



LIFESAVING

PRE-SEASON MEETING
21 August 2021
Via Zoom

Agenda

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- 11.00 am Welcome & Introductions (Scott Muir)
- 11.05am Start of Season Update (Scott Muir)
- 11.15 am COVID Response Plan (Matt Spooner)
- 11.20 am Life Saving Update (Michael Bonnici)
- 11.35 am Support Operations (Jackson Towns)
- 11.50 am Meeting end – Q & A session

SLSS Values

HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



SAFETY
TRUST
RESPECT
CARING
RESPONSIBILITY

OUR VALUES

Our values are aspirational and guide our directors, officers and members. We know that a good culture is where the behaviours match the rhetoric and we strive to incorporate these values in our day to day operations.



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House Keeping

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- Please MUTE your microphone
- Please do not interrupt the speakers
- Questions via zoom chat and Q & A after each section of the presentation
- Meeting will be recorded and provided to Club Captains next week
- All other pre season sessions today (ie Education, Nippers etc) are also being recorded today and will be available next week



SURF LIFE SAVING
SYDNEY

Scott Muir

**ACTING
DIRECTOR OF LIFESAVING AND EDUCATION**



LSEC – Executive Team

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- Acting Director of Lifesaving and Education Scott Muir
- Acting Manager Lifesaving Michael Bonnici
- Manager Education Craig Howie
- Manager Support Operations Jackson Towns

Who is responsible for what?

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- Director Lifesaving & Education:
 - Local Govt Liaison, Liaison with SLSNSW & other stakeholders, advocacy for Sydney Branch, Escalation Point for Lifesaving, Support Operations & Education.
- Lifesaving Manager
 - Patrol Operations, Standards & Compliance. Manage team of Area Lifesaving Coordinators.
- Support Operations Manager
 - Management of Support Operations Group.
- Education Manager
 - Management of all Education Activities. Manage team of Area Education Coordinators.

LSEC – Operational Area Coordinators Team

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| | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Royal National Park• Royal National Park | Lifesaving Education | Mark Wood David Staples |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cronulla Sutherland• Cronulla Sutherland | Lifesaving Education | Rob Short Brett Furniss |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Randwick• Randwick | Lifesaving Education | Will Bao Phil Carter |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Waverley• Waverley | Lifesaving Education | Rachel Feakes Max Serpa Gonzalez |

LSEC – Support Operations Team

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- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| • RWC Coordinator | Andrew McKellar | • Emergency Management Coordinator | Kane Hughes |
| • ORB Coordinator | Jake McDonald | • UAV Coordinator | James McLennan |
| • Rescue Coordinator | Matthew Evans | | |
| • Rescue Coordinator | John Restuccia | | |
| • Rescue Coordinator | George Shales | | |
| • Rescue Coordinator | Matt Spooner | | |
| • Rescue Coordinator | Jackson Towns | | |

Start of Season (where restrictions are in place) **Patrolling Season commences 18/9/21**

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- Patrols are to be Flags up with minimum LSA requirements
- Please minimize interaction of Patrol change-overs
- A 2nd IRB with driver and crew for Support Operations (only for the clubs who have the capacity to provide)
- Stand up Callout Teams on anticipated hot days
- Clubs are asked to prioritise patrol members who live within the 5km radius from the club. For members outside the 5km radius range, a letter of exemption will be required. Please forward requests to Branch. Members from restricted LGAs will not be granted an exemption to patrol

Gear Inspection (GI)

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- Those Clubs with sufficient members of their GI Team who reside within the 5km zone should complete Gear Inspection as per directives discussed at the pre gear inspection GI meeting on 14/8/2021
- Clubs that do not have the sufficient members can postpone until November or when Stay-at-Home orders are lifted (whatever comes first)
- For Clubs who do postpone, only enter your Patrol Equipment into Surfguard and submit the completed checklist inspection to Branch by 8th September

Exemptions

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- SLS Sydney's position is to use members within local government areas and within the 5km radius where possible to limit movement
- Exemptions are used for travel outside of your 5km radius to attend essential service activity such as patrols
- Exemptions can be used for travel from a restricted LGA but SLSS recommends not to leave such areas unless absolutely required and that no other alternatives are available.

Exemptions cont.

