

# Emergency Response Plan

## Yarra Valley Aeromodellers

[www.yarravalleyaeromodellers.com.au](http://www.yarravalleyaeromodellers.com.au)

### Location Details:

- **what3words:** ///mysteries.retrieving.compel (Access Gate)
  
- **Closest Intersection:**
  - Old Healesville Road and Bleases Lane
  - Dixons Creek VIC 3775
  
- **Club House Location:**
  - 250 Metres NORTH along Bleases Lane (down the hill)
  - Access Road to the WEST (left as you go down the hill)
    - Enter via Gate
    - Clubhouse 150m straight Ahead
  
- **GPS Co-Ordinates:**
  - 37 38 07.8 S (-37.635500)
  - 145 25 14.5 E (145.420694)

### Closest Facilities:

- Emergency: Call 000
- Hospital: Maroondah Hospital, Davey Drive, Ringwood East 3155
- Police: Lilydale: 6-10 Albert Hill Road, Lilydale – 9739 2300, or  
Non-urgent Help Line: 131 444
- Defibrillator: In Clubhouse
- First Aid Kit: In Clubhouse

### Assembly Area:

- If safe, to the East (driveway side) of the clubhouse; else
- At the entry to the property on Bleases Lane

If 000 is called an available member should proceed to the Access Road entrance to meet and guide Emergency Services to the incident

We strongly suggest you have the **Emergency Plus** App on your smartphone in case you are faced with an emergency.

## Introduction to Emergencies

To provide clear guidelines for responding to emergencies, ensuring the safety of members, visitors, and property.

### *Emergency Procedures*

While we are all encouraged to operate our airplanes and equipment safely, emergencies may still happen. You must become familiar with the actions required should this happen whilst you are in attendance at the field.

### *Site Controller*

The Club is located in a rural area, somewhat distant from the closest services, and with sporadic usage by a wide range of members. Should any emergency eventuate, a capable member must assume the role of Site Controller and oversee any actions.

Any member present is required to take heed of the requests of the Site Controller and assist as requested. If not required please move to the assembly area and await directions.

### *Personal Injury and Property Damage*

Being a member of the VMAA/MAAA you have insurance cover. Should you get injured, or property get damaged whilst you are on the premises it is important that an incident and results are reported as set out in our Incident Reporting protocol in the Club Operating Rules. The detail of the incident must be reported to the Secretary with as much detail as possible, to both support a possible claim or as point of learning.

## Medical Emergencies

These may be anything from physical injuries (bruises, cuts, breakages etc.), bites or health issues. As first priority identify and engage anyone at the field with first-aid training and ask them to assist.

### *Minor*

This would cover such things a lacerated finger, trip or fall, a concussion.

- Ensure the area is safe for everyone
- Check the patient for responsiveness
- Calm the patient and make comfortable, particularly if signs of shock are evident
- Monitor breathing and response

- Assess the extent of the injury and treat to the best of your abilities
- If hospital or medical expertise is considered necessary, arrange transporting the patient to the nearest medical centre.

### *Major*

This would cover more extreme events such as severe laceration, snake bite or an unconscious patient. In this case follow the actions for a minor event plus:

- Have someone send for help and for help - call triple zero (000); and then get first-aid kit and defibrillator from club house
- Ensure airways are open and clear
- Check for breathing:
  - If breathing then place in recovery position, monitor breathing and treat any injuries
  - If not breathing start CPR and apply defibrillator. Continue CPR until breathing starts, help arrives, or you are unable to continue. Manage major blood loss to the best of your abilities.

### *Fires*

Model incidents have a high risk of starting fires either:

- In the pits or start-up area for jet turbines and LiPo charging / damage fires
- In, and possibly outside, the broader flying envelope in case of a crash.

These are likely to be model related with specific needs for turbine or battery fires. Given the rural surroundings bush and grass fires are also a possibility.

### *Jets*

There is a requirement for all Jet or Turbine model pilots to have CO2 extinguisher within the immediate area the turbine is being started. It would be expected that the pilot would initiate its use, however should this not be possible then you as an observer, should assist

### *Batteries*

The LIPO Batteries we use can catch fire when charging or in use. While most users understand the charging process and safe battery handling

there is always a associated risk. When a battery explodes and is on fire, the combustion is extremely fierce and almost impossible to extinguish.

If a LiPo fire occurs, **AND IT IS SAFE TO DO SO:**

- Isolate any power or chargers from the batteries.
- Remove all other batteries from the area.
- Remove any models and equipment to a safe area away
- Move adjacent vehicles to a safe area
- Extinguish any fire using the Dry Powder units located in the clubhouse
- Once extinguished and safe to do so, remove any battery and model debris from site and clean up the area

### *Other Models*

- Use the extinguishers located within the club house
- Remove other models from the immediate proximity of the fire
- Keep spectators away from the immediate area
- With extinguishers ensure the fire is contained within the immediate area
- Should the fire be adjacent to any parked vehicles move them to a safe area

### *Other Fires*

Given our rural setting there is risk of grass and or bushfires caused by model crashes or natural events. If faced with a fire all members are to assist as needed in using the available equipment and resources to contain the fire where judged safe to do so.

As soon as there is a clear risk the fire cannot be contained call 000 and keep people and property out of the way of the fire as far as reasonable.

### *Housekeeping*

Our flying field and surrounding areas are part of an active farm that we have been privileged to use for the past 20 + years. As such it has active livestock and machinery. This makes housekeeping critically important, especially with crashed models.

If you have a model crash anywhere within or surrounding our approved flying area it is you responsibility to:

- Ensure all debris are located and removed safely from the property, and any damage to property, equipment or livestock is immediately reported to a Committee member;
- Any items not locatable are documented with as much detail as possible of the item and likely location and immediately to a Committee member

This reporting requirement is separate to the Incident reporting required under the Club Rules and critical to early, clear communication to the property owner.

May 2025