WorkHealth information bulletin

BULLETIN NO. 147

THE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNING FIGURES FOR 1996

In accordance with the definition of Average Weekly Earnings in the *Work Health Act* the amount to be used for **1996** is **$664.70**. The annual equivalent is $34,564.40

This has an effect on the following sections of the Act.

SECTION 65 (1) **MAXIMUM WEEKLY BENEFIT**

The maximum amount payable for a worker after 26 weeks of compensation - 150% of Average Weekly Earnings = $997.05

SECTION 65 (2) (3) **LONG TERM INCAPACITY**

Calculation of loss of earning capacity - indexing factor. Persons on long term benefits should have their entitlement adjusted on 1 January each year. The multiplying factors are as follows:

DATE OF CLAIM					MULTIPLYING FACTOR
1987 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1987	=	664.70 / 450.90	=	1.4742
1988 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1988	=	664.70 / 484.30	=	1.3725
1989 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1989	=	664.70 / 493.60	=	1.3467
1990 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1990	=	664.70 / 515.70	=	1.2890
1991 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1991	=	664.70 / 551.40	=	1.2055
1992 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1992	=	664.70 / 589.30	=	1.1280
1993 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1993	=	664.70 / 618.90	=	1.0740
1994 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1994	=	664.70 / 635.10	=	1.0466
1995 -	Average Weekly Earnings 1996 / Average Weekly Earnings 1995	=	664.70 / 634.70	=	1.0473

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Current as at January '96

SECTION 65 (12) **MINIMUM LONG TERM BENEFIT**

Minimum Weekly Benefit. Basis for calculating benefit:-

Worker	50% Average Weekly Earnings	=	$332.35
Dependent Spouse	12.5% Average Weekly Earnings	=	$83.09
Prescribed Child	6.25% Average Weekly Earnings	=	$41.54

SECTION 62/REGULATION 6 **BENEFITS PAYABLE ON DEATH**

(1) Funeral Benefits - Maximum amount payable is 10% of the Annual Equivalent ($34,564.40) = $3,456.44

(2) Death Benefits - 156 time Average Weekly Earnings = $103,693.20

SECTION 63 **DEPENDENT CHILDRENS' BENEFITS**

10% of Average Weekly Earnings = $66.47 (Maximum of 10)

SECTION 71 **PERMANENT IMPAIRMENT**

Assessment of permanent impairment benefit.

For injuries and diseases arising prior to 15/10/91:
Maximum amount payable = 104 times average weekly earnings = $69,128.80

For injuries and diseases arising after 15/10/91:
Maximum amount payable = 208 times averages weekly earnings = $138,257.60

SECTION 3 (10) **WORKER DEFINITION**

Persons involved in sporting activities who are paid at a rate of 65% of the annual equivalent or more.

This includes sports persons being paid:

(1) $22,466.86 or more per year, or

(2) at a rate of $432.06 per week or more, are workers.

CLAIMANT KILOMETRE ALLOWANCE FOR USE OF OWN VEHICLE

The recommended rate per kilometre travelled is 29.4 cents.

Further information can be obtained from the Work Health Authority.