

Leader's Code

This Code of Practice set standards for the Perth Bushwalkers Club (Inc) activities leaders, and may be revised from time to time by the committee after appropriate consultation with the members.

- The activity leader is responsible for making all arrangements and obtaining all necessary clearances for their activity. The activity leader is also responsible for ensuring they are conversant with all relevant club guidelines and policies.
- In preparing for an activity the leader must follow the guidelines contained within the Policy on Conducting an Activity.
- As an important part of planning and conducting an activity, the leader must assess the risks associated with their activity, and address these risks. Guidelines for this are provided in the Risk Management Policy. In the event of an incident or near miss the leader is responsible for appropriate reporting in accordance with club guidelines.
- The leader must consider the skill base in the group on the day. This may mean making adjustments to the proposed walk if the necessary skills or numbers are lacking in the group. The usual minimum number of people in a bushwalking party to isolated areas is four. If one person is incapacitated then two people can go to get help and one person may stay with the incapacitated person to give care. This means that least two people with sufficient navigation skills to find their way out and back with help, plus at least one person with first aid skills is needed in the group. If it is necessary to go with a lesser group the leader should make an assessment of the risks involved for that particular activity, and have a clear management plan to deal with the risks.
- The leader is responsible for the party and thus has the final say in who participates and whether the event proceeds.
- Leaders are clearly the key to the club's success, and as the most important resource in the club must be treated as such. All efforts to encourage leaders in developing skills and gaining experience should be undertaken by the committee, with emphasis on training and other support being focussed on the clubs' leaders.