



OBSERVER RULES CHEAT SHEET

2026 Standard Trial - Pathfinders Trials Motorcycle Club

First: thank you.

Thank you for giving your time so riders can compete. You do not need to memorise the rule book. Use this sheet as a quick reference, listen to the event briefing, and call the supporting official whenever you are unsure.

STANDARD TRIAL SCORING

Score the **greatest penalty** incurred in the section. The maximum section score is **5**. Do not add penalties together beyond the greatest penalty.

0 CLEAN No footing or failure.	1 ONE One footing / dab.	2 TWO Two footings / dabs.	3 THREE More than two footings.	5 FAILURE Defined section failure.
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FOUR SITUATIONS WORTH REMEMBERING

ROLLBACK - NO FOOT Moving backwards without footing.	0	ROLLBACK + FOOT Moving backwards while footing.	5
STOP / HOP - NO FOOT No automatic penalty for stopping in standard Trial.	0	STALL Stalling alone is not an extra penalty; score any footing/failure that occurs.	0-5

Rollback update: Motorcycling Australia Information Bulletin #2074 changed moving backwards *without footing* to 0 for standard Trial. Moving backwards *while footing* remains a 5.

COMMON FIVE-POINT FAILURES

- **Moving backwards while footing.**
- **Missing a gate** or riding a gate in the wrong direction.
- **Crossing / breaking the section boundary**, including a wheel crossing the boundary on the ground.
- **Wrong side of, touching, riding on/over or dislodging the rider's own grade marker.**
- **Handlebar touches the ground.**
- **Dismounting:** both feet on the ground on the same side of, or behind, the motorcycle.
- **Foot down while stationary without both hands on the handlebar.**
- **Crossing the motorcycle's own tracks while moving forward.**

Once a 5 happens

The rider has the maximum section score. They should vacate the section at the first available opportunity or as directed. Do not add extra section penalties on top of the 5.

PATHFINDERS OBSERVER RULES CHEAT SHEET

2026 Standard Trial

YOUR EVENT-DAY WORKFLOW

1. SIGN ON	Check in with the Observer Coordinator / Race Secretary and complete event sign-on.
2. BRIEFING	Confirm scoring format, section number, event-specific instructions, finish time and the supporting official.
3. WALK THE SECTION	Find Section Begins / Ends, boundaries, all grade markers and a safe position with a clear view.
4. CONFIRM RIDER	Make sure you have the correct rider number before recording a score.
5. WATCH THE WHOLE ATTEMPT	The observed section runs from the front axle passing Section Begins until the front axle passes Section Ends.
6. RECORD THE SCORE	Record 0, 1, 2, 3 or 5 promptly and accurately using the event scoring method.
7. UNSURE? CALL THE OFFICIAL	Do not guess and do not get drawn into an argument. Ask the appointed official.
8. FINISH	Return scoring equipment as directed and report anything unusual before leaving.

TWO IMPORTANT BOUNDARIES

SECTION START / FINISH

Watch from when the **front axle** passes the Section Begins gate until the **front axle** passes the Section Ends gate.

90-SECOND RULE

The 90-second section time applies at National Championships and State Championship rounds, and may be used at other Open events only when specified in the Supplementary Regulations. **Do not time a normal club section unless the event briefing tells you to.**

IF A RIDER DISAGREES OR SOMETHING IS UNCLEAR

- Stay calm. State the score you observed; do not argue.
- Refer the rider or minder to the appointed supporting official.
- If you think you recorded the wrong score, tell the official / Observer Coordinator as soon as practical so it can be reviewed properly.
- For safety incidents, follow the event briefing and call the appropriate official or first-aid support.

WHAT PATHFINDERS PROVIDES OBSERVERS

Observer Coordinator	Section allocation, equipment, basic scoring help, check-ins and help arranging relief/assistance.
Official Support	An appointed club official is available for scoring questions, unusual situations and sporting rulings.
Lunch & Drink	Provided during the event. Tell the coordinator about relevant dietary needs when volunteering.
\$80 Recompense	Under the 2026 club policy, a whole-day observer receives \$80 per full event day to help cover out-of-pocket expenses. One payment per section, per day.

QUICK REFERENCE ONLY

This sheet does not replace the 2026 Manual of Motorcycle Sport, applicable MA Information Bulletins, event Supplementary Regulations or the event briefing. Rules can change during the year. If in doubt, ask the appointed official.

Rules reference: 2026 Motorcycling Australia Manual of Motorcycle Sport, Chapter 15 - Trial (including GCR 15.12), plus applicable MA Information Bulletins including #2074. **Observer questions / feedback:** secretary@pathfinderstrialsmcc.com.au