



DaVinci Beach Wheelchair – Safety Procedures

Overview

The **DaVinci Beach Wheelchair** is designed for use on the beach (on hard or soft sand), in low water, and on grass or surfaced footpaths.

The DaVinci Beach Wheelchair is to **ONLY be used on Altona Beach.**

It is not designed to be submerged in water, although it is able to be used in low water. Water depth should not exceed the centre of the rear wheel. The DaVinci Beach Wheelchair is not designed to float therefore is not to be used in deep water and **ONLY between the flags as patrolled by Altona Life Saving Club.**



The DaVinci Beach Wheelchair is a self-propelled, independent chair. However, if required, please ensure you have the right level of support.

It is important to be prepared before you use the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair. Please read this document in full, including signing the safety procedures checklist at the end of this document prior to use.

If you have any questions about using the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair, please contact Council from Monday to Friday on 1300 179 994 or email accessiblebeaches@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

NOTE: An accessible change facility (with an adult-sized change table and hoist) is available at Weaver Reserve, across the road from Altona Beach. A Master Locksmiths Access Key (MLAK) is required to access the accessible change facility. A key may be available on site, but it is recommended that you bring your own MLAK to ensure access. There is a hoist available for transfer, but please ensure you bring your own sling.

Before use

- Check the weather for incoming tides, as well as the waves, wind, storms and heat. The staff at Altona Life Saving Club will be able to provide you with helpful information about weather conditions and suitability for the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.
- Ensure walkway / routes to be taken are clear of hazards.
- Visually inspect seating, tyres and moving parts for any damage or maintenance issues.
- Ensure the footrest is lowered and the wheel brakes are activated prior to transferring into the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.
- If possible, ask support person to hold the handles of the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair so that it will not move when transferring.
- Please ensure you have the right level of support to transfer into and push the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.

NOTE: It may be useful to approach a local rehabilitation centre, hospital or physiotherapist regarding training for transferring and lifting.

During use

- Do not carry passengers.
- Always use a slow speed when going down gradients.
- Do not ride in reverse down a slope or kerb.
- Always keep your feet on the footplate when moving.
- Do not use the manual parking brakes while moving.
- Note that the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair has been designed to be used on dry sand and wet sand at the water's edge.
- Note that the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair is stable in low water levels up to the centre of the rear wheels, in still water conditions.

- Do not use the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair in deep water.
- Do not exceed maximum recommended loading of 135 kilograms.
- When providing support, do not leave the user unattended in the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.
- When parking, find a level surface and ensure the parking brake is securely locked down.
- Travelling on gradients steeper than a standard ramp rise are not recommended unless two people are assisting with pushing the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.
- Do not place heavy items on the back of DaVinci Beach Wheelchair or the handles.
- If pushing the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair, always keep the passenger informed about what you are intending to do, e.g. turning, entering water, crossing road, etc.
- The DaVinci Beach Wheelchair must only be propelled by the user or another person pushing the wheelchair. Do not propel by towing behind a motor vehicle, kite or other means.
- When in low water, it is recommended to use the safety belt, depending on the user's understanding of their capacity to move around freely. Please use the seat belt if the user experiences unsteadiness (such as with epilepsy).
- Always use the safety belt when using the chair on dry land, including soft and hard sand. The seat belt should be always used if a passenger experiences unsteadiness (such as epilepsy).
- The DaVinci Beach Wheelchair is not to be removed from the designated Altona beach area.

After use

- Ensure seat and footrests are in the correct position and wheel brakes applied prior to a person exiting the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.
- Where possible, the hirer should use a shower or hose to clean down the chair before returning to Altona Life Saving Club.
- Any safety, mechanical or accessibility concerns with the use of the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair should be reported immediately to Altona Life Saving Club.

Feedback and more information

We welcome your feedback on your experience and use.

Please provide feedback directly to the staff at the Altona Life Saving Club or contact Council on 1300 179 944 or email accessiblebeaches@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Please also visit [Accessible Beaches - Hobsons Bay](#) for more information about the Accessible Beaches Program.

To find out more about the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair, visit www.pushmobility.com.au

Safety Procedure checklist

Hirer/user to complete prior to use of the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.

Please confirm that you have:

- read and understood the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair Safety Procedures, including noting the low water instructions
- been provided with a demonstration on how to use the equipment
- the right level of support to transfer into and use the equipment
- checked park brake release and engage mechanism
- checked how to adjust arms, footrest, back rest, and seat belt harness
- checked weather conditions such as wind, tides, heat, and potential storms
- checked the lifesaving flags are in operation
- provided an approximate time to return the equipment

Name of hirer/user

Signature Date/...../.....

Emergency contact

Name:

Mobile No.