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- Exemptions are available for the purposes of
 - Support Operations / Club Call-Out Teams
 - Gear & Equipment Inspections (if your club opts not to postpone)
 - Essential Training to cover critical LSA requirements
- SLS Sydney is recommending that members not be used for SLS Service from restricted LGA's. If absolutely required exemptions to leave a restricted LGA will require you undertake a COVID test (recording a **Negative** result) no later than 3 days prior to utilising the exemption. If they feel unwell on the day of travel, they must not travel
- Support Operations / Call-out Teams should submit an exemption request up until Sept 18th clearly outlining any relevant area/s or operation that they may be required to attend. Updated letters will be provided for post Sept 18 operations
- LoE are only to be used for SLS purposes and require members to wear SLS Uniform from their place of residence to the lifesaving related destination.

Questions ?

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Or Email

director_lifesaving@surflifesavingsydney.com.au





SURF LIFE SAVING
SYDNEY

Matt Spooner

**COVID RESPONSE COORDINATOR -
Lifesaving**

Note : The **COVID-19 Resource Management Plan** document will be distributed to Clubs and posted on Branch website once finalised.

Questions ?

Or Email

director_lifesaving@surflifesavingsydney.com.au





SURF LIFE SAVING
SYDNEY

Michael Bonnici

ACTING MANAGER LIFESAVING

Acting Lifesaving Manager Update

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- Looking forward to working with an experienced team this season.
- We welcome back Rob Short & Mark Wood & Rachel Feakes as Area Coordinators for Sutherland & the RNP & Waverley areas respectively, and introduce Will Bao (Randwick). Please get to know your area LS coordinator and invite them to relevant club and area meetings to represent the branch. We would request that you treat the LSCs as your first point of contact with the branch.
- Looking forward to working with all Club Captains in what will be a challenging year. If your LSC is unavailable, please contact myself (mobile, sms, Whatsapp, email). The on-call Duty Officer / Rescue Coordinator can also be contacted for issues during patrol hours.

Patrol Ops App

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- Patrol Ops App expected to be used for this season. Compliance is appreciated (excluding National Parks).
- Clubs can nominate 'Patrol Operations Captains' in Surfguard patrol lists to enter data on behalf of the PC (see video).
- Members login using their 'Members Portal Details' once they have downloaded the "Patrol Operations" app from their respective Appstore.
- Assists in data collection (to be used in future LSA's etc) and streamlines administrative tasks (manually entering patrol logs).
- Any feedback to be provided to SLISA via their IT Online Tickets.

Sign on Procedures

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- If signing on with app, SurfCom will contact for radio check ONLY.
If signing off with app, SurfCom will NOT contact you.
- If NOT signing on using app – North to South. Have ready:
- Number of Patrolling Bronze Members ONLY (Do not include SRC)
- IRB Status (Operational/Not - operational). If Not Operational – Why and when can it be expected to be back online?
- Beach Status (Open/Closed). If closed – why?
- Patrols are to be operational at start of patrol. Commence set-up 15 minutes earlier if required (recommended).

Remember

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- IF THE APP STOPS WORKING – PLEASE REVERT TO RADIO AND PAPER LOGS!

- Notify SurfCom ONLY.
- Log a ticket with SLSA IT on their website.



- Radio Alert Tone - Should this tone be heard by any member, the following message will be an emergency tasking or a memo for all patrols

Lifesaving – Operational Areas

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- As per Lifesaving Agreement, Clubs have a Primary Response (Patrol Area) and a Secondary Patrolling Area (for tasking by SurfCom or SLS Sydney Rescue Coordinators)
- Club Captains should ensure that patrols are aware of their response areas
- Patrols should not respond out of area unless tasked by SurfCom
- Patrols should wait until tasked by SurfCom or a Duty Officer before responding to an incident

Key Focus Areas Season 21/22

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- FOCUS on maintaining a presence on the beach – Flags Up whenever possible
- FOCUS on providing best practice service levels, if at a reduced capacity
- FOCUS on member welfare and support services to all members
- FOCUS on ensuring strict COVID social distancing procedures (SLSS Members) are maintained.



Patrol Audits/ Lifesaving Improvement Program

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- All Clubs will be inspected every month by branch from October to April
- Patrol Audits aim to identify any opportunities for improvement within a patrol/club
- Patrol Audit forms can be used by a patrol on a daily basis to self assess their patrol (available on SLSNSW website)
- Total Points 300 – scenario not applicable

Patrol Audits/ Lifesaving Improvement Program

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- During an Audit the LSC will be practising & observing strict COVID Social Distancing procedures
- Beach Audits up until the resumption of Full patrols will be to ensure minimum. LSA requirements are being met and to offer assistance if required
- Lifesaving Coordinators will encourage district specific advice or ways to better improve our service

Garie SLSC Assistance

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- Memo & available dates for support to Garie for season 21/22 has been distributed from Branch office 20/8. We thank you in anticipation of your response to fill the available dates.
- Final Roster and Garie Patrol Handbook for this program will be distributed to Club Captains after roster is finalised.



