



VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE WESTERN AUSTRALIA



# Volunteer Marine Rescue WA Membership Pack



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## Introduction

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of Volunteer Marine Rescue Western Australia (Inc), also known as VMRWA. The following pages contain information about the Association and the role it plays in Marine Rescue within the state of Western Australia.

## About VMRWA

The origins of Volunteer Marine Rescue in Western Australia dates back as far as the early 70's with the establishment of the first Sea Rescue Groups.

Over the years the number of volunteer groups supporting marine rescue throughout the state has grown to an astounding 36 groups. Within these groups there are 1,231 very special individuals that dedicate their time in marine rescue activities from manning vessels and radio rooms, through to keeping people supplied with meals and hot drinks when needed and raising much needed funds to keep the whole association going.

Volunteer Marine Rescue WA (VMRWA) as an association was established to enable these groups and individuals to have a common framework of operations and a strong voice when dealing with the community of Western Australia and the Government Bodies which support the role of Marine Rescue.

The leadership group for VMRWA is made up of individuals who are actively involved within individual member groups and bring to the management of the Association, a broad understanding of the role marine rescue plays at all levels within our community.

VMRWA has a strong affiliation and works closely with our partner and governing body Fire and Emergency Services (FESA) Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMRS) division.

## VMRWA Structure and Function

VMRWA is a member driven, not for profit association with an elected committee that oversees the management of the Association. The committee is focussed on meeting the strategic direction and the objectives of the Association.

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## Membership

The Association makes provision for three types of members:

- a. **Ordinary Members.** Ordinary Membership of the Association is open to any volunteer group whose activities and objects are aligned with the Associations activities and objects. The volunteer group must be an incorporated association under the Act and be prepared to abide by the constitution and rulings of the Association;
- b. **Life Members.** Life Membership of the Association may be conferred as an honorarium upon individuals who have rendered long and meritorious service in the interest of the Association or extraordinary service above and beyond normal expectation for the benefit of the Association. Life membership is not conferred on any ordinary member group. No voting rights are granted unless specifically stated within the minutes of meeting where this membership was assigned.; and
- c. **Other Members.** From time to time and at the discretion of the Association other membership classifications may be allowed; including but not limited to corporate, sponsorship, specialist and honorary members. No voting rights are granted unless specifically stated within the minutes of meeting where this membership was assigned.

## Membership Fees

Membership fees contribute to the basic administration and operations of the Association, and the Association relies on other sources of income to ensure that our Members and Volunteer Marine Rescue is promoted, developed and represented. This may be via sponsorships, funding and through the success of events and promotions.

Membership Fees are annual and are in the amount of \$330.00

## **The Benefits of Belonging**

There is something special about being a volunteer and being a volunteer and part of the network of volunteers across the state is like being part of an extended family.

The benefits of being part of VMRWA include:

### **Networking and shared resources**

As part of a network of Volunteer Marine Rescue Groups, you have access to knowledge and expertise across the board, through access to members across all the groups in WA.

### **Government Lobbying**

By becoming a member you help to increase our effectiveness in lobbying Government for the needs of the Marine Rescue Volunteers. You also have a voice in dealing with proposed changes in legislation or regulations in relation to marine access and marine safety across the state.

### **Training**

VMRWA works hand in hand with FESA VMRS in helping deliver targeted and appropriate training at all levels of Volunteer Marine Rescue in Western Australia. By becoming a member you have access to all training packages on offer and the ability to obtain training assistance from the many trainers and assessors within the volunteer groups across the state.

### **Be heard**

As a member of the Association, you are regularly given the opportunity via your regional commander at committee meetings or by direct response to information sought, to have your say on issues that may be concerning you. The Association will also seek your opinion on matters of marine rescue and boating safety on behalf of the state and federal governments. Your voice is important.

## **VMRWA Newsletters & Website**

As a member you have access to both the association website and newsletters which are produced from time to time. We will provide linkage to your own website or assist you with your own web presence if you wish to have one.

## **VMRWA Diary**

Volunteer Marine Rescue WA produces a diary each year for the use of our members and for the promotion of Volunteer Marine Rescue services across the state.

As a member group you will be provided with copies for each of your own members, with additional copies being available for your group.

## Events

### VMRWA Conference

Each year the Association holds a two day conference in Mid-August. The conference also coincides with the Associations Annual General Meeting. It is an event that is aimed at showcasing what is happening in the field of Marine Rescue both in Western Australia and across the country. It is an excellent networking opportunity with plenty of time available for attendees to get to know each other and what's happening in the other Marine Rescue Groups around the State.

