



SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY

MEMORANDUM

To	Clubs, Presidents, Secretaries, Captains, Chief Training Officers, Trainers, Assessors, Facilitators
From	Education Manager
CC	BOM, LSEC, SSC, JDC, MSC
Date	22 January 2019
Pages	3
Subject	Education Update – January 2019

This memo provides an update on some initiatives being progressed in the branch and seeks to address some inconsistencies in delivery and assessment styles. Topics include :

- clarification of the standards for the Spinal Component of Bronze Medallion Assessments. Specifically whether CPR on spinal needs to be demonstrated. SLSNSW confirmed this skill is not required at Bronze Medallion level;
- an update of additional dates for Facilitators to complete their TAELN411 and TAEASS502 face-to-face Cert IV TAE upgrades ;
- an update on the provision of Assessors' courses in SLS Sydney
- a reminder of the standard of conduct that should be exhibited whilst you are representing SLS Sydney; and
- a reminder that assessments of any kind can not be conducted if the lifeguards or lifesavers have declared a patrolled beach closed.

Clarification – Spinal Component of Bronze Medallion Assessments

It is important that throughout SLS Sydney we achieve consistency during assessments and have a common understanding of what competencies a Bronze Medallion candidate should demonstrate to be regarded as competent.

With regards to the spinal component of bronze assessments, it appears that in some assessments the candidates are expected to demonstrate a competency more aligned to content delivered as part of the spinal management course, e.g. performing CPR on a patient with suspect spinal injury. This is not required to be demonstrated during a bronze assessment.

The bronze medallion delivery and assessment guide makes multiple references to incorporating spinal/neck injuries into training sessions and sample scenarios during assessments. These include:

- Theory questions reinforcing the need for an unconscious breathing casualty to be placed on their side with spinal alignment whilst waiting for an ambulance;
- Lesson plans on the use for the spinal board for conscious and unconscious patients, and stabilising walk-up spinal patients;
- Assessments scenarios covering rescues for conscious or unconscious patients using the spinal board (note - these scenarios do not require candidates to manage a patient that is not breathing normally); and

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- A sample scenario where a person is identified laying on the waters edge not moving (breathing, but unconscious).

Trainers and Assessors are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the relevant sections of the Bronze Medallion Delivery and Assessment Guide (search for "BM delivery and assessment guide" in document library of the SLSA members area).

Additional dates for Facilitators - TAELN411 and TAEASS502 face-to-face Cert IV TAE upgrades

In December SLS NSW [announced additional dates](#) for the completion of face-to-face Cert IV TAE upgrades. Both courses are at SLS NSW at Belrose. The three-day TAEASS502 will be held on Saturday 2 Feb, Sunday 3 Feb and Sat 9 Feb, all starting at 8:30am. The TAELN411 will be held on Sunday 10 Feb @ 8:30am.

The SLS NSW announcement also contains details of other options for completing the upgrades.

Assessors' courses in Sydney

SLS NSW have approved a funding request from Sydney Branch for conducting a number of assessors courses this season. Training will be provided by an external training organisation, HBA Learning. At this stage HBA Learning can only offer the course as a two-day course across a weekend.

A pilot of the new course will be delivered in the Waverley area in February. It is also intended to deliver courses at the Branch Office, and in the Cronulla area (subject to venue availability) prior to end-June.

Given the absence of courses for nearly two years there is a considerable backlog to clear.

Branch office will shortly issue a survey to club Chief Training Officers (CTO's) seeking nominations to assist with the prioritisation of candidates for Assessors's courses. Any names put forward by CTO's must be willing to attend the two days' training and complete the post-course work.

Standards of Conduct

All TAF's are reminded that the SLSA member protection policy (6.05) and attachments released in 2016 details standards of behaviour expected of persons in authority when representing surf life saving. To assist TAF's an extract, in the form of a [code of conduct for TAF's](#), was prepared and issued by SLS Sydney in May 2018. It is pleasing to observe that the overwhelming majority of TAF's are adhering to the code, and I would again encourage all to familiarise themselves with the standards. Reminder to Assessors to please ensure you wear your Branch supplied Assessors uniform to all Assessments.



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Assessment – Beach Closed Situations

All TAF's are requested to observe SLS Sydney's requirement that no assessments be conducted if the lifeguards or lifesavers have declared that the patrolled beach to closed.

If you have any questions please contact myself on 9019 0722, or via email education@surflifesavingsydney.com.au

David Kowald
Education Manager