



INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Thanks for your interest in joining the Springwood Bushwalking Club (SBC).

There is sometimes an element of risk in outdoor activities. It is important that Club members are confident they can rely on each other should a difficulty arise. Therefore full membership of the Club is only conferred after a brief period of prospective membership which involves you attending a club introduction and participating in three walks.

Application for prospective membership involves filling out the **Prospective Member Application Form**, and payment of the annual fee:

- Prospective Member annual fee - \$35
- Junior Prospective Member annual fee (under 18 years) – no fee (yes – free!)

The annual membership fee includes basic insurance cover organised through Bushwalking Australia. Children under 12 are not currently included in accident cover.

All membership fees are renewable at the end of June.

To join the club, complete the form on the club website and pay the annual fee of \$35 (bank transfer is preferred). If you join after March, this covers membership until June the following year (ie 16 months membership).

Your membership application may take up to 2 weeks to process once your fee has been received. You will receive an email with your login details and information about booking into a walk.

To become a full member, you must:

- attend an Induction Course (marked as 'Introduction walk') organised by the Club, and
- participate in at least three Club walks,
- be recommended for full membership by the Committee, and
- be voted as a full member at a monthly general meeting of the Club.

The **Induction Course** provides information about:

- the purpose, structure and history of the Club,
- procedures for booking into and participating in a walk or other activity,
- basic equipment requirements, and
- bushwalking ethics.

It is usually followed by a walk that counts as one of the three qualifying walks.

While most prospective members find it useful to do the Induction Course as soon as possible after joining, it is NOT a prerequisite to you joining club walks.

Walks and other activities are graded and usually have a limit on the group size. Leaders have the right to restrict participation to those with suitable fitness and experience. The activity grading and group size limit is included in listing in the Activity Program.

Excepting where they have significant bushwalking experience, club policy is that Prospective Members should focus on walks graded “E” (easy) or “E-M” (easy/medium).

Bookings to attend the Induction Course, walks, and other activities should preferably be made via the Club website. You will receive an email from the leader confirming your place, or putting you on a waiting list. Alternatively, you can speak to the leader at a club meeting, or call or email the leader.

If the leader does not know you, they may enquire about your fitness and experience. It is essential that you advise the leader of any medical condition that you have which could affect your performance on the walk (even though you may have provided this on your *Prospective Member Application Form*).

The ***Prospective Member Record*** form can be downloaded from the website and allows you to keep a record of your attendance at the Induction Course and three qualifying walks. Make sure you get it signed by the leader, and don't lose it!

After successful completion of the Induction Course and three walks, give the completed Prospective Member Record form to the Membership Secretary at a club meeting (or send a photo to membership@springwoodbushwalker.org.au). The SBC Committee will consider your nomination, and will then recommend that you be accepted into full membership at the next monthly general meeting.

The Club will provide opportunities for further training (eg First Aid, navigation, abseiling) when you become a member.

More Information

Additional information is included in following SBC documents:

- *Information for Members*
- *Booking an Activity*
- *Participating in an Activity*
- *Equipment*
- *Responsible Bushwalking*