



*Rewarding safe driving*

## **ROSCO SAFE DRIVING AWARD SCHEME CONDITIONS**

### **1. Period**

The period of the scheme is from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31 December each year

### **2. Eligibility**

The scheme is open to all drivers (other than owner drivers) of any class of road vehicle (except road rollers, and other road engineering plant and pedestrian-controlled vehicles) who are continuously employed during the period of twelve months from 1 January in each year by employers (whether Local Authorities or Commercial or other undertakings or by individuals) who pay the appropriate subscription.

### **3. Method of entry**

A driver can only be entered by an employer by whom he/she is employed on 1 January. If the driver has been entered in previous years, and changes his/her employer before being entered for the year in question he/she can be entered by the new employer provided a certificate of freedom from accident has been obtained from the old employer for the portion of the year the driver was driving with that employer. Drivers who wish to complete must notify their employers of their desire to enter. Drivers may not enter as individuals

### **4 Time of entry**

Employers are required to submit entries as soon as possible after 1 January for the current year. In case of employers entering their drivers for the first time, entries can be accepted at any time during the year but the period for which the entry is made will be treated as commencing on 1 January of that year. No award will be made unless entrants are formally registered as above (see also condition 5).

### **5 Certificate by Employers**

At the start of each year the entrant Company shall review and update the information listed on the ROSCO member database for their Company. This update counts as the entry for the forthcoming year and summarises the claims for the previous year. The completion of the update will, once submitted, be accepted as a certified and true record of each driver. It is a requirement of the scheme that updates must have been completed by 30<sup>th</sup> April in the year in which the update is required to have taken place.

**6 Period of Driving required for an Award**

To qualify for an award, the driver must have been regularly driving on behalf of the organisation in the course of its business for at least 15 hours per week and for at least 30 weeks out of 52 in any calendar year. Regular driving signifies that driving is the primary duty of the entrant, and not a duty either secondary or carried out occasionally. A driver whose primary duty is not driving but who, in order to carry out his/her duty, drives regularly for at least 30 weeks out of the 52 is also eligible to be entered.

**7. Exemption**

A driver duly entered who has been prevented from completing the period of regular driving mentioned in condition 6, due to circumstances beyond their control such as, but not limited to, sickness, maternity leave, paternity leave, unemployment, industrial disputes or other cause at the discretion of the employer, will not receive an award for the year. However, the granting of this exemption by the employer allows the continuity of consecutive years required for future awards. The employer will be able to record this exemption on the scheme database.

**8. Method of claiming Exemption**

Each case of exemption claimed under Condition 7 must be submitted and certified by the employer, this can be done by selecting the appropriate option on the update panel of the database update then, separately, submitting a list of drivers details to ROSCO. Individual exemption certificates will then be issued.

**9. Questions regarding awards**

Should employers or drivers have any questions to raise with regard to awards granted them, or exemption to Condition 7, such questions must be brought to the notice of the Council during the twelve months from the date the database record was updated. After that time no such cases can be considered.

**10 Amendment of Conditions**

The Council reserves the right to amend these conditions during the course of an awards year, should it be thought expedient in order to cover any new legislation or any regulations affecting drivers introduced by the Government.

**11. Acceptance of Conditions**

Employers and Drivers entered for this scheme by means of inputting information on the scheme database will constitute an acceptance of all the above conditions.

**12. Decisions of ROSCO Final**

The decision of the Council on all matters affecting the scheme is final and binding, and no correspondence arising out of such decision can be entered into with individual drivers.

### **13. Qualifications for Awards**

To qualify for an Award, each driver must be certified by the employer to have completed the 12 months from 1 January (see condition 1)

- a. Without being involved in an accident to person or property however slight when driving or in charge of a vehicle on the public highway or elsewhere, for which he/she was in any way responsible.
- b. Without being convicted for an offence under the following sections of the Road Traffic Act 1991 or whichever Road Traffic Act shall from time to time be in force:
  - i. Section 1, causing death by dangerous driving and dangerous driving respectively;
  - ii. Section 2, careless and inconsiderate driving;
  - iii. Section 3, causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs;
  - iv. Section 4, driving under the influence of drink or drugs
  - v. Section 6, causing danger to road users;  
or under
  - vi. Section 35, Road Traffic Act 1988. Drivers to comply with traffic directions
  - vii. Pedestrian Crossing Regulations as amended
  - viii. Regulation 110 Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 (Use of Mobile Phone whilst driving);
  - ix. Motor Vehicles (wearing of Seat Belts) Regulations 199;  
or
  - X. Any other offence prejudicial to Public Safety whilst driving or in charge of a vehicle: if there is any doubt as to whether such other offence is one prejudicial to Public Safety, particulars of the conviction may be submitted to the Council for guidance.

