Circular 255:06:14

To: Club Presidents
   Club Captains
   Lifeguards

Cc: Regional Officers
    District Officers

From: Greg Scott - Manager, Lifesaving Operations

Date: 25 June 2014

Subject: Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Crew Selection

Action: Submit expression of interest by 5:00 pm on Monday, 11 August 2014 for this round

For additional details on this Circular please contact:
Greg Scott on 03 9676 6935 or email greg.scott@lifesavingvictoria.com.au

The next Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Crew Selection Session and Briefing Opportunity will be conducted on Monday, 25 August 2014 at 6:00 pm.

Expressions of Interest must be received by 5:00 pm on Monday, 11 August 2014. Any received after this date will be retained on file for future intakes.

Applications on file received within the last twelve months will be advised of this upcoming session, however as per below the candidate must ensure awards remain current to be invited to the selection session.

All minimum requirements must be met prior to submitting the form below. Those who do not meet minimum requirements will be notified, and the expression of interest discarded.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure via http://www.lifesavingonline.com.au that their awards are current prior to submitting an Expression of Interest, and on an ongoing basis to continue to remain eligible.

We welcome expressions of interest from suitably qualified and proficient lifesavers to undertake training and operational duties as part of the helicopter crew. This is an extremely rewarding yet demanding and challenging position.

As a helicopter crew member you will be expected to complete rostered volunteer helicopter patrols, attend training sessions, crew meetings, and participate in other activities organised by the Service. 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. The Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter base is located at Moorabbin Airport, Melbourne.

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.
Minimum Crew Applicant Criteria
To be suitable to submit an application you must meet the following minimum criteria:

• Be a minimum 18 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
• Have completed a minimum of three (3) years active beach patrol in Victoria
• Have excellent record of patrol attendance
• Have excellent teamwork skills
• Current Drivers Licence
• Current Working with Children Check
• Have the written endorsement of your Club
• Be proficient in the minimum awards as outlined below
• Attend and pass the helicopter crew fitness tests
• 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 you cannot apply for this position. All awards must be current. Your current details will be extracted from and confirmed by SurfGuard. You must confirm these at http://www.lifesavingonline.com.au prior to making an expression of interest.

• Bronze Medallion / Certificate II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue)
• Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate
• Apply (Senior) First Aid Certificate
• Spinal Management Certificate

Other awards additional to those specified above will be taken into account when selecting candidates. Demonstrated IRB experience will be particularly well regarded.

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.

At a minimum trainee crew applicants who meet the above award criteria will be required to complete the following to continue to the next stage:

• 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 10m high diving platform – (simulated aircraft departure)
• 5 x wide grip pull ups
• 15 Push Ups
• One Person Patient Drag on land
• 200m 80kg rescue training dummy tow in pool
• Retrieve object from pool depth of 5m

Other Requirements
Crew applicants may be required to undertake one or a series of other assessments from time to time. All applicants must be conscious of operational factors including that rostered duty is generally from 1000 – 1900 and that new trainee crew will be rostered for training/patrol on a Saturday or Sunday on average once every three weeks. Crew will also be rostered on average one day a week in the peak period between Boxing Day and Australia Day, and during this period midweek crew duties will be required.

Interview
An applicant will be required to attend a selection interview before a panel. The applicant will also be evaluated throughout the full duration of the briefing and fitness/operational test requirements as to their suitability.

Applications
Complete and return the expression of interest form listed below:

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