

LS10.9 CLUB/SERVICE CALLOUT TEAMS (Emergency Response)



**NEW SOUTH
WALES**

Section: LS10 Emergency Response System

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Date: 20th September 2014

PURPOSE

To outline the requirements of club/service emergency response systems.

POLICY

Due to the benefit to the community, all volunteer lifesaving services in NSW should have emergency response (24/7 callout) capability.

This should be achieved through a coordinated system of suitably qualified personnel with access to appropriate rescue equipment, responding within specific emergency response plans.

PROCEDURE

Local Emergency Response System

Lifesaving services should have emergency response systems in place that fall in line with the Surf Life Saving Emergency Response System; namely:

- Response areas (maximum) – Lifesaving Service Agreement/Contract.
- Equipment preparedness (suitable 24/7 'rescue ready' equipment).
- Formally established and administered callout teams.
- Local response plans – included in their Patrol Operations Manual.
- A formally administered personnel contact list (based within SurfGuard).
- A consistent notification/tasking process (Cell/SMS/Pager etc).

Declining a request for assistance

Lifesaving services/personnel may decline a request to respond to an emergency if they feel it would create a level of unacceptable risk to do so:

Examples of inhibitors may be:

- Insufficient personnel;
- Insufficient equipment;
- Dangerous conditions; and
- Geographical distance (outside achievable response area).

Appropriate local emergency response planning/preparedness (equipment and procedures) will minimise the above inhibitors and maximise the ability to render assistance.

Planning/Preparedness

To maximise emergency response effectiveness and personnel safety, it is recommended that clubs/lifeguard services maintain the following equipment/logistical preparedness:

Equipment

- Two rescue tubes, two sets of fins and two rescue boards should be located in a known and easily accessible location at the facility at all times.
- At least one IRB/RWC should be fully set up with a full tank of fuel located in an accessible location (fuel storage container).
- An ATV (if available) should be fuelled and positioned "ready to go."
- The O2/Resus Kit, AED Kit and First Aid Kit should be easily accessible either on the ATV or in the first aid room.

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- Two radios with aqua bags should be on charge and easily accessible by lifesaving services personnel.
- Personal telephone contactable 24 hours with contacts.
- Emergency back-up contacts.
- Night operations kit available (if endorsed for night operations).

Logistics

- Surfguard should be utilised to maintain and administer club/service callout team contact information (updated pre-season, post-season and when otherwise changes).
- Surfguard SMS functions should be utilised and/or other suitable emergency notification systems.

Training/Exercises

- All club/service callout teams should conduct an annual pre-season induction/briefing.
- All club/service callout teams should conduct at least scenario/exercise annually.

REFERENCE

Lifesaving Service Agreement

Patrol Operations Manual