



# Why you should become a hsuwa workplace representative

Whatever your reason for becoming a Rep you can be confident that an active union leads to better outcomes for you and your colleagues. How active you become as a Workplace Rep , and what you are active about, is really up to you and your colleagues.

It is the members who set the agenda for the HSUWA, after all, the union exists to protect and further their pay, conditions, job security and other interests.

It is also the members, communicating with their union, campaigning in their workplaces, and taking collective action that powers the Union. Members provide the power and therefore they have the right to decide how to use that power.

And when members use their power, they get great outcomes: Independent studies show that in unionised workplaces, the pay is on average 18% higher than non-unionised workplaces. Unionised workplaces are generally safer, happier, and more productive.

The key role of a Workplace Rep is to provide leadership in the workplace to protect and further the interests of members.

An active Rep may do (and has a right to do) one or more of the following:

### Communicate! For example:

- To tell us about issues, and tell your colleagues what we might do about them
- Talking to new staff at inductions

### Help resolve issues! For example:

- By supporting members in meetings
- By providing advice to members

### Build power at work! For example:

- By asking colleagues to join
- By ensuring we understand your workplace and the people in it

The HSUWA will train you (and you should get paid union leave for coming to training!). We'll support you with advice, advocacy and representation as needed. The Union is only a phone call away. There are even special rights and protections in most

agreements for workplace representatives, and it's illegal for anybody to discriminate against you for any union activity.

If you have read this far you probably already know that you should step up, complete the form, and become a Workplace Rep.

Freedom and democracy require responsibility and commitment. They are worth the effort – every right and condition we have at work was achieved through the activity of Union members and activists, people just like you!

## I WANT TO BECOME A WORKPLACE REP

If you want to know more please contact the HSUWA office on 9328 5155 or email [union@hsuwa.com.au](mailto:union@hsuwa.com.au)

Your name.....

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Your workplace.....

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Which department or work area will you represent?.....

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Contacting you.....

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Please enrol me in the next available training course

I am a current financial member of the HSUWA and agree to abide by the rules of the Union.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

Thank you for your commitment.

Please email this form to [union@hsuwa.com.au](mailto:union@hsuwa.com.au) or fax to 9328 9107.  Like us on Facebook.

