



Institute of Venue Safety & Security

Prospectus

Sunday 23 - Friday 28 August 2026

Developing safer venues. One leader at a time.



VMA

The home of the venue industry

Keeping our venues safe.

— IVSS

Empowering the people who protect your venue.



IVSS is where venue safety leaders are made.

Sunday 23 - Friday 28 August 2026
NSW Rugby League Centre of Excellence,
Sydney Olympic Park, NSW



— REGISTER TODAY

Proactive Training for a Safer Venue Industry



Upskill your team. Safeguard your venue.

The Institute of Venue Safety and Security (IVSS) is a specialised education program developed by the Venue Management Association (VMA) to raise the standard of safety, security, and operational resilience across the venue industry.

Designed for professionals working in, supporting, or overseeing public venues, IVSS equips participants with the practical skills, strategic knowledge, and leadership tools needed to manage risk and respond to emerging threats.

Whether you're leading a venue team or managing risk at scale, IVSS helps your people deliver safer outcomes—every day. Because in today's environment, safety isn't optional—it's essential.

— [VMA.ORG.AU/INSTITUTE-OF-VENUE-SAFETY-AND-SECURITY](https://vma.org.au/institute-of-venue-safety-and-security)

Real Impact. Real Outcomes.

Straight From the Source

"The Institute of Venue Safety & Security has been incredibly beneficial to introduce best practices and help validate my current knowledge and practices. The sessions offered fantastic networking opportunities, connecting me with other venue professionals and experienced instructors. The format allowed for plenty of engagement, with ample opportunities to ask questions and discuss shared challenges. The venue visits were particularly valuable, providing insights into how other venues operate and manage safety and security. Overall, it's been an invaluable resource for elevating industry standards and fostering a collaborative approach to venue safety and security."

Miranda Cannon
Auckland Unlimited

"I took away a great deal of learning, some of which I will be sharing and implementing with my team which is a testament to the content that I was exposed to during the week."

Logan Christian
Head of Operations, Auckland Stadiums

"The connections formed at IVSS are invaluable and I will lean on for the rest of my career. I really enjoyed learning from my peers just as much as the Instructors. Loved the Venue Tours and 'war stories' which had some great learnings."

Stella Donachie, National Operations Manager - Events & Venues, Red Badge Group

"Through its commitment to standardising best practices, offering training and facilitating invaluable networking opportunities, IVSS stands as a beacon for professionals in the sector to provide a safe and secure venue to all their stakeholders."

Mike Brew
Operations Manager, Riverside Theatres

Backed by the people who live & breathe venue safety. They took the lead. Now it's your turn.

— [VMA.ORG.AU/INSTITUTE-OF-VENUE-SAFETY-AND-SECURITY](https://vma.org.au/institute-of-venue-safety-and-security)

Who Is IVSS Designed For?

IVSS is ideal for decision-makers and safety leaders across the venue ecosystem. Whether you're building internal capability or investing in key personnel, this program delivers immediate and long-term impact.

Perfect for:

- Heads of Operations & Facility Managers
- Security & WHS Managers
- People & Culture Leads
- CFOs, CEOs, CXOs
- Company Secretaries
- Suppliers & consultants to the venue industry
- Event & Venue Managers

Whether your team works behind the scenes or on the front line, IVSS gives them the skills to think ahead and act with confidence.

Give your leaders the tools to manage risk with confidence.

How the Program Works

IVSS is a two-year professional development journey delivered through immersive, in-person learning. Each year includes a one-week residential program focused on safety and security leadership, venue operations, and industry best practice.

Led by subject matter experts from Australia, New Zealand, and Europe, the program combines real-world application with deep peer learning to strengthen capability across all venue types.

Each year includes:

- One-week residential learning (25 specialist topics)
- Daily Independent Discussion Groups (IDGs) applying learnings to real scenarios
- Venue Application Projects for practical workplace implementation
- Quarterly Town Halls to extend learning and community throughout the year

Train smarter. Lead safer. Build a stronger team.

Industry Experts. Global Perspectives. Real-World Experience.

Every session is led by someone who's done it in the real world.



Greg Allen

Health Safety & Security Manager,
Te Pae Christchurch Convention
Centre



Rebecca Purcell

General Manager,
Events & Venue Management
Optus Stadium – VenuesLive



Al Baxter

Senior Principal,
Architect,
Populous



Michael Roberts

Associate Security
Consultant,
Arup



Mel Goodman

Head of Events & Venue
Operations,
Sydney Showground



Scott Taylor CPP, JP

Managing Director,
Praesidium Risk
& Resilience



Wayne Middleton CVE

Founder & Principal Consultant,
Reliance Risk



Morten Therkildsen

International Guest Instructor
Director of Safety,
Fonden, Roskilde Festival



Jenny Muldoon

Head of Visitor Services,
Sydney Opera House



James Wagg

Group Director of Facilities,
ASM Global
(APAC)



Bill Owens

Managing Director,
Veracity



Jim Fidler

Director of Security/Owner
Secure Events & Assets
(SEAA)

Led by the Best in the Business

— [VMA.ORG.AU/INSTITUTE-OF-VENUE-SAFETY-AND-SECURITY](https://vma.org.au/institute-of-venue-safety-and-security)

Invest in your team & foster a culture of safety & security.

IVSS will equip every attendee with the best practices, resources and tools needed to face the ever changing landscape of providing safe venues.

