



QRA Policy Document

Policy 1/03

Sponsoring Members to Attend Conferences.

INTRODUCTION

The Queensland Ranger Association inc. (QRA) will sponsor members to attend National and International conferences and symposiums. The purpose of this sponsorship is to assist members to advance their career opportunities and to develop member's professional development as rangers. The QRA is committed to the professional development of rangers, and it recognises the benefit to both the members but also the State of Queensland for members to attended conferences relevant to their role as protected area managers.

For the purposes of this policy, State, National or International Ranger Association conferences are excluded.

GLOSSARY

Conferences - Any conference, symposium, training course or seminar directly related to Natural or Cultural Resource management, research or interpretation.

Professional Development - The development of members' professional knowledge, skills or ethics.

TERMS OF SPONSORSHIP

1. Professional Development

The QRA will only sponsor members' attendance to conferences that will contribute to the members' professional development.

2. Relevance to Duties.

The QRA will only sponsor members' attendance to conferences that are relevant to the members' duties and career development. The QRA will not sponsor attendance to conferences that are not relevant to the members' current or future employment as a Ranger.

3. Applications for Sponsorship.

- Sponsorship will only be via an application.
- An application may be initiated by a member or by an expression of interest initiated by the QRA.
- An application will give details of how attendance to the conference will contribute to the members' professional development and is relevant to the members' duties as a Ranger.
- If the QRA determines the level of interest in a particular conference may be significant to warrant it, the QRA may initiate an expression of interest among members.
- All applications will go through an assessment and approval process.
- The assessment of applications will be undertaken with predetermined criteria.
- Any two Executive members will conduct the assessment.
- The QRA President and another Executive member will approve the assessment process and application.
- An unsuccessful member may request a reassessment by an Executive meeting.
- The decision of the Executive meeting is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

4. Limit of Sponsorship.

- The number of positions available for members to attend conferences will be limited by the amount of funds available within the QRA budget, after other fixed commitments have been taken into account.
- The QRA will meet up to 50% of the conference costs. This may include travel, registration and accommodation costs.
- The QRA may jointly sponsor members' attendance with other Agencies or organisations.
- A member may only receive one QRA conference sponsorship every three years.

5. Reporting and Development of other QRA Members.

- A member shall present a report to the next QRA Annual General Meeting on the outcomes of the conference, how it advanced their professional development and how it was relevant to their duties as a Ranger. Several members attending the same conference may make a group presentation.
- Members will also be required to write a brief, outlining the conference and it's role in developing that member's professional development for publication in the QRA newsletter. (Approximately 500 words)

Drafted - Eddie Staier, QRA Executive. March 2003

Approved –

QRA President
07/03/2003

QRA Executive
07/03/2003

QRA Executive
07/03/2003