

# **AIMS OF THE PLAY AUSTRALIA 2 DAY TRAINING PROGRAM IN MELBOURNE**

The objectives of this program are to enable participants to:

- apply the new and current Australian Standards to the design of equipment and facilities;
- manage the development and operation of effective maintenance programs; and,
- enable participants to access ideas and support to assist in the creative processes in playspace development.

The program is designed for people working in the government and non-government sectors, involved in the design, operation and management of play equipment and playspaces.

A range of training methods will be utilised to ensure that the program meets the needs of all participants. Information presentations and on site case studies will be included.

The presenters are the leaders in their field and have unrivalled expertise and experience in the key areas of Australian Standards, design and maintenance of play equipment and facilities.

Cost of the program is \$770.00 incl. GST for members of Play Australia per person, and \$880.00 incl. GST for non-Play Australia members per person.

## **Benefits to participants**

- Increased knowledge and commitment to the importance of safety for children and young people in the use of playgrounds and play equipment;
- Increased ability to better manage playgrounds and to protect organizations from liability;
- Increased knowledge, and inspiration for innovation in design and development of play opportunities for children, in particular, on issues relating to access to playgrounds for all groups of children;
- Increased number of people trained across the state and particularly in rural Victoria which will enable competition and affordable and accessible services as required;
- An improved capacity to share good practice across the play community;
- An ongoing communication flow of current information on Australian Standards and relevant safety issues to persons accredited and working in the area.

Feedback from participants will be requested as a key part of the on-going monitoring and review process of the program

## ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE PROGRAM

### RISK MANAGEMENT

- ◆ Philosophy of risk management
  - ◆ Injury causation and prevention principles
  - ◆ Injury data
  - ◆ Legal issues and liability/risk management
  - ◆ Difference between a risk and a hazard
- ◆ Hierarchy of rules and regulations
  - ◆ PRAV Best Practice policy
  - ◆ Current Australian Standards for playgrounds
  - ◆ Early Childhood requirements
- ◆ Different types of playgrounds
- ◆ Playground areas-siting, layout and functional design
- ◆ Fall zones and ground surface issues
- ◆ Playground equipment – design specifications
  - ◆ Functional aspects of equipment
  - ◆ Common safety problems with equipment
    - ◆ Structural strength, height of equipment, entrapment, protrusions, sharpness
    - ◆ slip hazards, tripping hazards, falls from platforms, safety in a complex
  - ◆ Equipment item names
    - ◆ Guidance
    - ◆ Describing the problem
    - ◆ Use of the collected information
  - ◆ Safety Audits
  - ◆ Record Keeping
  - ◆ Installation
  - ◆ Supervision
- ◆ Access for all issues
- ◆ Standards and/or Regulations re disability
- ◆ Detailed design issues
- ◆ Role of shade
- ◆ Standards details of play equipment
- ◆ How to conduct a safety audit
- ◆ Structure and detail of a safety audit report
  - ◆ Assessment of play precinct, siting and layout, access, diversity and age suitability, play equipment combinations
  - ◆ Assessment of play value of equipment
  - ◆ Details of equipment
  - ◆ Compliance
  - ◆ Opinion
  - ◆ Recommendations
  - ◆ Hierarchy of timelines
  - ◆ Use of photographs

## MAINTENANCE

- ◆ Use of inspections
  - ◆ Safety assessments
  - ◆ Pre design approval
  - ◆ Post installation
- ◆ Costs
  - ◆ Need to plan
  - ◆ Key maintenance items
  - ◆ Timetable for staff
- ◆ Issues for inspections
  - ◆ Damage
  - ◆ Wear
  - ◆ Protrusions
  - ◆ Ground surface
  - ◆ Overall surrounds
- ◆ Issues for inspections
  - ◆ Site – fences, gates, accesses, pathways, seats, rubbish bins, signage, taps, toilets
  - ◆ Ground surface
  - ◆ Equipment : Structure – footings & stability, bending, breaking, warping, cracking, loosening of parts.
  - ◆ Surface finish – protective coating missing, rust or other corrosion, cracks or splinters,
  - ◆ Wear, openings, gaps
  - ◆ Connections- loose, missing, protruding, wrong
  - ◆ Edges – sharp points or edges and protrusion.
  - ◆ Pinch or crush points – exposed mechanisms, junctures or moving components.
  - ◆ Mechanical devices and other moving parts – worn bearings, lack of lubrication, seizure or excessive motion, unduly noisy motion, missing covers.
  - ◆ Guard or hand rails – missing, bent, broke, loose.
  - ◆ Access – missing or broken rungs, steps or treads, loosening.
  - ◆ Swing and other seats – missing, damaged, loosened, sharp corners, insecure fittings.
  - ◆ Ground cover-distribution, compaction, debris
  - ◆ Components-wear, missing, damaged, loose
  - ◆ Trees and plants-damaged, limbs, seeds, cracks
  - ◆ Drainage, amenities, paths, obstructions
- ◆ Steps to Better Maintenance
  - ◆ Consider timing issues
  - ◆ Understand why maintenance is important
  - ◆ Know the relevant Standard
  - ◆ Schedule inspections regularly- daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly
  - ◆ Note special requirements of manufacturer
  - ◆ Use a checklist or prompt
  - ◆ Record findings, observations and actions
  - ◆ Have appropriate spare parts available
  - ◆ Isolate or remove unserviceable equipment
- ◆ Ongoing management of asset : replace, repair, remove, costs associated

## PLAY VALUE

- ◆ The importance of play
- ◆ Major categories of play behaviour
- ◆ Types of playgrounds
- ◆ Design issues
  - ◆ Needs of children
  - ◆ Opportunities for diversity of play needs
  - ◆ Access for all
  - ◆ Environment
  - ◆ Landscape elements, trees and planting
  - ◆ Supervision
  - ◆ Use of sand, sandpits and digging patches
  - ◆ Variety of textures and surfaces – sand and grass, wood and concrete, metal and rope, sun and shade
  - ◆ Selection of equipment – durability, flexibility, opportunities for exercise, social interaction, privacy, diversity of ages, fun, challenging,
  - ◆ Costs
- ◆ How children with disabilities use playgrounds
- ◆ How to plan a playground
  - ◆ Process
  - ◆ Master planning
  - ◆ Priorities
  - ◆ Materials, use of CCA treated pine
  - ◆ Possible partners, supporters and sponsors
  - ◆ Key issues
    - ◆ Safety
    - ◆ Shade
- ◆ Design issues in detail
  - ◆ Needs of children
  - ◆ Opportunities for diversity of play needs
  - ◆ Access for all
  - ◆ Interactive play
  - ◆ Environment
  - ◆ Landscape elements
  - ◆ Supervision
  - ◆ Safety
  - ◆ Use of sand, sandpits and digging patches
  - ◆ Ground surfaces
- ◆ Design issues in detail
  - ◆ Needs of children
  - ◆ Opportunities for diversity of play needs
  - ◆ Access for all
  - ◆ Interactive play
  - ◆ Environment
  - ◆ Landscape elements : shade, trees and planting
  - ◆ Safety