

## **WLSAR membership path**

### **1. Initial Contact**

- 1.1. New members contact WLSAR either through the website, or through other WLSAR members or the Police.
- 1.2. These people are provided membership forms. These forms must be completed and returned to WLSAR so that details can be entered into WLSAR's membership database.
- 1.3. At this point, WLSAR defines these people as 'prospects'.
- 1.4. Prospects are encouraged to register for, and undertake training. Once the first training sessions have been completed, prospects are assigned to a squad.

### **2. Induction programme**

- 2.1. As of May 2006, all prospects must complete an induction training session before they can become eligible for WLSAR membership.
- 2.2. The induction training involves an overnight exercise in bush near Wellington. WLSAR's assessment will encompass the following factors:
  - (i) Bushcraft skills
  - (ii) Experience (previous outdoors experiences)
  - (iii) Equipment (appropriate for environment and conditions)
  - (iv) Fitness levels
  - (v) Team work ethic and interaction
  - (vi) Commitment to SAR
  - (vii) Navigation both day, night, open area and bush environments
- 2.3. Assessor(s) will accompany the trainees. The assessors will meet afterwards and complete their recommendations. The results will be provided to the inductees ASAP.
- 2.4. Successful inductees then become probationary members of WLSAR.
- 2.5. WLSAR will provide information to probationary members that will set out the following:
  - (i) A description of WLSAR, its purpose, structure, and relationship with the Police.
  - (ii) WLSAR's responsibilities to provide training opportunities
  - (iii) New members' commitment to gain SAR skills by participating in the training offered by WLSAR.
  - (iv) A requirement that prospective members attend at least three core training events within 18 months in order to become first response member of WLSAR and will receive a membership card.
  - (v) Information about SOP's, etc