



## **GUIDANCE**

### Local Wildlife and Environmental Responsibility

**WFDF 2024 World Team Disc Golf Championship**

**Mundaring, Perth, Australia**

**Published By: WTDGC Local Organising Committee**

**Published Date: 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

**Version: 1.0**

# Local Wildlife and Environmental Responsibility

Australia is renowned for its unique wildlife, and Mundaring is no exception. The area is home to a wide range of animals, from harmless birds and lizards to potentially hazardous creatures. When spending time outdoors, especially on the disc golf course or in the bush, it's essential to respect the environment and local wildlife.

## Environmental Responsibility

- **Stay on Designated Paths:** To help protect the natural environment and prevent damaging sensitive ecosystems, it is crucial to stay on designated paths. Wandering off can harm plants, disturb animal habitats, and increase the risk of encountering dangerous wildlife.
- **Do Not Litter:** Please ensure you dispose of waste properly using designated bins around the venue. Litter can harm wildlife and spoil the natural beauty of the area. If bins are not available, carry your trash until you find proper disposal facilities.
- **Recycling:** Whenever possible, separate recyclable materials from general waste. Recycling reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and conserves natural resources. Look for designated recycling bins around the venue and sort materials like paper, plastic bottles, glass, and cans. If unsure whether something is recyclable, check the packaging or ask event staff. Every small effort helps in reducing the environmental impact of the event.

Here are some useful links to Western Australia's recycling guides and resources:

- Recycling Guide for WA by the WA Government:  
<https://www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/programs/Better-Bins/Recycling>
- Recycling Tips & Waste Management from the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation:  
<https://www.der.wa.gov.au/our-work/programs/rethink-waste>
- **Do Not Feed or Approach Wild Animals:** Feeding wild animals disrupts their natural diet and behavior, making them more dependent on human food and potentially aggressive. Additionally, for your safety and theirs, do not approach wildlife. Many animals can become stressed or defensive when humans get too close. Please enjoy observing wildlife from a distance and avoid interactions that could alter their natural behaviors.
-

## Venomous Wildlife

Australia is home to some **venomous creatures**, and while encounters are rare, it's important to be prepared, especially in the bush areas near the course.

### Snakes

- **Snake Species:** Mundaring's bushland is home to several snake species, including **venomous snakes** such as the **dugite** and **tiger snake**.
- **What to Do If You Encounter a Snake:** Snake encounters are rare, and most snakes will avoid human contact. If you do come across a snake, **stay calm and remain still**. Do not attempt to handle or approach it. The snake will usually move away if left undisturbed.
- **Snake Bite First Aid:** If bitten, it is critical to **stay where you are**, remain as still as possible, and **avoid panic**, as movement can spread venom faster. Immediately call for help by contacting the Emergency number (000), and the **Tournament Director (TD)** or the **on-site medical staff**. **First aid**, including **pressure immobilization** (using a bandage to wrap the limb tightly but not cutting off circulation), will be provided on-site. **Emergency services** will be contacted as needed. It is important to keep the bitten limb immobile while waiting for help.

### Spiders

- **Venomous Spiders:** Australia has a few venomous spider species, such as the **redback spider** and **funnel-web spider**, but bites are uncommon and typically occur if the spider feels threatened.
- **Prevention:** Shake out shoes, clothing, or any gear left on the ground before using them, as spiders sometimes hide in these items. Avoid disturbing spiders or their webs, especially near rocks or trees.

## Other Wildlife

### Kangaroos

- You'll likely see **kangaroos** hopping around the bush in Mundaring. While they are generally shy and avoid people, it's important to give them space, particularly if they have joeys. If a kangaroo feels threatened, it can become defensive. **Observe from a distance**, and never approach or attempt to feed them.

## Emus

- The towering **emu**, Australia's largest bird, might also be spotted in the area. Though emus are not aggressive, they can be curious. If you encounter one, **maintain your distance** and avoid startling it. They are typically more interested in foraging than interacting with people.

