



## DaVinci Beach Wheelchair: Safety Procedures

### Overview

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

**It is not designed to be submerged or used in deep water.** However, it can be used at the water's edge in very shallow water.

The DaVinci Beach Wheelchair is a self-propelled, independent chair. However, if required, please ensure you have the right level of support. To ensure the chair is in good working order, it should be stored in a secure location away from the rain and wind.



**It is important to be prepared before you use the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.**

**Please read this document in full prior to use.** If you have any questions, please contact Council from Monday to Friday on 1300 179 994 or email [accessiblebeaches@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:accessiblebeaches@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

### Before use

- Check the weather for incoming tides, as well as waves, wind, storms, and heat.
- Ensure walkway or routes to be taken are clear of hazards.
- Visually inspect seating, tyres and other 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 a 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.

## 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.
- 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 shallow water, it is recommended to use the safety belt, depending on the user's understanding and their capacity to move around freely. Please use the safety 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 safety belt should be always used if a passenger experiences unsteadiness (such as epilepsy).

## After use

- Ensure seat and footrests are in the correct position and wheel brakes applied prior to exiting the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair.

- Where possible, the hirer or user should use a shower or hose to clean down the chair.
- Return the chair to secure storage location away from rain and wind.
- Any safety, mechanical or accessibility concerns with the use of the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair should be reported immediately to Hobsons Bay City Council.

## **Feedback and more information**

We welcome your feedback on your experience and use.

Please provide feedback directly to Council on 1300 179 944 or email [accessiblebeaches@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](mailto:accessiblebeaches@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

Please also visit <https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-Services/Aged-Disability/General-Services-for-the-Community/Accessible-Beaches> for more information about the Accessible Beaches Program.

To find out more about the DaVinci Beach Wheelchair, visit [www.pushmobility.com.au](http://www.pushmobility.com.au)