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Patron: Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria

Volunteer Sustainability | Operational Performance and Capability | Headquarters
8 Lakeside Drive Burwood East Vic 3151

7 March 2024

Dear Officer

CFA/VFBV URBAN AND RURAL STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS MOOROOPNA 23-24 MARCH 2024

The following information is provided to cover those aspects of the Championship in which the Country Fire Authority is directly involved.

Official Opening Saturday 23 March 2024

The Opening Ceremony will commence with an Echelon Movement. This provides an impressive start to the Championships.

All brigades are to take part in the Echelon Movement.

Brigades will line up as follows:

- Leading Echelon Brigades: at their designated Echelon Movement Marker.
- All other Brigades: will line up behind the Leading Echelon Brigades in the order shown on the attached document and the official program.

Brigades leading the Echelon Movement are to line up in Dress Uniform. The remainder of the brigades are to line up in their competition running attire.

Echelon Movement

The Echelon Movement will commence at 0820 hours at the Main Oval, Mooroopna Recreation Reserve, Midland Highway, Mooroopna.

All brigades are to take part in the Echelon Movement and are requested to be in attendance by 0745 hours for roll call and assembly.

A briefing for Discipline Commanders/brigade representatives (one per brigade) on the format for the Opening Ceremony will be held on the oval at approximately 0800 hours.

An explanation of the format for the Echelon Movement is attached.

The Official Opening will take place at the Main Oval at the completion of the Echelon Movement. Brigades will be dismissed once the Opening Ceremony is completed.

Torchlight Procession

The Torchlight Procession will take place on Saturday 23 March, commencing at 2030 hours. Brigades are to assemble for roll call by 2000 hours in the McLennan Street Service Road, Mooroopna, as outlined in the attached document.

Presentation / Closing Ceremony

Dress for those receiving individual or brigade trophies will be CFA uniform in accordance with the dress manual), competition uniform or the brigades' official track suit.

Discipline and Behaviour

The Officer in Charge or Firefighter nominated to be in charge by the brigade is responsible for the discipline and behaviour of members of the brigade at all times.

Instances of misconduct will be dealt with severely and may result in the individual or the brigade being sent home.

Alcohol is not permitted on, or in the vicinity of, the Main Tracks, the Marshall Track, the assembly area of the Torchlight Procession or the general area during the presentation of trophies and the closing ceremonies.

Hose Repair Service

Community Safety Staff will provide a repair service for competition hoses in the large shed at the western end of the Pumper Track (Roll on area end).

Communication

Contact for urgent matters should be made in the first instance to the CFA Fire Service Controller Triple Zero Victoria (03) 5337-3570.

Protection of the Fire District

Officers in Charge of brigades are reminded that they must ensure a sufficient complement of firefighters is available to protect the brigade's fire district during the time that members are attending the Championship at Mooroopna.

The past combined Championships have been a great success, and we are hoping to build on this great initiative.

The success of the Championships is attributed to the dedicated training and keenness of competing brigades in the past, and to the planning and continuous effort of the local committee and their local community support.

Unfortunately, as a result of the Covid control measures in the past, training and many local competitions could not be conducted and entry numbers for the Championships have suffered over the past years. We are hoping to see these numbers increase again.

We trust the high standard of previous Championships will be maintained and wish all competitors and supporters a successful and enjoyable weekend at Mooroopna.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Davis

Championships Event Team

Peter.Davis@cfa.vic.gov.au

Opening Ceremony – Saturday 23 March 2024

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony for the combined urban and rural Senior State Championships will be in the same format as past Championships.

All brigades are requested to be in attendance at the Main Oval of the Mooroopna Recreation Reserve at 0745 hours to allow time to get the brigades lined up well before the Official Opening. VFBV officials will be responsible for lining up the brigades. Included in this document is a page showing the line-up of the brigades.

At approximately 0800 a representative from all brigades will be called to a briefing by the Parade Commander to explain the procedures for the Opening Ceremony.

Eight urban brigades and a VFBV squad all in Dress Uniform will be lined up across the front of the main body of the brigades. These will be the Leading Echelon Brigades.

Just prior to 0820 the parade will be called to "Attention" by the Parade Commander.

