



“THE POWER OF THE OUTDOORS MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO PEOPLE”

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DEFINITION

The Association is a voluntary independent non-political non-governmental body, which provides a service to the Adventure Based Learning Industry without profit

Your support allows us to work on your behalf and in the best interests of the ABL Industry

ARA is your professional body for the Adventure Based Learning Industry of likeminded people actively involved with a passion for the ABL industry

OBJECTS

To advance the education of the public in and through professional Adventure Based Learning programmes for personal and social development opportunities.

MISSION

-To promote adventure based learning experience activities that will enhance a healthy life-style and active concern for the environment, through participation in outdoor recreation/education programmes

-To enhance the standard of outdoor adventure recreation leadership and adventure based learning experiences by means of professional training programmes. Aligned with ABL unit standards

-To negotiate a beneficial relationship with insurance brokers to underwrite and insure the Adventure Based Learning Industry specific needs

-To accredit adventure based learning experience experts on merit to license them as ARA training providers with an accredited licence number

-To keep a record of trainers that complete ARA training programmes and qualify for an ARA training certificate

-To establish an ARA Training Institute to monitor, evaluate and oversee national training standards for the Adventure Based Learning industry that is benchmarked against international ABL standards

- To appraise good practice of instructors, outdoor centres and any other role player in the outdoor recreation industry by means of an Award scheme with categories to accommodate those role-players who shows all the qualities that make up a great Adventure Based Learning or outdoor recreation, instructor, facilitator or guide and has that “Q” factor who seeks to achieve relevant outdoor recreation industry Qualifications and continuous challenge themselves for personal development or an outdoor centre that promote professional ABL programmes and client care

-To evaluate outdoor recreation centres by means of an accreditation programme in all regions with a specific status in presenting adventure based learning activities and programmes to learners,

Where required, ARA members will be referred to other professional bodies in the outdoor industry to assist them with information needed on specialised training programmes and opportunities to enhance their career path in the outdoor recreation industry .

IN GENERAL

We aim to reflect the passion, determination, and spirit of our members. ARA has promoted the training of ABL instructors through qualifications for professionals since 1987.

We are the qualification body for most of the ABL activities and disciplines offered by residential centers with four levels of qualification, which are regarded by employers throughout SA as the benchmark of professionalism.

ARA members was involved in the writing of Unit standards registered on the SAQA website and these members used the opportunity to write state of the art ABL Unit Standards compliant with safety standards benchmarked against international ABL practices

ARA do instructor training in line with the content of relevant ABL Unit Standards ensuring the enhancement of the profession with our commitment to training, standards, supported by ARA code of conduct

Assessment, through formal peer review of our instruction and practices, has improved our way of working.

ARA is run by people of the industry, for the industry comprising of people with extensive outdoor and ABL backgrounds and experience.

They are members of ARA and qualification holders themselves and are subject to the same standards and processes that all ARA members are required to adhere to.

What Does ARA do?

We're responsible for promoting the highest standards of ABL instruction and facilitation, and striving to ensure that ABL activity participants enjoy quality experiences in improving their personal and social development opportunities

- Fostering strategic partnerships with other governing bodies to build good relationships , to reach common goals for the broader outdoor recreation industry
- Promote professionalism for the ABL industry as a whole and conservation practices of the natural heritage
- Providing a nationally recognised assessment scheme for ABL instructors
- Establish benchmarks for instructional quality and safety management
- Promoting and supporting the interests of our members, including providing a voice at decision making levels in the outdoor sector and government
- Maintain a register of qualified ABL instructors that the public and industry can access
- Communicating regularly with our members through newsletters, our website and national trends and workshops
- Contribute to industry projects and offer expert advice
- Acting as an advisory and disciplinary body ensuring the highest level of professional conduct within our membership