



Getting Outdoors - the OCA Framework for Rebooting Outdoor Activities in a COVID-19 Environment

The Outdoor Council of Australia acknowledges that outdoor providers, employers and employees alike, as well as community groups, are doing it tough through the COVID-19 crisis.

The whole country is waiting on the outcomes of today's National Cabinet announcements flowing to the States and Territories. Some will likely have to wait a few days to find out what each jurisdiction's next stage will look like and understand how best to prepare the outdoors sector to resume outdoor activities over the coming weeks and months.

The [Outdoor Council of Australia](http://www.outdoorcouncil.asn.au) Board and has formed up a comprehensive document, which is a framework for conducting Outdoor Recreation activities in a COVID-19 environment. It has been compiled in very tight timeframes through the sustained efforts by volunteers of Outdoors SA with contributions from Australian Camps Association and Christian Venues Association, Outdoors NSW & ACT, Outdoors Victoria, Outdoors WA, Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation (QORF), Scouts Australia, and advice from Mountain Bike Australia, Paddle Australia and other outdoor activity peaks.

This framework is primarily intended to provide industry advice to guide the public health and other statutory authorities in decisions regarding the appropriate manner in which to resume outdoor activities. The document has been submitted for consideration to the Federal and respective State & Territory Government Ministers and relevant departments.

The framework will hopefully assist the state governments in forming up detailed strategies and clear guidelines for outdoor providers and community groups to follow for COVID-safe operations in the future. We know from research results that outdoor activities in natural settings directly contribute to positive benefits in physical and mental health for the Australian community and look forward to working with governments.

Andrew Mc Guckian, President of OCA states, "Whilst physical distancing has constrained our activity to being active close to home, it has noticeably been outdoor activities that people have turned to for their health and wellbeing. Led outdoor activities in groups and on camps will be a strong tool in the collective governments toolkits to our road out of Covid-19."



Download the 14 OCA National Principles for the Rebooting of Outdoor Activities
Download the OCA Framework for Rebooting Outdoor Activities in a COVID-19 Environment
Link to OCA website <http://www.outdoorcouncil.asn.au/>

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