



Participant information



Thank you for your interest in the National Vertical School 2019. The purpose of this document is to make sure that you understand what you're signing up for. We understand that it is quite long, but it is important that you read the whole document carefully. If any information is unclear, please do not hesitate to contact the course leader. Please note that, as this is relatively early information, it is subject to change.

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PROGRAM

Dates and location

The School will be held at Cooina Burrong Scout Camp, Victoria (near Horsham) and selected other locations from Friday, April 19th to Monday April 22nd 2019. If you are travelling, you may arrive at Cooina Burrong on Thursday evening; dinner will be available from 1830. The School will begin at 0800 on Friday, April 19th. Attendance at safety briefings is compulsory and not negotiable so do not be late. If this requires you to take time off work on Thursday in order to arrive on time, please plan ahead now.

Activity streams and qualifications

There will be several different streams to choose from:

- Abseiling
- Caving
- Top-rope climbing
- Lead climbing (pre-requisites apply)
- Vertical rescue (pre-requisites apply)
- Complex vertical rescue (pre-requisites apply)

Note that not all streams may run, and some streams may be over-subscribed.

Program details

The program is weather-dependent and subject to change.

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Thursday April 18 th			Meet at CBSC
Friday April 19 th	Theory activities	Half-day trip to Grampians	Optional skills activities around campsite
Saturday April 20 th	Skills activities (abseilers, climbers); drive to Budj Bim (cavers)	Half-day trip to Grampians	Optional skills activities around campsite
Sunday April 21 st	Full-day trip at Budj Bim (cavers) or Mount Arapiles (climbers and abseilers)		Return from Budj Bim (cavers)
Monday April 22 nd	Assessments	Travel home	



QUALIFICATIONS

The School does not have enough time to offer complete qualifications. In particular, we are not able to assess all elements of the Guide units. However, we will be covering most of the Level 2 Scout qualifications in abseiling, caving, and top-rope climbing; these then only require completion of the Vertical Rescue unit (SISOVTR301A). You should discuss this with your local Adventurous Activities or Adult Training and Development Commissioners or Leaders.

Logbooks

You will require a logbook for the School. If you do not already have one, now is a great time to start! Please update this and forward a copy to your trip leaders (contact details below) by **Thursday, January 31st**. Your application will not be accepted without a logbook. Please bring a hard copy of your logbook with you.

SIS10 units

Please note that there will be variation in existing skills and experience within each stream; while some people will be assessed as competent, for other people more experience after the School may be required. **Simply attending the School does not guarantee that you will be assessed as competent for any particular units.** We are aiming to cover the following:

Abseiling	SISOABA201A	Demonstrate abseiling skills on artificial surfaces
	SISOABA302A	Apply single pitch abseiling skills on artificial surfaces
	SISOABA303A	Establish ropes for abseiling on artificial surfaces
	SISOABN201A	Demonstrate abseiling skills on natural surfaces
	SISOABN202A	Safeguard an abseiler using a single rope belay system
	SISOABN303A	Apply single pitch abseiling skills on natural surfaces
	SISOABN304A	Establish ropes for single-pitch abseiling natural surfaces
Caving	SISOCVE201A	Demonstrate caving skills
	SISOCVE302A	Apply single pitch abseiling skills in caves
	SISOCVE303A	Rig a ladder pitch
	SISOCVE304A	Apply laddering skills
	SISOCVE306A	Rig ropes and establish belays in caves
	SISONAV302A	Apply navigation skills in an intermediate environment
Climbing- top rope	SISOCOA201A	Demonstrate top rope climbing skills on artificial surfaces
	SISOCOA302A	Apply top rope climbing skills on artificial surfaces
	SISOCOA303A	Establish belays for climbing on artificial surfaces
	SISOCLN201A	Demonstrate top rope climbing skills on natural surfaces
	SISOCLN302A	Apply climbing skills on natural surfaces
	SISOCLN303A	Establish belays for climbing on natural surfaces
	SISXCAI102A	Assist preparing and conducting sport & recreation sessions
Climbing- lead	SISOCLN302A	Apply climbing skills on natural surfaces
	SISOCLN303A	Establish belays for climbing on natural surfaces
	SISOCLN405A	Apply single pitch lead climbing skills on natural surfaces
Vertical rescue	SISOVTR301A	Perform vertical rescues



Complex vertical Rescue	SISOVTR402A	Perform complex vertical rescues
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Assessments for Instruct units

There may be a small number of places available for experienced participants to have their instructional skills assessed. If you believe this applies to you, please contact admin.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au with a logbook and a brief explanation of why you think you are suitable to be assessed as an instructor. Pre-requisites will apply. We are limited to units related to the School program:

Abseiling	SISOABA406A	Instruct abseiling on single pitch artificial surfaces
	SISOABN408A	Instruct abseiling on single pitch natural surfaces
Caving	SISOCVE417A	Instruct vertical single pitch caving skills
Climbing	SISOCLA412	Instruct top rope climbing on artificial surfaces
	SISOCLN409A	Instruct top rope climbs on natural surfaces

Queens Scout Award badgework

The School is suitable for Queens Scout Outdoors or Pursuits. If you intend to use the School for your QSA, you must notify us on the application form so we can appoint a Badge examiner. You should follow your local processes to obtain approval prior to leaving home, such as having your Badge Activity Statement approved by the appropriate Venturer Council or Commissioner.