Lifesaving – Roles of Operation Area Lifesaving Coordinators

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- Consult to clubs at relevant club meetings and represent the LSEC at these meetings
- Represent clubs as appropriate at the LSEC meetings
- Act as a first 'escalation point' for issues arising during patrol hours
- Conduct Patrol Audits as per SLSNSW SOPS
- Make recommendations to LSEC and Clubs about best practice lifesaving
- Mentor, encourage and engage with Patrols and Patrol Captains

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Patrolling – Chain of Command

30

- Patrol Captain is in charge of beach operations
- PC's to notify Club Captain/President and Area Coordinator of any issued that need to be resolved – ie. Unable to fulfil Patrol Obligations etc.
- Escalate to Lifesaving Manager or Director of Lifesaving and Education for major issues or issues not immediately rectifiable

Patrolling – Patrol Teams

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- Full uniforms as per Standard Operating Procedures.
- SurfCom Sign On & Off
 - Remember, if by radio, only need:
 - Sign ON: Beach Status, IRB Status & Number of Patrolling BM Members.
 - Sign OFF: Only require rescue total for the day (no preventative actions etc.)
- Patrol logs to be kept updated, legible & signed appropriately.
- Patrol strength on the beach and proactive.
- Any variation to normal operations to be advised to Area Lifesaving Coordinator, and escalated through the Chain of Command.
- Request to move off the beach does not require Area Supervisor approval, minimum patrol strength to be maintained at all times in accordance with LSA.
- Lifesavers on beach when members of the public are in the water.
- There are 3 type of patrol, “Base”, “Foul Weather” and “Beach Closed”.

Patrolling – Patrol Teams

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- **Members only signed onto patrol if present on the beach.**
 - **Equipment on Beach**
 - Patrols are fully operational from the commencement to closure of rostered patrol hours i.e. Set up at 9am
 - IRB's sign on & ready to go when patrols sign on
 - IRB's are on the beach at all times, including Foul Weather Patrols
 - Rescue boards, Rescue tubes, patrol screens, first aid kit, oxy viva and defib with other resources
 - Procedures advise operational needs

Patrolling – Beach Closures

33

- Patrol Captains should consider “closure” at any time that there is an unacceptable/unmanageable risk to the public or the lifesaving service is unable to effectively safely perform water safety tasks.
- Patrols need to inform SurfCom that you are about to close the patrolled area.
- Patrol should remain on the Beach, unless a Foul Weather Patrol as defined in the SOP's
- SOP LS9.1 EMERGENCY BEACH CLOSURE
 - Emergency Beach Closure - Procedure
 - Closure Periods
 - Reopening Procedure

Patrolling – Extension of Patrol

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Patrol Captains should consider risk to the bathing Public at sign off time. At times last season Patrols opted to stay on past their normal sign off time due to increased bathing numbers. Please advise the Lifesaving Manager and SurfCom if that is your intention.

Patrolling – Patrol Members

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- Member Proficiencies & Up Skilling
 - Skills Maintenance (Proficiencies) are to be completed by 31st Dec
 - Late proficiencies may be authorised by DOL&E in writing to Branch office, for Lifesaving only, competitors will need State DOL approval.
- Public Perception
 - Remember that all Lifesavers represent their club & the organisation when on patrol.
 - Lifesavers on patrol are to be available to PC at all times during rostered duty.
 - Mobile phone usage is to be kept to a minimum
 - Remember to maintain a professional image at all times on patrol
 - Patrol Uniforms should not be worn outside of patrol hours – including to and from the beach.

Patrolling – Inflatable Rescue Boat

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- No Solo Driving
 - Unless crew person falls from boat
 - Rescue to be performed by crewperson
- Life jackets have been compulsory since 1st October 2014
- Life jackets must be worn at all times, including outside of the patrol area / break zone

Questions ?

