

Registration Concession Schemes Unpacked

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A light-hearted view of Scheme 404 vs. Concession for Classics (C4C)

What's the Difference?

So, you've got a classic car and want to save some money on rego? In Western Australia, you've got two main options: the long-established **Scheme 404** (also known as Code 404) and the newer **Concession for Classics (C4C)**, introduced in 2021.

Both offer serious discounts, but they come with different rules and restrictions. Let's unpack it down in simple terms.

Who's Eligible?

Scheme 404 – For the Purists

- Your car must be at least 25 years old and almost completely original (a few period-correct accessories or safety upgrades are fine but forget about that performance upgrade kit!).
- You must be a financial member of an approved historic motoring club.
- If your vehicle is younger but historically significant, you might qualify on a case-by-case basis.

C4C – For the Classic Enthusiasts (Including the Modified Crowd)

- Your vehicle must be 30+ years old (rolling eligibility, updated yearly) or a street rod replica.
- Modifications? Yes! As long as they're legal and approved.
- Your vehicle (car, bike, trailer, caravan) must be under 4.5 tonnes GVM.
- Club membership is required, just like Scheme 404.

How Much Can You Drive?

Scheme 404 – Strictly Special Occasions

- Driving is limited to club events, test runs, and parades.
- Any non-club drive requires prior approval (e.g., an impromptu run must be logged and club-approved).
- No commuting, no grocery runs, no casual cruising.
- Commercial use? Absolutely not.

C4C – More Freedom (With a Catch)

- You get 90 days per year (logbook required!).
- 60 days for club events.
- 30 days for personal use (weekend drives, occasional commutes, trips to the mechanic).
- Club event days don't count toward your personal 30-day tally.
- No commercial use, same as Scheme 404.
- So, if you actually want to drive your classic, C4C is arguably the better choice.

What Does It Cost?

Scheme 404 – Cheapest Option

- 100% off the vehicle licence fee (yep, free rego!).
- No stamp duty when registering.
- Discounted third-party insurance. Bottom line: Dirt-cheap rego, but with heavy restrictions. Some owners pay under \$150 per year!

C4C – Still Affordable, but Not Free

- 75% off the rego fee (so you pay 25%).
- Discounted third-party insurance.
- Stamp duty still applies.
- Bottom line: More expensive than Scheme 404 but way cheaper than full rego, making it the better option if you want to actually drive your car.

Rules & Compliance: What You Need to Do

Scheme 404 – Stick to the Rules

- Club membership is mandatory. Drop out, lose the concession.
- Car must stay original. Major modifications equals no more Scheme 404.
- No logbooks required, but clubs keep track of vehicle use.
- Impromptu runs must be pre-approved and logged (and must start and end at the same place, same day, no sneaky overnight getaways!).

Random audits happen, so don't get caught bending the rules.

C4C – Log Everything

- Club membership required, same as Scheme 404.
- Keep a logbook (every trip must be recorded with date, purpose, and driver details).
- 'Restricted Use' sticker must be displayed near the number plate.
- No annual inspections, but major new mods need legal approval.
- Exceed the 90-day limit or fail to log trips? Risk losing your concession.

Which One's Right for You?

- Want the absolute cheapest rego? → Scheme 404 (but you'll barely drive it).
- Want to actually use your car? → C4C (costs a little more but offers way more flexibility).

Either way, you'll save a heap compared to full registration—just pick the scheme that suits your lifestyle. For full details, check out the WA Department of Transport's official pages on Scheme 404 and C4C. And remember, staying on your club's good side is always a good idea!