



Beach Walker – Safety Procedures

Overview

The **Beach Walker** walking frame is designed for use on the beach (on hard or soft sand) and on grass or surfaced footpaths.

The **Beach Walker** walking frame is to **ONLY** be used on Altona and Williamstown beaches.

The walking frame is not designed to be submerged in water. Water depth should not exceed the base of the wheels.

It is important to be prepared before you head out with the **Beach Walker**. Please read this document in full including signing the safety procedures checklist at the end of this document prior to using the walking frame.

If you have any questions about using the **Beach Walker** please contact **Council's Social Planning Team** Monday to Friday on 9932 1000 or email socialplanning@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au



Before use

- check the weather for incoming tides as well as the strength of the waves, wind strength, storms and heat prior to hiring the walking frame. The staff at **Altona Life Saving Club** and **Williamstown Swimming and Lifesaving Club** will be able to provide you with helpful information about weather conditions and suitability for the Beach Walker
- ensure walkway / routes to be taken are clear of hazards
- visually inspect seating, tyres and moving parts for possible damage
- adjust the height of the handles to best fit you
- If you haven't used a walking frame before, have someone travel with you until you feel confident with your balance and mobility

During use

- the walking frame has been designed to be used on dry sand and wet sand at the water's edge
- the walking frame is **NOT** to be used in deep water. The water level should not go higher than the base of the wheels.
- do not exceed maximum recommended loading of 130kg
- ensure heavy items are not placed on front of the walking frame or the handles – there is a basket to store items underneath the seat
- the walking frame is not to be removed from the designated Altona or Williamstown beach area

After use

- where possible the hirer should use a shower or hose to clean down the walker before returning to **Altona Life Saving Club** or **Williamstown Swimming and Surf Lifesaving Club**
- any safety, mechanical or accessibility concerns with the use of the Beach walker should be reported immediately to **Altona Life Saving Club** or **Williamstown Swimming and Lifesaving Club**

We welcome your feedback on your experience and use. Please provide feedback directly to the staff at the **Altona Life Saving Club** or **Williamstown Swimming and Lifesaving Club**, or contact **Council's Social Planning Team** on 9932 1000 or email socialplanning@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au.

For further details about Accessible and Inclusive beaches visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au for information and resources available.

Safety Procedure checklist for user to complete *prior to use* of the Beach Walker walking frame

Have you

- read and understood the beach walker safety procedures
- been provided with a demonstration on how to use the walking frame
- checked the brake
- noted the low water instructions
- checked weather conditions such as wind strength, incoming tides, possible storms, heat
- checked the lifesaving flags are in operation
- provided an approximate time to return the beach walker
- note contact numbers in case of unexpected issues or emergency.

Altona Lifesaving Club

Phone: 9398 1270

Williamstown Swimming and Lifesaving Club

Phone: 0478 416 004

Name of hirer

SignatureDate / /

Name of club representative.....

SignatureDate / /