



Adventure Activity Standards (AAS) Update Number 15 June 2004

Introduction

In November 2002 The first AAS update was sent out explaining that an ongoing process of consultation would require feedback from all interested parties.

As the project nears completion, your involvement is as important as ever. This update provides you with the current situation. Below are the links to view all of the available AAS that are relevant to you and/or your organisation.

There are three options for your comments.

1. If commenting on the snow activities, your comments will be considered in the next few weeks and will contribute to the final content of these documents.
2. If commenting on those AAS which are already finalised then your comments will be considered in the first review by the AAS technical committee*.
3. If commenting upon the remaining drafts, minor changes will be reviewed by the ORC Inc. and working parties, these may or may not be accepted. Comments requiring more complex evaluation will be considered by the AAS technical committee*.

I continue to thank all who have become involved in the AAS project so far and urge you all to take this opportunity to read over the AAS relevant to yourselves.

As always, I remind you that we rely on you to pass this on if you know anyone (primarily within Victoria) who may be affected by the AAS.

* AAS Technical Committee is the proposed review process introduced in the AAS Update #14 May 2004.

News at a flash

There are now 16 Adventure Activity Standards on the ORC Inc. website (www.orc.org.au). When online, the following links will allow you to download the AAS of your choice (in PDF form) directly from the website.

7 were launched in July of last year.

- [AAS Artificial Climbing Structures](#)
- [AAS Mountain Biking](#)
- [AAS Recreational Angling](#)
- [AAS Recreational Caving](#)
- [AAS River Rafting](#)
- [AAS Rock Climbing](#)
- [AAS 4wd](#)

Feedback will be considered at the first review

- 7 are being finalised now and have been posted online (*minor changes may still be made by the working groups or by the lawyers*).

[3rd Draft Abseiling](#)
[3rd Draft Trail Bike Touring](#)
[3rd Draft Surfing Sessions](#)
[3rd Draft Snorkelling, SCUBA & Wildlife Swims](#)
[3rd Draft Horse Trail Riding](#)
[3rd Draft Challenge Ropes Courses](#)
[3rd Draft Canoeing & Kayaking](#)

Feedback will be considered in finalising these AAS or at the first review

- | **2 snow activity** AAS in review drafts section until June 11th.

[2nd Draft Snow Activities Resort](#)
[2nd Draft Snow Non Resort](#)

Reminder that these are online for comment until June 11th.

- | **Bushwalking AAS Update**

- | The Vic Walk Executive are considering a reviewed draft following a meeting with Anderson Rice Solicitors. At the meeting many very important issues were raised in relation to the legal status of the AAS, the implications for clubs, the Vic Walk version of the AAS, documentation (and associated/perceived privacy issues), first aid and the next step.
- | Feedback from Vic Walk will be returned to the ORC by the 16th June after which a further (amended if necessary) draft will be circulated to the original working party after which this AAS will be finalised as planned by the end of July.

There are some frequently asked questions being circulated by many of the clubs in our sector who have concerns regarding the legal, social and financial implications of the AAS. ***The ORC Inc. will be developing frequently asked questions*** along with **templates** and other **relevant information** to support the AAS.

You are very welcome to forward questions and support material which you consider useful.

Additional Industry News

Outdoor Victoria Conference – 23-24 July 2004

Sponsored by the Outdoor Recreation Centre Inc. The Outdoor Victoria Conference is an annual multidisciplinary network opportunity for:

- | Outdoor Education Teachers
- | Physical Education Teachers
- | Environmental Science Teachers
- | Outdoor Leaders
- | Outdoor Recreation Providers
- | Land Managers
- | Camp Managers
- | Tertiary Students of Outdoor Recreation/Education

Early bird registration closes on Friday 25 June. For more information on **Registration** contact the CAV:

Locked Bag 2000
Coburg 3058
Email camping@cav.asn.au
or phone 03 9350 1700

Program development contact the VOEA:
150 Palmerston St
Carlton 3053
Email education@voea.vic.edu.au
Phone 03 9349 4311

Trade displays please contact the VAAE:
150 Palmerston St
Carlton 3053
Email info@vae.vic.edu.au
03 9349 1806

Fair Trading (Recreational Services) Regulations 2004

The Fair Trading (Recreational Services) Regulations 2004 were made by the Governor in Council on 4 May 2004. These regulations prescribe new consumer warnings to be included in waivers for recreational services under the *Fair Trading Act* 1999. These regulations commenced on the 1st of June 2004.

This means that "Recreational services operators will be able to utilise their own forms of waiver from 1 June provided that whatever form is used includes one of the consumer warnings prescribed in the new Regulations if the waiver relates to rights under the Fair Trading Act."

There are two forms of warning. One is intended for use in signs or other notices, whereas a more detailed warning is intended for use in signed waiver forms.

To access more information please see www.consumer.vic.gov.au or click on the following link:
http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/cbav/fairsite.nsf/pages/of_hottopics_recreational_services_OpenDocument.

The Victorian State Coroners Office

As a reminder, The Victorian State Coroners Office has made a recommendation that all occupants of recreational boats be required to wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) Type-1 at all times to reduce the number of boating fatalities on Victorian waterways.

In response, Marine Safety Victoria is reviewing the use of PFD's by recreational boaters and would like your input.

Please be a part of this important boating safety review by obtaining your copy of the policy options paper and questionnaire from www.marinesafety.vic.gov.au or call Marine Safety Victoria on 1800 223 022.

Please note that these need to be completed or returned to Marine Safety Victoria by 4 June 2004.

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