

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The WoW day event held at SWORD in Kewdale and streamed around the state was a great success with nearly 300 SES Volunteers and staff attending.

The broadcasting of Channel 9 weather on that date with Canine unit and other Volunteers as the backdrop certainly added to the exposure of the SES Volunteers.

The Media and Communication teams are to be commended on their organisation of this.

It is hoped that next year more regions will be involved in the country areas celebrating the great work the SES Volunteers do.

Meetings with the DFES Chiefs has recommenced and they are working through the outstanding issues.

The six focus groups resulting from the Duxton Workshop are starting to get some momentum and hopefully all will have met by the end of June.

We all look forward to results and subsequent changes from this.

The visits by some SESVA committee members to a number of country units is proving popular for SES Volunteers.

We are receiving positive feedback from the Volunteers on dissemination of information and assistance in these areas.

In the past the SESVA worked hard to ensure an SES team was entered into the national Disaster Rescue Challenge.

This year it will be in NSW and DFES have decided to manage it themselves, so the SESVA will not be involved.

Gordon Hall ESM
President

FROM YOUR TEAM AT THE SESVA

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FIRST AID

We have been advised by DFES:

The issue of SES volunteers accessing 1st aid training is soon to be resolved.

In negotiation with the Academy, ESL team and Finance the following outcome was achieved:

Each region will now be responsible for running 1st Aid training, a project code will be setup to capture the cost with no requirement for LG to be involved. All management of funds will occur within DFES, the project code will be used to identify the LGGs portion and acquitted internally within DFES.

The Academy is developing a briefing note and circular for the Commissioners approval.

The new process is scheduled to commence in the new financial year.

TRAINING MANUALS

We have been advised that Units can print training manuals with the costs covered by LGGs funds, or if they cannot print the training manuals, then their DO's will

MOVAT SOFTWARE

We have confirmed with DFES staff the cost of this software, and the on-going yearly fee, are eligible items under ESL and claimable under LGGs funding.



eACADEMY 2.0

We have heard that eAcademy 2.0 & Training Streams implementation is progressing and it is hoped to be released about September/October 2019

The Assistant Commissioner has instructed the eAcademy Team to develop a Communications Plan to keep DFES staff and volunteers informed of the progress and estimated timings.

Let's hope it all goes to plan.

DUXTON FORUM ANSWERS

The answers have been provided by DFES

- Q: Is the new GR course going to be "dovetailed" with USAR to prevent duplication?
A: There will be no duplication-eg only part of the induction package is now done, not the full old booklet- OH&s, and other 2 front parts.
- Q: What is the policy on shared courses e.g.. Off road? Again it's said to be 'too hard'
A: There will be an insert in all trainer notes that students must be trained in the type of vehicle or with the type of equipment they use in service.
- Q: Considering the risks (remoteness, heights, equipment etc.) Why are general members ineligible for casualty transfer systems, manage injuries and cervical collars? Provide first aid is a low level course and member require higher level of training.
A: SES only need Senior First Aid unless RCR or VR
- Q: Field Search Controllers get no continuation training, sharing of ideas etc from DFES
A: A workshop is coming to upgrade Volunteers to the Search Commander package when the package is finalised-will be run by acedamy.
- Q: How does our training match Eastern states when SES Volunteers are deployed.
A: DFES advise an agreement allows the standard of training in the sending states to be accepted by the receiving states. DFES insurance covers people on state deployment.
- Q: Corrections/Upgrades to training Courses being advised
A: Trainers now advised of changes by the Academy

RECOGNITION CURRENT COMPETENCIES

DFES SAP 6.1.A provides volunteers the opportunity to have current skills, knowledge and experience recognised against DFES courses on their currently enrolled Pathways.

SES Volunteers wishing to undergo this process, in lieu of completing a full training course, need to fill out a Recognition of Current Competency Request Form and seek approval to proceed through their Local Manager.

The assessment process varies, depending on the Risk Rating of the particular TRK. For any Low Risk TRKs such as Land Search Team Member or Basic General Rescue, a 3rd Party Report may be used to validate the applicant's skills.

For Medium and High Risk TRKs such as Storm Damage or Chainsaw Operator, completion of the course assessment is required to ensure the applicant can perform these roles competently and safely.

DFES is right now in the process of recruiting a full time Skills Recognition Officer, a position that has been vacant for about 18 months. This position will be responsible for assisting with and processing any RCC applications.

In the interim, SES Volunteers should speak with their Local Managers, Training Managers or District Officers if they wish to undertake the RCC process.

HBF INSURANCE

HBF have advised they are ending their sponsorship and insurance discount scheme for SES Volunteers.

We believe it will not affect the Volunteers until thier HBF membership comes up for renewal.

HOW TO KEEP INFORMED

Don't forget we have a website which keeps you informed of what is happening across the state in SES land.

We also have "the App".

And also, if you would like our newsletters, other relevant information etc forwarded direct to your email, just contact the SESVA office (sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au), and advise your details.