



RESCUE OF THE MONTH NOMINATION

CLUB/SERVICE	Sydney Branch RWC, Cronulla & Elouera SLSC & Sutherland Shire Lifeguards		
DATE OF INCIDENT	26/12/19	TIME OF INCIDENT	2pm
NAMES OF LIFESAVER(S)/LIFEGUARD(S)	See Below		
LOCATION OF INCIDENT	Bate Bay Sutherland Shire		
SURFGUARD INCIDENT NUMBER (IRD)	63847		

Overview of the incident (limit 1 page)

Names of Lifesavers / Lifeguards

Joel Wiseman, Jackson Towns, Rupert Agnew, Hamish Agnew, Sean Bunch, Adam Watson, Mitch Keyon, Lara Hughes, Brad Mexon & Brett Richardson

Incident

Multiple reports were received from members of the public about a kite surfer board floating off Cronulla Point near Shark Island. The board was located by the IRB crew from Cronulla with no rider in the near vicinity. Support Ski 1 & 2 with the assistance of Cronulla & Elouera IRB's commenced a line water search for the rider. The search was communicated over the radio with Surf Comm and the Lifeguards radio channels. The Lifeguards commenced a visual search of the Bate Bay area utilising CCTV cameras and binoculars from all 4 Lifeguard locations at Cronulla, North Cronulla, Elouera and Wanda towers. The Bate Bay area of water is about 20 square kilometers in size. Due to the area of water and the conditions of the sea on the day this was no easy search.

During the water search, Mitch Keyon a Lifeguard in the tower at Elouera had observed something green in the water approximately 1 to 2 km out to sea directly in front of Elouera beach. The line search was continued with the assistance of the Cronulla and Elouera IRB's and the Lifeguards then directed both Support Ski 1 & 2 to the location of the object in the water. The green object was the kite belonging to the missing surfer.

A male was found floating wearing his PFD a short distance from the kite and rescued by Support Ski 1 & 2. On speaking with the male he stated he had been in the water for more than 45 minutes since losing his board and his kite tearing.

Weather conditions at the time of the search were poor with a large sea swell between 1 to 2.5 meters and gusting wind chop. Visibility was poor and the male could only be seen when Support Skis 1 & 2 were within 5 meters of the patient.

The male kite surfer was secured on the RWC sled and returned to the beach for a medical check. All his kite equipment was also recovered. The kite surfer was very happy to have been rescued and to be back on land where he thanked all involved in his rescue.



PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS IN BRIEF BULLET POINT FORMAT

SKILL AND RESOURCES APPLICATION 40%	<i>Were the skills used correctly and appropriately as per SOP's? Did the rescue / incident require advanced technical skills? Was the equipment chosen best for the conditions and skill level of the personnel? Was there optimal use of skills within the available personnel?</i>
<p>The RWC's and IRB's joined together to preform a line search for the missing kite board rider after locating the kite board. Due to the difficult swell, the skill of those on the water and the Lifeguards on the land was put to the test in the location of the missing kite surfer. The coordination of both Lifeguard and Surf Life Saving skills sets during this rescue resulted in the timely identification of the missing kite surfer and his rescue.</p>	
PROCEDURES FOLLOWED 30%	<i>Were standard operating procedures followed? Was the safety of the rescuers involved appropriately assessed? Was there appropriate leadership, chain of command, good scene management, paperwork completed, follow-ups etc.? Was the equipment utilised appropriately?</i>
<p>Yes. The RWC's and IRB's followed all SOPs during the search and rescue. Their actions were continually updated to surf comm via radio. The RWC were essential in the negotiating the large swell as well as there ability to cover a large area quickly.</p>	
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS 15%	<i>Was the incident around rocks, cliffs, or other precarious situations? What was the size of the surf, temperature, time, visibility, weather, and other environmental conditions at land or sea?</i>
<p>The four patrolled beaches, Cronulla, North Cronulla, Elouera and Wanda are the patrolled component of the 20 square kilometer area of water know as Bate Bay. The swell was large and demanding which required the surf life savers to utilise all the skills learned during training and ongoing development.</p>	
POTENTIAL OUTCOME 10%	<i>Would the outcome have been the same if the rescuers hadn't intervened?</i>
<p>The kite surfer had been in the water for 45 minutes, between 1 and 2km out to see when located. If his board was not located when it was, he could have remained in the water for a much longer period of time before becoming overdue and missing. The outcome had the potential to easily have had a much different outcome.</p>	
MEDIA CAPTURE/ COMMUNICATION 5%	<i>Were opportunities maximised in terms of media exposure? If yes, please attach article or give a brief overview of media exposure.</i>
<p>Picture attached of RWC Support Ski 1 & 2 Jackson Towns and Joel Wiseman with the rescued kite surfer.</p>	



RESCUE OF THE MONTH 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 Decided	
2018	December	31-Dec	7-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan
2019	January	31-Jan	8-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	22-Feb	28-Feb
	February	28-Feb	8-Mar	15-Mar	22-Mar	22-Mar	29-Mar
	March	31-Mar	5-Apr	12-Apr	19-Apr	19-Apr	26-Apr
	April	30-Apr	6-May	10-May	17-May	17-May	24-May
	May/June	30-Jun	8-Jul	12-Jul	19-Jul	19-Jul	26-Jul
	July/Aug	31-Aug	9-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	20-Sep	27-Sep
	September	30-Sep	7-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct
	October	31-Oct	4-Nov	8-Nov	15-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov
	November	30-Nov	2-Dec	6-Dec	13-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec

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 support operation service.
- All club nominations are to be received by the Branch/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/Territory/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 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](#) 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 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.



CLUB SERVICE CHECKLIST – HAVE YOU:

Completed the nomination form correctly?	✓
Checked that all nominees are proficient and members on SurfGuard?	✓
Attached Incident Log or reference incident number from SurfGuard?	✓
Attached any/all related media clippings?	✓
Forwarded to your Branch/State by the due date?	✓


CLUB ENDORSEMENT

Name of club: Sydney Branch

Name of club representative: **Andrew McKellar**
 Mr / Mrs / Miss / Other

Club rep. position title: RWC Coordinator

Club rep. contact phone no: 0433 353958 Club rep. contact email: rwc@surflifesavingsydney.com.au

Club rep. signature:  Date: **9 January 2020**


BRANCH (NSW AND QLD)

Name of branch: Sydney Branch

Name of branch Rep.: **Simon Torsellini**
 Mr / Mrs / Miss / Other

Branch rep. position title: **Director of Lifesaving and Education**

Branch rep. contact phone no: _____ Branch rep. contact email: _____

Branch rep. signature:  Date: **10 / 1 / 2020**

STATE / TERRITORY

State / Territory: _____

Name of state rep: _____
 Mr / Mrs / Miss / Other

State rep. contact phone no: _____ State rep. contact email: _____

State rep. signature: _____ Date: _____

Once endorsed by State, please send all nomination forms to:
 Keiran Stone - kstone@slsa.asn.au