



## Surf Life Saving Sydney Inc.

Established October 1907

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**ISSUE DATE: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

**CIRCULAR NO: 11/14-15**

**TO: Clubs, Presidents, Secretaries, Captains  
Chief Training Officers, IRB Captains**

**FROM: Simon Torsellini, Director of Lifesaving**

**CC: SLSS Management, BoL Management**

**SUBJECT: Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue (SMAR) Award Course – November 2014**

A Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue course is scheduled for November 2014. This course is recommended for current patrolling, competition and junior activities members who wish to develop their skills in search and rescue operations.

**As numbers for this course are limited to a maximum of 24 candidates, places on the course will not be confirmed until after the closing date. If a higher number of people wish to register clubs will be given a quota of allocated places.** Further, the times indicated on the proposed course dates may also vary pending final course numbers. These will be confirmed with successful candidates prior to course commencement.

This award course **requires physical requirements of a fitness level to meet the course outcomes**, which should to be considered by Clubs when determining which candidates they will consider for registration of this course.

### Course Description

The aim of the course is to provide participants with the skills and knowledge to participate in search and rescue operations. This course includes participating as a team member in aquatic searches, specialist rock rescue techniques, and a night search and rescue operation on land.

<b>When:</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>6.30 pm – 9.30pm</b>
	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>6.30 pm – 9.30pm</b>
	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>9.00 am – 6.30 pm</b>

**As assessment is carried out throughout the course, participants must be able to attend all sessions.**

**Where: Westpac Lifesaver Helicopter Base, La Perouse**

**Registrations Close: COB 6<sup>th</sup> November at Branch Office**

**Facilitators: Matt Thompson, Amy Teale, Stephen Leahy**

**Minimum candidates for course to proceed will be 14. Maximum 24.**

### Affiliated Clubs

Garie Era Burning Palms  
Wanda Elouera North Cronulla Cronulla  
Clovelly Coogee Maroubra South Maroubra  
North Bondi Bondi Tamarama Bronte



## Award

Upon successful completion of this course participants will receive the SLSA Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue Certificate and a nationally recognised Statement of Attainment for the following units of competency :

- PUAOHS002B Maintain safety at an incident scene
- PUASAR011C Search as a member of an aquatic search team

These units of competency derive from the Cert III in Public Safety (Aquatic Search and Rescue) PUA31310

## What to bring

There are a number of items that candidates **MUST** bring for the practical course exercises. Also keep in mind that the weather may get cold and wet and you will be involved in night operations training.

- Towel/s
- Warm clothes (also consider that the course involves night operations)
- Spray jacket / wet weather jacket
- Comfortable shoes (land search)
- Sun protection (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, rash shirt)
- Water bottle/snacks (e.g. muesli bars, cup-a-soups, etc)
- Wetsuit and booties
- Fins (body boarding fins)
- Mask/goggles/snorkel
- Torch
- Rescue tube
- Bronze Medallion Training Manual (recommended for reference purposes)

## Entry Requirements

- Participants must be a minimum of 16 years of age on the date of final assessment
- Participant must have completed a minimum of 400m swim in 8 minutes or less, in a swimming pool of not less than 25 metres or over a measure open water course before any training starts in the surf and/or deep water.
- Participants must hold a Cert II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue)
- Participants must be proficient in Bronze Medallion

## Course Outcomes

- Contribute to preparation activities for search and rescue operations
  - Describe the principles of a SMEAC plan
  - Access the factors that influence a SMEAC plan
  - Interpret task information
  - Select appropriate search and rescue equipment
  - Describe the roles and responsibilities in a search and rescue team
- Recognise when a rescue response is required
  - Describe scanning techniques and when to use them
  - Identify high risk profile groups
  - Describe strategies to maintain effectiveness of scanning
  - Identify distressed and drowning patients

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- Perform complex patient rescue, including search and rescue of a missing person
  - Identify hazards to self, bystanders and patient at an incident scene
  - Implement hazard control procedures at incident scene
  - Select appropriate personal protective equipment
  - Communicate incident details to relevant personnel at appropriate stages
  - Demonstrate an advanced water entry technique
  - Describe search patterns
  - Operate as a member of a search team for a submerged patient/object
  - Perform retrieval of a submerged object at a depth of 3-5 metres below the surface
  - Participate in a night search operation
- Demonstrate recover and stand down procedures
  - Demonstrate retrieval of a patient and return to shore
  - Describe body retrieval policy and procedures
  - Complete operational documentation
  - Perform equipment recovery, cleaning and maintenance in line with organization procedures
  - Describe symptoms of operational stress and sources of support

### Assessment & RPL

Assessment is through demonstration, presentation and application of all elements of competency in the workplace. Participants will be required to complete activities that may include role-plays, oral and written questioning, practical demonstrations and performing scenarios. If you believe you already possess some or all of the skills and knowledge of this course, you may wish to apply to Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Consult the SLSNSW RPL Guide for Applications available on the Participant Resource page of the SLSNSW website.

### How to Register

- **Clubs are to consider and select eligible members who meet the criteria and submit names of those candidates suitable for this course. The Club Captain/CTO or Club administration will then advise the Branch office by email of their members.**
- **Evidence of successful timed pool swim (400m in 8mins or less) (Proof of timed swim is to be signed off signed by Chief Training Officer or Endorsed BM Assessor) and is to be submitted at the time of registration of candidates by the Club to Branch office.**
- **After the close of registrations, the Branch will confirm back with Clubs those participants who have been included in this course. The Club will then create the SMAR Assessment request in Surfguard and submit.**
- **The Branch office will complete the Surfguard award assessment process upon successful completion of the award course by the member and this information will be provided to the members Club via email.**

### Candidate Course Preparation

The learner guide will be provided electronically prior to the course and in hardcopy upon arrival. Prior to the commencement of the course, please ensure that you make yourself familiar with the following documents as they contain reference to policies that relate to you as a course participant. These documents are available from the Surf Life Saving NSW website <http://www.surflifesaving.com.au/members/resources/training>

SLSNSW Academy Handbook

- SLSNSW RPL Guide for Applicants
- Participant Code of Conduct policy (TA3.2)

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To access these documents, select *Training & Education*, then *Member Training*, then *Participant Resources*.

You should also print a copy of the Training Enrolment Form, and bring this completed and signed form with you to the course. To access this form select *Training & Education; Member Training; Participant Resources*, then *SLSNSW Training Enrolment Form*.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the course, or have difficulty accessing the documents from the internet, please contact the Branch Office.

Regards

**Simon Torsellini**  
**DIRECTOR OF LIFESAVING**

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