



# Memorandum

<b>To:</b>	RWC Operators
<b>From:</b>	Support Operations Manager, Joel Wiseman RWC Coordinator, Jackson Towns
<b>CC:</b>	BOM, LSEC
<b>Date:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> June 2016
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<b>Subject:</b>	RWC END OF SEASON THANKYOU

Dear RWC Operators,

Our season has come to and end for 2015-16 and we now prepare for the upcoming season with renewed enthusiasm.

Thank you to each and every one of you, for your efforts during the season and I wish to congratulate you all on such a successful year.

Statistics showed that the number of people coming to our beaches had significantly increased, which showed in our statistics. Rescues were up by 77% from the 2014-15 season with a total of 2389 rescues being completed by Clubs and Support Operation Teams during the season.

With over 718 patrolling hours completed on the RWC's, the group was kept extremely busy supporting our clubs, patrolling at unpatrolled locations and responding to 13SURF incidents. During the season the RWC team completed 144 rescues, 486 preventative actions and 5 searches, which shows the importance of having the RWC's on the water patrolling.

The level of support provided by the RWC teams have proved to be invaluable especially where speed and agility are key to a successful outcome.

## STATISTICS OVER THE LAST 5 SEASONS

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
<b>RESCUES</b>	42	83	50	22	144
<b>PREVENTIONS</b>	305	640	79	67	486
<b>SEARCHES</b>	5	30	4	1	5
<b>SHARKS</b>	1	5	3	10	4

*STATISTICS FROM SURFGUARD*

Some challenging taskings were undertaken during and outside of patrol hours in often-difficult conditions. It goes without saying that the calibre of the Sydney Support Operations Team is second to none. I have listed below some of the outstanding jobs that members assisted with throughout the season:

- Voodoo, Cronulla – fisherman swept off the rocks and returned to shore, airlifted by NSW Ambulance to hospital.
- Bondi Beach – Two fisherman rescued after boat capsized.
- Shark Island, Cronulla – mass evacuation after Water Police spotted a great white shark next to there boat.
- Voodoo, Cronulla – Search for a missing fisherman.
- La Perouse – Search for a missing fisherman after boat capsized.

Whilst it was a tricky season with RWC's being offline throughout the season, however I am pleased to announce that for the upcoming season we will have three (3) RWC's operating within Sydney Branch. A new Sea-doo RWC operating out of Maroubra and Sutherland, with a spare ski available for training or during busy peak periods.

All Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is also in the process of being updated / replaced to ensure operators are using the most up to date gear.

### **BRANCH AWARDS**

In recognition of the contribution made by the Support Operations Team the following members were acknowledged at the recent Awards of Excellence night.

**Javier Garcia** (Elooura SLSC) who was awarded RWC Operator of the Year.

*Javier completed over 82 hours of patrol on the RWC during the season. Javier also completed a number of rescues and assisted at Branch, State Lifesaving Championships and the Aussie Titles as an RWC Operator. Javier is driven by a passion to provide the best possible lifesaving service to the public, fellow club members and surf lifesaving as a whole.*

**Jackson Towns** (Elooura SLSC) who was awarded Support Operations Member of the Year.

*Jackson completed over 51 hours of patrol on the RWC, is a Patrol Captain, has volunteered as a SurfCom Supervisor and was elevated to position of Duty Operations Officer with the State Operations Centre. Jackson was also elected by SLSNSW to be a facilitator at the Youth Opportunity Makers program and is a great role model to all young lifesavers. He has grown to be an outstanding Lifesaver who is involved in every key area of lifesaving from being a leader on patrol, through to his involvement with education, competition and support operations.*

## **NEW RWC COORDINATOR**

I am extremely pleased to announce that Jackson Towns has recently been appointed as the RWC Coordinator for SLS Sydney Branch. Jackson is an extremely enthusiastic member who is looking forward to working with you all and I am confident he will do a fantastic job in the role. Please see below Jackson's contact details:

Mobile: 0452579648  
Email: jake2217@optusnet.com.au

## **PROFICIENCIES**

Due to the increase in damage caused to the RWC's last season, the Lifesaving & Education committee decided that a mandatory proficiency will need to be undertaken by all members who wish to remain RWC operators next season. This is also due to changing from Yamaha to Sea-doo RWC's within the branch, as there are a few different procedures to ensure we maintain the equipment.

Dates of proficiencies will be circulated in the near future.

## **TRAINING**

During the offseason we plan to run 2 x RWC training courses (6 weeks in duration) with a maximum of 12 participants on each course. If all candidates successfully pass this will add an additional 24 members to the team for patrols next season.

In closing I would again like to congratulate all current members on a successful season delivering an additional layer of support to the traditional beach patrols. I look forward to another successful season ahead, building on the strong base already in place.

Regards,

**Joel Wiseman**  
**SUPPORT OPERATIONS MANAGER**

**Jackson Towns**  
**RWC COORDINATOR**