



NEWSLETTER

July 2005

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WELCOME

Welcome to the July ARRO Newsletter.

The Australasian and World Rescue Challenges are just a few months away and will be here before we know. Interest has been high and an update is included in this newsletter.

There is also information regarding ARRO's membership of the Australasian College of Road Safety, information on changes to the 2005 Challenge Rules, and an update on Assessor Guidelines.

Also there is an announcement of a significant sponsorship renewal.

ARRO PRESIDENT RETIRES

Rhys Maggs, ARRO President, retires from his position of Director of the Victoria State Emergency Service on July 29th. Rhys held the position for eighteen years and has guided the SES through many changes over the years.

Rhys has also indicated that he will not be seeking re-election as President of ARRO at this years' AGM.

The ARRO executive team wish Rhys, and his wife Lilian, a long, happy and healthy retirement. More detail on Rhys' contribution to ARRO will be featured in a later newsletter.

NEW ZEALAND

Planning for the World and Australasian Rescue Challenges is well underway with the event due to kick off in Hamilton on October 9th and run through until October 15th. Hamilton is about a two-hour drive south of Auckland.

There is so much happening including four evening functions.

- Australasian Challenge opening
- Australasian Challenge awards presentation and World Challenge opening
- Swap Meet – bring your swappable patches etc
- Kiwi evening with Kiwi music, food and humour

The Learning Symposium on 12th October is a very important part of the program and will feature a keynote speaker from North America.



L to R: Paul Jerome (ARRO), Mark Dodson (Project Manager) and Peter Guard (Event Manager) survey the plans at Mystery Creek

Registrations have been strong with teams from Canada, Spain, Scotland, England and Wales joining New Zealand and Australian teams to demonstrate their road rescue skills. The event web page has an enormous amount of information on the event as well as tourism options for those who want to experience more of New Zealand. This is a very easy way to book side tours before you arrive in Hamilton.

The event web site is www.ufba.org.nz and follow the link from the front page.

COAG REPORT

COAG (Council of Australian Governments) is now reporting on attendance by ESO's (Emergency Service Organisations) at road rescue incidents through the annual Productivity Commissioner Report. Chapter 8 of this national document covers Emergency Management across Australia. The purpose of this document is to allow for a more complete assessment of the performance of government resources committed to the management of emergency events.

Three event types make up Chapter 8 - Emergency Management:-

Section 8.3 Fire Events

Section 8.4 Ambulance Events

Section 8.5 Road Rescue Events

The definition of 'Road Rescue' used by this report is: "An accident or incident involving a motor vehicle and the presumption that there are injuries on that assistance is required from ESO's".

Nationally 18,915 road rescue incidents were reported in 2003-04 or 95.1 incidents per 100,000 people. From these incidents, 4,986 extrications were recorded as being performed. The number of extrications per 100,000 people was highest in NT (58.0) and lowest in WA (4.6)

Whilst it would be correct to say this report is not yet capturing every incident that occurs in Australia, road rescue event reporting will continue to improve over time as the performance indicator framework is more fully developed. The significance of this information is that governments through their ESO are being compared against each other as central bureaucrats like Treasury and Premiers look at efficiency and effectiveness of agencies.

The Productivity Commission, the Australian Government's principal review and advisory body on microeconomic policy and regulation acts as the Secretariat for the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision. The Productivity Commission conduct public inquiries and research into a broad range of economic and social issues

affecting the welfare of Australians, including: competition policy, productivity, the environment, economic infrastructure, labour markets, trade and assistance, structural adjustment and microeconomic reform

Other events-type services for which performance reporting has yet to be developed include: rescues (other than road rescues); natural events (other than landscape fires); technological and hazardous material incidents; emergency relief and recovery; and quarantine and disease control.

Report on Government Services 2005 was released on 28 January 2005. It has been produced by the Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision (SCRGSP). The report is published in two volumes. **Volume 1** contains Part A (Introduction), Part B (Education), Part C (Justice) and Part D (Emergency Management), and **Volume 2** contains Part E (Health), Part F (Community Services), Part G (Housing) and the statistical appendix. The Report on Government Services is available on line at www.pc.gov.au

RAPID ASSESSMENT TOOL AND GUIDELINES

On behalf of ARRO, the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service recently trialled the proposed Rapid Assessment Tool and Guidelines at their State RAR Challenge in the Rapid Extrication event (as referred to in the ARRO Newsletter, March 2005).

Feedback from assessors at this event, and on review by the ARRO Technical Committee determined that more work is required to streamline the guidelines before a suitable document can be proposed as a final solution to the current situation.

The Technical Committee also noted some minor points within the current Unlimited and Limited assessment tools that also need realigning. The same process will be used for the Unlimited, Limited and Rapid assessment tools; the categories will be reviewed, then the guidelines will be adapted to suit the appropriate categories.

This will mean a delay in further development of any assessment tool changes. Therefore, all ARRO assessors and participating team members are advised that for the ARRO 2005 Australasian Challenge in Hamilton NZ, ARRO will use the currently available assessment tools and guidelines posted at the ARRO website.

The ARRO Technical Committee is recommending that, as per the options contained in the ARRO March 2005 Newsletter, that;

- No changes are to occur at all to any assessment tools for the near future until further work is conducted on reassessing the categories of all scenario assessment tools; and
- ARRO assessors and participating team members involved with the ARRO 2005 Australasian Challenge in Hamilton NZ, familiarise themselves with the currently posted guidelines for all events.

For teams participating in both the Australasian and World Challenges, note there will be some differences. You should study these carefully.

ARRO ASSESSOR'S OVERALLS

A reminder that ARRO has a small number of overalls available for purchase by assessors who may want a second pair. The new overalls have been very well received with the bold markings helping to raise ARRO's profile.

