

# Alpine Cycling Club



## CHAINSAW & POLESAW SAFE WORK POLICY

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The following operational rules and safe work practices must be adhered to by anyone using Alpine Cycling Club (ACC) chainsaws, or using a chainsaw specifically for, or at the request of ACC, e.g. for MTB trail maintenance work. These rules and practices have been put in place for your protection and are mandatory for anyone operating an ACC chainsaw for any reason or anyone performing work with a chainsaw on behalf of ACC

For the purposes of this document, the term chainsaw includes polesaws.

### AUTHORISED USE

- ACC chainsaws **MUST** only be used by ACC members who have received appropriate training and are qualified to operate a chainsaw as articulated in the ACC Chainsaw Training and Education Policy.
- Anyone using any chainsaw for or on behalf of ACC must meet the training requirements listed above.

### LIMITS OF USE

- Chainsaw use **MUST NOT** exceed the training level of the operator ( for example, only for use when cutting or clearing fallen timber, or the pruning of erect trees unless otherwise qualified ).
- No untrained person may use the chainsaw for any reason.
- User to comply with all fire danger restrictions (including HVP where applicable).
- Persons under the age of 16 years are not permitted to use any motorised power equipment in the performance of maintenance.

### PRIOR TO OPERATION

- The operator must check that the chainsaw and all protective equipment is in good condition and fully operational.
- If equipment has an “Out of Service” label attached, it must not be used.
- All Chainsaws used in Mystic Park must pass an annual HVP heat test and the Chainsaw must be tagged with a dated pass sticker

## SAFE OPERATION

- The chainsaw operator is responsible for safe and correct use of the chainsaw and ancillary equipment.
- Full PPE MUST be worn at all times during chainsaw operations, including:
  - Steel toecap safety footwear,
  - Chainsaw protective chaps,
  - Approved hearing protection,
  - Approved protective eyewear
  - Leather gloves
  - Protective helmet with face shield
  - Hi-Vis outerwear
  - Sunscreen (as required)
- A minimum of one additional spotter / safety person is required for all chainsaw operations
- The chainsaw operator must provide instruction to the spotters / safety person on their role, safe zones and what to do in case of emergency.
- Additional spotters may be required when the work is on a busy track or in an area with poor visibility for approaching traffic (e.g. downhill MTB tracks).
- At a minimum, the spotter should have a working mobile phone at all times to be able to call for assistance in case of emergency.
- Spotters must wear Hi-vis outerwear.
- A firefighting water supply must be available at the work site, min 9l with spray pump.
- Following operations, a thorough check of the worksite should be made to ensure no hazards remain.
- Unless an acceptable risk level is identified, the track / trail where the maintenance is being conducted must be closed off with the appropriate signage.



## AFTER USE

- The chainsaw user is responsible for returning the chainsaw to the club store in full working order and ready for use (clean, sharp & adjusted chain, clean air filter and full chain bar oil tank as a minimum). This is a courtesy to the next user. If you use the saw, you make sure it is in good working order for next use.
- Any minor defects or issues with the chainsaw or protective equipment should be reported to the ACC Maintenance coordinator as soon as practicable so they can be rectified.

- In case of any faults or issues which render the chainsaw unsafe or unusable, it should be clearly labelled as “Out of Service” and the fault reported to the ACC Maintenance coordinator as a priority.

#### **REGISTER OF APPROVED USERS**

Alpine Cycling Club will maintain a register of qualified and approved chainsaw operators.

Approved Chainsaw operators shall forward a copy of their qualification to the ACC Maintenance Coordinator who will store this on the ACC register drive.

Club chainsaw use will be limited to chainsaw operators listed on this register.

Only registered operators will be approved by the club to conduct volunteer chainsaw work on ACC's behalf.

## ACC CHAINSAW USER REGISTRATION

I wish to be added to the ACC approved chainsaw user register.

I have successfully completed appropriate training in the safe operation of a chainsaw and will operate within the scope of that training at all times when operating a chainsaw.

I will comply with the safe work policy as stated in this document.

Name (please print)	Signature	Date

Please sign, and return this page to Alpine Cycling Club with a copy of your qualification (completed & scanned page 3 via email preferred)

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