Outdoor Adventure Skills

While the School has not been designed to address OAS statements, participants will obviously be able to tick many of them off. If you would like to use the School for OAS purposes please advise us via email prior to the School.

LOGISTICS

Transport

Travel to and from the course is your responsibility. Cooina Burrong Scout Camp can be found on Google Maps as 'CBSC Grampians'. It is three and a half hours from Melbourne and five hours from Adelaide. To get to Cooina Burrong Scout Camp, we recommend you travel via the Wonwondah-Dadswells Bridge Road and Northern Grampians Road (C222). The C216/C222 route via Halls Gap is slightly shorter and more scenic, but can be more challenging to drive at night or when fatigued. The campsite is reached along a dirt track off Northern Grampians Road/Mount Victory Road, which is identified with a small signpost.



We intend to provide your email address to other participants from your State to assist with car-pooling, unless you ask us not to.



If you are flying to Melbourne, please book a flight which allows you to leave the airport by 1230; if there is sufficient interest we may try to organise a minibus. If this would be helpful, please email us at admin.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au.

Accommodation

We will be in a Scout camp dormitory. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of beds, some of us chosen through a fair and transparent process will be asked to camp in tents nearby.

Catering

The School is catered for. Please ensure that any dietary requirements are noted on your application.

Alcohol and other drugs

Due to the nature of the activities the School will be a drug- and alcohol-free event. Anyone found with drugs or alcohol will be sent home immediately without review at the sole discretion of the Course Leader.

ELIGIBILITY

All participants must:

- be aged at least 15 years on April 18th, 2019
- have a reasonable level of fitness;
- have completed the following e-learning modules by March 1st, 2019:
 - Planning for Outdoor Activities (AA OUTDOOR PLAN)
 - Assisting in Conducting Outdoor Activities (AA ASSIST)
 - Abseiling skills (AA ABSEIL) *required for all participants, not just abseilers;*
 - Elementary Navigation (E NAVIGATE) e-Learning modules
 - Navigation Skills (AA NAVIGATE) e-Learning module
- Leaders and Rovers must have completed by March 1st, 2019:
 - Bushwalking- Level 1, or
 - Basic Outdoor Skills, or
 - Basic Scout Bushwalking, or
 - Bushwalking- Level 1 Assessment of Proficiency; and
- Venturers must have completed by March 1st, 2019:
 - Venturing Skills

There are some additional pre-requisites for particular streams:

<i>Stream</i>	<i>Pre-requisites</i>
Abseiling	No pre-reqs
Caving	No pre-reqs
Climbing- top-rope	No pre-reqs
Climbing- lead	Rock-climbing- Level 2 (Top-rope)
Vertical rescue	One of the following quals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SISOABN303A Apply single pitch abseiling skills natural surfaces • SISOCAY302A Apply vertical canyoning skills • SISOCVE411A Apply vertical caving skills • SISOCLN302A Apply climbing skills on natural surfaces • have reasonable equivalent experience
Complex vertical rescue	Hold the unit 'Perform vertical rescues' (SISOVTR301A), and hold multi-pitch competencies in your discipline, or alternatively have reasonable equivalent experience

Special needs

Venturers and Rovers with special needs are welcome on the School. However, they **must** be accompanied by a carer who is also registered as a participant. Please discuss this with the Course Leader.

COSTS AND PAYMENTS

Payment schedule

	<i>Due date</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Deposit	January 31 st , 2019	\$150
Balance	March 1 st , 2019	\$300

Note that on the online application form, the 'Make a payment' button will not appear until **after** you have clicked the 'Submit' button. You need to have submitted your application prior to paying the deposit.

Inclusions

- Accommodation
- Food
- Hire of personal equipment (harness, helmet, carabiners, belay devices, etc)
- Hire of specialist group equipment (cave ladders, rescue eights, pulleys, etc)
- Hire of climbing shoes
- Ropes
- Shirt

Exclusions

- transport to/from Cooinda Burrong Scout Camp

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications close at midnight on Thursday, January 31st.

The School reserves the right to refuse any application, in which case a full refund will be made.

