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Introduction

Purpose of Scouting and Air Venture Flying Training

Scouting is a worldwide movement that has encouraged the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development of young people for more than 100 years. Development of life skills such as responsibility, leadership and teamwork form part of the core aims of Scouting and are encapsulated in the Scout Law. There is no better way of building these skills than by learning to fly.

Whether you wish to launch your aviation career or would just like to fly for fun, the Air Venture Introductory Flying Training Program provides the perfect opportunity from which to begin that journey. The program delivers your first four hours of practical flying training, in which YOU will fly the aeroplane, plus all the necessary ground school to complete that training.

Who we are

The Air Activity Centre (AAC) was established in 1972 at Camden Airport to provide Scouts the opportunity to experience aviation. The AAC is an Activity Centre of Scouts Australia, NSW and is run by volunteers.

From a humble beginning commencing operations out of a tent with a Cessna 150 (2-seater) the Centre now operates three modern Cessna 172 (4-seater) aeroplanes. All our aeroplanes are late models and are maintained to the highest of standards.

The Federation Aeronautique International (Paris) awarded the Scout Air Activity Centre a certificate of recognition for service to youth in 1980. Only three of these certificates have been awarded in Australian aviation history. The other two awards were presented to The Royal Flying Doctor Service and to Mr. Arthur Butler of Butler Air Transport fame.

Flying Training & Staffing Qualifications

In almost 50 years of operations the AAC has trained hundreds of pilots to various levels. Many have used their licence for private flying, but a significant number have also trained for a career in aviation. Our pilots now fly with Qantas, Jetstar, Virgin, Rex, Cathay, RFDS, RAAF, RAN, MAF and many other flight charter and training organisations throughout Australia.

While the AAC previously provided its own flying training as a Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) accredited flight training school, it now operates in close partnership with Altocap Flight School whose instructors provide flying training to Scout members. This means that each Air Venture flying training participant will be a student of Altocap Flight School with training conducted in Scout aeroplanes from Scout premises by instructors who, in many cases, are also Scout and AAC members.

All flying instructors have the appropriate licences and ratings issued by CASA for the purpose of conducting flying training. Instruction during the 4-day program is



provided by professional flight instructors with the assistance of experienced licensed pilots.

All adult members of the AAC (including instructors) hold current Working With Children Checks (WWCC). There will be at least two adults in attendance at all times throughout each day, the only exception being during flying lessons when only the instructor can be present with the student.

The Daily Program

Structure of the Air Venture Introductory Flying Training Program

The program is structured to introduce you to the exhilarating world of aviation by delivering the first four hours of the CASA Recreational Pilot Licence syllabus. Although it will typically take about 15 hours of dual flight instruction before you have the skill to safely fly solo, your first four hours are all spent in the pilot's seat, hands on and in control of the aeroplane (under the watchful eye of your flight instructor).

Along with your fellow trainees, you will progress through the program together, and at the same pace, allowing you to interact and learn from each other as well as from your instructors.

In addition to the airborne component of your training, each flight is thoroughly briefed in a 1-hour group session before each flight. In this case the 'group' will be limited to you, your fellow trainees and your ground school instructor. Upon completion of each flight there is also a one-on-one de-briefing to provide feedback on the previous flight, advice on what to focus on during the next flight and to update and sign off your formal training record.

What's Included?

Flying Training

Four hours of hands-on flying training in Scout owned Cessna 172 aeroplanes. In addition to the airtime, the flying component also includes all the necessary pre-flight group briefings from Effects of Controls through to Turning. Flights and group training sessions will be planned as follows (overleaf):

DAY 1

Morning:	C172 Familiarisation
(from 8am)	Effect of Controls (EOC) Group Briefing
	Morning Break
	Group 1 EOC Flight/Group 2 Airfield & Radio Briefing
Lunch:	12-1pm
Afternoon:	Group 2 EOC Flight/ Group 1 Airfield & Radio Briefing
(to 4pm)	Afternoon Break
	Straight and Level (S&L) Group Briefing

