

Australian Adventure Activity Standard and associated Good Practice Guides



WEBINAR A - Introducing the Australian AAS
A national approach to safety outdoors



2

PRESENTERS



Jamie Bennett
Executive Officer – Outdoors WA

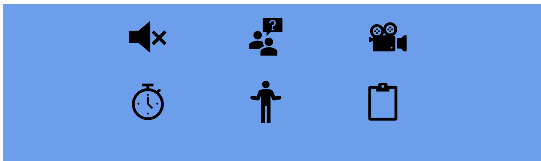


Dom Courtney
Executive Officer – QORF / Outdoors Queensland



3

Housekeeping



4



5

Outdoor Council of Australia

National peak body advocating for and representing organisations
and individuals engaged in outdoor adventure activities.



www.outdoorcouncil.asn.au

6



Our Vision

An empowered community actively engaged in the
outdoors



Our Mission

To promote participation in the
outdoors

7

INTRODUCTION

- Purpose of this session
- Why, How, What
- Australian AAS and Good Practice Guides
- Who, When, How
- Questions



8

WHY

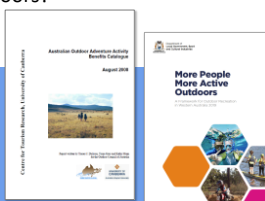
- "Adventure is important" Aristotle
- History of project
- Build on existing AAS, improve professional portability, reduce duplicative effort
- Supported by the Committee of Australian Sport and Recreation Officials (CASRO) -now Meeting of Sport and Recreation Ministers' of Australia
- Raise the standard of delivery of outdoor programs/activities



9

Why we take people adventuring outdoors?

- self-confidence/self-efficacy,
- tension release,
- sense of accomplishment,
- increasing knowledge
- physical fitness/wellbeing,
- connection to others and nature,
- building trust and cooperation,
- goal setting,
- problem solving/thinking skills,
- 'character building',
- developing positive values and
- of course, having fun and enjoyment



10

So what is a standard?

"Standards are voluntary documents that set out specifications, procedures and guidelines that aim to ensure products, services, and systems are safe, consistent, and reliable."

(Standards Australia)

A COMMON LANGUAGE



11

Why have standards?

- One clear, common point of reference.
- Common guidance between states.
- Supports the review of existing practices.
- Encourages improved understanding of safety, risk management and the outdoor experience.
- Safer quality practices supports increased participation.

12

Why have standards?

"Standards are embraced by those who seek excellence in their operations. The priority for such people is quality programming and good service to clients – not the avoidance of litigation. Standards may be seen as a threat by those who are not so careful and choose not to learn what others consider desirable practices."

(Charles "Reb" Gregg, Lawyer - Outdoors Safety Institute)

THEY SUPPORT THE BENEFITS OF GOING OUTDOORS

13

16 WA Adventure activity Standards for 10+ years

- Abseiling
- Climbing
- Bushwalking
- Canoeing
- Canyoning
- Caving
- Challenge Ropes Course
- Four Wheel Driving
- Horse Trail Riding
- Mountain Biking
- Rafting
- SCUBA diving
- Rock Climbing
- Snorkelling & wildlife swims
- Surfing
- Trail Bike Touring



14

ONE STANDARD - A COALITION OF SUPPORT

- ACT Sport and Recreation Services
 - Northern Territory Department of Sport and Recreation
 - Outdoors NSW
 - Outdoors Victoria
 - Outdoors WA
 - Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation
 - Recreation SA
 - Tasmania, Communities Sport and Recreation
 - Outdoor Council of Australia
- The Committee of Australian Sport and Recreation Officials (CASRO) recognised the national importance of the Australian AAS and provided funding support through its membership including:
- ACT Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate
 - Australian Sports Commission
 - NSW Office for Sport
 - Northern Territory Department of Sport and Recreation
 - Office for Sport, Australian Government
 - Department for Health
 - Qld Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing
 - SA Office for Recreation and Sport
 - Sport and Recreation Victoria
 - Tasmania, Department of Premier and Cabinet
 - WA Department of Sport and Recreation
 - Victorian Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning

15

What is the Australian AAS?



The Australian Adventure Activity Standard (AAAS) and related Good Practice Guides (GPGs) provide a voluntary good-practice framework for safe and responsible planning and delivery of led outdoor adventure activities with dependent participants.



Further they help include guidance on safety, compliance and service delivery as well as environmental and cultural protections.

16

How they were developed?



17

WHO

- Providers of adventure activities
- Leaders with dependent participants



18

Designed for those with dependent participants

Dependent Participant

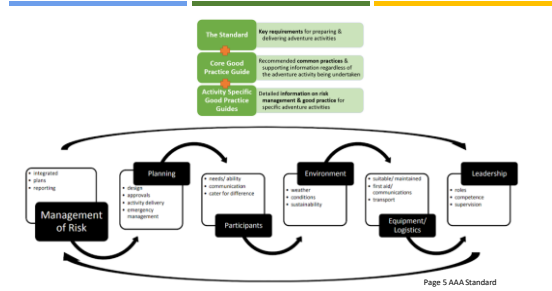
A dependent participant is a person owed a duty of care by the activity provider, who is reliant upon the activity leaders for supervision, guidance or instruction to support the person's participation in an activity.



19



20



21

Activity Specific Good Practice Guides

- Abseil and Climbing
- Angling
- Bushwalking
- Camping
- Canyoning
- Caving
- Challenge Courses
- Cycling and Mountain Biking
- Enclosed and Coastal Waters Paddlecraft
- Horse Trail Riding
- Inland Water Paddlecraft
- Snorkelling

22

Good Practice Guide	Activity
CORE	Common to all adventure activities
Abseil And Climbing	Abseil, Climbing, (natural & artificial surfaces)
Angling	Fishing
Bushwalking	Bushwalking
Camping	Camping
Canyoning	Canyoning
Caving	Caving
Challenge Ropes	Challenge Course (high, low, adventure games)
Cycling	Cycle Touring, Mountain Biking
Enclosed & Coastal Water Paddle Craft	Canoeing, Sit in & On Kayaking, Stand Up Paddleboarding
Horse Trail Riding	Horse Trail Riding
Inland Water Paddle Craft	Canoeing, Kayaking, Rafting, Sledding, SUP
Snorkelling	Snorkelling

23

WA Adventure Activity Standards

- Four Wheel Driving
- Surfing
- Trail Bikes Touring
- Recreational SCUBA diving

24

Implementation

25

