



AUSTRALIAN
FLYBALL
ASSOCIATION

Health and Safety Management Policy

1 January 2022

HEALTH and SAFETY MANAGEMENT POLICY

Introduction

The **AFA** is committed to providing a safe and healthy **working environment** for all **AFA members**, dogs and others involved in the activities of the **AFA** and **clubs**. The **AFA** is also committed to providing a supportive environment for **AFA members** who are injured at **flyball events**.

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 legislation in each State and Territory.

However, as a volunteer association there are still responsibilities for individual volunteers and members of the **AFA 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 **working 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 **AFA members** and 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 **flyball events** are conducted; and,
- Maintaining a health and safety management system that provides **AFA 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 **flyball events**.

Definitions

working environment means the area under the direct control of the **AFA** or the **club** that is managing a **flyball event**.

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** is 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**, although 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, clubs, AFA members** and volunteers are responsible for the implementation of this policy with **AFA members** and volunteers taking reasonable care of their own (and other people's) health and safety.

Related Documents

1. Risk Management Policy
2. Rules, policies, and guidelines of the **AFA**
3. Race Meeting Checklist
4. Constitution of the **AFA**
5. **AFA** Judges Manual
6. Health and Safety Management System (including procedures and reporting processes) (under development).