

THE PODIATRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF TASMANIA

P. O. Box 240 Claremont Tasmania 7011 Phone (03) 62491377 Facsimile (03) 62494292
Email adsansom@tassie.net.au

Renewal of Registration Year ending 31 Decemeber 2005

Registered podiatrists are invited to renew their registration for the year ending 31 December 2005. If you wish to obtain a certificate of registration for this year please complete the details on the attached application form and return to me with the prescribed fee of \$280. Please note that no GST is included as the fees have been exempted under section 81 of *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*.

There are several issues that podiatrists will need to consider when renewing registration for next year.

Non Practising Podiatrists

Should any registered podiatrists not have practised podiatry within the past five (5) years, the Board is required to issue a certificate of registration only if they meet current requirements for registration. If you fall into this category and wish to continue registration, please contact me to obtain the requirements of the Board.

Due Date and Fine for Late Payment

The due date for receipt of all applications for renewal is 31 December 2004. Podiatrists who do not submit all the required details by this date will incur a late fee of \$56.00. Unfinancial podiatrists as at 31 January 2005 will be removed from the register as prescribed in section 36 (8) of the Podiatrists Registration Act.

Should a podiatrist be removed for this reason they may apply for restoration to the Register (the prescribed restoration fee, in addition to the annual renewal fee is \$140).

Professional Indemnity Insurance

As you are aware, podiatrists need to provide evidence of professional indemnity cover in order to obtain a certificate of registration for the 2005 year. This evidence would usually be in the form of a copy of your insurance policy schedule and receipt of payment or a letter from your employer advising that you are included in your employer's insurance arrangements.

All practising podiatrists are required to provide these details. Non practising podiatrists who wish to continue registration should provide a statement outlining the reasons for seeking an exemption from the requirement to hold professional indemnity insurance.

Podiatrists who do not satisfy the Board's requirements in this area will not be issued with a certificate of registration and their name will be removed from the register in accordance with section 36(9) of the Act.

Occupational Health and Safety Survey

You may be aware that the Board conducted an occupational health and safety survey during 2004. A copy of the results is enclosed for your information.

The response from 21 podiatrists represents about 32% of registered podiatrists and is relatively low but sufficient to obtain a profile of current practices. Eye protection is an issue as is the storage of chemicals. The Australian Podiatry Association – Tasmania has resources on chemical storage that can be loaned to members. It is also noteworthy that 8 of the respondents have not received any training in occupational health and safety since graduation.

The Board has reviewed these results and recommends that all podiatrists consider occupational health and safety issues in all areas of their practice. Consideration should be given to obtaining further information and training in this area. Workplace Standards Tasmania (www.wst.tas.gov.au) is a good starting point to search for the latest information in this area.

Please contact me if you have any questions about these matters.

Tony Sansom
SECRETARY

15 November 2004