

Welcome

CANBERRA REGION BEEKEEPERS



INFORMATION ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION FOR
NEW AND EXISTING MEMBERS

enquiries@actbeekeepers.asn.au

Beekeepers Association of the ACT Inc

ABN: 73 575 571 929

ACT Incorporation: A01310

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Welcome

Welcome to the Canberra Region Beekeepers. The purpose of the Association is to foster and promote responsible beekeeping across the ACT and surrounding regions. The Association achieves this through several forums including regular meetings, events and an online presence.

The following information is designed to assist new (and existing) members of the Association so they get the best from their membership, while providing different opportunities for members to be engaged with the Association.

The Association welcomes backyard, hobby and commercial beekeepers.

Apiary

The Association maintains an apiary at the [Jerrabomberra Wetlands in Fyshwick](#). The Apiary consists of a variety of hive types and is managed by the Apiary Manager and a team of dedicated volunteers. Frequent events are held at the apiary and members are encouraged to attend and get involved in maintaining the hives all the while increasing or sharing their beekeeping knowledge.

Classes

The Association organises a variety of classes throughout the year. These include introductory and beginners' classes through to extension classes where the focus is on a particular element of beekeeping i.e. honey extraction or requeening. Classes are listed on the Association's [website](#).

Classifieds

Looking to buy or sell a beekeeping related item? Then consider the Classifieds section of the Association's [website](#). Here you can list and browse items for sale. The Association takes no responsibility for items brought or sold via the Classifieds.

Code of Conduct

By its very nature, the Association draws its members from a wide background of professions, genders and ages. Members hail from most (if not all) Canberra suburbs, and regional areas in the ACT and surrounding NSW. The experience levels and interests of members varies across the different hive types and beekeeping philosophies. Members join our Association to gain knowledge, establish acquaintances and friendships with like-minded individuals and/or to share their beekeeping skills and knowledge. All

members are asked to consider this in their interactions with other members, particularly those less experienced. Members are asked to respect different beekeeping philosophies and/or views on beekeeping and treat other members with the respect. Remember – ask three beekeepers a question and you are likely to get five or more responses!






Code of Practice

The ACT Government has issued a [Code of Practice for Beekeeping in Residential Areas of the ACT - 2016](#). The Code covers a range of requirements for the keeping of bees in residential areas including: bee diseases and parasites, disease control and the number of hives permitted to be held in residential areas. Members who keep hives in the ACT are strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with the ACT Code of Practice, which is available under the [Policies](#) tab on the Association's website.

The NSW Government has also issued a [Beekeeping Code of Practice for NSW](#) which applies to beekeepers whose hives are in NSW. Like the ACT Code, the NSW Code provides advice on the number of hives that can be kept and the siting of hives. Members with hives in NSW are strongly encouraged to familiarise themselves with the NSW Code. A copy of the NSW Code is also listed on the Association's website under the [Policies](#) tab.

Committee

The Association is governed by a management committee. The committee is comprised of:

-  President
-  Vice President
-  Secretary
-  Treasurer
-  Members x 3

The committee plays an important role in the management of the Association's affairs. Members are encouraged to stand for committee positions at each AGM or when vacancies occur. Descriptions for each committee position are available on the Association's website or the from the Secretary (secretary@actbeekeepers.asn.au).





Details about the current management committee can be found [here](#).

Constitution

The Association is established under the *Associations Incorporations Act 1991* (ACT) which requires the Association be governed by a Constitution. The [Association Rules](#) are available on the Association's website. Members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the rules of the Association.

Contacts

The Association does not have a physical address per-se. Contact details for the Association are:

-  Post Beekeepers Association of the ACT Inc
 PO Box 1482
 WODEN ACT 2606
-  Email enquiries@actbeekeepers.asn.au
-  WWW <https://actbeekeepers.asn.au/>
-  In person at meetings of the Association

Events

The Association holds several events each year. Event details will be announced at the monthly meeting and on the [Events Calendar](#) on the Association's website.

Insurance

The Association is fully insured for Association activities and for any Association members that carry out volunteer activities for the Association.

Most homeowner's property insurance will cover hives on your property and any public liability. The Association recommends that you check with your own insurance provider to confirm coverage.

As of February 2020, the Association no longer offers AON insurance for individual members because insurers will not pay out for activities deemed commercial. For example, members collecting fees (even a nominal one) for swarm collection services or selling a jar of honey. Insurance excess was also high so if you lost a hive, it would probably be the same cost of replacing it. It doesn't cover the cost of replacing bees.