The cost is \$120 per pair and the sizes in stock are 87s 92r 97s 102s 107r 107s and 112r. Contact David Coldbeck for further information.

GORE RENEWS SPONSORSHIP

The ARRO Executive is pleased to announce that W. L. Gore has renewed their sponsorship for the coming year.

Gore contribute \$16,000 per year in support of ARRO with these funds primarily used to support ARRO's involvement in the World Rescue Organisation.

Thank you to Mike Smith at Gore for his ongoing support of ARRO.

ARRO ANARAK AVAILABLE

At a recent ARRO Executive Committee Meeting, approval was granted to develop a jacket for assessors and members that maintained our corporate image, and provide adequate warmth and protection from the elements when assessing, or for just normal casual wear.

Glen Maule, Merchandise Co-Coordinator, has arranged for jackets to be sent to all the assessors that will be active in New Zealand in October this year. Assessors that have participated in the Australasian Challenges over the past two years will also receive a jacket. Jackets will be sent as membership renewals are received.

These jackets (anoraks) are made by Basecamp and have been designed in a navy colour with gold lining. The ARRO logo is embroidered on the front left chest, and for assessors the ARRO lettering is on the back as per the assessor's overalls. They come in sizes small to 3XL and are a very generous size.



Jackets are available without the ARRO across the back if preferred. The price is the same for both styles.

As they are readily available from the manufacturer, orders will be processed only once ten or more requests are received. The retail price will be \$110.00 plus postage/freight.

Anyone interested in ordering one of the jackets can place their order via the web site for ARRO or contact Glen on 0418 700947 or e-mail gmaule@emergency.qld.gov.au.

AUSTRALASIAN AND WORLD CHALLENGE RULES FOR 2005

By hosting the World Rescue Challenge back to back with the Australasian Rescue Challenge, we are creating a unique opportunity to involve a larger number of teams, assessors and pit crewmembers from around the world, with many participating in both challenges.

In the perfect world, challenge rules would be the same at all levels of activity. This unfortunately will not be the case in Hamilton, New Zealand in October this year. The two challenges will operate with quite different rules and teams and officials involved in both should take extra time to study and understand the differences between the two.

The Australasian Rules will be available from the ARRO web site (<http://www.arro.org.au>) 'Challenge' page very soon.

The World Protocols are available from the WRO web site (<http://www.wrescue.org>) 'Rescue Challenge' page now.

Teams should also download the assessor guidelines and score sheets from each web site.

CHANGES TO THE AUSTRALASIAN RULES FOR 2005

ARRO members should note there are few subtle changes to the rules for the Australasian Challenge this year. In summary:

- The technical committee has taken advice from a statistician about our process for determining winners of each class, discipline and overall. The advice suggested that our original process of simply adding the raw scores from each assessor is technical more correct than the process of ranking scores. Accordingly we will amend our processes for the 2005 challenge.
- There has been considerable debate and input from members about the limited pit and what tools are allowed. Based on a number of strongly argued cases the technical committee has agreed to allow teams to choose from either a battery operated hydraulic combi tool, or a hand pump and combi tool (as has been allowed in past years). In previous newsletters we have indicated that the hand pump would not be allowed, so this has been a relaxation of the rule based on your input. (**Note:** *In the World Challenge there are no hydraulic tools in the limited whatsoever.*) Teams will also be allowed to substitute their own tools for similar ones provided on the pit.
- There are also a number of administrative amendments to the rules. Teams should ensure they are familiar with these. In particular, the details of who is required to attend the team briefing prior to the challenge commencing.
- The ARRO recommended minimum pit equipment list has been added as an appendix. Teams should remember this is ARRO's recommended list. It is up to the host to do their best to supply items on the list, but ARRO cannot guarantee that all items will be available.

AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF ROAD SAFETY

ARRO has joined the Australasian College of Road Safety (ACRS). The following details from their website establishes the College's aims.

The College was established in 1988 as an association for individuals and organisations working in or interested in supporting road safety. The College is multi-disciplinary in its membership, and values experience as much as academic qualifications in its members.

Members come from a wide range of disciplines including engineers, epidemiologists, road trauma specialists, researchers, driver trainers, enforcement agencies, policy makers, industry representatives, motoring associations, insurance companies and many others who have a stake in road safety.

Aim

To improve road safety in Australia.

Mission Statement

To link through one association all individuals and organisations in Australia who work in or are interested in road safety, in order to

facilitate the efficient interchange of ideas and a united approach in promoting and implementing improved road safety practices.

The ARRO Executive considered membership carefully and determined that the aims of ACRS aligned well with what we also aim to achieve.

Check out ACRS's web site at www.acrs.org.au for more information on the role the College has established in the road safety arena. The ARRO Executive is confident that our aims are complimentary and that a strong association will develop.

AUSTRALASIAN AND WORLD CHALLENGE RULES FOR 2005

A special note to all teams and ARRO challenge management team officials participating at the 2005 Challenge in New Zealand. The 2005 Australasian Rescue Challenge (ARC) rules have been up loaded to the challenge page of the web site. Please make sure you download a copy and study them carefully as there are a few subtle changes from 2004. A summary of the changes is listed just after the table of contents to assist you. If you have any further questions, please contact one of the members of the technical committee.

For those teams participating in the World Rescue Challenge (WRC) in New Zealand, the rules are called 'challenge protocols' and are available from the WRO web site (<http://wrescue.org>). There is a link from the ARRO web site.

For those teams registered to participate in both challenges, please take special note that the rules, assessment system and pit equipment for the WRC are different from the ARC, especially in the limited pit. Please take extra special effort to understand the differences.

ARRO COMMITTEE 2004 - 2005

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ARRO gratefully acknowledges the support of our sponsors



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