

## **SPAAMFAA's Minimum Safety Guidelines for Apparatus Operation (Participant's handout)**

### **GENERAL**

1. Always be conscious of other apparatus and most importantly, people around your apparatus and **ALWAYS THINK SAFETY. Each owner and/or operator has primary responsibility for his vehicles safety.** *The operator should not use a cell phone when driving or operating the apparatus.*
2. The operator is responsible to have proper knowledge and experience in the operation of the unit including all of the "manufacturers" safety requirements.
3. Attention to safety should make musters more fun for everyone. *When backing or moving apparatus, an adequate number of guides shall be used to clear the right of way, alert drivers of obstacles, and guide him to park. **No vehicle will be backed without assistance.*** Please volunteer to help other participants if it appears they need a hand. Also everyone must observe the instructions given by the muster safety officer and safety committee members. Safety officials should be wearing identification and do not hesitate to report any unsafe conditions you observe to them.
4. Any apparatus that is *on display*, pumping, being supplied by a pumper, or has its aerial raised, shall have its brakes set, wheels chocked *fore & aft* with suitable wheel chocks and shall be continuously attended by an adult capable of operating the apparatus while the aerial is raised and/or the pump is in operation. *"Exception" Aerials that are properly locked in place with engine shut down, may be left unattended as long as the operator remains on the muster grounds. This pertains to aerials displaying the Flag.*
5. No person under the legal age for the state (Province) in which an apparatus is being operated shall operate said apparatus and no person without a valid driver's license shall drive or tiller any apparatus. *(Moved and Renumbered )*

### **PUMPING**

6. *Wheels chocked, fore & aft*, No pump shall operate at pressure greater than 70 psi unless authorized by a Safety Officer. All gate valves shall be opened and closed slowly to minimize water hammer. In rare instances where higher pressures are required such as raising water towers, the owner shall certify that the hoses have been subjected to a pressure test of 125% of the required operating pressure within the previous 12 months.
7. Hand held lines shall not be permitted except for contests (such as water-ball) or demonstrations which have been approved by the safety officers. When approved for use they shall be manned by an adequate number of personnel to safely control the line. Booster lines are not covered by this rule and may be hand held.

8. Master stream devices shall be properly secured to prevent accidental movement and no person shall be allowed to run their hands through the stream.
9. *All hoses must be in good condition without leaks and couplings must be used with proper thread.*

#### **LADDER OPERATIONS/AERIALS**

10. Aerial devices are defined to include all Aerial Ladders, Aerial scopes, Ladder Trucks, Tower Ladders, Snorkels, Squirts and Water Towers
11. Aerial devices shall not be raised *within 30 feet of power lines.*
12. Aerial apparatus must have ALL stabilizers on stable ground, have suitable ground pads under them, be properly set and locked in accordance with the manufacturer specifications. If it is a Tractor Trailer unit it should be jacked-knifed in accordance with manufacture's specifications, if required by the manufacturer.
13. No Aerial device may be raised without a Safety Officer overseeing the raising of said device and should not be raised if the wind is over 15 MPH. If wind speed increases to more than 15 MPH aerial devices should be lowered. Aerials may not be raised and/or should be lowered immediately if there is potential for lightning storms.
14. If a water pipe is used it may not be above the bed section, only one hose line may run up the ladder, it may not flow more than 50% of its rated capacity and a shut off must be available at the base of the ladder.
15. No aerial device may be operated *until the Safety Officer checks the condition of the ladder, general condition of vehicle, hydraulic lines, cables, etc.* Aerial device may be operated off the side and may not be operated at any elevation lower than 75 degrees to the turntable. Except for approved aerial arches. Recommend the perimeter area of extension be kept clear of people and no one shall stand under the aerial device.
16. No person shall climb any aerial device on the event site *except the owner or the official event photographer with a safety belt.*
17. These rules apply to all antique apparatus participating in a muster. Modern in-service fire apparatus owned and operated by a governmental agency such as a Municipal, Volunteer or Regional Fire Department/Company does not fall under rules #13-16. ***All General and Pumping Rules still apply.***