DAY 2

Morning:	Group 2 S&L Flight/Group 1 A/C ground handling and daily inspections
(from 8am)	Morning Break
	Group 1 S&L Flight/Group 2 A/C ground handling and daily inspections
Lunch:	12-1pm
Afternoon:	Climbing Group Briefing
(to 4pm)	Afternoon Break
	Descending Group Briefing

(cont'd)

DAY 3

Morning:	Group 1 C&D Flight/Group 2 Airfield Walk
(from 8am)	Morning Break
	Group 2 C&D Flight/Group 1 Airfield Walk
Lunch:	12-1pm
Afternoon:	Turning Group Briefing
(to 4pm)	Afternoon Break
	Industry Visit (GB Aviation, Tower etc.)

DAY 4

Morning:	Group 2 Turning Flight/Group 1 Industry Visit
(8am	Morning Break
to 2pm)	Group 1 Turning Flight/Group 2 Industry Visit
Lunch:	12-1pm
	Presentations/Q&A Session/Discussion

The flying training is focused on getting you to solo standard. While this is unlikely in only four hours of flying training it will put you firmly on this course. Flying training is competency based and your first solo will require further training and consolidation.

If for any reason you do not fly the full four hours over the allocated days (e.g. due to weather delays, illness etc.), the remaining hours will be held as a credit for you to use at the AAC within six months of the original program.

Pilot's Log Book

A Pilot's Logbook, produced by Airservices Australia, will be issued to you on Day 1 of your flying training. This logbook will record all your flights and will remain with you throughout your aviation career. Your logbook is the official record of your aviation experience as well as being a legal requirement. In time, the logbook also becomes a nostalgic document that is cherished by all pilots.

Training Schedule

Training programs will typically be scheduled from Monday through to Thursday of the first week of the NSW Autumn, Winter and Spring School Holidays and in the first full week of January during the Summer School Holidays.



Note: Final dates may change and are subject to confirmation when booking

Meals and Accommodation

A light lunch each day as well coffee, tea and soft drinks are included in the cost of the camp. In addition, an AAC peak cap and polo shirt will be provided as a welcome to all camp participants. Sunscreen will also be freely available. Overnight accommodation may be available by prior arrangement but is dependent on availability and then only under strict conditions in accordance with Scouts NSW policy.

What's not included?

Transport from your home to Camden, overnight accommodation and meals (other than that described in, "What's Included?").

Training Program

Start and Finish Times

Flying training will start at 0800 (8.00am) on each day and finish at 1700 (5pm) on days 1 and 2 and 1400 (2pm) on the final (3rd) day.

Day 1 begins with a brief welcome and introduction after which students and their parents/carers are invited to a short tour of the Air Activity Centre. This is a great time to settle in, meet the AAC team and get to know your flight instructors and fellow trainees.

With formalities complete, accompanying relatives and friends may depart leaving the students to begin their first day.

Daily Program

Each of the four flying days will consist of one or two 1-hour flying lessons, 1-hour pre-flight group briefings plus various ground-based activities.

Ground based activities may include:

- Aircraft ground handling and fueling
- Aircraft care and daily inspections
- A visit to the gliding launch area or an aircraft maintenance facility
- A visit to the Control Tower (subject to tower controller workload)

The flying program is subject to change and may vary day to day.



Expectations

Maturity

Flying is great fun and a very rewarding activity or career. However, all flying is built around a culture of safety. Students need to show a high level of maturity in order to:

- Listen, study and learn
- Take responsibility for a very expensive Scout owned asset
- Make sound decisions to ensure the safety of both themselves and of others

It is expected that all students show a high level of respect to all the AAC team, instructors and fellow students at all times.

Learning

Learning to fly is about having fun while discovering the joy of flying, developing decision making and leadership skills and maybe even launching a career. All we ask is that you have a go and give it your best.

In aviation circles there is an old saying, “you learn on the ground and practice in the air”. When you consider that preparation and study at home is free but flying costs, these words will always ring true. The group briefings can be a little overwhelming, but that needn’t be the case. With some preparation and a good training manual, some pre-reading at home will make the group briefings that much easier to follow and your practice in the air so much more rewarding and fun.

