

Circular 3686

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RESCUE OF THE MONTH 2021/2022

Attention: Clubs, Lifesaving Services (Support Operations), Australian Lifeguard Services

Date: 12/8/2021

Contact: Terry Barber, Lifesaving Operations Coordinator
Phone: (02) 9471 8000 Email: tbarber@surflifesaving.com.au

Lifesavers and Lifeguards provide an essential service to communities throughout New South Wales. 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 ‘Rescue of the Month’ (ROTM) aims to recognise excellence in lifesaving and service delivery, measured against industry best practice and operating procedures. It is not to encourage unnecessary risk, or neglect safety considerations and Standard Operating Procedures.

The program is designed to:

1. Increase the recognition and promotion of lifesavers, surf clubs, lifesaving services (Support Operations) and ALS lifeguards after an incident; and
2. Increase the number of worthy Meritorious Awards.

Note: The ROTM is a separate recognition program to the SLSA Meritorious Awards. Members, Clubs, Lifesaving Services (Support Operations) and the Australian Lifeguard Service may nominate to both programs separately using the relevant nomination forms.

Nomination Process

Clubs, Lifesaving Services (Support Operations), and ALS lifeguards are to nominate using the official “Rescue of the Month Nomination Form. This can be accessed via the Surf Lifesaving NSW website or by using the link below:

[Rescue of the Month Nomination Form](#)

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 State winners.

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).

RESCUE OF THE MONTH NOMINATION SCHEDULE			
NOMINATION PERIOD:	ONLINE FORM TO BE SUBMITTED BY:	SLSNSW CLOSING DATE:	ROTM WINNER TO BE ANNOUNCED:
1-31 July 2021 (July)	13/8/2021	20/8/2021	27/8/2021
1-31 August 2021 (August)	10/9/2021	17/9/2021	24/9/2021
1-30 September 2021 (September)	15/10/2021	22/10/2021	29/10/2021
1-31 October 2021 (October)	12/11/2021	19/11/2021	26/11/2021
1-30 November 2021 (November)	17/12/2021	24/12/2021	31/12/2021
1-31 December 2021 (December)	14/1/2022	21/1/2022	28/1/2022
1-31 January 2022 (January)	11/2/2022	18/2/2022	25/2/2022
1-28 February 2022 (February)	11/3/2022	18/3/2022	25/3/2022
1-31 March 2022 (March)	15/4/2022	22/4/2022	29/4/2022
1-30 April 2022 (April)	13/5/2022	20/5/2022	27/5/2022
1-31 May 2022 (May)	10/6/2022	17/6/2022	24/6/2022
1-30 June 2022 (June)	15/7/2022	22/7/2022	29/7/2022

Eligibility

- Rescues, First Aids, or other lifesaving actions that are conducted during or outside of patrol hours, year-round and on/off the beach will be considered.
- All nominees are to be current members of SLSA or employees of Australian Lifeguard Service.
- All nominations are to be received before the applicable closing date.
- No late correspondence will be considered. Late nominations **will not be eligible** for the State ROTM, but can be recognised by the Branch or SLSNSW independently or nominated to the SLSA Meritorious Awards program if appropriate.
- All nominations are to be received on the official 'Rescue of the Month Nomination Form'. This can be accessed via the Surf Lifesaving NSW website or by using this link: [Rescue of the Month Nomination Form](#)
- SLSNSW reserves the right to nominate any outstanding rescue/incident in addition to any Branch nomination, inside the designated time period.
- SLSA and SLSNSW 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 ROTM program.
- Nomination for the 'award' serves as agreement to the conditions as stated above.

Judging

- The State ROTM judging panel/method shall be determined by SLSNSW.
- The selection of a winner is final and there will be no correspondence entered into.

Recognition / Winners

- Branches will allocate an award for Branch winners.
- State Citation and Voucher to State winner. Recognition statement for all nominees.
- SLSNSW may choose to award a Rescue of the Year award. SLSA run a National Recognition Program, however there is no National Rescue of the Year award