



AUSTRALIAN
FLYBALL
ASSOCIATION

Health and Safety Management Policy

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HEALTH and SAFETY MANAGEMENT POLICY

Introduction

The Australian Flyball Association Inc. (AFA) is committed to providing a safe and healthy “working environment” for all members, dogs and others involved in the activities of the AFA and organisations affiliated with the AFA. The AFA is also committed to providing a supportive environment for members who are injured at AFA approved and sanctioned activities.

The AFA is a volunteer organisation that has no employees and therefore is not Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) in accordance with the individual WHS Acts in each State and Territory.

However, as a volunteer association there are still responsibilities for individual volunteers and members of the committee with respect to health and safety.

Purpose

The AFA will aim, within the limits of its capabilities and in the context of Flyball activities, to:

- provide a safe work environment and implement safe systems of work;
- comply where relevant with WHS Legislation, Australian standards and relevant codes of practice;
- integrate WHS into Flyball planning activities and operations;
- implement systems for the notification and recording of workplace incidents;
- implement monitoring of environmental threats that could negatively impact on the health and safety of members (including their dogs);
- provide adequate information and resources to volunteers to manage any environmental threat; and
- regularly monitor and review the effectiveness and relevance of the Health and Safety management system.

Policy Statement

The AFA is committed to:

- Ensuring the highest standards of health and safety at all locations where AFA approved and sanctioned events are conducted; and,
- Maintaining a Health and Safety management system that provides members, dogs and other persons with the highest level of protection, as is reasonably practical, against harm to their health, safety and welfare, from hazards and risks arising from conducting AFA approved and sanctioned flyball events.

Definitions

AFA – the Australian Flyball Association, a not-for-profit association of Members, Associate Members and Affiliated Organisations with the objective of facilitating the development of the sport of Flyball in Australia.

Working Environment / Workplace – In the context of the AFA the working environment is the area under the direct control of the AFA or the AFA Affiliated organisation that is managing an Approved and Sanctioned Flyball Event.

Approved and Sanctioned Flyball Event – Approved and sanctioned events are defined in the constitution of the AFA but generally include Flyball training days, demonstrations and Race Meetings conducted by the AFA or AFA Affiliated organisations.

Flyball - Flyball consists of a relay race between two teams of four dogs. Each dog must jump over four hurdles, retrieve a ball by triggering a flyball box and then return over the hurdles to the start/finish line.

Responsibilities

The AFA Committee – responsible for adopting this policy, monitoring changes in legislation that impact risk management and for reviewing this policy as and when the need arises. Members of the AFA Committee even though are volunteers, as decision makers for the whole or a substantial part of the organisation, are considered ‘Officers’ under the *Work and Health Safety Act 2011 (ACT)* and are responsible for managing work health and safety risk and exercising WHS due diligence, by taking reasonable steps to:

- acquire and keep up-to-date knowledge of WHS matters;
- gain an understanding of the nature of the operations of the AFA and generally of the hazards and risks associated with those operations;
- ensure that the AFA has available for use, and uses appropriate resources and processes where practical to minimise risks to health and safety associated with Flyball events;
- ensure that the AFA has appropriate processes for receiving and considering information regarding incidents, hazards and risks to health and safety, and responding in a timely way to that information;
- ensure that the AFA has and implements processes for complying with any duty or obligation under the relevant provisions of applicable legislation; and verify the provision and use of the resources and processes designed to achieve these due diligence requirements.

The AFA Committee, AFA Affiliated Organisations, AFA Members and volunteers – responsible for the implementation of this policy with AFA Members and volunteers taking reasonable care of their own (other people’s) health and safety.

Related Documents

1. Risk Management Policy (under development)
2. Guidelines and Protocols of the AFA (in particular Clauses 1, 2, 14, 15 and 16)
3. Race Meeting Checklist
4. Rules and Policies of the AFA (in particular Sections 1.1, 2.3, Chapter 4, Chapter 10, Policy 2, Policy 3, Policy 4, Policy 5, Policy 7, Policy 8, Policy 9)
5. Constitution of the AFA
6. AFA Judges Manual
7. Health and Safety Management System (including procedures and reporting processes) (under development).

