



The life of the beach.

SURF LIFE SAVING SA

PO Box 108, Torrensville SA 5031
219 Henley Beach Road, Torrensville SA 5031
Phone: 08 8354 6900
Facsimile: 08 8354 6999
Web Site: www.surfrescue.com.au

C I R C U L A R

Circular No: C09029

TO: Officers on Surfguard

FROM: Bruce Hosking, Chairman Board of Lifesaving
Shane Daw, State Manager - Operations

DATE: 11th August 2009

SUBJECT: Expressions of Interest
South Australian Helicopter Crew

APPLICATION TO JOIN CREW OF THE WESTPAC LIFE SAVER RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE CLOSES 12 noon Monday 7th September 2009

The Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter Service is service which conducts regular surveillance patrols and rescue missions in the Metropolitan, Mid and Far South Coast areas.

The Service works closely with the volunteer beach patrols of clubs and actively supports the SLSSA strategy of making South Australian beaches safer. The Service also provides support to other volunteer emergency services and will work closely with government agencies such as the Police, Fire, Ambulance Services and AUSSAR.

The Service participates in Surf Life Saving SA's Community Education Program attending schools, community groups and emergency service units.

We are currently seeking applications from suitably qualified and proficient Surf Life Savers to undertake training and operational duties as part of the Helicopter crew. This is a demanding and challenging position.

As a Helicopter crew member you will be expected to complete rostered volunteer helicopter patrols on weekends and public holidays, attend training sessions and crew meetings and participate in any other activities organised by the Service.

In addition to any helicopter duties you will be required to maintain an active interest in your club and complete all beach patrol commitments as required by your club.

All candidates should be aware that only limited vacancies are available. This is primarily due to the time and experience required for training and maintaining currency. It is currently anticipated that between 2 to 4 new crew members will be required for the season 2009/2010.

Minimum Crew Applicant Criteria

To be suitable to submit an application you must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Be physically fit.
- Be of the age of at least 21 years.
- Be a financial and proficient member of an affiliated Surf Life Saving Club.
- Have completed a minimum of four (4) years active beach patrol.
- Have the written endorsement of your Club and Branch.
- Be proficient in the minimum awards as outlined below.
- Attend and pass the helicopter crew fitness tests.



The life of the beach.

Minimum SLSA Awards

If you do not hold these awards you cannot apply for this position. All awards must be current.

- Bronze Medallion
- Advanced Resuscitation Certificate
- You must also hold a current Senior First Aid Certificate [SLSA or other].

Other awards additional to those specified above will be taken into account when selecting candidates. Applicants must either hold or be registered to undertake the Defibrillator Certificate.

Helicopter Crew Fitness/Operational Test Requirements

The final fitness test criteria are continually being reassessed in light of the expanded nature of the service. The tests are different from those normally associated with Surf 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.

Full harness equipped swim sprints, patient drags, and treading water for extended periods whilst dressed, are typical of the tests performed.

At a minimum trainee crew applicants who meet the minimum 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 8 minutes.
- 1.6km run within a time limit of no more than 7 minutes
- Departure off 10m high diving platform – (simulated aircraft departure)*

* Subject to ability to access this facility

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 patrol days are generally from 1000 – 1900 and that new trainee crew will be rostered for training/patrol a minimum of once in every two to three week period.

Interview Process

All applicants may be required to submit to a selection interview before a panel comprising the Aerial Services Adviser, the Crew Chief and the Chief Pilot.

Applications

Applications must be submitted on a Helicopter Services Application Form which can be obtained from the Web Site www.surfrescue.com.au

No late applications will be accepted.



The life of the beach.

Overview of Process

- Applications received
- Applicants that meet award criteria invited to complete swim, run and high board test*.
- Applicants that pass this stage invited to interview (if required).
- Successful applicants from interview advised and invited to participate in formal crew training activity.

* Subject to ability to access this facility

As already noted only 2 to 4 positions exist and therefore not all applicants will be successful due to the limitations on numbers.

**Completed and suitably endorsed applications should be returned by
Monday 7th September 2009**

No late applications will be accepted.

Surf Life Saving SA
PO Box 108
Torrensville SA 5031

Telephone inquiries can be directed to the

Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter Service;
Aerial Services Officer:
Peter Marshman on 0427 964 613

Or

Westpac Life Saver Rescue Helicopter Service;
Crew Chief:
Shane Daw on 0419 145 201.