

SOMERSET COUNTY GUY FAWKES CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION.

GAPS PROCEDURE

for the

**Bridgwater, Burnham on Sea, Weston-Super-Mare, North Petherton,
Shepton Mallet, Wells, Glastonbury and Midsomer Norton Carnivals.**

Why is a Gaps procedure required?

Crowd Control - large gaps cause the crowd to become restless and leave, this creates a major safety issue for organisers with large movements of people and people leaving the town before a parade has finished.

Length of time for the parade - gaps extend the time of a parade which in turn creates problems for organisers and participants.

Difficulty in monitoring what is happening- gaps add additional work for marshals and organisers dealing with the running of the parade and dealing with emergency services.

Atmosphere - gaps destroy the atmosphere of the parade.

Safety - gaps put participants, the crowd and marshals all at risk with uncontrollable crowd movements and entrants speeding up and slowing down.

What can be done to alleviate the problem of Gaps?

It has been agreed by members of the SCGFCA that the gap between entries should be kept on average to 60feet (18metres) and should not exceed 100ft (30.5 metres).

What is expected of an entry in the 2024 Carnivals?

To help keep entries within the suggested distance of that expected **ALL** entries will follow the procedure listed below:

A nominated ground Crew member must be stationed at the rear of the entry to observe the entry following. If a gap starts to materialise, or the entry behind stops, the nominated person must inform the driver of your entry to slow down, or stop, to help prevent a gap forming.

If your entry must stop, please ensure you inform a road marshal who can report the fault to a radio marshal, this will allow for any emergency service to be contacted if required.

Once the entry in front starts to move again then you can start moving and the parade continues.

Thank you for your cooperation.