

GREAT OCEAN ROAD COAST COMMITTEE CARAVAN AND CAMPING PARKS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR NEW PARK RULES

MAY 2015

Why have the park rules been reviewed and revised?

The rule review began in 2014 when GORCC committed to reviewing the previous '30 year rule', which required caravans older than 30 years on Twelve Month Permit (TMP) and Seasonal Permit sites to be removed from the parks. GORCC committed to reviewing this rule following feedback from campers that they felt it was unfair. This process identified a number of other rules that were also in need of review, and it was therefore decided to undertake a comprehensive review of all rules to ensure they remained up-to-date and consistent with current legislation, regulations and other requirements.

What changes have been made to the rules?

The most significant change to the rules is the replacement of the '30 year rule' with the new 'Minimum Standards'. Other noteworthy changes include the removal of the rule requiring caravans being brought into the parks to occupy Twelve Month or Seasonal permit sites needing to be less than 15 years old, and all sites now being permitted to erect a clothesline.

Other changes to the rules are considered relatively minor and have generally been made to improve the wording and therefore understanding and implementation of the rules.

When will the new rules come into effect?

The new rules will come into effect on 1 July 2015. Full compliance with the new rules is expected from this date. The existing rules will remain in place until 30 June 2015.

Who do the rules apply to?

The rules apply to all guests using the GORCC managed caravan and camping parks (ie the Torquay Foreshore Caravan Park and Lorne Foreshore Caravan Park).

What happens if a park guest does not comply with the rules?

If a guest in the parks does not comply with the rules, park staff will discuss the matter with the guest in order to have it rectified. If this does not resolve the situation, the guest's permit may be cancelled and the guest required to leave the park, as per Rule no 25.

Will the rules be changed again in the future?

Part of the reason why a thorough and comprehensive process was followed for the rule review was in an attempt to avoid the need to regularly change or amend the rules in the future. However, it is likely that the rules will still need to be up-dated from time to time, for example as government regulations or requirements change.

Does the rule requiring vans being brought into the park to occupy a TMP or Seasonal permit site for the first time to be less than 15 years old still apply given the rule that caravans older than 30 years are not allowed in the park has been replaced with the Minimum Standards?

No, vans of any age can now be brought into the park, as long as they comply with the Minimum Standards at all times. All vans being brought into the park to occupy a TMP or Seasonal permit site for the first time will need to have a check completed on them by the assessor to determine that they meet the Minimum Standards. The permit holder will be responsible for paying the cost of having this check completed.

Why do vans, particularly those on TMP sites, need to be moveable?

A caravan is defined as a 'movable dwelling' under the *Residential Tenancies Act 1997*. The Act states that a movable dwelling must be able to be moved in 24 hours.

