



SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY

MEMORANDUM

To	Clubs, Presidents, Secretaries, Captains, Interested Parties
From	Lifesaving Manager
CC	BOM, LSEC, SSC, JDC, MSC
Date	Friday 12 January 2018
Pages	2
Subject	Lifesaving Notices January 2018

Dear Clubs,

On behalf of the LSEC, I would like to thank you all for the fantastic effort put in by your Lifesavers this Christmas & New Year Period. It was an extremely busy period, with a number of major incidents in the Branch, very high beach patronage and extreme weather conditions. Patrols handled these circumstances with the utmost professionalism which resulted in yet another holiday period where no lives were lost between the flags on our beaches.

The following is a number of Lifesaving Notices which Clubs are asked to kindly note as we move into the second half of the 2017/18 Season:

1. Modification of Lifesaving Equipment:

- 1.1. Clubs are reminded that under no circumstances is Lifesaving Equipment to be modified in any way contrary to the SOPS or standards outlined in the SLS Sydney Gear and Equipment Inspection Guidelines (August 2017).
- 1.2. This includes tying knots in the Sashes of Rescue Tubes.

2. Patrol Hours over Easter Long Weekend:

- 2.1. Clubs may have realised that there was a small error on their most recent Lifesaving Service Agreement (LSA) which patrols are to finish at 1800hrs on Easter Sunday and Monday – which fall after the State-wide change back from Daylight Savings times. Patrols on these days are to finish at 1600hrs, with the last patrol finishing at 1800hrs being Saturday 31st March.

3. Improving Lifesaving Standards in Season 2018/2019:

- 3.1. SLS Sydney will be seeking to review Lifesaving Service Agreements with Clubs prior to the commencement of Season 2018/2019 to address the concerns of the Lifesaving & Education Committee regarding award holders on patrol.
- 3.2. SLS Sydney will require clubs, from the commencement of Season 2018/2019, to have designated persons occupy the IRB Driver and Crewperson roles on patrol at all times. Whilst occupying these roles, the roles of Patrol Captain and ARTC Operator must be assumed by other members of the patrol.
- 3.3. As clubs will be aware, SLS Sydney has flagged this coming change on a number of occasions, including the Preseason Lifesaving & Education Meeting held in September 2017.

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- 3.4. We are asking Clubs to support us with enacting this change as we have serious concerns about the viability of providing effective beach and incident management in circumstances where the IRB Driver and/Crewperson is designated as another award holder – especially Patrol Captain.
 - 3.5. We believe this is an important step towards improving our lifesaving standards across the Branch – as we work to ensure we deliver a best in class lifesaving service to the bathing public.
 - 3.6. Clubs now have at least 8 months before this change takes effect, so we would ask the Club Captains review their patrols and make necessary arrangements to be compliant with the upcoming change from the beginning of Season 18/19.
4. **SLSA Patrol Operations Application:**
- 4.1. We recognise that some clubs have had negative experiences with the SLSA Patrol Operations Application.
 - 4.2. Clubs are reminded that they should revert to Paper Logs if there is an issue with the SLSA Patrol Operations Application.
 - 4.3. Should club captains wish to submit feedback regarding their patrols experience of the SLSA Patrol Operations Application, they are invited to submit feedback to the undersigned, SLSS Lifesaving Manager Matt Spooner via email: lifesavingmanager@surflifesavingsydney.com.au – this feedback will be collated and passed onto SLSA on behalf of the clubs. Should clubs wish to submit feedback, please ensure this is completed by COB 31/01/2018.

We understand some clubs may have questions in relation to the three (3) points above, and are encouraged to discuss with the Branch Lifesaving Manager – Matt Spooner, via email @ lifesavingmanager@surflifesavingsydney.com.au

Kind regards,

Matt Spooner
LIFESAVING MANAGER

Simon Torsellini
DIRECTOR LIFESAVING AND EDUCATION