Following suggestions from previous participants, the Air Activity Centre and Altocap Flight School highly recommend the purchase of the [“Flying Training Manual”](#) by David Robson (published by The Aviation Theory Centre). This book presents the CASA RPL flight training syllabus on a flight-by-flight, chapter-by-chapter basis making it a perfect companion to the group briefings. Reading the appropriate chapter prior to each briefing really does take some of the hard work out of learning to fly! The book can be purchased on-line at many locations and the above link is to a local Pilot Supplies store at Bankstown Airport.

Is This For Me?

The Air Venture Introductory Flying Training Program is the perfect opportunity for you to give flying a go. The program allows YOU to be a “pilot” for four days, to test the water, and to determine if this is for you.

If you discover flying is not your thing, then Scouting has provided you with yet another incredible opportunity, experience and challenge. The experiences and learnings will remain with you and will only positively influence your future success.



However, if the opportunity has stimulated your appetite for more, then you are welcome and encouraged to continue your flying training as a Scout member. By doing so, both the hands-on flying training and the theory will continue seamlessly in the same aeroplane and with the same instructors as before.

Past participants have also used this experience to contribute towards various higher level scouting awards and have listed the camp as a notable achievement on their CVs. Ultimately, how good would a Pilot Licence, with all its inferred discipline, training and decision-making attributes look on your CV?

Eligibility, Cost & Application

Who can apply?

Any registered member of Scouts or Guides Australia between the age of 15 and 19 (inclusive).

How much does it cost?

Pricing of the Air Venture Introductory Flying Training Program is subject to variations in aeroplane operating and student instruction costs and may therefore change from time to time. Please refer to the latest revision of the Initial Application Form for current pricing.

As a Scouts NSW Activity Centre operated by volunteer Scout members, the AAC offers this rate at a considerable discount.

Payment

Payments can only be accepted by either:

- Credit Card or
- Debit Card
(Visa/Mastercard only)

Full payment is to be made in person at the Air Activity Centre upon arrival on Day 1 of the Flying Training Program.

Confirmation of attendance

A minimum of three students are required to run each flying program. A confirmation of attendance will be sent to you via email once your application has been received and training dates have been confirmed.

Flight Scheduling

Due to the regulatory nature of aviation plus weather and other circumstances beyond our control, flying training is subject to cancellation at any time. If, for any such reason a flight cannot proceed then it will be rescheduled to a mutually convenient date and time.



What do I need to do before attending?

Aviation Reference Number (ARN)

The ARN can be obtained free of charge and is a prerequisite for attending the Air Venture Introductory Flying Training Program.

It is similar to a customer number in that it is unique to you and will identify you in all future communications with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). The ARN is issued by CASA who will e-mail it to you within days of receiving your application. More information and how to apply via the myCASA portal can be found [here](#).

Medical Certificate

The minimum medical standard to fly solo is the CASA Basic Class 2 Medical Certificate. While this is not required to attend the Air Venture Introductory Flying Training program, it will be required should you wish to continue your flying training. The medical is valid for up to 4 years.

Unlike higher level medical certificates, the Basic Class 2 medical is conducted by your local GP according to the Austroads Commercial Driving Standard. More information can be found [here](#).

Prior to attending the appointment with your GP you must complete an application through CASA's online medical records system – [MRS](#) which will gather your medical history and personal information prior to your medical appointment. The process is quite simple, but you will need an ARN to begin the on-line application.

NOTE: Flying occurs in a unique operating environment where certain medical conditions may compromise your functionality as a pilot. It is therefore essential that all past and present medical issues are fully disclosed when applying for any kind of aviation medical certificate.

Further, any medical issue arising subsequent to an application for any kind of aviation medical certificate must also be disclosed. This is a legal requirement with non-compliance attracting significant penalties and perhaps a future denial of any kind of certificate or licence.