Echelon Movement

At 0820 the Chief Officer with his Deputy Chief Officers and the VFBV squad will step off to lead the Echelon Movement across the oval.

The Urban brigades across the front of the remainder of the brigades (the Leading Echelon Brigades) will then be flagged off in two's by the Parade Commander in a vanguard type of formation. When the last two urban brigades have stepped off, the Parade Commander will flag off the remainder of the brigades who will march across the oval as a body of brigades.

When brigades reach the other side of the oval they will mark time until "halt" is called by the Parade Commander. A white line will be marked on the oval at the "mark time" position for the Leading Echelon Brigades and a yellow line marked at the "mark time" position for the leading member of each of the remainder of the brigades.

The National Anthem will be played and the brigades will then be stood "At Ease" and then "Stand Easy" (relaxed).

After the speeches concluding the Opening Ceremony, the Parade Commander will give the commands "Echelon Movement Attention" (brigade members will come to Attention) and then "Echelon Movement Break Off". At the "Break Off" command all members will Right Turn, pause briefly, march a few paces forward and then head off to their respective championships.

Brigade leaders / Commanders are to make sure that the members of your brigade are all aware of these procedures.

Torchlight Procession – Saturday 23 March 2024

Brigades will be assembled in Groups as shown on the attached document and report for Roll Call in their respective groupings at the eastern end of the McLennan Street Service Road in the vicinity of Elizabeth Street, Mooroopna, at 2000 hours on Saturday 23rd March 2024. Each group of brigades will be headed by a CFA vehicle.

The Procession will conclude in Doonan Street, Mooroopna, in the vicinity of the Service Station and all brigades are requested to assist in clearing the break off area as quickly and effectively as possible and returning the torches to the CFA personnel located there.

As kerosene fuelled Torches are no longer approved for use at CFA events, CFA will be providing the Torches to be used by brigades for the Torchlight Procession. A separate document setting out more details in this regard is included.

All Brigades participating are to collect their Name Plate and Torches for the Torchlight Procession on Saturday afternoon at the competition track. These will be available for all brigades to collect from the hose repair personnel located in the large shed at the western end of the Pumper Track at the Urban Championships after 1400 hours on the Saturday. CFA personnel will collect the Name Plates and Torches at the end of the Procession.

Senior Officers of the Country Fire Authority and Officers of the Association will be in attendance at the main control point at the start from 1945 hours. Officers will also be situated at control points at the head of each group.

Dress

The preferred dress for brigades is Dress Uniform. If brigades are unable to outfit their squad in Dress Uniforms, then work wear, a brigade specific uniform with CFA baseball cap or CFA summer dress uniform can be worn. Brigades competing in the rural events can wear CFA uniform, work wear, a brigade specific uniform or competition gear. All members of the squad must wear the same apparel.

Order of March

The Procession will be led by the Colour Party followed by the Chief Officer and State President VFBV, Deputy Chief Officers, VFBV and then Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 in that order.

Each section will be lead by a CFA appliance. Music will be provided for the Procession from speakers fitted to the CFA appliances leading each section.

The Minimum and Maximum numbers of members permitted to march is:

Minimum: Commander and six (6) members.

Maximum: Commander and fifteen (15) members.

If a brigade has difficulty in marching the minimum number, approval can be obtained from CFA to march with less than the minimum numbers.

Brigades marching with more than the permitted maximum or less than the permitted minimum will have points deducted.

Brigades march at the "Open Order" position i.e. Three paces between ranks. On stepping off, the distance between the Commander and the leading file and the distance between files will be increased to three (3) paces.

Commanders are to maintain a distance of ten (10) paces (7.5m) from the vehicle or rear file of the brigade immediately in front.

Every member, except the Commander and the person carrying the nameplate must carry a torch.

The torch is carried so that the handle is butted against the left hip and inclined forward and to the left at an angle of 45 degrees' held 375mm from the butt of the handle.

New Torches for 2024 Torchlight Procession

Overview / Introduction

From 16 March 2024, kerosene torches will no longer be permitted for use at CFA events, or when members are representing CFA at external events.

Traditional torches will be replaced by custom built, aluminum framed, LED powered units, that have been tested and refined over the past four years.