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Or Email

lifesavingmanager@surflifesavingsydney.com.au





SURF LIFE SAVING
SYDNEY



Jackson Towns

SUPPORT OPERATIONS MANAGER

Components of the SOG -“Beyond the Flags”

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Sydney Branch SERS (Surf Emergency Response System)

Duty Officers

Rescue Water Craft

Offshore Rescue Boats

UAV Technology

Peer Support



SERS - Surf Rescue Emergency Response System

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Emergency Response System for Surf Life Saving across the state.

- 13SURF
- On Call 24/7 **Rescue Coordinator** who is responsible for tasking SLS Sydney Assets.
- May include:
 - Duty Officers
 - Offshore Rescue Boat
 - RWC's/ Jetski's
 - UAV
 - Club Callout Teams



Support Operations – Rescue Coordinators

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Sydney Branch currently has FIVE Rescue Coordinators who work on a rotating roster 24/7, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

CALL SIGNS

SYD 10 – Rostered Rescue Coordinator

SYD 11, SYD 12, SYD 13, SYD 14, SYD 15

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Act as the Commander for all Surf Life Saving assets at any emergency incident.
- Manage all SLSS requests from the 13SURF Emergency Response System, SurfCom and external agencies.
- Conduct Critical Incident Debriefs for all SLSS assets involved in any emergency incident or serious injuries.
- Manage media at a major incident.

Rescue Coordinator Team

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SYD 11

Jackson Towns



SYD 12

Matt Spooner



SYD 13

George Shales



SYD 14

Matthew Evans



SYD 15

John Restuccia



Support Operations – Duty Officers

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Sydney Branch currently has Duty Officers spread across the Branch and operating out of Eastern Suburbs and Sutherland / Royal National Park area.

CALL SIGNS

Duty Officers (Eastern Beaches) – Sydney 31 to Sydney 38

Duty Officers (Suth/RNP) – Sydney 21 to Sydney 28

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Act as the Incident Commander for all Surf Life Saving assets at emergency incidents, providing updates and SITREPS to the rostered SLSS Rescue Coordinator.
- Disseminate critical information to the rostered SLSS Rescue Coordinator, SurfCom or external agencies ensuring the effective deployment of lifesaving resources to an incident.
- Provide recommendations to SLS assets and external agencies during emergency incidents to achieve the best possible outcome.
- Attend all major incidents as requested by the SLSS Rescue Coordinator.
Monitor Work Health and Safety of all SLSS personal whilst undertaking activities.
- Immediately escalate any major incidents or serious injuries to the rostered SLSS Rescue Coordinator.
- When requested by a SLSS Rescue Coordinator arrange for suitable de-briefings or conduct Critical Incident Debriefs for all SLSS assets involved in any emergency incident or serious injury.

Working with Duty Officers



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- What will a Duty Officer do when they arrive at my beach?
 - Introduce themselves to the Patrol Captain / other stakeholders,
 - Obtain a SITREP from the PC, and pass this information on to the RCO/SurfCom
 - Work with the Patrol to manage the incident,
 - Liaise with Emergency Services,
 - Assist with Incident Management, Media, Debriefing etc.
 - Duty Officers can be requested by a Patrol for assistance at any time if required.

Working with Duty Officers

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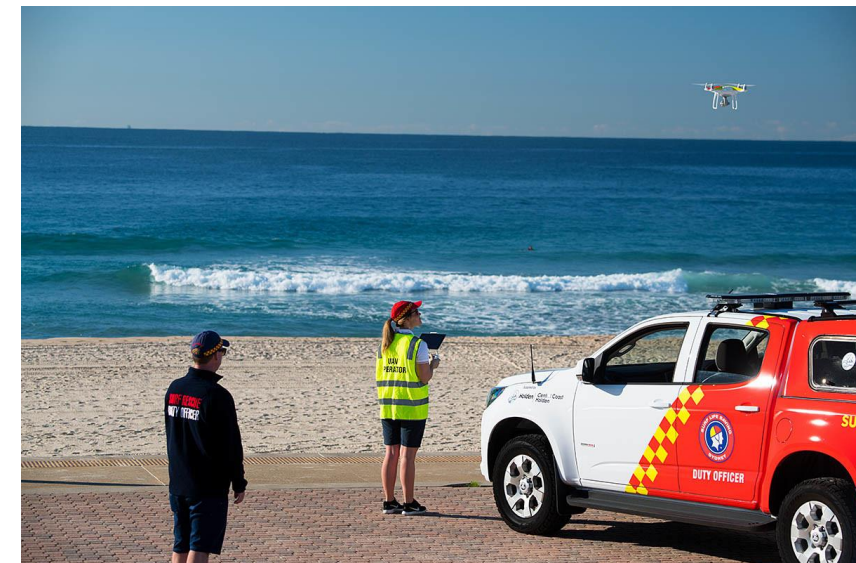
- A Duty Officer will be dispatched to:
 - Out of Hours Callouts if required by the Rescue Coordinator,
 - Major Incidents during Patrol Hours including:
 - Drowning/Near Drowning,
 - Missing Persons,
 - Major First Aid
 - Incidents involving other Emergency Services (Police)
 - Any incident involving an Aircraft,
 - Any other Incident at the direction of the Rescue Coordinator