Visit the Air Activity Centre

While it's not mandatory, each participant is encouraged to visit the Air Activity Centre before beginning their flying training. Come and meet some of the AAC team and view the aeroplanes and facilities. The AAC is open most Saturdays and Sundays, but please let us know in advance to ensure we have someone present to meet you.



Can I continue flying training after the Air Venture Introductory Flying Training Program?

The simple answer is YES, however there are different pathways for members and non-members of Scouts/Guides Australia. Flying training is conducted by our partners, Altocap Flight School on weekends and most week days.

Members of Scouts/Guides Australia

Under 19 years of age

To continue flying training at Scout rates after the camp you must continue as a youth member of Scouts/Guides, be an active participant in your unit (the AAC regularly checks for compliance) and commit to assisting at Camden AAC Scout activity flying days.

For further details contact our Head of Scouting Program (contact details can be found below under section, "Further Information").

19 years of age and over

To continue flying training at Scout rates after the camp you must be a member of Scouts Australia NSW as a Rover or Adult Helper/Leader and be appointed to the Air Activity Centre. Members of Girl Guides over 19 years of age also need to join Scouts as an Adult Helper/Leader.

AAC appointment requires a commitment to assisting at Camden AAC Scout air activity flying days. While at the airport helping at an activity day, why not book a flying lesson after the completion of activity flying at around 2pm?

For further details contact our Head of Scouting Program (contact details can be found below under section, "Further Information").

Path to becoming a pilot

1st Solo *Something that every pilot will always remember!*

This is done when your instructor decides you can take-off, fly a circuit and land to an acceptable standard. You must have studied and learned the necessary theory and have your CASA ARN and aviation medical certificate. Typically achieved in around 15 total flying hours.

Recreational Pilot Licence (RPL)

The Recreational Pilot Licence allows you to carry passengers on flights in the local area. You must have a minimum of 25 hours flying experience and pass a CASA written examination and flight test. Typically achieved in 30-40 total flying hours. Further information can be found [here](#).



Private Pilot Licence (PPL)

The Private Pilot Licence allows you to carry passengers and fly anywhere in Australia. You must have a minimum of 40 hours flying experience including cross-country navigation training and pass another CASA written examination and flight test. Typically achieved in 50-70 total flying hours. Further information can be found [here](#).

Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL)

The Commercial Pilot Licence allows you to be employed as a pilot. You must pass a further seven theory exams and a flight test. Typically achieved in 150 to 200+ total flying hours. Further information can be found [here](#).

Why the large variance in flying hours for each stage?

Flying training is competency based and each pilot will learn at a different rate. There are a minimum number of hours for each phase of training, but most students will take more than the minimum. There are many variables that can affect the rate at which you progress.

The time between lessons has a significant effect on rate of progression. Generally, the higher the frequency of lessons, the less flying training hours required. A minimum of once a fortnight for flying lessons is recommended.

Study is also a contributing factor. The more preparation and theory study that is undertaken, the more effective each lesson in the aeroplane becomes.

At the end of the day, the hours taken are not important. The fact that you have reached a milestone and achieved your pilot licence is what counts! Whilst there are recency requirements in order to retain the privileges of your licence, your licence itself is perpetual – once you have it, it never expires!

Sign me up

To apply, please complete both pages of the Initial Application Form and return via one of the following methods:

Email: airactivities.camps@nsw.scouts.com.au

Post: Air Venture Flying Camp, PO Box 922, Narellan NSW 2567

In Person: Aerodrome Road, Camden Airport NSW 2570 (adjacent to Control Tower). Please contact us prior to arrange a suitable time.

Please be sure to complete and return both pages

Note: A Scouts Australia NSW Activity Notification Form (E1) will be issued to confirm your booking.



Further Information

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact one of our team:

Flying Camp Coordinator: airactivities.camps@nsw.scouts.com.au

Head of Scouting Program: airactivities.membership@nsw.scouts.com.au

Altocap Flight School: info@altocap.com.au

We look forward to welcoming you to the next
Air Venture Introductory Flying Training Program!