



Get your teams together for Dragon Skin 2008 Revolution! Four Days of Fun

Dragon Skin is the premier event in the NSW Venturer calendar. It runs every year over the Easter Long Weekend and is four days of fun. Up to one thousand Venturers and Ranger Guides from all over NSW, the ACT, and Queensland get into teams and converge on a NSW State Forest to compete for the coveted Dragon Skin!

This year Dragon Skin will be held at Belanglo State Forest, South of Sydney (near Mittagong), over the Easter weekend, 21st – 24th March 2008 and promises to be as fun and exciting as ever.

Where: Belanglo State Forest, South of Sydney

Theme: Revolution!

When: 21st – 24th March 2008

To find out more: www.dragonskin.org.au

About YOUR Dragon Skin

As a team of Venturers or Ranger Guides, you will navigate through the forest taking part in, and completing fun filled activities to win points for your team. Each night your team will need to camp at a different Venturer Overnight Camp (VOC) run by Leaders and Rovers. The team with the most points at the end of the three competition days (Good Friday to Easter Sunday) wins the event. The winners are presented with the prized Dragon Skin on the fourth day (Easter Monday).

A **Venturer Overnight Camp** or **VOC** is where all teams must camp overnight. There are four VOCs at Skin, which are generally placed on the outer edges of the forest with the activities in the middle. At the VOCs we provide a camping area, fires / cooking areas, water, toilets and entertainment (disco's, movies etc.) as well as plenty of time to socialise with Venturers and Guides like yourselves.

The **Activities** are spread out through the forest, generally numbering around fifty different activities. The activities will challenge your team to show planning, teamwork, and ingenuity as well as being a bit of fun.

Who can attend Dragon Skin? Your Team

Teams can consist of four, five, or six members. We will accept Venturer or Ranger Guide teams with seven members, but only where no other alternative exists. If your Unit doesn't have a full team feel free to join in with other Units. We will also be accepting a limited number of School teams undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Venturing Skills Award - All of your team members must hold the Venturing Skills Award or equivalent, The skills that you learn in obtaining this award are needed throughout the event. The award indicates to us that you have some experience in hiking. You will need to navigate using a map and compass, and be able to deal with any problems that may arise independently. You can find details of the Venturing Skills Award on our Website.

First aid certificate - At least one member of your team must hold a current Work Cover accredited senior first aid certificate.

Can't find a full team? Don't worry! Venturers or Ranger Guide teams with less than four members and even individual applications are still very welcome. We will place you with other under strength teams to make up a full team.

Venturers with a disability are welcome at Dragon Skin. Contact us if you need special assistance.

The Theme

The theme this year is **Revolution!** *"You say you want a revolution? Well, you know we all want to change the world"*

Each VOC will revolt in its own way, unleash that yolk of repression and turn the world on its head. Whether your Revolution is French, American, Digital, Social, Sexual, Cultural join with us comrades for the Revolution in Belanglo, as we fight to have the Dragonskin returned to its true owners, the winners of Dragonskin!

You can join in too, call your team something revolutionary, and teams who dress 'in theme' will get extra points at every activity they attend - it is worth the extra effort, and you'll make lots of friends as you work your way around the forest. Your team dress can be whatever you like that fits our theme - as fighters against oppression in the jungles, or communists or bra burning hippies (no fires in the pine thankyou), whatever you like!

Pre-Skin Activity

The Pre Skin Activity is a way for your team to get together and work together before Dragon Skin.

100 years ago Scouting was a revolution itself. There have been many changes over the years but none so contentious as changes in the uniform! Sadly BP's beloved lemon squeezer hat has gone by but 100 years on it's time for something new. We want your design for new Scouting HAT, we don't want lemon squeezer version 2 either we want a REVOLUTIONARY change. Surprise us with your wit and design skills. The entry can be in the physical form of a hat or a drawn design.

It must not contain any material that could putrefy or rot, or cause offence. You will get 50 bonus points for submitting a pre-skin activity and there is a prize(s) for the best submission.

How to Enter

Online applications open on the 1st of January 2007 and the closing date for all application forms and fees is 14th March 2007.

Have ready the contact details of the team leader, as well as the names of all your team members and their Scout Membership Numbers, log onto our website, www.dragonskin.org.au then go to "On-line Registration", and follow the easy instructions! You fill out an online application form, which you will then need to print and send in with your medical forms (one for each team member), and the appropriate fee.

A team confirmation will be emailed back to the Team Leader and will include how to get all the information needed to plan for the event, as well as instructions as to where the marshalling point is and how to get there.

Don't have a full team? Don't worry, we will do our best to match you up with other Venturers to make a full team just fill in the online team application form and send it in with what you have.

Your team instructions will then be available for you to download, and will include all the information needed to plan for the event, as well as instructions as to where the marshalling point is and how to get there.

Fee

A common fee of **\$75.00 per team member applies**. A cheque or money order should be made payable to Scouts Australia NSW Branch and must be forwarded with the Team Application and Medical Forms. Do not send cash.

Bonus Administration Points

Bonus points (25 points) will be awarded to teams who apply online by the 22nd of February 2008. A further 25 points will be available to teams who lodge their complete paperwork (with all the information correct and legible) and make full payment by the 14th of March.

