

# ROTARY WESTERN AUSTRALIA DRIVER EDUCATION (RWADE - PRE-DRIVER AGE) HANDBOOK



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# OVERVIEW OF RWADE

Young West Australians are the largest category killed or seriously injured on WA roads.

In 2013, people aged between 17 and 24 made up 22% of all persons killed or seriously injured and in 2014, 17 to 25 year olds had the highest critical injury rate per 100,000 of all age groups. Through the RWADE program, Rotary Western Australia seeks to drastically reduce these figures and subsequently the impact on young lives and their families.

The key strategy behind the program is to successfully influence the attitude of young people before they learn to drive. In reviewing other road safety programs operating in WA, a niche opportunity was identified for a comprehensive one-day course that is delivered to Year 10 & 11 school students.

Through the Youth Service capacity of Rotary clubs, the program is then supported by key partners being RAC WA, WA Police and several other organizations. These partners provide advice on program content and relevance.

## Purpose of Handbook

As it has grown, the need for structured and consistent delivery has been identified to ensure the program meets key outcomes in all areas where it is delivered.

## Towards Zero

The RWADE program is aligned with, and strongly supports the WA Government road safety strategy 2008-2020: Towards Zero

Rotary WA along with key partners, RAC WA and WA Police, unanimously decided to put in place this program structure, as well as, a continuous improvement plan, effective from August 2015. This handbook forms part of this plan.

## Our Vision

Rotary Western Australia and the programs supporting organizations, share the vision of producing safer young drivers by successfully influencing their attitudes and knowledge before they get behind the wheel or be a passenger in a car driven by a young driver. Ultimately, we seek to reduce the likelihood of car crashes and the resulting death or trauma.

**It is not about the power of the car but the attitude of the driver.**

Liz Carey, External Affairs  
Senior Manager, RAC

## PARTNERS AND SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

### Principal Partners



Principal partners play a major role in the development, delivery and funding of the program.

### Supporting Partners

Road Safety Commission and the Road Safety Council

Supporting partners provide the program with content advice, information and best delivery methodology.

<sup>1</sup> See [www.rsc.com.au](http://www.rsc.com.au) for most recently available crash data.

# ORGANISATION AND CONDUCT

## PROGRAM GOVERNANCE

On behalf of the Boards of Rotary Western Australia Districts 9455 and 9465, the program is managed by the RWADE Coordinator in each district. Their role is to coordinate with Rotary Clubs, RAC WA, WA Police, specialist facilitators and others as required.

The two Coordinators collaborate as necessary to achieve consistent high standard RWADE days across WA and to support each other.

Each participating Club is expected to implement its RWADE day in accordance with this Handbook, the RWADE Brochure and requests of their District RWADE Coordinator. The intention is to ensure

that Clubs participate in an agreed way to achieve standard high quality and consistent performance across all RWADE days.

The project will be overseen by a Management Committee comprising the two Rotary District RWADE Coordinators, an RAC representative and a WA Police representative. There will be an annual meeting of this Management Committee for which there will be produced an Annual Report. The two Rotary Coordinators will forward that report through their District arrangements to their Rotary District Board.

## COURSE OVERVIEW

The course is completed in one full school day and can be delivered to between 120 and 230 students (180 optimal).

The primary venue is the RAC DTEC facility at Perth Airport however to enable growth and further reach especially in regional areas, it can also be run at other suitable locations which are approved by the Joint RWADE Committee. The committee considers suitability of venues based on safety of students and presenters, the spaces required for delivery and accessibility.

### THE COURSE COMPRISES SIX SESSIONS

Session Title	Delivered by
Hazards, Distractions and Risks	Rotary
Vehicle familiarization and stopping distances A practical session in a control driving area	RAC WA
My Wheels Insurances, finance & ANCAP vehicle ratings	RAC WA
Plan B Making choices: social gatherings, back-up plans, drugs, alcohol & fatigue	RAC WA
Driving and the Law Law and L & P drivers. Crash investigations	WA Police
One Moment Can Change Your Life	Crash Survivor

# ORGANISATION AND CONDUCT<sub>cont.</sub>

## Key Operating Guidelines

- The students are split into 6 groups who rotate through all 6 sessions.
- Each group is accompanied by a Rotary volunteer who is responsible for monitoring timings and that they go to the correct room, at the correct time, plus a teacher from the school who oversees student discipline.
- The facilitator of each session is an expert in the particular field.
- The day commences with issuing of coloured wrist bands indicating allocation to one of the 6 groups, followed by a welcome by the sponsoring Rotary Club, a welcome and safety briefing by RAC DTEC (or host of other venue)
- Club volunteers then lead groups to the first room according to the timetable.
- Work with program partners to ensure the project scope and session content are based on evidence-based knowledge and take into consideration any regional differences or road safety priorities
- Report annually to the Boards of D9455 and D9465, which is to include annual audited financial statements
- Liaison includes ascertaining dates suitable for the schools and advising the RWADE Coordinator, then confirming this booking with the school once the coordinator confirms
- Post program follow-up with schools to obtain student and teacher feedback, presentation of awards and promotion of other RAC courses

