

Archery Australia News 2016 - 7

2016 National Youth Archery Championships

Results for the 2016 National Youth Archery Championships can be found on the Archery Australia website at the following link – [CLICK HERE](#)

2016 Australian Field Open

“Have you have expressed an interest in competing at the Australian Field Open for 2016.

Entries are filling up and we have not yet received your entry.

If you still wish to compete, please register for the event via the link below.

PLEASE NOTE; If you have entered via Archers Diary, this does not constitute an entry into the event and you will still need to register separately using the link below.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Not sure if you have entered [CLICK HERE](#) to view everyone who has entered to date.

If you plan to try out for the 2016 World Field Championships ensure you have entered the 2016 Australia Field Open as this will be the only selection event.

Model Aircraft and RPA

The question has been asked recently if the use of remote controlled helicopters or quadcopters are covered under the Archery Australia Insurance Policy to take images of Archery events.

Below is a detailed explanation from the CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority) which you should read as helicopters and quadcopters are regulated as model aircraft although some may be considered as a RPA (remote controller aircraft).

Beware there are restrictions and very heavy penalties involved with the use model aircraft and RPA's.

The insurer has provided the advice that any illegal action or activity is not covered by the Archery Australia Insurance Policy.

Difference between RPAs and model aircraft

People have been flying model aircraft for many years. How are these different from the remotely piloted 'drones' we hear so much about?

From CASA's perspective, the difference between RPA and model aircraft is that RPA are used for commercial, government or research purposes and model aircraft are flown just for fun – for sport and recreation.

In other words, CASA classifies your unmanned aircraft by what you do with it.

Licensing

Model aircraft

You do not need formal piloting qualifications to operate a radio-controlled model. But ... you do need to observe some rules (see below: 'What's allowed').

It is illegal to fly a model aircraft for *commercial hire and reward* unless you have an unmanned operator's certificate covering that type of operation.

If you want to join an association/club then there is the Model Aeronautical Association of Australia (MAAA), which has about 11,000 model aircraft enthusiast members. The MAAA offers a 'wings rating' system (bronze, gold and instructor levels).

RPA

CASA's thinking is that UAS pilots need general aviation knowledge in line with a private pilot's licence, as well as specific unmanned aircraft skills.

To fly an RPA of any size *for commercial reward* you need an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) controller's certificate and an unmanned operator's certificate (UOC) for your business.

Additional ratings include a flight radio operator's licence, and experience on the type of UAS operated.

What's allowed?

RPA

- Unmanned aircraft activities are approved for operations over unpopulated areas up to 400 feet AGL (above ground level) (120 metres), or higher with special approvals.
- Special approvals are also required for other areas.
- Operations are not permitted in controlled airspace without CASA approval and coordination with Airservices Australia

- Can be operated in visual meteorological conditions (VMC) and /or instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) with appropriate approvals.

Model aircraft

- You should only fly a model aircraft in visual line-of-sight, in day visual meteorological conditions (VMC). What does that mean?
 - no night flying
 - no flying in or through cloud or fog, and
 - you should be able to see the aircraft with your own eyes (rather than through its point-of-view camera) at all times
- You must not fly a model aircraft closer than 30 metres to vehicles, boats, buildings or people.
- You must not fly a model aircraft over populous areas such as beaches, other people's backyards, heavily populated parks, or sports ovals where there is a game in progress.
- In controlled airspace, which covers most Australian cities, model aircraft must not be flown higher than 400 feet (120 metres)
- You should not fly closer than 5.5km from an airfield.

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION FROM CASA

Regards

James Larven
Archery Australia CEO