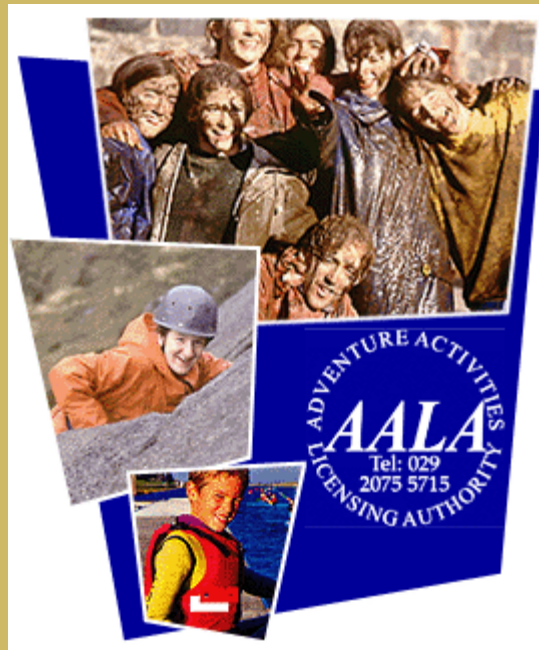


Adventure Activity Licensing Service



What do they do?

- ▣ They are sponsored by (DfEE) Department of Education and Employment but operates under the written guidance of the (HSC) Health and Safety Commission
- ▣ The structure is a not-for-profit private company
- ▣ Licensing authority is a watch-dog overseeing an increasingly private sector provision
- ▣ Licensing authority provides an inspection service for the implementation of adventure activities licensing legislation 1996

The Aim of Licensing

.... To provide assurances that good safety management is being practised so that young people can continue to have the opportunity to experience exciting and stimulating activities outdoors without being exposed to avoidable risks of death and disabling injury...

National News

- ▣ Charity urges tighter government guidelines for school trips
Saturday March 9, 2002
The Guardian

- ▣ Tragedy highlights perils of river walks
Inquest told of 'error of judgment' by teachers

Tuesday March 5, 2002
The Guardian

- ▣ School Trips under threat as teacher is jailed for boys death

The Guardian 24/09/2003

- ▣ Why did this Boy Scout die?

The Guardian January 13, 2002

Licensing

- ▣ Why have licensing?
- ▣ Self assessment
- ▣ Under-go-self-assessment
- ▣ People
- ▣ Procedures
- ▣ Activities, Facilities and Equipment

Why have licensing?

- ▣ Inspection examines how an organisation ensure that nationally recognised safety standards are being met
- ▣ If they offer adventure activities in return for payment you will be required to under-go an inspection to obtain an activities license

Self-assessment?

- ▣ For those who lead outdoor activities for other people (of any age) whether in a professional, educational or voluntary capacity
- ▣ It is particularly relevant if they offer the same activities as defined in AALA regulations (even if they are exempt)

Under-go self-assessment?

- ▣ Leads you step by step through many issues relating to safety management in outdoor activities
- ▣ Offers a structured approach to safety management (can unearth safety issues)
- ▣ Will provide relevant risk assessments

People

- ▣ Competence and qualifications
- ▣ Technical advisors
- ▣ Recruitment
- ▣ Induction
- ▣ Clarity of responsibility
- ▣ Monitoring & Appraisal
- ▣ Leader training
- ▣ Staff turnover, volunteers / freelancers

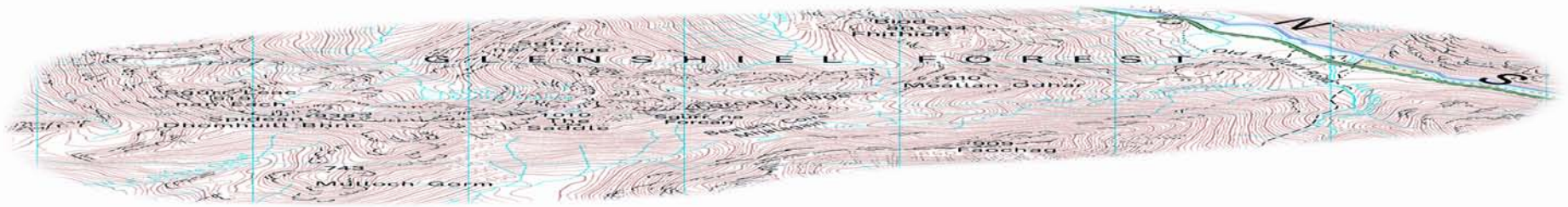
Procedures

- Written operational procedures
- Formal risk assessment
- Meetings for activity leaders
- Incident, accident & emergency procedures
- Incident, accident & emergency records
- Lines of communication
- Group late back procedure
- Venue and activity
- Child protection



Activities, Facilities & Equipment

- ▣ Appropriate activities
- ▣ Activity venues
- ▣ Equipment / hired!
- ▣ Equipment provided by participants
- ▣ Maintenance of equipment
- ▣ First aid
- ▣ NGB centre accreditation & Approval schemes
- ▣ Safety inspections / insurance



Key Points

Working with People Out of Doors

Self Assessment

Identifying Risk

Planning and Managing Risk

Responsibility

The Law and Visitor Safety

Licensing Criteria

Suggested reading

- ❑ Cohen, S. (2002) Folk Devils and Moral Panics. London Routledge.
- ❑ Furedi, F. (2002) Culture of Fear: Risk Taking and the Morality of Low Expectation 2nd edn. London Continuum
- ❑ Health and safety commission. (1996) Guidance to the licensing authority on the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority. London: HSE Publications
- ❑ Health and Safety Executive. (2001) Reducing Risks, protecting people. London: HSE Publications
- ❑ National Statistics Office web site – www.statistics.gov.uk