



Adventure Activity Standards (AAS) Update Number 5 April 2003

Introduction

Feedback time again for the AAS project. The first drafts were reviewed by the working groups and have been posted on the ORC Inc. website at www.orc.org.au until the 14th April. Anyone with an interest in Climbing (Both natural surfaces and artificial surfaces), 4 wheel driving and/or recreational guided fishing (land or boat based) should take this opportunity to contribute by reviewing the draft and passing on your comments.

News at a flash

- The Outdoor Recreation Centre Victoria Inc. are very pleased to welcome the legal services of Connery & Partners who will provide independent legal advice adding to the significant legal advice already provided. Connery & Partners will completely reword the introductory section "Why Have Standards", review each draft, provide advice to assist with enquiry's and provide a valuable summary of the importance and benefits of accident reporting.
- It has been suggested that the consultation of VRFish and PFIGA for the recreational fishing AAS has been insufficient. Though both groups have been involved in the planning of the recreational fishing AAS, each organization has agreed that a second opportunity to meet with the ORC Inc. will be of great value. This meeting is being held on Friday 4th April.
- Recent discussion has lead to agreement that ORC Inc will provide additional support material along with the AAS documents. At the moment we have prepared information on accident investigation as mentioned above and food preparation, we also intend to include sample medical health forms, acceptance of risk forms and we are keen to hear any additional suggestions for useful supplementary material. When made available we expect that these support material will be readily available from our website.

Please forward this information to anyone who you feel will have a reason to view these drafts.

Additional Industry News

Access for All Abilities.

The Department of Victorian Communities has developed a new flier for the AAA program. The flier outlines the aim and objectives of AAA and provides information on the network of community-based AAA Providers funded through the program. Copies of the flier or the brochure launched in November 2002 are available by calling SRV Belinda Ho on 9666 4360

Victorian Channels Authority - Port Phillip Shipping Channels EEs.

The Victorian Channels Authority is undertaking an Environmental Effects Statement into the feasibility of deepening the shipping channels in Port Phillip Bay. For information on the project go to <http://www.vicchannels.vic.gov.au>.

Volunteer Protection Legislation

In October the *Wrongs and Other Acts (Public Liability Insurance Reform Act 2002)* was passed. The legislation provisions protecting volunteers will come into operation on 15 March 2003. The full text of the Act can be viewed on the following link

<http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/CA2569020010922A/page/Listing-Headlines-Volunteer+Protection+Legislation?OpenDocument&1=10-Listing~&2>

Please contact me if you should have any problems with the links or requests for further information.

Contact details

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