



26 March 2014,

RE: AUSTRALIAN ROCKETRY'S THUNDA DOWN UNDER 2015 ORGANISATION AND INSURANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

Ladies and Gentleman,

Australian Rocketry's Thunda Down Under 2015 (ARTDU) is an international rocketry event being held in the state of Queensland, Australia in March 2015. The aim of Australian Rocketry's Thunda Down Under 2015 (ARTDU) is to bring together at a single event, all likeminded rocketeers, that span from all corners of the globe with varying backgrounds and experiences. The Management Team for ARTDU have worked tirelessly to make this event inclusive for rocketry groups around the world.

With that in mind, there are a myriad of variables that require attention and in particular a few questions have been raised about ARTDU in relation to rules, regulations and insurance. This statement is to clarify the position of the event and participation. The ARTDU event is sanctioned by the Australian Model Rocket Society Inc. (AMRS) which is a nationally registered, incorporated association in accordance with Australian Government requirements. AMRS is Australia's premiere representative body for consumer rocketry.

The AMRS is based on a combination of Tripoli Rocketry Association (TRA) and National Association of Rocketry (NAR) safety codes and rules and also comprises Australian specific legislation.

The AMRS holds a AU\$20,000,000 Public Liability insurance policy.

Being an AMRS launch, some organisations may consider this an independent ("*Indy*") launch. The AMRS has considered the position of a number of different organisations to develop a model to hold a launch that will allow as many as possible rocketry enthusiasts to participate, irrelevant of the associated organisation.

The registration fee (TBA) for ARTDU participants will actually include a temporary membership to AMRS for the period of the event and contain a contribution towards the insurance. By operating in this manner, AMRS takes responsibility of the event and is not reliant on other organisations.

No matter which rocketry organisation someone is from or even if they are not a part of a rocketry organisation, state law for ARTDU stipulates that a person may possess and use rocket motors up to 62.5grams without any license requirements. This falls directly in line with the standard "*Model Rocket Safety Codes*". Therefore, everyone that registers as a flyer for the event will be permitted to fly these motors.

With regards to High Power Rocketry (HPR), there are particular legislative requirements for users of HPR. These are being taken care of for interstate and international guests. Because of the duty of care that AMRS has to the insurer and because AMRS follows the reciprocal certifications of TRA, NAR, Canadian Association of Rocketry (CAR) and United Kingdom Rocketry Association (UKRA), only those individuals that currently hold a recognised certification will be permitted to fly HPR.



Unfortunately, there are some organisations throughout the world that do not have any recognition, nor have they been able to demonstrate compliance and therefore these individuals will not have their “certification” recognised when registering for the event.

We are offering options to those individuals who do not currently have recognised certifications, by way of allowing them to join a recognised organisation at the event and partaking in the relevant certification process. Individuals who are already members of a recognised organisation wishing to complete a certification, may do so under their respective group which will be scrutinised accordingly.

We have received feedback that people would like to attempt certifications in Australia as a matter of personal preference. Whilst we will accommodate these attempts, we recommend individuals attempt certifications prior to the event, however understand that this may not always be possible.

AMRS will also have a ‘Trial’ membership on offer for individuals who have not flown rockets before. This will be limited to ‘D’ impulse motors and valid for one (1) day only.

We trust that the above information clarifies the responsibilities associated with ARTDU. By embracing the powerhouses of rocketry around the world, we believe this world class event will be like nothing else ever run.

We look forward to seeing each and every rocketry enthusiast from across the globe from 12-15 March 2015.

Kind regards,

Australian Rocketry’s Thunda Down Under 2015 Management Team

