



TASK FORCE 72

Scale Model Ship Association Inc.

BRIEF FOR Parks Victoria

ON

PROPOSED SAILING ACTIVITIES TO BE
CONDUCTED AT ALBERT PARK LAKE

Prepared by Martin Borg
(TF72 Committee Representative for Fleet Base Victoria)

Date?????



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WHY HAS THE BRIEF BEEN PREPARED?

1. We wish to seek resolution and positive outcome which will enable Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc. to undertake sailing activities on a regular basis (1st Sunday of each month) at Albert Park Lake, in accordance with the requirements of Parks Victoria and with your full support and endorsement.

2. This brief has been prepared to address the following:
 - a. Provide background information on Task Force 72;
 - b. Provide some information on the activities of the association and our proposed activities at the waterway;
 - c. Address any potential concerns you may have with regard to our activities at the waterway and provide some mitigation and risk management strategies with respect to these concerns; and
 - d. To provide a well considered and thorough strategy that will enable Task Force 72 to hold successful sailing events at the waterway on a regular basis.





INTRODUCTION TO TASK FORCE 72

3. Task Force 72 is a national association of enthusiasts who specialise in the building and sailing of 1:72 scale radio controlled model ships. The majority of our members build contemporary warships, however we have vessels of every description including submarines and commercial vessels. The association was formed in 1994 and presently has a membership of approximately 100.
4. Our model ships are the centrepieces and focus of Task Force 72's activities. They range in size from small vessels of less than 20cm in length to the United States Navy's aircraft carrier USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) at over 4.6m in length, and represent a broad range of nationalities and periods/events in contemporary military history.
5. The models are owned, built and maintained by our members. All of them are built with loving care and meticulous attention to detail. The quality of many of the models in Task Force 72 would meet or exceed the standards of the world's finest museums.
6. Our models are not built for speed but rather for the craftsmanship of building a scale model that is accurately built to scale and detail to the real vessel. The models travel at a slow to fast walking pace.
7. The key aims of Task Force 72 are to:
 - a. Encourage the building and sailing of radio controlled 1:72 scale model vessels;
 - b. Provide a friendly and welcome club environment where camaraderie, respect and fellowship are fostered and promoted;
 - c. Provide regular opportunities for members to meet, display and sail their model warships; and
 - d. Through our website, provide a network for our members as a means for them to exchange ideas and information.
8. While Task Force 72 originated in Sydney New South Wales, we now have very active membership in Fleet Bases in Canberra, Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane, the Hunter Valley and Wagga Wagga. The Fleet Base of Victoria is the newest addition to Task Force 72 after recently being established with a growing membership base.





BENEFITS TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

9. In addition to being of benefit and enjoyment to our members, the sailing events provide a positive boost to local tourism.
10. Task Force 72 is acknowledged as one of the finest model ship clubs in the world, indeed it is the only club in the world where an enthusiast can see such a wide variety of international warships represented in a single scale. This makes us a unique and very special association.
11. On that basis, we attract local residents, tourists, and enthusiasts alike who come to meet our members and see our fine ships. This in turn provides tangible benefits to local businesses.
12. Should a major Task Force 72 sailing event be conducted at the site, there will be a number of benefits to the local community, including:
 - a. Media attention and publicity. At the Wagga Wagga Escorts and Carriers Weekend on the Queen's Birthday weekend 2011, channel 7 media cameras attended and aired the event. All major sailing events are both registered and advertised on the Task Force 72 website for both members and the general public to view, and a report containing lots of photo's is lodged onto the Task Force 72 website after the event for both members and the general public to view;
 - b. Increase in local patronage through interstate member attendance. At the Wagga Wagga Escorts and Carriers Weekend on the Queen's Birthday weekend 2011, Task Force 72 members from N.S.W, A.C.T, S.A and VIC were in attendance. The Annual Regatta attracts members from all over Australia with over 70 models exhibited at the 2010 Regatta. All of these members requiring local accommodation, meals, transport or re-fuelling for return journey's to name some of the tangible benefits to the local businesses;
13. At a number of our events (particularly the major events and Annual Regatta), they attract high ranking Officers of the Royal Australian Navy, in addition to other visiting dignitaries and this has attracted media attention, which again is of benefit to the local community and promotion of tourism.