### Local Rotary Club

- Appoint a contact person and an alternative contact to liaise with the RWADE Coordinator
- Ensure the Club acts in accordance with this Handbook and the directions of the RWADE Coordinator
- Provide at minimum of 7 volunteers on the program day
- Maintain frequent liaison with their link schools to foster attendance of pre-driver age students and sufficient teachers.

### School

- Maintain contact with their Rotary Club
- Secure a date for the RWADE program day in their annual school calendar
- Arrange all aspects of the student excursion for the day including bus transport, insurance, and adequate number of teachers.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### RWADE Coordinators

- Liaise with the RAC and other host organisations, and with participating Rotary Clubs.
- Arrange specialist facilitator for each of the six sessions.
- Manage fund-raising, banking and purchasing as required (wrist bands etc)
- Ensuring that all parties have appropriate insurance in place
- Manage the timetable and distribute to each volunteer and presenter on event days
- Maintain an up to date contact list of key parties involved



**DTEC**  
For the better

# THE PARTNERS

## RAC WA

The Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (RAC) was formed by a small group of car owners in 1905. With more than 750,000 members, they are now a vital part of Western Australian life.

As the independent voice for road users in WA, the RAC is concerned with all aspects of road and community safety.

RAC DTEC (Driving, Training, Education & Corporate) is the only purpose-built driver training facility in WA. Offering a wide range of defensive driving, high risk and 4WD courses, and their aim is to create better drivers in WA.

### Relationship with RWADE

The RAC has supported the RWADE Program since 2012 through provision of its facilities as a primary venue, time and the expertise of its staff as facilitators for selected sessions. RAC also contributes with course content providing advice and guidance around the latest best practices.

In 2013, RAC Advocacy granted sponsorship to the RWADE program aimed at maximizing student attendance and awareness of the program. As part of this sponsorship, it enables Rotary to not charge an attendance fee to students attending.

RWADE strongly compliments the RAC's philosophy and its practical implications in advancing road safety. Rotary in WA therefore promotes the RAC and RAC DTEC courses to participating students, their parents and to Rotary Clubs.



**For the better**



# THE PARTNERS cont.

## WA POLICE

WA Police is committed to enhancing the quality of life and wellbeing of Western Australians by working with the community to create a safe and secure place to live. Part of this focus is maintaining safe roads for all road users.

Road policing is an important and essential activity in achieving community safety in Western Australia. By delivering modern and proven policing services, WA Police will inspire public confidence in police action, bringing road safety to the forefront of the public consciousness. In this way it is intended to contribute to a positive change in community attitudes and behavior on our roads.

Importantly, WA Police promote road safety as a whole of community responsibility. In doing so the community, and key road safety stakeholders, can contribute to a reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured on WA roads. Together, we can do more to make our roads safer for the entire community.

### Relationship with RWADE

WA Police supports this excellent road safety initiative by Rotary in Western Australia. Any well intended programme aimed at saving lives is welcomed by WA Police, especially those that target vulnerable groups such as children and young people.

This road safety program targets school children who are due to become young drivers on our roads. This cohort is highly vulnerable and overrepresented in fatal and serious crashes. To that end WA Police are very supportive of this initiative and will be involved in it in the hope that our experience and knowledge will contribute to saving young lives.



# THE PARTNERS<sub>cont.</sub>



## ROAD SAFETY COMMISSION

The Road Safety Commission is responsible for providing policy guidance, strategy advice and supporting the Minister for Road Safety on measures to reduce road trauma on WA roads. These measures include monitoring, implementation and reporting of results across a range of initiatives. Examples include delivering road safety education campaigns and working collaboratively with stakeholders to coordinate the funding of projects to reduce road trauma from the Road Trauma Trust Account. Up to date road trauma data is available on the Road Safety Commission website: [www.rsc.wa.gov.au](http://www.rsc.wa.gov.au)

### Relationship with RWADE

RWADE implements and fulfils a number of initiatives as part of Towards Zero Western Australia's road safety strategy for 2008-2020.

Towards Zero aims to improve road safety through the four cornerstones:

- Safe Road Use – Improving road user behaviour.
- Safe Roads and Roadsides – Improving road infrastructure improvements.
- Safe Speeds – Ensuring speed limits and travel speeds are appropriate for the safety of the road infrastructure.
- Safe Vehicles – Improving the safety of the vehicles on the road.

