

Authorised Holiday Under attack... Again!

During the last EBA 8 negotiations, Australia Post laid out a proposal to remove the Authorised Holiday (Union Picnic Day) and to allocate employees with an additional Recreation Leave day instead.

The proposal didn't go very far. Members reacted immediately and in large numbers to this ridiculous proposal and your Union formally opposed the proposal with the result that EBA8 protected the Authorised Holiday without any change.

Now they are seriously trying it on again. Management have just dropped it on your National Officials during discussions without warning.

This extra day off during the festive season is for two reasons:

1. It is an acknowledgement of the additional effort employees across the Corporation contribute over the festive season to ensure the public's Christmas cards and gifts are delivered in a timely and proper manner.
2. There is a blanket ban on annual leave in operational areas during this period, which leaves many members in a position of not being able to enjoy this special time of the year with their friends and families.

Your Union still feels that any change to the entitlement to the Authorised Holiday during the festive season would, over time, diminish the reason for it. And we still feel that it potentially could be lost forever in future EBAs as management slowly forget that an "Authorised Holiday" or "Picnic Day" ever existed.

Just as last time around, the response to your Union's EBA9 survey has been great. Hundreds of surveys have already been completed by members across the country and, access to annual leave and long service leave entitlements is again a hot topic due to insufficient relief staffing across the networks. Adding 30,000 additional annual leave days into the mix will not make members bid for approved leave any easier.

So please let us know what you think. We are eager to hear from you, and we're even more eager to let management know just what our members think of this proposal.

You can send us your comments by emailing office@cwuvic.asn.au or by visiting:

www.cwuvic.asn.au/eba9.html

Yours faithfully,


Leroy Lazaro
BRANCH SECRETARY



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