Library

The Association maintains an extensive range of publications relating to beekeeping for loan to members. A list of publications is available on the

Association's website. To borrow items, members can email the details to the Librarian (enquiries@actbeekeepers.asn.au). Items will be available at the next monthly meeting. Alternatively, arrangements can be made to collect items from the Librarian.

Loan Equipment

The Association maintains a wide range of equipment useful for the backyard beekeeper and includes:

-  Extracting equipment
-  Bee suits
-  Wax press
-  Wiring boards

Full details on items available for loan and procedures for loaning equipment are listed on the Association's website under the [Club Equipment](#) tab.

Member Forum

Do you like to lead, follow or contribute to discussions relating to beekeeping? - then consider the [Member Forum](#) on the Association's website. The moderated Forum hosts a variety of discussions relating to beekeeping. All members are expected to contribute in a mature manner following standard courtesies for online forums.

Meetings

The Association meets on a monthly basis on the third Thursday of the month (except for March, October and December). Meetings are held in the hall at the [Yarralumla Primary School, Loftus Street, Yarralumla](#), commencing at 7.30pm. The December meeting is held on the second Thursday. The monthly meeting in March and October are usually held at the [Jerrabomberra Wetlands, Dairy Road, Fyshwick](#).

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Association is held in April each year commencing at 7.30pm. All management committee positions are vacated at the AGM and a new committee is elected. The management committee is essential for the good governance of the Association and is a requirement under ACT Legislation. Members are encouraged to consider nominating for a position on the management committee. Please contact any of the current [management committee](#) for details about their roles and what is expected.

Membership Fees

An annual membership of \$40.00 (Jan 19) is levied on members to assist in the running of the Association. There are two types of memberships; Standard and Family – Family membership includes members of your direct family and no additional fee is charged. Membership fees are due on the anniversary of joining. Your membership must be current to continue to access the benefits and services of the Association. Membership inquiries can be directed to the Secretary (secretary@actbeekeepers.asn.au).

Newsletter

The Association publishes an electronic newsletter on a monthly basis. Back issues of the Association Newsletter are available [here](#). Members can contribute by contacting the Newsletter Editor (julip22@gmail.com).

Online Shop

The Association maintains an online [shop](#) where members can purchase a small range of products including honey and wax (from the Association apiary). Honey and wax products are subject to availability.

Registration of hives

Members are reminded that it is a requirement in both the ACT and NSW for hives to be registered. Follow the links below for further information:

- [ACT](#)
- [NSW](#)

Royal Canberra Show

The [Royal Canberra Show](#) is held in February each year and includes an [Apiculture](#) section where honey in a variety of classes is judged. The Association supports the Apiculture stand at the show and provides judges for apiculture entries. Members are encouraged to enter their beekeeping products in recognition of the time, effort and skill involved in keeping our buzzy friends and managing the products of their hives. Members are also encouraged to assist the apiculture stand at the show over the three days the show is open to the public. Details about the show will be emailed to members in January each year.

Social Media

The Association is active on social media. Members are encouraged to follow and contribute to the online discussions.









- [Facebook](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [Twitter](#)

Swarm Collectors

A list of [swarm collectors](#) is available on the Association's website. To have your details listed on the list of swarm collectors, email your details to vp@actbeekeepers.asn.au. Please note that swarm collectors are required to be current members of the Association. Swarm collectors are encouraged to hold current and valid insurance for their activities (see Insurance above). It is an ACT Government requirement that swarm collectors hold insurance if they intend to remove/relocate a swarm from ACT Government land.

Support Roles

Several support roles have been established that are important in providing services and support to members. The support roles also provide members with an opportunity to be involved in the affairs of the Association without being a member of the management committee. The Support Roles include:

-  Member welcoming and name tags
-  Librarian
-  Training Manager
-  Royal Canberra Show Coordinator
-  Apiary Manager
-  Events Coordinator
-  Webmaster
-  Supper Coordinator
-  Loan Equipment Coordinators

Please contact the [current incumbents](#) or the Secretary (secretary@actbeekeepers.asn.au) if you wish to be involved with any of the support positions.

Website

The Association maintains a [website](#) which contains the majority of the information members may seek, from a calendar of events, online shop, education resources, links to the Association newsletter and more. Feel free to familiarise yourself with the content of the website. Feedback on the website, including broken links etc, can be forwarded to the Webmaster at webmaster@actbeekeepers.asn.au

Feedback

The Association welcomes feedback on this Information Pack. Comments and feedback can be forwarded to the [Secretary](#) for consideration.