

# Regional Leader Development Courses



Dear Club Committees,

Over the last few years, our member clubs have told us that one of their biggest challenges is recruiting, training and retaining trip leaders. We've got an idea for helping clubs with this challenge and we'd like your input.

It started in early 2019 when FMC contacted a handful of clubs. We interviewed some senior members and used that information to create a resource for Club leader development. The resource was published in [Wilderlife's Outdoor Community section](#), and summarised in the March 2019 issue of *Backcountry*.

During those interviews, we discussed ways that FMC might be able to encourage and/or facilitate leader training and development. There seemed to be a reasonable degree of interest in FMC support toward “Regional Leader Training and Development Courses” and we wanted to check in with all our clubs to see if this concept is worth pursuing.

We're aware that such a course would require quite a bit of effort to run, so the initial concept was to share the workload and the benefits of putting on such courses across a number of clubs, with admin support and possibly some funding from FMC. Each clubs would contribute to and/or rotate the role of organiser, for annual or biennial events. The aim would be for training for newer leaders, development for existing club leaders and cross-pollination of ideas and new relationships between clubs.

To help us decide whether to put energy into this concept such as investigating possible funding, we'd like to ask for feedback from clubs, by answering a few questions.

Please email your answers to [dan.clearwater@fmc.org.nz](mailto:dan.clearwater@fmc.org.nz) by 15 June 2019.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the idea over the phone, please contact Dan to arrange a chat. Thank you in advance for your replies.

Kind regards,

Dan Clearwater  
**FMC Development Officer**

## Question for consideration

Email your replies to [dan.clearwater@fmc.org.nz](mailto:dan.clearwater@fmc.org.nz) by 15 June 2019.

Please begin by explaining your role within the club, and whether the opinions are yours, from the committee, or from the wider club.

1. Does your club think this sort of event will benefit your club and its leaders?
2. Would your club realistically be able to commit to help organise, or contribute time towards such a regional event?
3. Briefly describe what the event would look like, for it to be of interest to your club and your leaders:
  - a. Duration: day/weekend/ long weekend/ extended duration
  - b. Location: Conference room / base-camp style near the mountains / on an actual tramping trip / other
  - c. Content covered: common leader challenges, mentoring skills, cultural considerations, group dynamics etc etc
  - d. Style of course: Scenarios, lectures, group discussions/others.
  - e. Target audience: potential/junior/intermediate/senior leaders
  - f. Time of year held.
4. Help us understand how much such a course might cost;
  - a. Would there be a willingness for the course fee to help cover some professional assistance?
  - b. Or is it important that the course be as cheap as possible, only covering expenses?
  - c. Or somewhere in between?
5. Please add any other considerations, ideas or feedback you might have relating to this topic.

Thank you for taking the time to reply to FMC, we really do appreciate it, as it helps prioritise the efforts of our staff time when it comes to supporting our clubs!