### **14. Awards**

The following annual awards are made to drivers (based on the conditions as set out in Section 13 above):

1. Each year- a diploma to certify the safe driving award for that calendar safe driving year.
2. On the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the driver will also receive a lapel badge AND the Diploma
3. On each subsequent consecutive year, the driver receives the appropriate lapel badge denoting the number of years consecutive safe driving
4. At 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, consecutive years, a special diploma is issued for that year.
5. At 25, 30, 35, 40, consecutive years, in addition to the lapel badge, a special medal is also issued to the driver.

## **NOTE**

***If the driver does not fulfil the conditions for the award in any year by virtue of an accident or offence as in Section 13, their ROSCO continuous awards tally returns to zero. Drivers are entitled to keep any awards attained up to that year.***

***However, whilst a driver can accrue blocks of continuous safe driving award – see example below. A CONSECUTIVE award (special diploma and medal) can only be attained if the safe driving record is unbroken***

### **Working example**

***A driver works for 6 years and has been entitled to a 6-year badge. In the seventh year the driver has a blameworthy accident. His ROSCO database record reverts to 0, the driver can keep his 6-year badge and diplomas. He then drives within the conditions for a further 5 years and attains a further 5-year safe driving badge. Although he then has a 6-year badge and a 5-year badge, because of the accident in between, he is NOT entitled to the 10 year special diploma as the safe driving record is broken.***

***The main principle is that ROSCO badge awards are for continuous safe driving over any given period. Special diplomas and medals are, IN ADDITION for CONSECUTIVE periods of safe driving. .***

For further clarification please contact ROSCO Administration  
Tel: 01557 500680 or email [admin@rosco-uk.org](mailto:admin@rosco-uk.org)

## **GUIDANCE NOTE REGARDING FIXED PENALTY NOTICES AND ROSCO SAFE DRIVING AWARDS**

One of the requirements for drivers to qualify for a ROSCO Safe Driving Award is that they are certified by the employer to have completed the 12 months:

“Without being convicted for an offence under specified sections of the Road Traffic Acts or any other offence prejudicial to public safety” (Rule 13b ix of ROSCO Conditions)

Since the ROSCO Conditions were originally drafted there has been increasing use of fixed penalty notices for driving offences rather than court convictions. These cover matters such as speeding penalty notices, parking offences, using a handheld mobile phone whilst driving, failure to wear a seatbelt etc

As a general rule, fixed penalty notices which involve any failure to observe all safety requirements, will result in disqualification of a driver from a ROSCO Safe Driving Award that year. This guidance note is issued to all operators entering drivers for ROSCO Safe Driving Awards, following discussions at ROSCO Council Meetings.

### **Speeding Penalty Notices**

Speeding Penalty Notices, whether arising from fixed roadside cameras or police handheld cameras normally attract a fine and three penalty points endorsed on a driver's licence. As these amount to endorsement of the conviction on the driver's licence, these should normally be treated as disqualifying a driver from a ROSCO Safe Driving Award that year.

A ROSCO member company has raised the question of whether a driver should be disqualified from a ROSCO Award where the driver has been issued with a notice, but where the police have offered the option to the driver of attending a Speed Awareness Course, as an alternative to payment of a fixed penalty and penalty points on licence. Speeding offences usually have a safety aspect (apart from a public image aspect for the integrity of ROSCO Awards) and speeding penalty notices will normally disqualify for an award in line with Rule 13b ix, when where a driver chooses the option to attend a Speed Awareness Course if this is offered.

### **Parking Penalty Notices**

Parking penalties often do not involve any safety issues – for example a driver overstaying the time limit in a controlled parking area may deprive another driver of a parking space, but does not affect safety in any way. However, parking on double yellow line on a bend, or parking on a near pedestrian crossing, have important safety considerations, which have implications for eligibility for a ROSCO Safe Driving Award. ROSCO would not normally regard a parking offence as in itself “prejudicial to public safety - Rule 13b ix) and meriting disqualification from a Safe Driving Award, unless it involved obstructing the highway, or near a zebra crossing, or causing public danger (in which case a driver would not be eligible for an award that year)

### **Handheld mobile phones**

Drivers will in future be liable to a fixed penalty notice and endorsement of their licence under recently introduced regulations. This is a category of offence which will normally disqualify for a ROSCO Safe Driving Award. The offence is committed under Regulation 110 of the Road Vehicles (Construction & Use) Regulations 1986.

### **Seatbelts**

Where there is a requirement for a seatbelt to be worn, a fixed penalty notice for failure to wear one will result in disqualification of a driver from a ROSCO Safe Driving Award that year. The offence is committed under the Motor Vehicles (Wearing of Seat Belts) Regulations 1993

### **ROSCO Conditions**

ROSCO Council trusts that this advice note will be helpful to employers and drivers when considering eligibility for annual ROSCO Safe Driving Awards. It should be read in conjunction with the current issue of the ROSCO Conditions. Operators are reminded that Rule 13 Qualification for Awards, applies to any offences, whether driving in the course of duty, or private motoring at other times.