of a country or territory specified in Schedule 1 by an authority of that or another country or territory (including the United Kingdom) is prescribed for the purpose of paragraph 2(1)(d) of Schedule 3 to the Act (holder of certain licences exempt from requirement to take test).

(2) A foreign licence referred to in paragraph (1) is not prescribed for the purpose of the said paragraph 2(1)(d) if it is —

- (a) a document containing a statement to the effect that it or a previous document was issued in exchange for a document issued in respect of a country other than the Island, the United Kingdom, Guernsey, Jersey or a country specified in Schedule 1; or
- (b) an international driving permit.

3. Foreign licences — Canada

(1) A foreign licence —

- (a) issued in respect of a province or territory within the Dominion of Canada by an authority of that or another country (including the United Kingdom),
- (b) authorising the driving of motor vehicles of a category corresponding to that class, and
- (c) not being an international driving permit,

⁵ GC 61/92 (amended by SD 628/99)

is prescribed for the purpose of the said paragraph 2(1)(d) in relation to any class of vehicle specified in Schedule 2, provided that the conditions specified in paragraph (2) are satisfied.

- (2) The conditions referred to in paragraph (1) are that —
 - (a) the licence was granted by the licensing authority in the country in question —
 - (i) to a person who has passed a driving test in that country, or
 - (ii) by way of exchange for a licence granted in the Island, the United Kingdom, Jersey, Guernsey, a country specified in Schedule 1 or South Africa; and
 - (b) in so far as the licence authorises the driving of vehicles with manual transmission, it was granted to a person who passed a driving test in a vehicle with manual transmission, whether in Canada or in a country mentioned in (a)(ii) above.

4. Foreign licences — South Africa

- (1) a foreign licence —
 - (a) issued in respect of the Republic of South Africa by an authority of that or another country (including the United Kingdom),
 - (b) authorising the driving of motor vehicles of a category corresponding to that class, and
 - (c) not being an international driving permit,

is prescribed for the purpose of the said paragraph 2(1)(d) in relation to any class of vehicle specified in Schedule 2, provided that the conditions specified in paragraph (2) are satisfied.

- (2) the conditions referred to in paragraph (1) are that —
 - (a) the licence was granted by the licensing authority in South Africa —
 - (i) to a person who has passed a driving test in South Africa, or
 - (ii) by way of exchange for a licence granted in the Island, the United Kingdom, Jersey, Guernsey, a country specified in Schedule 1 or Canada; and

- (b) in so far as the licence authorises the driving of vehicles with manual transmission, it was granted to a person who passed a driving test in a vehicle with manual transmission, whether in South Africa or in a country mentioned in (a)(ii) above.

5. Revocation

The Driving Licences (Foreign Licences) Regulations 1999⁶ are revoked.

SCHEDULE 1

OVERSEAS COUNTRIES

Australia
Austria
Barbados
Belgium
British Virgin Islands
Republic of Cyprus
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Gibraltar
Greece
Hong Kong
Iceland
Republic of Ireland
Italy
Japan
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg
Malta
The Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Portugal
Singapore
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Zimbabwe

⁶ SD 568/99

SCHEDULE 2

CLASSES OF MOTOR VEHICLE

- Group A (including Group A1) (motor bicycle)
- Group B (including Group B1 and Group B1 (invalid carriage))
(standard motor vehicle and very light motor vehicle)
- Group F (agricultural tractor)
- Group K (mowing machine and vehicle controlled by a pedestrian)
- Group L (electric vehicle)
- Group P (moped)
- Group S (steam vehicle and engineering site vehicle) *
- Group W (works truck) *

* excluding vehicles with a maximum laden weight exceeding 3,500 kg.

MADE 11th March 2002



Minister for Transport

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations specify the licences issued by countries outside the British Islands, a holder of which may be issued with an Isle of Man driving licence without taking a driving test. Regulations 2 specifies licences issued by the countries specified in Schedule 1, and restates the Driving Licences (Foreign Licences) Regulations 1999 (which are revoked); Kenya is removed from the list. Regulations 3 and 4 (which are restated) specify licences issued in Canada and South Africa, except that an Isle of Man licence authorising the driving of vehicles with manual transmission may only be granted if the holder has taken a driving test on a vehicle with manual transmission. For licences issued in South Africa or Canada, the Isle of Man driving licence may be issued only in respect of the classes of motor vehicle specified in Schedule 2, unless an Isle of Man driving test is passed for other classes.