

Simone Golik Maroubra SLSC



In 1995 I moved to Sydney in my late 20's, Maroubra beach was close to home, and the beach was calling. I believed Surf Life Saving would be a great fit for me as I had a paddling background and wanted to be a community volunteer.

After attending an open day at the club, where everyone was very welcoming and made me feel completely at ease, I joined, even though I didn't know a sole! During this period, there was a good representation of women in the club, most of which were family related.

Surf Life Saving proved to be a great fit for me as my primary sport was Outrigger Canoeing and through this discipline I used my fitness to hone my skills in the surf and patrol the local beach.

After attaining my bronze in 1996 I enjoyed patrolling and continued to learn more about lifesaving and improved upon my beach and water skills. In 1999, I was honoured to become the first ever woman Patrol Captain at Maroubra SLSC.

Becoming Patrol Captain did lead to an amusing story. When I had my Captain's orientation, and as we were going through the Captain's Locker contents, I thought to myself, when do I point out that perhaps having the Captains Locker in the men's change room may not be the most suitable location moving forward! It was quickly moved.

When I first joined Maroubra SLSC, there was a little bit of resistance by some, however the club and its members actually become very progressive very quickly in welcoming women. A definite reflection of this was me becoming a Patrol Captain.

It is fantastic to see Maroubra SLSC continue to develop women in leadership roles and for those ladies to skill the next generation of lifesavers.

I am glad to be able to reflect on the respect given to me, from all members, with performing 20 years of 100% patrol efficiency.

So, after joining to make friends, become a lifesaver and give back to the community, I have made great lifelong friends and had countless memorable experiences.

Proudest/greatest achievement in Life Saving?

- 20 years of patrol
- First woman Patrol Captain in Maroubra SLSC
- Having led great patrols which were very proactive, performing lots of preventative actions
- Giving back to the community, it gives me a great amount of pride and sense of achievement

Any words of wisdom/advice for females when joining the surf club?

- Share your commitment to look after others, by giving people enjoyment and a safe time at the beach.
- Its an organisation of great people who care – don't be afraid to get involved. It will be a life changing experience.

