



## **Expression of interest for Membership of Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie**

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie (MRLM).

Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie is an Accredited Volunteer Emergency Service Organisation, with strict guidelines and operational procedures. We operate our radio base 24/7 and have crew on our vessels during daylight hours with further crew being on overnight standby. We will respond to requests for help from the boating public, whether on the lake or up to 30 nm offshore. As such, it is a requirement that our volunteers are well trained, so that duties are carried out in a safe manner, and can provide the appropriate assistance.

We also provide education for the public to undertake boat and / or PWC licences theory, and practical boat training is available. We also undertake Marine Radio Licence training for the public.

In our unit we value two types of volunteers.

- Those members who wish to initially undertake radio communications training to obtain a Marine Rescue Radio Operator rating (this can take at least 6 months) and who may or may not choose to go onto our rescue vessels to obtain a crew rating.
- Those members who wish to undertake unit support activities e.g. fundraising (selling raffle tickets, cooking BBQ's, directing parking, towing the raffle boat are some fundraising examples), building / boat / ground maintenance etc (unit support members are not expected to undertake training).

Volunteers are expected:

- To have clear handwriting as it is an essential skill for our members, so please complete the attached Expression of Interest form in your own handwriting.
- Willing to show commitment to the unit by attending your agreed shifts.
- If you are intending to undertake radio and possibly crew training, and due to the complexity of tasks required to be undertaken, then a certain level of literacy and numeracy is essential and you are expected to be computer literate with basic typing skills.
- As a volunteer organisation, we rely on public support and more importantly, our own fundraising efforts, therefore it is also a requirement, that all members support our fundraising activities.

Applicants will be selected for interview (based on their returned Expression of Interest form) and will be interviewed to ascertain suitability for membership. If selected the applicant will be given a MRNSW application form and a National Criminal History Record Check form to complete and proof of ID will be required.

During the first six months of unit membership, you are considered a probationary member and at the end of the six months, you will be assessed to ascertain if you have shown the necessary motivation and commitment, before being recommended for full membership and supplied with a uniform.

If you feel that Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie is for you then please complete the Expression of Interest Form overleaf and return it to either one of our bases – our boat base at Pelican or our radio base at Swansea Heads or post it to:-

**The Membership Officer**

**Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie**

**PO Box 101 Swansea NSW 2281**

