

Update Number 41

June 2009

Introduction

Welcome to this most recent update for the Victorian adventure activity standards. For those of you who are receiving this update for the first time you should know that these are irregular but important updates intended to keep you informed of important amendments, additions and opportunities for input.

AAS updates are irregular to maintain the objective of circulating important information rather than topical info.

There are three key messages in this update and each is very important.

1. New Subscription Process

As some of you will be aware, the email subscription process for the AAS has, up till now, involved an online request that adds your email address to a list. That list has then been copied into the outlook address field and updates are sent out.

As the number of recipients has hit the thousands rather than the anticipated hundreds this system now fails on a regular basis with many recipients finding our updates blocked or returned as spam.

To ensure that you are receiving AAS information **PLEASE** could you visit the new ORC website www.outdoorsvic.org.au, click on 'Subscribe' in the top left corner of any page and re enter your details directly to our new database.

Be sure to tick the Adventure Activity Standards box when doing so. (The 'what game is she playing' component is there to ensure that Spam etc does not get into our system).

2. AAS Supplement for Severe Weather

As a direct outcome of the post bushfire industry forum conducted by the Outdoor Industry Taskforce in March, the Taskforce conducted a specialised day of open and informal discussion regarding the planning and delivery of outdoor and adventurous activities in and around severe weather conditions.

The outcome of that process was the establishment of working group to develop a state wide AAS guideline for severe weather. That has been undertaken and the draft prepared by that working group is now online for your comment.

Please note that this draft is to be a supplementary guideline for all AAS and as such your feedback should consider the fact that weather considerations are already prominent in the AAS (approximately 10 references to weather conditions in each AAS). Thus your feedback can significantly reduce duplication so that the supplement becomes a more concise guideline for severe/out of the ordinary.

Referenced material that would add to the documented procedures and considerations these will also be very welcome.

3. AAS Review

4. If you have yet to see the new AAS layout please have a look, you are no longer required to download these so they are great for quick reference.