Travel Arrangements

You will need to make your own way to the initial marshalling point in Campbelltown. From there, all participants will be transported to the forest by Dragon Skin buses. The locations of the initial marshalling point and check-in times will be included in the Team Instructions forwarded to the Team Leader on receipt of the team's entry forms.

For teams coming from the state's south a southern check in point will be advised closer to the event.

Getting more information

The best way to find out about Dragon Skin is visit to our website. Everything you need to know about Dragon Skin is there. You can enter your team, read about the requirements for Dragon Skin, and look at messages and photos from past Dragon Skins and get in contact with teams coming from your area.

For any general type questions you can contact us by emailing Activities@dragonskin.org.au or by calling us on (02) 9604 8399, for specific questions regarding registration please contact our registrar at Registrar@dragonskin.org.au

In Summary - 2008

- Dragon Skin will be held at Belanglo State Forest.
- Teams can consist of four, five or six members, although we will accept teams of seven if no alternative exists.
- Teams of less than four members or even individuals can still apply and will be placed with other under strength teams.
- A standard entry fee of \$75.00 per person will apply.
- You must apply online.
- Online Applications open on 1st of January 2008 and close on the 14th of March 2008.
- You will need to make your own way to the Marshalling point.

Questions?

Please ring the Dragon Skin Hotline on (02) 9604 8399 or
E-mail Registrar@dragonskin.org.au

The Dragon Skin Website is
www.dragonskin.org.au

Final Applications are due 14th March 2008

Conditions of entry – Dragon Skin 2008 Revolution!

Teams

- Entries are accepted from teams of four, five or six members. Seven member teams will only be accepted where no other alternative exists.
- All team members must be registered and invested members of Scouts Australia, Guides Australia or students of invited schools undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Participants must be of Venturer age and must not have reached their 18th birthday by the first day of Dragon Skin.
- All team members must hold the Venturing Skills Award or equivalent.
- At least one team member must hold a current Work Cover accredited senior first aid certificate.
- When it is not possible to field a full team, individual applications will be accepted. The Dragon Skin Committee will then arrange a composite team of individual Venturers and Guides.

Applications

- On-line applications open on 1st January 2008 and the closing date for all application forms and fees is 14th March 2008. The application fee of \$75 per team member and a medical form for each team member must be forwarded with the team application. Late or incomplete entries may not be accepted.
- A person holding a Certificate of Adult Leadership with Scouts or Guides Australia, or in the case of invited school groups a senior teacher, must sign the teams application to certify that the team meets, is aware of and accepts these conditions of entry in full.

Refunds

- In the event of persons withdrawing after the closing date refunds will not be made, except in special circumstances and then only at the discretion of the Administration Director.
- Arrangements should be made by a team to substitute another Venturer or Guide if a member cannot take part due to unforeseen circumstances. Notification of the substitute member must be made to the Registrar prior to the start of Dragon Skin. A Medical Form must be submitted.
- If a replacement member cannot be found, the Dragon Skin Committee may assist arranging a substitute.

Equipment and preparation

- The Dragon Skin Committee does not accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to, personal equipment.
- Participants are required to have an appropriate level of fitness and training. Basic skills in bushcraft, first aid, map and compass work are essential to the level of the Venturer Skills award.
- Teams and team members must be fully prepared for prolonged wet and cold conditions. Teams must have separate tents with floors for male and female team members (Hooches are no longer an acceptable form of shelter at Dragon Skin) and have at least one compass.
- Participants may only carry knives consistent with use for eating or camping, these knives must only be carried in your backpack. Long knives and sheath knives are strictly prohibited.
- All team members will be required to carry their full packs between all activities and spend each night in a different VOC (Venturer Overnight Campsite).
- Teams may be inspected during the event and those considered inadequately equipped or carrying prohibited items may be refused further participation.

General conditions

- Correct Uniform must be worn to and from Dragon Skin except for footwear, which should be walking boots. Bare feet and thongs are not permitted at any time. Before leaving the marshalling area, uniforms will be collected for return at the presentation ceremony. Awards will only be made to teams who parade in uniform.
- State policy states that no alcohol is permitted at Venturer Scout activities.
- Detection of alcohol or any drugs not prescribed by a doctor will result in immediate removal of the team involved from Dragon Skin. The participant's parents and unit or school will be informed and the incident may be referred to Police or other relevant authorities for action.
- In line with Scouting and Guiding policies, smoking by Venturers and Guides is strongly discouraged. Smoking on buses or trains is prohibited.
- Participants are expected to obey any reasonable instructions from Leaders and Rovers.
- Participants must avoid trespassing on or interfering with private property.
- Approval will not be given for Participants to use private transport to enter the Dragon Skin site. Assembly will be at the marshalling area, notified in the Joining Instructions forwarded to the Team Leader on receipt of the team's entry forms.
- Participants must ensure that their parents receive a copy of the 'letter to parents' available from the Dragon Skin website after the teams' application is accepted.
- Photographs and Video images may be taken of participants during the course of Dragon Skin and these may be used to promote Dragon Skin and Scouting.
- The organisers reserve the right to alter the conditions of entry to assist participation by Venturers and Guides with a disability.
- Teams may be removed from Dragon Skin if members fail to comply with the above conditions, the rules of Dragon Skin and the Scout and Guide Laws. A breach of these by any team member will be considered as a breach by the whole team.

For more information go to www.dragonskin.org.au E-mail Activities@Dragonskin.org.au or call (02) 9604 8399