



Circular- Rescue of the Month 2018

Title: Rescue of the Month
Document ID: 49 17/18
Department: Coastal Safety
Audience: Clubs, Lifesaving Services, State & Territory centres, Australian Lifeguard Services
Summary: Lifesaving personnel national recognition program

Lifesavers and Lifeguards provide an essential service to communities throughout Australia. Many exceptional rescues and first aids performed each year are over and above normal duties and showcase excellence in lifesaving training, skills and procedures.

The SLSA board endorsed the implementation of a *National Rescue of the Month* (ROTM) commencing in December 2013. The program expands similar successful recognition programs currently being run by SLSNSW and SLSQ.

The 'Rescue of the Month' aims to recognise excellence in lifesaving and service delivery, measured against industry best practice and operating procedures. It is not to encourage unnecessary risk, neglect safety considerations or Standard Operating Procedures.

The program is designed to:

1. Increase the recognition and promotion of lifesavers, SLS clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and lifesaving services after an incident.
2. Increase the number of worthy Meritorious Awards

State/Territory centres will award a ROTM. These monthly winners will automatically become nominated for the National Rescue of the Month. The National ROTM will be awarded to recipients at a quarterly ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra.

The ROTM is a **separate** recognition program to the SLSA Meritorious Awards. Members, Clubs, lifesaving services and Australian Lifeguard Services may nominate to both programs separately using the relevant nomination form.

Nomination Process

Clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and lifesaving services are to nominate using the Rescue of the Month nomination form available on the SLS website or member portal.

Clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and lifesaving services are to send the completed nomination form to their Branch/Region or State/Territory centre.

All nominated rescues/incidents must be performed inside the designated time period i.e. a rescue/incident that occurs in November is only eligible for the November award etc. (see nomination schedule for due dates).



There are five (5) key areas assessed as part of the Judging Criteria:

Criteria	Weight
1. Application of Skills and Resource Utilisation	35%
2. Procedures Followed	25%
3. Environmental Conditions	20%
4. Potential Outcome	15%
5. Media Capture / Communication	5%

These criteria will be used to determine Branch, State/Territory and National Rescue of the Month winners



NOMINATION SCHEDULE

PERIOD	NOMINATION PERIOD ENDS	BRANCH ROTM	STATE/TERRITORY ROTM		NATIONAL ROTM		
		Nominations Close (To Branch or ALS Manager)	Nominations Close (To State)	State Winner Announced	Nominations Close (To SLSA)	Winner Announced	
2017	December	31-Dec	05-January	12-January	19-January	19-January	29-January
2018	January	31-Jan	05-February	09-February	16-February	16-February	23-February
	February	28-Feb	05-March	09-March	16-March	16-March	23-March
	March	31-Mar	09-April	13-April	20-April	20-April	27-April
	April	30-Apr	07-May	11-May	18-May	18-May	25-May
	May/June	30-Jun	09-July	13-July	20-July	20-July	27-July
	July/Aug	31-Aug	10-September	14-September	21-September	21-September	28-September
	September	30-Sep	08-October	12-October	19-October	19-October	26-October
	October	31-Oct	05-November	09-November	16-November	16-November	23-November
	November	30-Nov	10-December	14-December	21-December	21-December	02-January
	December	31-Dec	07-Jan-19	11-Jan-19	18-Jan-19	18-Jan-19	25-Jan-19
Parliamentary Friends of SLS (Federal) presentation							
08-February-2018	21-June-2018	20-September-2018	06-December-2018				
July/Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov	Dec, Jan, Feb, March	April, May/June	July/Aug, Sept, October				

Eligibility

- Rescues, First Aids (or other lifesaving actions) conducted during or outside of patrol hours, year round, on or off the beach.
- All nominees are to be current members of SLSA, employees of Australian Lifeguard Service or a lifesaving services.
- All Club nominations are to be received by the Branch/Region/State or Territory on or before the applicable closing date.
- No late correspondence will be entered into. Late nominations **will not be eligible** for the State/National Rescue of the Month, but can be recognised by the Branch or State/Territory independently or nominated to the SLSA Meritorious Awards program if appropriate.
- Branches/Regions may make only one (1) nomination to State centre per period, as per schedule.
- States/Territory may make only one (1) nomination to SLSA per period, as per schedule.
- All nominations are to be received on the official 'SLSA Rescue of the Month Nomination Form'. This can be downloaded from the member portal library or obtained by contacting the SLSA or your State/Territory Office.
- States/Territory reserves the right to nominate any outstanding rescue/incident in addition to any Branch/Region nomination, inside the designated time period.
- SLSA and the States/Territory reserve the right to promote details of rescues and the nominated rescuer(s) internally and externally in promotion of SLS services/clubs/members and the Rescue of the Month program.
- Nomination for the 'award' serves as agreement to the conditions as stated above.

Judging

- The State/Territory ROTM judging panel/method shall be determined by the State/Territory
- The SLSA National ROTM judging panel shall be the determined by the Board appointed Chair of Lifesaving.
- The selection of a winner is final and there will be no correspondence entered into.

Recognition / Winners

- Clubs/Services shall be the award recipients for winning nominations.
- Branch winner ROTM – State/Territory & Branch branded Citation.
- State/Territory ROTM – State monthly winners shall be recognised via a citation for the Club + any additional methods as determined by the State/Territory. State ROTM winner is not awarded a Branch level citation.
- State/Territory – May choose to award a Rescue of the Year award, however there is no National Rescue of the Year award.
- National ROTM – Citation & medallion plus award ceremony in Canberra.