Insufficient or oversubscribed applications

In the event that a particular stream does not attract sufficient applicants, or if a stream is over-subscribed, you will be placed in your second or third preference. Alternatively, you may withdraw from the School with a full refund.

Withdrawing your application

If after making an application, you are unable to attend the School, you must advise the Course Leader in writing as soon as possible to claim a refund.

- Claimed before February 1st, 2019: Amount paid will be fully refunded
- Claimed after February 1st and before March 8th: Amount paid will be refunded less deposit of \$150.
- Claimed after March 8th, 2019: No refund at all except in the case of exceptional circumstances. What constitutes exceptional circumstances will be at the discretion of the Course Leader in consultation with the Scouts Australia AT&D Chief Instructor.

Failure to make payment

Applications which are not up to date with the payment schedule and you have not had alternative payment arrangements approved by the Course Leader or representative your application may be withdrawn and you will need to reapply. Refunds will be considered in accordance with the Application Withdrawal Policy.

Inherent requirements

It is an inherent requirement for adults and youth members attending the National School that they be independently capable and willing to perform their assigned role which may be physically demanding and over an extended period. In the absence of specific safety issues, the course will be conducted outdoors regardless of the weather and sessions may take place in austere and unprepared locations; in water; at night; and/or in the rain/sleet/hail/snow. Consequently, participants should be prepared with

appropriate clothing and wet-weather gear for all conditions. There may be limited or no opportunities to withdraw from the course once it begins. Applicants unable to meet the inherent requirements are invited to discuss their situation with the Course Leader.

Medical obligations

Should your medical condition or regular medication change from the information provided on the medical statement in any way, before arrival at the School, it is your obligation to advise the Course Leader of such change in writing immediately.

Changes in participant information

If your participant information has changed in any way, in particular your medical information, please update this on registrations.international.scouts.com.au but also send an advisory email to admin.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au.

Agreement and authority

I wish to be considered for selection to attend the National Vertical School 2019. I understand the Scout Promise and Law, and I agree to abide by the rules of the School and the Scout Association. I understand that still and video photography of people and events will take place at the School and agree that this material may be used to promote Scouts Australia without my permission or payment.

In consideration of Scouts Australia (which term includes each Branch thereof and the School Organising Committee) accepting this application for the School:

- I acknowledge that the activities conducted at the School will involve physical tasks, which inherently may contain risk of injury.
- I/We understand that those activities are carried out on a challenge by choice basis, and that the applicant may decline to participate in any one or more activities should he/she so desire.
- I agree that in the event of accident or illness, I/ We authorise an officer, servant, agent or Leader of Scouts Australia to obtain on my/our behalf, and at my/our expense, such urgent medical or dental assistance, treatment, nursing, hospital and/or ambulance service as may be considered appropriate by such officer, servant, agent or Leader of Scouts Australia, and (should it be advised by a duly qualified Medical Practitioner that it is necessary) to authorise a general anaesthetic. I agree to pay on demand to Scouts Australia, all such medical, hospital and other fees and expenses incurred or to be incurred by Scouts Australia in such circumstances other than such fees and expenses recoverable under any policy of insurance taken out by Scouts Australia.
- I understand that I am expected to act and behave in accordance with the acknowledged principles and rules of the School and the Scout Association. Should the Course Leader determine that I have not acted or behaved in such manner, I understand and agree that, at the discretion of the Course Leader, the Applicant may be returned to their place of residence by the most direct means at my/our expense, including expense such as return fares and accommodation for accompanying adults, and no claim can or will be made by me/us for any compensation or damages.



- I/We agree to pay the School fee and enclose the necessary deposit.
- The Medical Statement has been completed correctly to the best of my knowledge.

I acknowledge the existence of the authority within this application form, which it has been drawn to our attention that I have read and understand the nature and effect of the authority and I agree to abide by the above statement of agreement and authority.

- I acknowledge that the information contained in this application will be used exclusively by Scouts Australia for the purpose of the School and that the privacy policy of Scouts Australia applies.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For School information and enquiries about the application process, contact the Course Leader, Lachlan Shield, at admin.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au or by telephone on 0409 165 170, or click on www.scoutsvictoria.com.au/VerticalSchool.

Stream leaders' contact details

If you require further information about technical aspects of the School, please contact the relevant stream leader:

<i>Stream</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Email</i>	<i>Phone</i>
Abseiling	Gavin Mulholland	abseiling.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au	0408 566 693
Caving	Ian Barnard	caving.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au	
Climbing- top-rope	Casey Gray	toprope.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au	0418 352 035
Climbing- lead	Euan Anderson	lead.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au	0421 077 398
Vertical rescue	Marcel Muller	rescue.verticalschool@scoutsvictoria.com.au	0425 330 942
