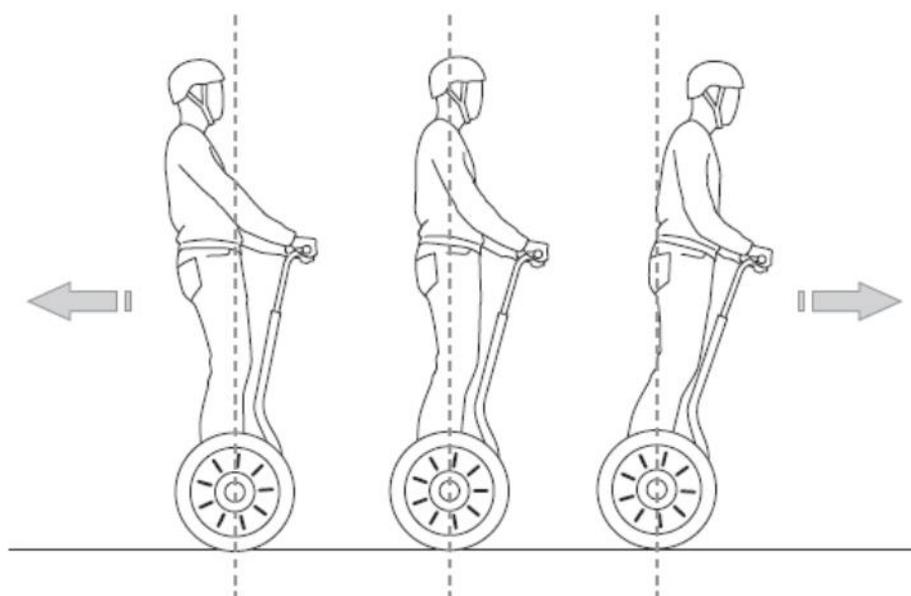


# V85 – Use of Segways in the Northern Territory

## Information Bulletin

### Introduction

Segways are two wheeled personal mobility devices which utilise dynamic stabilisation, allowing a person to stand on a two-wheeled platform controlling motion by shifting their body weight.



Where a motor vehicle has a power output greater than 200 watts and is used on a public street or public place, vehicle registration and rider licensing requirements apply however, an exemption from these requirements has been issued to allow Segways to be used in public places subject to specific conditions – see **Appendix A – Copy of Gazette Notice S30, 29 May 2014**.

Segways can be used similarly to bicycles but are not permitted to travel along roads (unless in accordance with the exemption conditions).

When using a Segway in a public place, any breach of the exemption conditions will deem the Segway to be an unregistered vehicle which is an offence under the NT road laws.

## Requirements

### Rider age

For an unsupervised rider, the age requirement is 16 years or older.

A rider aged 12 to 15 years may ride a Segway if supervised by an adult rider.

### Riding along roads

Subject to the exemption conditions, riding along a road is not permitted. However, the road owner has the authority to allow some limited travel along the road (i.e. low speed and low traffic environment).

### Footpaths and shared paths

When used on footpaths and shared paths, Segways must keep to the left hand side and give way to pedestrians and cyclists.

### Speed limit restriction

Segways must not travel faster than 12km/hr – except police Segways.

### Safety equipment

Riders must wear approved safety helmets and Segways must be fitted with a warning device (such as a horn or bell) to warn other road users, where necessary.

If riding at night, lights must be fitted and operational showing white light for at least 200m to the front and red light for at least 200m to the rear.

### Third party insurance

As Segways will not require vehicle registration, compulsory third party insurance will not apply.

### Commercial business operations using Segways

Any person wishing to conduct self-ride hiring of Segways, tours or any other Segway business operation should seek permission from the road owner and/or the land owner as other requirements may apply.

## More information

For more information, contact the department on 08 8924 7157 or email [vehiclestandards.mvr@nt.gov.au](mailto:vehiclestandards.mvr@nt.gov.au)

Segway exemption – see **Appendix A – Copy of Gazette Notice S30, 29 May 2014**

Police Segway exemption – see **Appendix B - Copy of Gazette Notice G28, 16 July 2014**

