

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

No: 1 – 3 - 11

Title: **RWC COMMUNICATIONS DURING OPERATIONS AT WAVERLEY BEACHES**

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010



<b>Scope</b>	This Procedure applies to operators of SLSS SOG who operate the RWC .
<b>Purpose</b>	To define the procedures of communication when SLSS RWC is patrolling off a Waverley Beach.
<b>Introduction</b>	This protocol has been agreed upon between SLSS and Waverley City Council.
<b>Activitation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When the RWC enters the coastal zone off Waverley, the operator will firstly contact Sydney SurfCom that they will be patrolling the Waverley beaches and cliff areas. This should be conducted on UHF Channel 3 so that SLSS Surfcom / Services in the area are aware of the crafts movements.</li> <li>2. At this time, the RWC Operator will also contact the Waverley Lifeguards – Bondi on UHF Channel 3 and advise them that the RWC is entering the Coastal Zone off Waverley Council's area and the intended course of operations. This contact is to communicate to the Lifeguards the intended operational area for their information.</li> <li>3. Should no response be received from the Waverley Lifeguards Surfcom must be made aware that no response was received and will make a note in the surfcom log.</li> <li>4. When the RWC is responding to an incident, the RWC operator will contact Sydney SurfCom to advise the nature and location of the incident. This should be conducted on UHF Channel 3 so that services in the area are aware of the RWC's movements. If time permits before the response, the RWC Operator and/or Surfcom will call the local Waverley Council Lifeguard (depending on the location of the incident) and advise them of the location of the incident.</li> <li>5. Beaching of the RWC will only be conducted when it can be done safely! When the RWC Operator is required to beach the craft they will contact the relevant club patrol captain and ensure the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That radio contact is provided on UHF Channel 3 so that services in the area are aware of the crafts movements</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

- Entry to the beach is to be conducted in a designated powercraft area that is sign posted
  - That the patrol has cleared swimmers from the powercraft area ensuring an adequate buffer zone.
  - That the operator has received an “all clear to return to shore” signal from the patrol member patrolling the buffer zone.
6. The RWC Operator will also contact the local Waverley Lifeguard (depending on the location of the intended landing location) and advise them of their intentions.
  7. In the event of a rescue in the surf zone the operator will assess the situation and respond as per NSW Maritime and SLSA training and best practice, always with the risk management as the chief concern. If a patient is onboard, the craft will beach at the safest and most practical area.
  8. For areas where no patrol command is present (such as South Bondi) the operator will contact the lifeguard direct prior to entering the surf zone and beaching the craft.
  9. For approved special events (such as a surf carnival) the RWC Operator will contact the Bondi Lifeguard Tower and inform them of the operation area
  10. For mid week or out of patrol hour operations the RWC Operator will contact the Bondi Lifeguard Tower and advise of its operations within the Waverley area
  11. Due to the population of the Waverley Beaches the RWC will not conduct training of operators within the area.
  12. Waverly Lifeguard may request assistance of any SLSS RWC on UHF Channel 3 for any patrolling or emergency operations.

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<b>Communications</b>	UHF Channel 3
<b>Review</b>	The SOM will review this policy annually.
<b>Change History</b>	19/02/2007 - created by GD 9/07/2008 – reviewed by GS 21/06/2010 – reviewed by KP

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