

## **10.7.7 MOTOR SPORTS**

### **1. PHILOSOPHY**

1.1 In principle the most desirable pursuits in the Motor Sports area will be those which promote the Scout method of personal development through outdoor exploration and education.

The Branch Motor Sports Advisory Panel has responsibility to develop appropriate Activity Guidelines for the safe conduct of Scouting activities in the environment of non-competitive sports.

In practical terms this has been interpreted as the provision of programs and easily accessible resources and training courses for both youth members and Leaders.

### **2. OBJECTIVES**

1.1 The purpose of this Policy Statement is:

- (a) to provide for the safe conduct of Scouting activities by youth members and Leaders of the ACT Scout Branch;
- (b) to encourage youth members and Leaders to participate in a range of non-competitive motor sports with particular emphasis on those identified in the Outdoor Recreation Industry Package (ie Drive and Recover 4WD Vehicles –SRO DRV 001; In Difficult Terrain with Outdoor Activities –SRO DRV 002A; Coordinate Recovery of 4WD vehicles using Advanced Techniques – SRO DRV 003A)
- (c) to facilitate training of youth members and Leaders in activities which have an intrinsic danger to life.

### **3. ACTIVITY AREAS**

#### **3.1 MOTOR CYCLING**

##### **Leader Qualifications**

1. The leader of a Scout or Venturer party shall be an accredited Leader;
2. The leader in charge of the activity should be competent as a motorcycle rider , having at least two years experience and be accustomed to working with members of the Scout and Venturer age;
3. The leader of the activity should preferably be a licensed instructor or have completed a Motor Cycle Road Safety Course.

##### **Ratio of Adult Leaders to Member Participants**

There shall be 3 to 4 adults assisting to a group of 10 novices until the learners have reached satisfactory competence.

## Permission

Participants in this activity can be Rovers, Venturers and Scouts.

Motor Cycle activities are not considered suitable for Cub Scouts or Joey Scouts.

Parent permission is essential for all Scout and Venturer age participants.

## Standards

- 1 Safety Helmets of the correct size, displaying current Standards Association of Australia accreditation labels, shall be worn and correctly fitted by all members engaged in this activity;
- 2 Strong shoes with heels or boots and clothing to cover arms and legs shall be worn by all members engaged in riding.
- 3 Motor Cycles should be thoroughly checked for road worthiness, by the Leaders before use.

## Special Requirements

1. **Maintenance:** Leaders shall accept responsibility for repairing the inevitable damage sustained to motor cycles;
2. **Motor Cycles:** motor cycles obtained from whatever source shall be of a type and physical size capable of being ridden by the age group of the learners, and shall **not exceed 250cc**;
3. **ACT Motor Traffic Act:** Vehicles used in off-road activities shall be registered and insured unless operated on private property which is adequately fenced to prevent the entry of other vehicles;
4. Comprehensive insurance for the motor cycles is essential;
5. Permission for use of the riding area shall be obtained from the land owner;
6. The leader shall be acquainted with the location of the nearest Hospital to the site;
7. Transport (four wheels, car, utility etc.) shall be in readiness on site.

## Learning and Safety

- (a) Strong leadership and control is necessary to prevent foolishness or high speeds which may cause accidents and injury;
- (b) Leaders shall be aware of the early fatigue problems of young learners and allow for this by only permitting each person to ride for short periods (eg 10 –15 min.);

- (c) Learners should note that it normally takes a full weekend of progressively more difficult riding before a learner has developed the reactions necessary to control a motor cycle safely and to learn only the most basic skills;
- (d) Leaders should not allow learners to attempt riding which is beyond their learning capabilities;
- (e) Participants shall have regular periods of rest, including at least eight hours sleep at night.

## **3.2 MOTORISED EXPEDITIONS**

### **Scope**

These standards are safety procedures for motorised expeditions are applicable for most journeys with vehicles into remote areas where other traffic is infrequent or non existent and where daily community support services are not available.

### **Leader Qualifications**

The leader shall be an accredited Leader – non overnight or Overnight as appropriate.

If a Rover or Scout Fellowship expedition then the Leader shall be a registered member and is able to satisfy the BRC or Scout Fellowship Chairperson that they are competent to lead such an activity. Where the Chairperson requires advice the ACT Commissioner for Adventurous Activities will be the reference person.

### **Mechanical Services**

At least one of the party should be a competent motor mechanic.

### **Ratio of Adult Leaders to Member Participants**

The ratio of adult Leaders (Scouters and Activity Leaders) to party members should be at least one to ten. Preferably there should be one adult Leader in each vehicle and preferably there should be no more than twenty vehicles.

Participants in this activity are Leaders, Scout Fellowship, Rovers, and Venturers.

Scouts, Cub Scouts and Joey Scouts are not permitted to participate in this activity.

### **Procedure for adequate safety and preparation**

The following items may not always be relevant, depending on the route of the expedition. However the person authorising the activity should be satisfied, before giving permission, that due consideration has been given to all such matters:

- The route has been carefully planned and if necessary a preliminary reconnaissance tour undertaken with telephone, letter, or personal contact to supporters on route;

- Advice has been sought from the NRMA RAA and Department of Transport;
- A system of radio contact is used between the vehicles, particularly between the lead vehicle and the tail vehicle;
- There are sufficient licensed drivers to provide relief driving arrangements;
- No vehicle carries more passengers than is provided by the law and that seat belts are fitted for each person being carried;
- Maps are provided in each vehicle;
- Rules of procedure are established. Eg one vehicle stops then all vehicles stop;
- The itinerary has been documented, copies provided to all parents, guardians, Group Leader, Regional Commissioner, ACT Commissioner Adventurous Activities, police and station owners and storekeepers to be visited;
- A home-based contact person is established with information included on the duplicate itinerary;
- The home-based contact and the expedition leader both hold a list of parents/guardians contact addresses and telephone numbers applicable for the period of the expedition;
- Expedition members have been given special preparation and training to cope with bush hazards and have had driving instruction, especially in terms of 4 wheel drive vehicles in rough terrain;
- All vehicles will have comprehensive insurance cover including property and personal injury;
- Sufficient spares (tyres, axles, fan belts etc) and tools are taken.

### **3.3 OTHER MOTORISED ACTIVITIES**

Other motorised activities such as Go-Carting may only be undertaken where the Appointed Leader has identified a commercial provider who has third party indemnity and comprehensive insurance cover to cover members of the Scout Association in the event of an accident or injury.

#### **AUTHORITY**

This Policy was approved by the Branch Executive Committee on 10 December 2003.