### Perth and Mandurah Boat Shows

The association also tries to man a display stand at each of the major boat shows each year. Volunteers are asked to give some time to manning the display and being available to answer questions from the public on Marine Rescue and Boating Safety. The boat shows are usually a great success and help get the message out there.

## Membership Application Process

Membership of Volunteer Marine Rescue WA is open to any Volunteer group whose main objects of Association are the same as those of the Associations.

The object of the Association is to assist its members and the appointed State and Federal authorities in the provision of services dedicated to marine rescue throughout Western Australia.

If a group wishes to become a member of the Association, they need to complete the attached application form and return it, together with the annual subscription fee of \$330 to

The Secretary  
Volunteer Marine Rescue WA  
PO Box 1455  
Mandurah WA 6210

Once your application has been received, it will go before the Management Committee at its next meeting for consideration and a decision will be made on the application.

Notification of the committee decision will then be sent out after the meeting.

If for some reason, your application has been rejected; your subscription payment will be returned in full. You may wish to appeal the decision and you may do so. You will need to notify the Association secretary within 14 days of receipt of your notification that you wish to appeal the decision. The appeal will be put before the members at the next available general meeting – you will be notified when and where the meeting will take place and you may make personal representation at that meeting or provide written representation to the meeting.



VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PO Box 1455, Mandurah WA 6210

Tel: (08) 9583 4293

Fax: (08) 9583 4475

ABN: 67 729 601 378



## VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE WA Membership Application Form

### SECTION ONE: ORGANISATION DETAILS

(This section of the application form is intended to collect basic information about the group applying for membership with VMRWA)

**Name of Organisation:**  (Full Name)

**Postal Address:**

**Phone No:**  (incl STD)

**Fax No:**  (incl STD)

**Email Address:**

**Radio Base Call sign:**  (eg. VMR613)

**Membership Numbers:**

Active:

Non Active:

**Location & Area of  
Operation:**

**SECTION TWO: COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION**  
(This section of the application form is intended to collect information about the key contact personnel within the Volunteer Group seeking membership)

<b>Key Contacts:</b>	<b>Commander/President</b>	<b>Vice Commander/Vice President</b>
<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Postal Address:</b>		
<b>Phone No:</b>		
<b>Fax No:</b>		
<b>Mobile:</b>		
<b>Email:</b>		

<b>Key Contacts:</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Postal Address:</b>		
<b>Phone No:</b>		
<b>Fax No:</b>		
<b>Mobile:</b>		
<b>Email:</b>		

**SECTION THREE: DECLARATION**  
(The application for membership will not be processed unless this declaration has been completed and signed)

I, .....

Hereby make application for

.....

to become a member of Volunteer Marine Rescue Western Australia (Inc), and if accepted, herby agree to be bound by, and adhere to, the Rules of Association, policies and procedures of the Association.

Signed .....

Position Title .....

Dated, the                      day of                      , 20

**SECTION FOUR: SUPPORTING DECLARATION**  
(Two existing VMRWA Member groups area required to support this application. Either the following declarations can be completed, or letters of support from two groups will need to be provided with this application)

PROPOSING GROUP DECLARATION

We, .....  
being a current member of Volunteer Marine Rescue WA, hereby support the application of  
.....  
to become a member of Volunteer Marine Rescue Western Australia (Inc).

Signed .....

Position Title .....

Dated, the                      day of                      , 20

SECONDING GROUP DECLARATION

We, .....  
being a current member of Volunteer Marine Rescue WA, hereby support the application of  
.....  
to become a member of Volunteer Marine Rescue Western Australia (Inc).

Signed .....

Position Title .....

Dated, the                      day of                      , 20

## VMRWA Membership Application Checklist

When submitting your application for membership, please ensure you have completed all items in the checklist below. This will ensure your application is processed in the most efficient manner possible.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed Application form, signed and dated by the Group President/Commander or Secretary.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed and Seconded Form completed by existing VMRWA Member Groups (Supporting letters will be accepted as an alternative)
<input type="checkbox"/>	A copy of the groups Constitution / Rules of Association has been attached. (May be provided in electronic form if desired).
<input type="checkbox"/>	A copy of the groups certificate of Incorporation as an associated body has been attached.
<input type="checkbox"/>	You have taken a complete copy of the application form for your own records
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The completed application form with attachments, together with the annual subscription amount has been forwarded to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Secretary Volunteer Marine Rescue WA PO Box 1455 MANDURAH WA 6210</p>

We thank you for your application which will be processed as speedily as possible.