

NOLRS Mk2

Overview of changes

To here (in brief)

- NOLRS has been active for just over 4 years.
- There are currently over 300 leaders registered.
- For a variety of reasons they are predominately in Western Australia and Queensland.

NOLRS Mk2 major changes:

- A number of new activity areas
- New and modified Registration Levels
- More inclusive NOLRS benchmark
- Easier access to the Scheme from a range of training outcomes
- Clarification of 'currency requirements'
- **Recognition of 'experienced' leaders**
- **Introduction of Preferred Assessment Partners**

The consultation process

- Widespread feedback was sought on NOLRS Mk2 in a 'big picture' sense
- Specialist groups provided feedback on detailed aspects
- Consultation was concluded by March 2007 and resulting changes made by December 2007

Original activity areas:

- Abseiling (Artificial Surfaces)
- Abseiling (Natural Surfaces)
- Bushwalking
- Challenge Ropes Course (High Ropes)
- Challenge Ropes Course (Low Ropes)
- Climbing (Artificial Surfaces)

New activity areas:

- Climbing (Natural Surfaces)
- On Road Cycle Touring
- Mountain Biking
- Canyoning

New Bushwalking Instructor registration levels

- Bushwalking Instructor (tracked and easy untracked)
- Bushwalking Instructor (difficult and trackless areas)
- Bushwalking Instructor (unmodified areas)

Restricted Guide registration

- There are a number of outdoor roles that involve repeatedly operating within a well defined set of parameters (generally at a single specific site) on a specified set of outdoor programs.
- The skills, knowledge and experience (and associated training burden) is therefore less than the normal Guide registration.

Changes in existing Registration Levels

- The requirement to implement and monitor OH&S has been dropped from all Registration Levels

NOLRS becomes 'self contained'

- The intent of NOLRS was always to recognise multiple training pathways.
- Because of access to funding, NOLRS was initially defined in terms of the VET sector competencies. This meant
 - The Scheme was out of the control of the Outdoor Council of Australia
 - Other training systems had to show how they were aligned to the VET competencies

NOLRS Mk2 is a stand alone system that defines its own set of skills, knowledge and experience for various leadership roles in the outdoors.

A sample from Mountain Biking

- *Plan and implement minimal environmental impact*
- *Undertake risk analysis of activities*
- *Interpret and apply weather forecasts*
- *Apply sport and recreation law*
- *Follow defined Occupational Health and Safety policy and procedures*
- *Facilitate groups and deal with conflict*
- *Select, set up and maintain a bike*
- *Demonstrate basic cycling skills*
- *Demonstrate basic off-road cycling skills*
- *Navigate in tracked and easy untracked areas*
- *Interpret road maps and navigate pre-determined routes*
- *Respond to emergency situations*
- *Guide mountain biking on easy to intermediate terrain*

Partnered Assessment Providers

- Many organisations conduct education/training that achieves outcomes at least equivalent to the NOLRS standard.
- For the purposes of NOLRS, it is the assessment of an individual's knowledge and skills and achievement of that standard that is important, not the training process.

To become a Partnered Assessment Provider organisations must:

- be a legal entity;
- have clearly documented assessment processes;
- have documented minimum qualification/skill requirements for assessors;
- have documented review procedures of assessment;
- have formal assessment record keeping procedures.

Establishing equivalence to the NOLRS standard

- The skill, knowledge and experience for each Registration Level has been documented in detail.
- The assessed outcomes of courses need to be shown to at least match the skill, knowledge and experience required for the relevant registration level for the NOLRS
- Each aspect of knowledge and skill from the NOLRS requirements need to be included in the organisation's assessment process.

Clarification of 'currency' requirements

- An experience outdoor leader entering the Scheme will need to meet requirements similar to those needed for re-registration.
- A new graduate from a training course will need to show that they have satisfactorily performed under supervision, the role for which they seek registration on at least 6 occasions that usually includes a range of clients, locations, seasons or other defining contexts.

Recognition of 'experienced' leaders

- more than six years at a particular Registration Level*
- "E" on the NOLRS wallet card
- less arduous re-registration requirements

* Or equivalent prior experience