The RWADE coordinator uses evidence based research results from the WA Road Safety Commission to inform best practice in influencing the attitudes of young people in relation to road safety. RWADE also collaborates with the Road Safety Commission in regard to its priorities.

**The Road Safety Commission is pleased to be a supporting partner - with Rotary Western Australia, RACWA and WA Police**

**We are all committed to reducing trauma on our roads, through education, this course aims to produce safe and responsible young drivers.**

**Our aim is to challenge and change the way young people think about road safety, while developing skills and increasing their ability to keep themselves, their friends and other road users safe.**

Kim Papalia, Road Safety  
Commissioner of  
Western Australia

# THE PARTNERS<sub>cont.</sub>

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary International is an international service organisation whose purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. It is a secular organisation open to all persons regardless of race, colour, creed, religion, gender, or political preference. There are over 34,000 Rotary Clubs and over 1.2 million members worldwide. The members of Rotary Clubs are known as Rotarians. Members usually meet weekly for breakfast, lunch or dinner, which is a social and networking event as well as an opportunity to organise work on their service goals.

Rotary group Clubs into districts. There are two in Western Australia, designated D9455 and D9465, with 50 Clubs in each.

### Philosophy

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

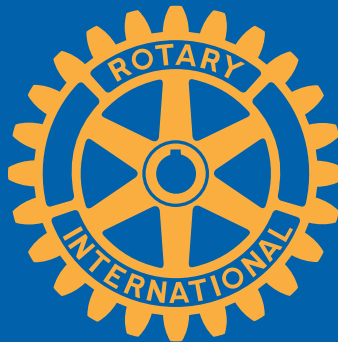
1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service
2. High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society

3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

### Service Projects

Many Rotary projects help the most disadvantaged people to a better life, both locally and around the world. Some projects help the most promising and talented young people to higher achievement through mentoring, scholarships and vocational visits.

Other projects provide life development opportunities to ordinary young people through leadership camps such as Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment and Rotary Youth Leadership Awards; international youth exchange; and activities such as the Science & Engineering Challenge, and National Youth Science Forum. RWADE is another example in this category.



**Service  
above Self**

# RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT BEHAVIOR CHANGE UNDERPIN RWADE

Key examples:

- **Stand-alone events are not effective.**

We collaborate with our partner and supporting organisations ensuring RWADE fills a needed place in a much wider array of mutually reinforcing activities.

- **Being talked at is not effective.**

Each RWADE session is highly interactive. Hence session “facilitators” not presenters.

- **Fear is not an effective tool.** RWADE does not use confronting images or other shock tactics.

- **Trained educators should be used.**

RWADE uses skilled facilitators from RAC, WA Police and other sources.

- **Developing resilience, coping and refusal skills is important.**

Hence RWADE includes sessions that contribute to those outcomes.

- **Information on subjects** such

as choosing a safe vehicle and understanding road laws are important. RWADE includes these topics.

- **Linking with appropriate alcohol and drug prevention programs is important.**

RWADE values SDERA as a supporting organisation, references it in the session Plan B and promotes its work.

- **Engaging with parents.**

RAC WA has developed an extension of the RWADE program to include parent participation.

## SOURCE DOCUMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The content and conduct of RWADE has been informed by and is consistent with and supports various relevant policy and other documents such as:

1. the United Nations “Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020”
2. “Towards Zero – the WA Government Road Safety Strategy 2008-2020”
3. “Directions – a road safety education plan for Western Australian schools and communities 2013 - 2015” by SDERA and
4. the RAC “Resilient Driver Program”.

RWADE fulfills a number of the initiatives set out in Towards Zero including:

- Safe Road Use Initiatives on page 32 identifies under “Community”: “Become involved in community led driver behavior programs” and under “Corporate/Industry” is included: “Partner with community led programs around driver behavior”. RWADE is such a program.
- Safe Speed Initiatives on page 40 identifies under “Community”: “Educate novice drivers about the risks of speed and inexperience”. RWADE introduces this just before they become drivers.

- Safe Vehicle Initiatives on page 45 identifies under “Community”: “Encourage novice drivers to drive in vehicles that are 5-star safety rated”. RWADE includes this in the “My Wheels” and other sessions.
- Community engagement is one of the foundations of the Safe Systems approach and RWADE helps meet this in a number of ways.



**For more information about Rotary visit :**

[rotary.org](http://rotary.org)

[rotarydistrict9455.org.au](http://rotarydistrict9455.org.au)

[rotary9465.org.au](http://rotary9465.org.au)

**For more information about RAC DTEC**

visit [dtec.com.au](http://dtec.com.au)

or call 6189 4646