## Blue-Tongue Lizards

- These harmless reptiles are often seen sunbathing during the warmer months. **Blue-tongue lizards** are non-venomous and slow-moving. If you encounter one, simply let it pass by or gently move it out of harm's way. Avoid picking them up or disturbing them, as they may bite if frightened.

## Quendas (Southern Brown Bandicoots)

- **Quendas** are small, nocturnal marsupials often spotted rummaging in undergrowth. They are harmless, and their presence is a good indicator of a healthy ecosystem. If you see one, observe quietly and avoid disturbing them.

## Red-Tailed Black Cockatoos & Other Cockatoos

- Mundaring is home to several species of cockatoos, including the majestic **Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo**. These birds are a common sight and are protected. Enjoy their beauty from afar and **do not feed or interfere** with them.

## Insect Protection and Safety

### Ticks & Insects

- **Tick Prevention:** Ticks are common in bush areas and can carry diseases such as Lyme-like illness. It's important to wear long sleeves, long pants, and insect repellent containing DEET or Picaridin when spending time outdoors. Always tuck your pants into your socks to minimize exposed skin. After being in the bush, regularly check your skin for ticks, especially behind the ears, at the base of the scalp, and in other hard-to-see areas.
- **Tick Removal:** If you find a tick, it should be removed carefully to prevent further complications. Using fine-tipped tweezers, grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible and pull upwards with steady, even pressure. Avoid squeezing the tick or twisting it, as improper removal can increase the risk of disease transmission. After removal, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water. If you're unsure about proper removal, seek assistance from the tournament's

first aid team, who can ensure the tick is removed safely and check for signs of infection.

- **IMPORTANT:** Some individuals may experience severe allergic reactions to tick bites, including anaphylaxis, a potentially life-threatening condition. Symptoms of anaphylaxis may include difficulty breathing, swelling of the face or throat, rapid heartbeat, and a feeling of faintness. If any of these symptoms occur, immediate medical attention is required. Call Emergency number (000), and the **Tournament Director (TD)** or the **on-site medical staff**. For more information on tick bites and Lyme-like illness, visit the WA Health resources:

- Tick Bites and Lyme-like Illness:  
[https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/T\\_T/Tick-bites-and-Lyme-disease](https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/T_T/Tick-bites-and-Lyme-disease)
- WA Health Tick Bite Information:  
[https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S\\_T/Ticks](https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S_T/Ticks)

- 

## Mosquitoes & Other Biting Insects

- Mosquitoes are also common, especially in the evenings. Wear **long clothing** and use **insect repellent** to prevent bites. If bitten, most reactions are mild, but some people may experience allergic reactions to bites. **Carry antihistamines** if you are prone to allergic reactions, and first aid will be available on-site if needed.
- **Mosquito Prevention:** Mosquitoes are also common, particularly during the evenings and in areas near water. Wearing long clothing and applying insect repellent to exposed skin will help prevent bites. Repellents containing DEET, Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus are most effective. Additionally, avoid outdoor activities during peak mosquito times—early morning and dusk—whenever possible.
- **Reactions to Bites:** While most reactions to insect bites are mild, some people may experience more serious allergic reactions, including swelling, redness, and itching. In rare cases, individuals can develop anaphylaxis in response to insect bites. If you know you're prone to allergic reactions, it's recommended to carry antihistamines or an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen). The tournament's first aid team will have antihistamines and be prepared to handle more serious reactions, if necessary.

As with ticks, if any severe reactions occur, such as difficulty breathing, facial swelling, or dizziness, seek immediate first aid. Call Emergency number (000), and the **Tournament Director (TD)** or the **on-site medical staff**.

For further information on tick and insect bite prevention, visit:

- Tick Bites and Lyme-like Illness:  
[https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/T\\_T/Tick-bites-and-Lyme-disease](https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/T_T/Tick-bites-and-Lyme-disease)
- WA Health Tick Bite Information:  
[https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S\\_T/Ticks](https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S_T/Ticks)