

Bushwalking NSW

Keep exploring, be amazed

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WHO WE ARE:

Bushwalking NSW Incorporated is the peak body for bushwalkers in NSW and the ACT, representing people who are passionate about outdoor recreation, bush conservation, and promoting public engagement with nature. Bushwalking NSW represents over 11,000 bushwalkers from 69 bushwalking clubs throughout the state, and provides a united voice to local, state and federal government agencies and other bodies on issues affecting bushwalkers.

Bushwalking NSW is a not-for-profit, incorporated organisation run by an Executive Officer and a dedicated band of volunteers. Our funds are generally derived from membership fees.

Our Vision:

To build healthy, active communities inspired by nature

Our Mission:

Support strong, safe, active and inclusive bushwalking and related outdoor activities in wisely managed natural areas.

THE BENEFITS OF BECOMING AFFILIATED WITH BUSHWALKING NSW:

Membership of Bushwalking NSW Inc. grants clubs access to these services, and provides clubs with this representation and promotion:

At Bushwalking NSW we:

- Unite NSW & ACT bushwalkers, and organisations interested in recreational bushwalking, camping and outdoor activities, including alpine walking, orienteering, rogaining, liloing, abseiling, canyoning, canoeing, kayaking, cycling and snow skiing
- Promote the social and health benefits of bushwalking and outdoor recreation to people of all nationalities, abilities and backgrounds
- Strive for the establishment, preservation and wise management of national parks, wilderness and natural areas by creating public awareness of environmental issues and lobbying government agencies and other bodies including coal mining companies.
- Promote bushwalking clubs and provide information on bushwalking and outdoor adventure, conservation, bush safety, training opportunities, tracks and access issues through the Bushwalking NSW website: <https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/>, monthly e-newsletters, email alerts, and by hosting member meetings.
- Assist member bushwalking clubs by providing advice and resources such as the Bushwalkers Code, Risk Management guidelines, and other policies.
- Organise insurance for member bushwalking clubs through our affiliation with Bushwalking Australia Inc., obtaining cost effective rates due to a large membership.

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- Represent NSW and ACT clubs to Bushwalking Australia, the peak national body for non-commercial bushwalking, and collaborate with other like-minded organisations throughout Australia.
- Contribute to the work of Bushwalking Australia Incorporated to raise the voice of bushwalkers nationally
- Liaise with [Bush Search and Rescue NSW \(BSAR\)](#) in their emergency services work
- Seek grant funding to run projects to support bushwalking in NSW & the ACT.
- Assist clubs with incorporation and Fair Trading requirements including keeping clubs up to date of legislative changes.

Representation

As the peak body in NSW & the ACT, Bushwalking NSW is in a unique position to represent the interests of bushwalkers to government, land managers and others whose interests/activities impact on bushwalking activities. We liaise with government ministers and departments, as well as make submissions, to represent the interests and concerns of our members.

Our recent advocacy work includes representing recreational bushwalker's interests with regard to:

- NPWS plans and proposals,
- the NSW Independent Bushfire Inquiry,
- the Tracks and Trails network liaison with various land managers,
- trackwork volunteering,
- Warragamba Dam,
- feral horses in Kosciuszko National Park,
- Snowy2.0,
- extension of the national park estate.

Insurance

Bushwalking Australia organises a National Insurance Scheme providing Public Liability, Personal Accident and Associations Liability Insurance cover to clubs affiliated with Bushwalking NSW. See the Bushwalking Australia website for comprehensive information: <http://www.bushwalkingaustralia.org/insurance>

In brief, the activities covered by the Public Liability and Personal Accident insurance policies in 2015-2020 are:

Bushwalking	Liloing
Alpine Walking (both Summer and Winter)	Abseiling
Snow Skiing	Canyoning (both including & excluding abseiling)
Track /Hut – Construction and /or Maintenance	Training and other related instruction
Orienteering / Rogaining	Canoeing /Kayaking
Cycling	Rafting /Boating
Social activities and club meetings	Caving

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Other insurance covers, such as property insurance, and overseas personal accident insurance, can be arranged to meet the specific requirements of a club.

Club Promotion

Bushwalking NSW maintains a list of clubs on our website which increases the visibility of your club and helps new members and visitors find your club by name and location: <https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/clubs-location/> It is our most popular web page!

Bushwalking NSW also hosts small club websites – ask us if you need this service.

Bushwalking Australia Inc Affiliation

Bushwalking Australia Inc is the national body representing the interests of bushwalkers and other recreational walkers. Bushwalking Australia represents, promotes, and, advocates on behalf of bushwalkers at a national level, supports state peak bodies (including Bushwalking NSW), and sources and manages insurance for all affiliated clubs across Australia. See more at: <https://www.bushwalkingaustralia.org/overview/overview>.

Affiliation with Bushwalking Australia Inc gives Bushwalking NSW access to the experience and expertise of other state peak bodies and first-hand awareness of bushwalking issues that other states are experiencing. This can provide Bushwalking NSW with advanced awareness of issues and opportunities.

Currently over 10% of Bushwalking NSW club affiliation fees go towards the Bushwalking Australia levy. Importantly, these fees cover the cost of the Associations Liability Insurance on behalf of BNSW and our affiliated clubs. This insurance covers the office-bearers of our clubs that pay for the BAI Public Liability Insurance. See more details of the cover here: <https://www.bushwalkingaustralia.org/insurance/association-liability-insurance>

Monthly Newsletter

Our monthly newsletter keeps members abreast of activities in the Bushwalking world and activities in Bushwalking NSW. It is emailed to the club secretary for distribution each month. Sign up to receive the latest news and events at: <http://eepurl.com/cLw1D9>

Bushwalking NSW Meetings

Bushwalking NSW holds quarterly meetings to provide clubs the opportunity to meet people from other bushwalking clubs, hear about Bushwalking NSW's activities, and to give clubs a forum to represent their interests to Bushwalking NSW.

Quarterly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the months of February, May, August and November. The August meeting is the Annual General Meeting. Your club is encouraged to send delegates to Bushwalking NSW General Meetings to enjoy our keynote speaker, hear the latest news, express your opinion and discuss bushwalking issues with Bushwalking NSW and delegates from affiliated clubs.

Regional clubs can find meeting resources including keynote presentation slides, agendas and minutes on our website at: <https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/meetings/> If you can't attend meetings your club representatives are welcome to email an opinion or concern to us for airing at the meeting – email your thoughts and ideas to admin@bushwalkingnsw.org.au

Bushwalking NSW

First Aid Training

We help make very low-cost St John First Aid certificate courses, run by dedicated Scouts volunteers, available to our members. See how to book your training here:

<https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/first-aid-training/>

Policies and Guidelines

Bushwalking NSW assists member bushwalking clubs by providing advice and resources such as the Bushwalkers Code, Risk Management guidelines, and other policies which are hosted on our website: <https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/>

Clubs are also consulted in the development of policies, which broadcasts their voice to a broader audience.

"The Bushwalker" Magazine

Bushwalking NSW has published "The Bushwalker" magazine since 1937. See the full archive at: <https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/bushwalker-archives/>

Incorporation assistance

Bushwalking NSW can help explain Fair Trading requirements for associations and reasons for incorporating.