These torches will be provided on a loan basis for brigades participating in the torchlight procession at Championship events as well as any other ceremonial activity where required.

Replacement Reasoning

International research has determined kerosene can cause significant health issues and adversely impact the environment.

Continued use of kerosene fueled lanterns at any event poses a risk to the health of CFA members and has a negative impact on the environment.

CFA is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all members and the community while recognising the historical importance of these lanterns and their continued use during ceremonial events.

Collection

New LED powered torches will be loaned to brigades participating in the Torchlight Procession at State Championships events.

Brigades will be required to have a representative collect their brigade's torch kits consisting of frames (two pieces), LED lamps, carry bags, and name plates from the competition track on Saturday 23 March 2024, between 1400 and 1700 hours.

The collection point will be the FEM Repair shed located at the western end of the Urban Pumper Track.

The torches will require a small amount of simple assembly and instructions, including what setting to set the torch to during the procession, are provided within the kit.

Return

At the end of the procession, a team of CFA personnel will be present for brigades to return their torches. It is requested that one person collects and collates the torches back into a singular kit and return them on behalf of the brigade.

Please ensure all torch components are returned at the end of the event.



2024 CFA/VFBV STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

LINE UP FOR
OFFICIAL OPENING & ECHELON
MOVEMENT

Saturday 23rd March

Roll Call 0745 hours
Commences 0820 hours

- Beazley's Bridge
- Bendigo
- Chiltern
- Cohuna
- Connewarre
- Creswick
- District 9 & 27 Women's Network
- Doreen
- Dunolly
- Dunrobin/Nangeela
- Echuca
- Elaine
- Eldorado
- Eltham
- Euroa
- Gapsted
- Hamilton/Colac
- Hildene
- Hoppers Crossing
- Horsham
- Hurstbridge
- Kangaroo Flat
- Kerang
- Kyneton
- Leopold
- Maffra
- Maiden Gully
- Mandurang
- Mannerim
- Maryvale
- Melton
- Mildura
- Moorooduc
- Morwell
- Napoleons-Enfield
- Narre Warren
- Osborne Park
- Pakenham/Narre Warren
- Patterson River
- Pearcedale
- Red Cliffs
- Rutherglen
- Sale
- Sedgwick
- Seymour
- Springhurst
- Stawell
- Strathmerton
- Swan Hill
- Swan Hill
- Tatura
- Truganina
- Warracknabeal
- Warrnambool
- Werribee
- Whittlesea
- Yarroweyah

- Hallam
- Mooroopna
- Eaglehawk
- Melton
- VFBV Executive
- Knox Group
- Wendouree
- Dandenong
- Narre Warren

CFA Chief Officer & Deputy Chief Officers



**2024 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION
ORDER OF BRIGADES**

GROUP 1

*Colour Party
CFA & VFBV Officers & members*

Mooroopna
Shepparton
Kyabram
Nurmurkah
Tatura
Euroa
Rutherglen
Seymour
Strathmerton

GROUP 2

Swan Hill
Cohuna
Echuca
Kerang
Morwell
Maryvale
Maffra
Sale
District 9 & 27 Women's Network
Chiltern
Gapsted
Hilldene

GROUP 3

Hoppers Crossing
Melton
Diamond Creek
Werribee
Wendouree
Creswick
Ballan
Stawell
Horsham
Warracknabeal
Warrnambool
Hamilton/Colac
Mannerim

GROUP 4

Mildura
Red Cliffs
Eaglehawk
Kangaroo Flat
Kyneton
Bendigo
Patterson River
Dandenong
Pakenham/Narre Warren
Knox Group
Hallam
Osborne Park

CFA-VFBV State Firefighter Championships 2024

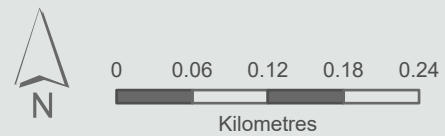
Torchlight Procession - Mooroopna



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Explanation:



Date Prepared: 26/02/2024
Prepared by: Business Intelligence
Contact: bi-request@cfa.vic.gov.au

