



POLICY

Flying Fox Policy



Issued with the authority of the Chief Commissioner
and Chief Executive Officer of Scouts Australia NSW

Chief Commissioner signature		Chief Executive Officer signature	
Sponsor	Deputy Chief Commissioner – Activities, Training, Fellowship		
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Flying Fox Policy

1 Philosophy

- 1.1 A policy for the conduct of *Scout* activities involving Flying Foxes is required for the following reasons:
- 1.1.1. There is inherent risk in these activities.
 - 1.1.2. Adults in Scouting need to be aware of risks, and apply adequate skills to ensure that activities are conducted safely.

2 Principles

- 2.1 Control of all activities in this policy shall be vested in the Chief Commissioner.
- 2.2 Authority for the control of these activities shall normally be delegated to the Deputy Chief Commissioner (Activities, Training, Fellowships) – DCC ATF, or their delegates.
- 2.3 The accountability for promotion, administration and regulation of Flying Fox activities lies with Region Coordinators (Flying Fox), or Region Commissioner (Activities).

3 Application

- 3.1 The term “Flying Fox” describes a pioneering apparatus for moving persons along an elevated fixed rope, hawser or cable, whilst suspended from a moving (pulley) block.
- 3.2 This Policy does not apply to traversing techniques used in Rock-Related activities and controlled by the Rock-Related Activities Policy.
- 3.3 This Policy shall not apply to commercially conducted activities, run by persons or organisations outside the Association.
- 3.4 Before participation in any commercially conducted Flying Fox activity, the policy on Prohibited Activities, and the guidelines for participation in Commercially Run Activities, should be considered.

4 Operation

- 4.1 The DCC ATF, or nominated delegate, is accountable and responsible for:
 - 4.1.1. Regularly review this policy, schedules to policy, and other documentation as required (normally, at least every 3 years).
 - 4.1.2. Advise State Office on technical matters relating to this policy in all dealings with the public, authorities, and any other similar interest groups.

- 4.1.3. Seek expert opinions, as required, to assist with technical standards, safety and training.
- 4.1.4. Authorise qualifications for the conduct of Flying Fox activities run by State Activity Centres.
- 4.1.5. Ensure records of qualifications are maintained at a state level.
- 4.2 The Region Coordinator (Flying Fox) and/or Region Commissioner Activities is accountable and responsible to:
 - 4.2.1. Promote, administer and regulate Flying Fox activities in the Region.
 - 4.2.2. Provide recommendations on qualifications regarding team members in the Region.
 - 4.2.3. Notify relevant Scouting stakeholders in the event a Leaders practice in Flying Fox is conducted in an unsafe manner or contrary to this policy.

5 Qualifications

Qualifications and appointments referred to in this policy are normally valid for 3 years from date of issue, unless otherwise revoked. Re-issue is dependent on satisfactory reassessment. The following qualifications are included:

- 5.1 Flying Fox Assistant: signed off by Flying Fox Instructor
 - 5.1.1. Demonstrate maturity and common sense to safely conduct, and supervise, youth members participating in Flying Fox activities.
 - 5.1.2. Ability to fit safety equipment and use to manufacturers specifications.
- 5.2 Flying Fox Basic Guide: signed off by Flying Fox Instructor
 - 5.2.1. Meet requirements for Flying Fox Assistant
 - 5.2.2. Demonstrate strong working knowledge of Schedule A Flying Fox policy
 - 5.2.3. Demonstrated technical ability to safely participate in the construction and management of a Flying Fox activity.
- 5.3 Flying Fox Advanced Guide: signed off by Flying Fox Instructor
 - 5.3.1. Meet requirements for Flying Fox Basic Guide
 - 5.3.2. Demonstrate technical ability to lead in construction and management of a Flying Fox activity.
- 5.4 Flying Fox Supervisor: signed off by DCC ATF or delegate
 - 5.4.1. Meet requirements for Flying Fox Advanced Guide
 - 5.4.2. Demonstrate instructional ability to train Youth and Adult members in the safe construction and management of Flying Fox activities.
 - 5.4.3. Demonstrate technical ability to assess, construct and manage Flying Fox activities in a variety of locations, over a range of spans, and using both natural fibre and wire rope.

- 5.4.4. Flying Fox Supervisor is the minimum requirement to run Flying Fox activities for Scouting members and the public.
- 5.5 Flying Fox Instructor: signed off by DCC ATF or delegate
 - 5.5.1. Meet requirements for Flying Fox Supervisor
 - 5.5.2. High knowledge of all aspects of schedule B to this policy
 - 5.5.3. Demonstrate high level instructional ability equivalent to National Instructor requirements (refer Adult Training and Development)
- 5.6 Where appointment at Instructor levels are for the purpose of delivering National Training courses, criteria for National appointment will apply.

6 Conduct of Activities

- 6.1 A Flying Fox Leader or higher qualification is responsible to be present and continually supervising any Flying Fox activity
- 6.2 Where youth members are participating, a responsible, appointed Adult Leader must be present.
- 6.3 Scouts NSW Activity notification, parental permission, and supervisory requirements always apply.
- 6.4 All conditions and requirements of this policy and current schedules always apply.
- 6.5 The responsible Leader must ensure qualified first aid, safety, and risk assessment processes and people are in place for the activity.
- 6.6 All participants are required to wear a correctly fitting, four point safety helmet during any Flying Fox activity.

7 Schedules to Policy

The following schedules are part of this policy by may be issued and updated separately:

Schedule A Manual for Flying Fox Construction and Use

This document is issued and updated by the ACC SA and distributed by Region Coordinators as needed. It is a technical resource and handbook for Flying Fox Leaders and Instructors, and a guide of requirements for construction and management of Flying Fox activities.

Schedule B Training for Flying Fox Leadership

This document is issued and updated by the ACC SA for use by Flying Fox Instructors. It is a progressive training programme for training and assessing competencies of Flying Fox Leaders.