The tailored program will cover topics such as:

Year 1

- Introduction to Risk Assessment
- Health & Safety Law: Duties & Obligations
- ISO45001: Safety Management Systems
- Onsite Building Code Compliance & Site Security
- Cyber Security Panel
- Fundamentals of Venue Security
- Security Operations: Facility
- Fundamentals of Emergency Planning including AS3745
- Fundamentals of Crowd Management
- Behavioural Detection & Violence De-escalation
- Safety & Security Leadership: Training & Induction
- Safety & Security Policies, Procedures, Documentation & Reporting
- Venue & Event Planning
- And more!

Year 2

- Managing Events Around Severe Weather
- Business Continuity & Crisis Management
- Safety & Security Auditing & Assurance
- Security Risk Assessment – Conducting Threat & Vulnerability Assessment
- Advanced Security Operations: Events & Mass Gatherings
- Counter Terrorism
- Advanced Crowd Psychology & Crowd Science
- Venue & Event Accessibility
- Event Control Room Operations in Public Venues
- Safety & Security Leadership: Communication & Information Sharing
- Safety & Security Leadership: Governance, Strategy, Budgeting, Change & Influence
- Building a Resilience Security Culture, Ethics & Professional Conduct
- And more!

What Your Team Will Learn

Across both years, students will explore critical topics across physical, cyber, and operational safety, including compliance, planning, behavioural security, crisis response, crowd psychology, and leadership in high-risk environments. This is more than a tick-the-box course—it's a career-defining experience that delivers long-term value to your organisation.

Delivered in a format that ensures the content sticks—and the lessons lead to action.

Build capability that protects people, reputation, and operations.

Program Fees & Inclusions

Choose the format that suits your team best. All options include venue site visits, leadership dinners, expert panels, and graduation recognition.

Program pricing per year (includes GST):

Program Option	Price (incl GST)	Inclusions
NON-MEMBER WITH ACCOM.	\$5585	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5 nights single accommodation at Pullman, Sydney Olympic ParkCheck-in Sunday, 24 August & check-out Friday, 29 August 2025Breakfast, lunch, daily breaks & all dinnersSite Visits & Offsite DinnerGuest Speaker DinnerGraduation Ceremony & Dinner
POPULAR MEMBER WITH ACCOM.	\$5085	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5 nights single accommodation at Pullman, Sydney Olympic ParkCheck-in Sunday, 24 August & check-out Friday, 29 August 2025Breakfast, lunch, daily breaks & all dinnersSite Visits & Offsite DinnerGuest Speaker DinnerGraduation Ceremony & Dinner
MEMBER WITHOUT ACCOM.	\$3540	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Site Visits & Offsite DinnerGuest Speaker DinnerGraduation Ceremony & DinnerLunch, daily breaks & all dinners
NON-MEMBER WITHOUT ACCOM.	\$4040	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Site Visits & Offsite DinnerGuest Speaker DinnerGraduation Ceremony & DinnerLunch, daily breaks & all dinners

A strategic investment in your venue's future.

Turn Risk Into Resilience

Future-proof your venue with expert-led safety & security training.

IVSS is not just a course—it's a strategic platform to develop in-house capability, build a safety-first culture, and ensure your venue is prepared for anything.

Gain access to exclusive insights, global expertise, and real-world tools you can apply from day one. Connect with a trusted network of safety and venue professionals, and give your team the skills to protect, adapt, and lead.

- 15 Industry Experts
- 5 Immersive Days
- 25 Specialised Subjects
- Class size: 30 students
- August 23–28, 2026
- Sydney Olympic Park, NSW



WVMA

Apply now and lead the way in venue safety.

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Sydney Olympic Park, NSW



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The Live Nation - Roskilde Festival Year 2 Study Tour Prize

In 2026, the highest-performing Year 2 student in the Institute of Venue Safety & Security Program (IVSS) is awarded a prestigious international development opportunity — an immersive study tour at the world-renowned Roskilde Festival in Denmark. The Roskilde Festival is one of Europe's largest and most iconic music festivals, welcoming over 130,000 guests annually. Operating as a non-profit organisation, the festival is a pioneer in sustainability, youth empowerment, & cutting-edge safety and crowd management practices.

The Opportunity

The award recipient will participate in a 5-day, hands-on training and observation program developed in partnership with Roskilde Festival's safety and operations teams.

This immersive experience provides direct exposure to best practice in:

- **Command and Control:** Shadowing the Festival's Operational Manager and participating in daily briefings.
- **Front-of-Stage Safety:** Working with pit crew teams during select concerts to understand audience dynamics.
- **Crowd Density Management:** Joining the Crowd Flow team to study the methodologies and tools used to monitor movement and prevent congestion.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Walking alongside safety hosts to learn communication and response protocols.
- **Audience Welfare:** Observing how social workers engage vulnerable patrons and support mental health and wellbeing.
- **Planner Engagement:** Meeting key team leaders to gain insight into the planning and risk management processes behind one of Europe's safest and most complex

What's Included

The scholarship, proudly sponsored by Live Nation, covers international travel, local transfers, on-site accommodation, meals and associated travel costs (valued at approximately \$10,000).

In addition, Roskilde Festival provides in-kind operational access, backstage access, staff catering and VIP lounge access.



ROSKILDE FESTIVAL

LIVE NATION®

Apply for a 2026 scholarship and grow the next generation of venue safety leaders.



Limited places available.

— REGISTER TODAY

Contact

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vma.org.au/institute-of-venue-safety-and-security

Thanks to our partners

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LIVE NATION


ROSKILDE FESTIVAL

24/7
SOFTWARE