2024 STATE RURAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

STATE RURAL SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday 23rd March

OFFICIAL OPENING 0820 hours

- Event 1: Low Down Pump & Ladder – 5 Competitors
- Event 2: Wet Hose & Ladder – 4 Competitors
- Event 3: Tanker Hose Reel & Ladder – 5 Competitors
- Event 4: Tanker – Priming, Pumper & Ladder – 4 Competitors
- Event 5: Hydrant & Tanker – 4 competitors
- Event 6: Tanker -Drawing Water from Tank – 4 Competitors
Firefighter Sprints

STATE RURAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunday 24th March

OFFICIAL OPENING 0830 hours

- Event 1A: Low Down Pump & Ladder, 11 – 13 years
- Event 1B: Low Down Pump & Ladder, 11 – 15 years
- Event 2A: Wet Hose & Ladder, 11 – 13 years
- Event 2B: Wet Hose & Ladder, 11 – 15 years
- Event 4A: Tanker – Priming, Pumper & Ladder, 11 – 13 years
- Event 4B: Tanker – Priming, Pumper & Ladder, 11 – 15 years
- Event 5A: Hydrant & Tanker, 11 – 13 years
- Event 5B: Hydrant & Tanker, 11 – 15 years
- Event 6A: Tanker -Drawing Water from Tank, 11 – 13 years
- Event 6B: Tanker -Drawing Water from Tank, 11 – 15 years
Firefighter Sprints

2024 STATE URBAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM OF EVENTS

SATURDAY 23rd MARCH 2024

OFFICIAL OPENING COMMENCES AT 0820 HOURS

ROLL CALL OF BRIGADES AT 0745 HOURS

Official Opening & Echelon Movement

1	Ladder Race	18
2	B Section Hose & Ladder Fives	19
3	A Section Y Coupling, 4 Competitors	20
4	A Section Hose & Ladder Eights	21
5	B Section Y Coupling, 4 Competitors	22
6	Female Y Coupling, 2 Competitors	23
7	A Section Y Coupling & Ladder Eights	24
8	B Section Hose, Hydrant & Pumper	25
9	B Section Wet Hose Striking One Disc Twice with Removable Back Cap	26
10	A Section Hose, Hydrant & Pumper	27
11	A Section Hose & Reel Sixes	
12	B Section Marshall, One Competitor <i>Chief Officer's Challenge</i>	
13	B Section Wet Hose Striking One Disc Twice	
14	A Section Marshall, One Competitor	
15	Female Marshall, One Competitor	
16	B Section Pumper & Ladder	
17	A Section Hydrant & Tanker	

SUNDAY 24th MARCH 2024

COMMENCES AT 0830 HOURS

ROLL CALL OF BRIGADES AT 0800 HOURS

	Hydrant Race
	Female Hydrant Race
	A Section Pumper & Ladder
	B Section Hydrant & Tanker
	Female Marshall, Two Competitors
	Be Section Hose & Reel Sixes
	A Section Marshall, Two Competitors
	A Section Hose & Reel Eights
	B Section Marshall, Two Competitors
	Champion Fours
	<i>Vic/WA Challenge</i>

TESTING HYDRANT, REELS AND EQUIPMENT: Equipment shall be tested, weighed and suitably marked or officially recorded, on Friday between 1500 and 1700 hours, Saturday between 0700 and 0815 hours, and Sunday between 0800 and 0830 hours, at the following locations subject to alteration by the Association:

- Main Track – Hydrants; Back Caps.
- Testing Station (roll on area) – Branches; Dummies; Ladder Harness; Reels; 'Y' piece.

All hoses to be inspected and the ladder length measured with the dummy length, and marked accordingly.

Couplings on all hoses should be presented for inspection on the Friday afternoon or Saturday morning at the Testing Station to overcome any last minute repairs or recoupling at the roll-on area. All the above equipment may be subject to random checks during the Championship.

If it is necessary for the lugs on the hydrant to be re-grooved, the Association will have the necessary equipment available at the Championships.

TESTING OF WATER: The water shall be tested prior to 0815 hours on each day of the Championship. The times will be announced following each water test.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES: Presentation of aggregate trophies will take place on the main track at the conclusion of Sunday's final event. Presentation of individual and station trophies to take place on the relevant track, at the conclusion of each event or the next day as advised at the start of each event.