## Appendix A – Copy of Gazette Notice S30, 29 May 2014

Northern Territory of Australia  
*Motor Vehicles Act and Traffic Act*

### *Exemption from Motor Vehicles Act and Motor Vehicles (Standards) Regulations*

I, Paul Nathan Rajan, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to section 135 of the *Motor Vehicles Act* and section 43B of the *Traffic Act*, hereby exempt Segways (two-wheeled self-balancing, battery-powered personal transportation devices with a single axle, a platform for the feet and an upright post surmounted by handles) from the registration, motor accident compensation contributions, vehicle standards and driver licensing requirements of the *Motor Vehicles Act*, *Traffic Act* and the *Motor Vehicles (Standards) Regulations*, subject to the following conditions:

1. A person using a Segway must not travel along a road unless either—
  - (a) there is an obstruction on a footpath, nature strip, or shared path adjacent to the road (an adjacent area); and
  - (b) it is impracticable to travel on the adjacent area; and
  - (c) the Segway travels less than 50m along the road to avoid the obstruction; orthe use of a Segway on that road is permitted by the relevant authority having the care control and management of the road.

For the purposes of this condition, **road** means an area that is used by the public and is developed for, or has as one of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles, and includes the shoulder of the road (within the meaning of Australian Road Rule 12(3)) and any bicycle lane (within the meaning of Australian Road Rule 153(4)) marked on the road.

2. A person using a Segway on a footpath or shared path must—
  - (a) keep to the left of the footpath or shared path unless it is impracticable to do so; and
  - (b) give way to pedestrians on the footpath or shared path.
3. A person using a Segway on a footpath or shared path must keep to the left of any oncoming bicycle rider or other Segway user on the path.
4. A person using a Segway must wear a bicycle helmet approved for the purposes of Australian Road Rule 256 and securely fitted and fastened on the user's head.
5. A person using a Segway must be—
  - (a) at least 16 years; or
  - (b) supervised by an adult while using the Segway if the person is at least 12 years but under 16 years.
6. A person using a Segway must not carry any other person on the Segway.
7. A person must not use a Segway at a speed over 12km/h.
8. A person must not use a Segway unless the Segway has a bell, horn or similar warning device in working order.
9. A person must not use a Segway at night, or in hazardous weather conditions causing reduced visibility, unless the person, or the Segway, displays—
  - (a) a flashing or steady white light that is clearly visible for at least 200m from the front of the Segway; and
  - (b) a flashing or steady red light that is clearly visible for at least 200m from the rear of the Segway.

Dated 29 May 2014

P.N. Rajan  
Registrar of Motor Vehicles

## Appendix B – Copy of Gazette Notice G28, 16 July 2014

Northern Territory of Australia  
*Motor Vehicles Act and Traffic Act*

### Exemption from *Motor Vehicles Act* and *Motor Vehicles (Standards) Regulations*

I, Paul Nathan Rajan, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, pursuant to section 135 of the *Motor Vehicles Act* and section 43B of the *Traffic Act*, hereby exempt Segways (two-wheeled self-balancing, battery-powered personal transportation devices with a single axle, a platform for the feet and an upright post surmounted by handles) while used by police officers in the course of their duties from the registration, motor accident compensation contributions, vehicle standards and driver licensing requirements of the *Motor Vehicles Act*, *Traffic Act* and the *Motor Vehicles (Standards) Regulations*, subject to the following conditions:

1. This exemption only applies to the use of Segways by police officers in the course of their duties as police officers.
2. A police officer using a Segway on a footpath or shared path must –
  - (a) keep to the left of the footpath or shared path unless it is impracticable to do so; and
  - (b) give way to pedestrians on the footpath or shared path.
3. A police officer using a Segway on a footpath or shared path must keep to the left of any oncoming bicycle rider or other Segway user on the path.
4. A police officer using a Segway must wear a bicycle helmet approved for the purposes of Australian Road Rule 256 and securely fitted and fastened on the user's head.
5. A police Segway being used at a speed over 12km/h must display a blue or red flashing light or sound an alarm unless it is reasonable in the circumstances not to display the light or sound the alarm.
6. A police officer must not use a Segway unless the Segway has a bell, horn or similar warning device in working order.
7. A police officer must not use a Segway at night, or in hazardous weather conditions causing reduced visibility, unless the officer, or the Segway, displays—
  - (a) a flashing or steady white light that is clearly visible for at least 200m from the front of the Segway; and
  - (b) a flashing or steady red light that is clearly visible for at least 200m from the rear of the Segway.

This exemption is separate to and does not supersede the general Segway exemption made by me on 29 May 2014.

Dated 8 July 2014

P.N. Rajan  
Registrar of Motor Vehicles