

# SOP 3.03 – All Terrain Vehicles (ATV)

Section 3 – Lifesaving Vehicles

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Effective Date – 1 September 2018

Review Date – 1 September 2020

**Electronically Controlled Document**

## Purpose

To outline requirements for ATVs in lifesaving operations.

## Policy

All ATV drivers must be at least 18 years of age and:

- Hold a current and proficient driver's licence (provisional or open);
- Be a financial Life Saving Victoria member.
- Be inducted in the operation of the specific approved ATV by a nominated club/service officer.

## Procedure

### Introduction

All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) enable suitably qualified lifesaving personnel to be more mobile and capable of quickly responding to emergencies both inside and outside of their patrolled area.

The use of flashing lights should be restricted to on-beach patrolling/emergencies and shall not be used on public roads. Lifesaving vehicles can legally only use amber flashing lights. A siren must not be fitted to the vehicle by law and installation even without use is illegal.

### Operational requirements

- All ATVs are to meet SLSA gear and equipment specifications in the [SLSA Approved Gear and Equipment Manual](#).
- ~~ATVs shall be fitted at all times with speed limiters, closed seat-belts, red-~~ Regulations relating to vehicles (speed limiters, closed seat-belts, red-lights and parking). Speed should be minimised at every opportunity. ATVs are not exempt from any fines and infringements, including operations during emergencies.
- Local government and/or state regulations in relation to speed must be adhered to at all times.
- The ATV should not exceed 20km/h under normal operating conditions. The speed limit for heavily populated areas and between the red and yellow flags is 5km/h.
- It is the operator's responsibility to evaluate the environment to determine a safe and appropriate speed within these limits.



- Flashing amber lights and headlights should be turned on whenever in motion.

## Registration

All ATVs must be registered with VicRoads annually through the correct process

## Equipment

All ATVs may carry the following lifesaving equipment and hold the following safety items:

- Rescue board
- Rescue tube + fins
- Approved fitted or portable (Inc. waterproof bag and harness) LSV Communication device
- Loud Hailer
- First aid, Resuscitation Kits and AED

All ATVs must have the following fitted:

- Reverse beepers (shall activate whenever in reverse)
- Flashing light (shall activate whenever ATV is running)
- ATV must have side doors/barriers
- Towbar

Any modifications including roll bars, carry racks and storage containers must adhere to manufacturer's guidelines and be carried out in consultation with the manufacturer or dealer and LSV.

## Vehicle Branding

Branding for all Lifesaving vehicles should comply with the SLSA Equipment and Uniform Branding Guidelines. These guidelines can be obtained at the [SLSA Members Portal](#)

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