

Circular 018:07:20

To: Club Presidents
Club Secretaries
Club Captains

Cc: Lifesaving Operations Executive

From: Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Service

Date: 15 July 2020

Subject: Winch Operator Training – Expression of Interest

Action: Submit EOI by 11:59pm on Wednesday 5th August 2020

For additional details on this Circular please contact:
Lifesaving Operations on 03 9676 6930 or email liam.krige@lsv.com.au
Circulars are available at www.lsv.com.au/circulars

The Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Service is now welcoming Expressions of Interest for training as a Winch Operator with WLRHS.

The Winch Operator position is a highly demanding role requiring a high level of aptitude and experience in the helicopter industry. As such, Expressions of Interest should only be submitted from suitably qualified and proficient lifesavers with relevant helicopter and aviation experience to fulfil the role.

Please note that this position is not an entry level role and Expressions of Interest should be at minimum trained in winch operations to a CASA CAO 29.11 standard for aircrewman.

All minimum requirements must be met prior to submitting the form below. Those who do not meet minimum requirements will not be considered.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure via portal.sls.com.au that their awards are current prior to submitting an Expression of Interest and on an ongoing basis to continue to remain eligible.

As a helicopter crew member, you will be expected to complete rostered volunteer helicopter patrols, attend regular training sessions, crew meetings and participate in other activities organised by the Service, noting that the majority of activity is run out of the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Base at Barwon Heads Airport. Due to the significant time and cost involved in training crew, a minimum commitment of three (3) years is expected of an applicant, notwithstanding exceptional circumstances.

In addition to any helicopter duties you will be expected to continue to have active involvement in your club and complete your club beach patrol commitments.

Candidates should be aware that only limited vacancies are available. It should be noted that the selection process is highly competitive and meeting minimum criteria in no way guarantees acceptance and only suitably experienced and qualified Expressions of Interest will be considered.



Minimum Crew Applicant Criteria

To be suitable to submit an application you must meet the following minimum criteria in line with LSV's operational requirements:

- Be a minimum 19 years of age as at the time of submitting an Expression of Interest
- Have a maximum body weight of 90kg
- Be a current financial and proficient member of a Life Saving Victoria affiliated Life Saving Club or Service.
- Holder of CASA CAO 29.11 endorsement as aircrewman
- Have completed a minimum of three (3) years active beach patrol in Victoria
- Have an excellent record of patrol attendance
- Have excellent teamwork skills
- Current Driver's License
- Current Working with Children Check
- Be proficient in the minimum awards as outlined below
- Attend and pass the helicopter crew fitness tests
- Gain endorsement from Club President, Secretary or Club Captain
- Be willing to undertake drug and alcohol testing at commencement of training and each rostered patrol

Minimum Qualifications

If you do not hold these qualifications prior to the expression of interests closing at 11:59pm Wednesday 29/07/2020, you cannot submit an Expression of Interest for this position. All awards must be current. Your current details will be extracted from and confirmed by SurfGuard. You must confirm these at portal.sls.com.au prior to making an Expression of Interest.

- Bronze Medallion
- Advanced Resuscitation Techniques [HLTAID007]
- First Aid [HLTAID003]

Demonstrated IRB & RWC experience and previous participation at Advanced Lifesaving Camp are also well-regarded skillsets for crew members.

Helicopter Crew Fitness/Operational Test Requirements

The fitness test criteria are continually being reassessed in light of the evolving nature of the service. The tests are additional to those normally associated with lifesaving activities. They have and will continue to be designed to ensure that all crew can demonstrate the physical endurance and strength required to safely and efficiently carry out Helicopter crew duties.

All crew in the role of Winch Operator must be able to achieve the following:

- 400m swim within a time limit of no more than seven (7) minutes and thirty (30) seconds
- 1.6km run within a time limit of no more than seven (7) minutes
- Departure off an elevated platform (being comfortable at heights)
- 5 x wide grip pull ups
- 15 Push Ups
- One Person Patient Drag on land
- 300m 80kg rescue training dummy tow in pool
- Retrieve object from pool depth of 5m



- Complete the mission; 400m swim, 800m run, 400m rescue board paddle, 800m run in succession in under 25min

Other Requirements

Crew applicants may be required to undertake one or a series of other assessments from time to time. In the event of an individual successfully completing training, and being offered a Winch operator position on the crew, all applicants must be conscious of operational factors including that;

- Rostered duty can vary, starting from as early as 7am, or ending as late as 9pm
- Rostered duty may result in crew remaining at locations overnight
- Trainee winch operators will be required to be available and flexible for several days of initial training
- Winch Operators must provide availability for a minimum of 12 shifts spread between Boxing Day and Australia Day Weekend and can expect to be rostered on to an average of up to 2 shifts per week during this time
- They must also be available for 4 shifts per month for the patrol season outside of the peak period and can expect to be rostered on average up to 2.5 shift per month
- Applicants must consider that in complying with Crew requirements they can still maintain a balanced and healthy lifestyle

Applications

Complete and return the Expression of Interest form [linked here](#).

Expressions of Interest must be received by 11:59pm on Wednesday 5th August 2020. Any received after this date will be retained on file for future intakes.

Following the closing of Expressions of Interest, all received will be internally reviewed and suitably qualified and experienced members will be notified for next steps.

Please note: not all applicants will be successful, and the selection panel's decision is final.

Successful applicants will be invited to commence training as a trainee Winch Operator; this however by no means guarantees that individual a position on the crew as Winch Operator. Winch Operator positions will only be offered to individuals based on a combination of their progression and competency through training, as well as based on the needs of the service.