Media – Major Lifesaving Incidents

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Only the Support Operations Manager, Rescue Coordinator's or SLSS President can make statements regarding a major Lifesaving Incident within Sydney Branch.

- **SLNSW Media Manager**
 - **Deaths / Drowning's / member Injuries / accidents issues / state / national safety and funding issues**
- **Branch President/ Support Operations Manager**
 - **Branch issues / Stats / programs / Initiatives**
 - **Major Rescues / Incidents**
 - **Local Council Issues / SLS Issues**
- **Club Captains**
 - **Club Stats / Safety Issues / events / programs**
- **Patrol Captains**
 - **Beach Conditions / Activity / General Information**



Call Out Teams – Rescue Ready

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- Activated by SLSS Support Operations Manager / Rescue Coordinator
- Taskings include:
 - Land searches
 - In water searches
 - Relief teams for patrols after a major incident
- Ensure each club has there callout team updated on Surfguard
- Rescue equipment should be “Rescue Ready” and accessible (Boards, Tube, IRB, First Aid etc.)
- Minimum 6 Members entered into Surf Guard (as per SLSNSW Circular 3681 Annual Compliancy requirements)

Support Operations – Rescue Ready

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- Surf Rescue 30:
 - On call 24 hours a day / 7 days a week / 365 days a year
 - Primary area of responsibility is from Botany Bay to Sydney Harbour
 - Minimum of 3 members per patrol.
- Rescue Water Craft
 - 1 x based at **North Bondi** covering the Randwick / Waverley Beaches (Callsign **Support Ski 4**)
 - 1 x based at **Maroubra** covering the Randwick / Waverley Beaches (Callsign **Support Ski 3**)
 - 2 x based in **Cronulla** covering the Sutherland Beaches (Callsign **Support Ski 1 & 2**).
 - 1 x based at **Garie** covering the Royal National Park Beaches (Callsign **Support Ski 5**).
 - 1 x based at **Burraneer Bay Base** as a Spare RWC (Callsign **Support Ski 6**)
 - **RWC are now included in after-hour Callout Teams**



Support Operations – SurfCom

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Located at Belrose (SLSNSW)

Operational Hours

September to April: 0700 – 1900

April to September: 0700 – 1700

Contact

General: 02 9471 8092

Emergency: 02 9471 8091

Call/Radio for:

- Requests for assistance
- Training
- Sign on and off
- Emergencies mid-week



UAV (Drone) Program

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- James McLennan – UAV Coordinator
- UAV's fall under Support Operations.
- Individual Clubs will not have UAV's on patrol this season.
- Volunteer UAV Operations will be run in conjunction with paid DPI flights across the branch.
- UAV's can be requested by Clubs by contacting Sydney 10 (RCO)



Member Welfare/State Welfare Officers

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- Duty Officer Team will conduct a Critical OPERATIONAL Incident Debrief after all major incidents.
- State Welfare Officer will be despatched to Critical Incidents to perform an EMOTIVE Incident Debrief alongside the Duty Officer Team after all major incidents.
- State Welfare Officers are trained in mental health first aid and are local members who understand the member welfare process and liaise with SLSNSW and the affected member.
- External EAP provider is available and will be activated for members following a critical incident.

Questions ?

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Or Email

SOM@surflifesavingsydney.com.au





Q & A and meeting close



Contact us

All Lifesaving and Education enquires should be directed via the Branch Office
lifesaving@surflifesavingsydney.com.au

Address : 16 Murra Murra Place, Little Bay NSW 2036

Email : admin@surflifesavingsydney.com.au

Phone : 02 90190722

Web : surflifesavingsydney.com.au

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Thank you for your attendance today