VENUE



14. There are 3 suitable locations within the Albert Park Lake precinct to sail our models due to the calmness of the water in those locations and the surrounding facilities. These are indicated in the above diagram.
15. Our preferred areas of the lake to use for sailing are in alphabetical order: A = first site preference, B = second site preference, C = third site preference.
16. Albert Park Lake is the perfect location for a permanent regular sailing location for Task Force 72 Fleet Base Victoria.
 - a. It is centrally located to our members (we currently have members in Victoria spread over a 350km distance with the bulk of the current members located in Melbourne);
 - b. Interest has been expressed by a number of people in joining Task Force 72 with the decision point being the creation of a regular permanent sailing location in Melbourne;
 - c. Allows interstate visitors to join us via Melbourne Airport, public transport, or from primary intercity/interstate motorways, with lots of accommodation options available within a short distance of the lake;
 - d. The sites we have indicated in the diagram, are where the shore is very accessible, firm and clear of obstruction enabling model ships of any size and weight to be launched and recovered with ease;



- e. The lake is deep enough and free of submerged hazards for models of any size to be operated without risk of damage and grounding;
- f. The lake is large enough for several models of any size to be sailed safely together and with minimal risk of collision and damage;
- g. The lake foreshore area near the sites indicated has barbeque facilities, children's play area, shelter by large trees and sufficient space for our activities without impacting too much on space used by other members of park and lake area;
- h. The location enables partners and spouses to keep themselves occupied at local attractions and shopping precincts when not at the lake;
- i. The sites indicated are ideal for those members sailing and those of the general public wishing to view the models with children. There are play areas and children are able to enjoy the venue in a safe manner.

PROPOSED SAILING

- 17. . Currently the Albert Park Model Yacht Club sail at Albert Park Lake on the 2nd and 4th Sundays from 12:00 noon near the Boathouse.
- 18. .As both clubs operate radio control models, it is not possible for the 2 clubs to operate at the same venue at the same time due to technical issues with the potential for radio frequency clashes.
- 19. Our proposal is to sail on the first Sunday of each month from 10:00 am with setup commencing from 09:00 am and likely to conclude between 2pm and 3pm. These sailing events are known within the club as "Running days".
- 20. The waterway required for our needs is approximately the area of an Olympic size swimming pool.
- 21. Should a major sailing event be conducted, it would likely take the form of a weekend event with sailing being conducted between 10:00 am and 5pm daily. This would be subject to discussion and approval with Parks Victoria a number of months prior to the event.

MARQUEES AND STATIC DISPLAY AREA

- 22. We would like the option to erect marquees and a static display area. Whilst not essential for our regular running days where a smaller number of members would be in attendance, it is absolutely essential that we are granted permission to set up our marquees and a safe, secured area for members for larger events. The reasons for this are:



Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc.

- a. While there is likely to be adequate shade provided by trees for the smaller number of members who attend regular running days, there is insufficient natural shade for the numbers of members expected at a major sailing event.
- b. Some months of the year where the requirement for shelter from the persistent heat and temperatures is mandatory and cannot be overstated, especially through the hotter parts of the day and the natural shade available may be insufficient. We consider this to be a requirement under the principles of Occupational Health and Safety, and Task Force 72 is obliged to satisfy this requirement;
- c. Not all the models presented at a running day or major sailing event are able to be displayed afloat. Many of our members will bring along projects which are under construction or are otherwise not fit to be exposed to immersion in water. Or some members may choose not to sail their models at all, and prefer to display them ashore. We would like the option to be able to erect trestle tables to display these models.
- d. We would like the option to have a roped off, secured area for major sailing events where our models can be displayed safely and beyond the reach of large numbers of members of the public these events usually attract.
- e. At major sailing events, marquees and the static display area also provide members a place to leave their valuables secure, a place to keep equipment where it is not going to impede on member's and public enjoyment of the event.

23. Should we be provided with the option/permission to erect marquees and a static display area, we will implement the following:

- a. Ensure the marquees and static display area are established in an area which provides optimum access and viewing of the model sailing area and lake, but does not impede significantly on the ability of other members of the public to use the site or enjoy the Task Force 72 display;
- b. Ensure that space occupied by the marquees and static display area is kept to a minimum, and occupied space is used as efficiently as possible. We will not restrict access to the foreshore, obstruct pathways or otherwise inhibit the means of the general public to transit the site;
- c. Use a noticeable barrier at major sailing events for the roped off area which will be readily visible to members of the public, and define the boundary of the static display area clearly;
- d. Ensure that the supporting ropes for the marquees are fully contained within the perimeter of the static display area, thereby minimising the risk of trip hazards. Members who use the contained area and marquees will be warned of trip hazards and advised to exercise caution when moving through the area.



24. The marquees are foldable type, typically of a 3mtr x 3mtr size. The erection of 1 (or 2 for major sailing events) marquees is sufficient for our needs.



Pictured are models at the Annual Regatta at Wentworth Falls.



ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

25. Compliance with the principles of being environmentally friendly is our paramount concern in all our activities. We always endeavour to ensure that we are totally environmentally friendly, and are always conscious of the potential impact that our actions may have on the sailing site.
26. Our compliance to the principles of being environmentally friendly has been demonstrated at all our sailing events around Australia (examples being Annual Regatta held at Wentworth Falls since 1994 with the 2011 Regatta to be held in Canberra at Bimbi Beach Lake Gininderra, Carriers and Escorts event at Oasis Pool Wagga Wagga, regular sailing events at Bonnython Park South Australia just to name a few) and includes:
- a. Ensuring that ALL accumulated rubbish is removed and disposed of in a conscientious manner from the site, with a particular emphasis on non-biodegradable items such as plastics and Styrofoam, and small items which could present a hazard to birds and wildlife;
 - b. As all of our models are electric powered there is no discharge of solids (i.e. gasoline, petroleum, chemicals, or similar), that could present a hazard to the ecosystems and environment;
 - c. Minimising noise and disturbance to local residents. Task Force 72 does not permit the use of steam or petrol powered models, or projectiles being discharged from the models. All of our models run on electric motors, which run silently and ensure that noise on the waterway and subsequent disturbance to wildlife is kept to a minimum. We respect the habitat of local fauna and do not impact on animals that inhabit the area.
 - d. We endeavour not to impede on the serenity of local residences by not playing loud music, not participating in disorderly or socially unacceptable behaviour.
 - e. We minimise the driving of any vehicles on any grassed or gravel areas other than those designated as allowable. It is essential for some members to unload their vehicles close to the sailing area. Our model ships are large, heavy and can be cumbersome and difficult to handle at the best of times, especially for some of our senior members. However, in order to preserve the area, minimise the risk of erosion and degradation of grass, we will only do so where it is absolutely essential and once the models are unloaded from the vehicles, the vehicles will be relocated to the designated parking areas.





PUBLIC RISK INSURANCE

27. Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc. has public risk insurance to cover its activities within Australia.



Insurance

Elders Insurance Mawson
ATTN: GREG HUXLEY
1A Mawson Drive
Mawson ACT 2607
Tel: 02 6250 0284
Fax: 02 6250 2989
Postal Address:
PO Box 792
Mawson ACT 2607

CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY

Name of Insured:	Task Force 72 Model Ship Association Inc.
Interested Parties:	Nil
Policy Number:	20.BPK.0538427
Type of Policy:	BUSINESS INSURANCE
Cover effective from:	14/11/2010
Cover expires 4:00pm:	14/11/2011
Description of risk insured:	Business Liability: Public Liability – limit any one occurrence
Risk address:	3 Athlone Crescent Forestville 2087 & Anywhere in Australia
Sum Insured:	\$10,000,000
Excess:	\$250
Business activity:	Model ship club – meetings & exhibitions
Date of Issue:	11/11/10

The above information is extracted from our issued insurance policy and is certified as correct.

Please refer to the Policy and Schedule documents for complete details of the insurance evidenced by this Certificate of Currency



CONCLUSION

28. It is our belief we should be able to use the waterway and all associated equipment and facilities for our activities in accordance with the mitigation and strategies outlined.

29. By conducting events and utilising our equipment in the manner outlined in this brief, we believe that we will be able to conduct safe and enjoyable events with minimal adverse risk or consequences as we have done around Australia since 1994. In doing so, we will continue to ensure that we remain totally environmentally friendly, conscientious of the impact our activities have on the site and our obligations to Parks Victoria and local residents.



Part of the Task Force 72 display at the 2011 Canberra Model Shipwrights Society Expo



Some of the Task Force 72 display at the 2011 Port Macquarie Model Expo



CERTIFICATION

30. Having read and discussed this brief, Parks Victoria are entirely satisfied that Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc. have met the minimum requirements we expect of them with respect of its activities at Albert Park Lake.

31. We approve the use of the waterway for Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc. to conduct their sailing activities and approve the use of all associated equipment and facilities as described.

SIGNED: Parks Victoria

_____ (Signature) _____ (Name)

_____ (Date)

WITNESS: Parks Victoria

_____ (Signature) _____ (Name)

_____ (Date)

32. Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc. agrees that it will ensure its activities at Albert Park Lake are conducted in full compliance with this brief, and that we use the waterway and facilities in a safe, considerate and conscientious manner.

SIGNED: Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc.

_____ (Signature) _____ (Name)

_____ (Date)

WITNESS: Task Force 72 Scale Model Ship Association Inc.

_____ (Signature) _____ (Name)

_____ (Date)



CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: Task Force 72 HQ
P.O. Box 5651
WAGGA WAGGA N.S.W. 2650

Fleet Base Victoria email address: fbv@taskforce72.org

Website: www.taskforce72.org

2011/2012 Committee:

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REPRESENTATIVE FLEET BASE – VICTORIA	Martin Borg
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