

Respondent

< 68 Anonymous >

81:49
Time to complete

1. CLUB/SERVICE *

North Bondi SLSC

2. BRANCH *

Sydney

3. DATE OF INCIDENT *

26/3/22

4. TIME OF INCIDENT *

10:00

5. NAME/S OF LIFESAVERS(S)/LIFEGUARD(S) INVOLVED IN RESCUE (check that all nominees are proficient and members on SurfGuard) *

David Freedman, Michael Nearhos, Kate Meller, Michael Boland

6. LOCATION OF INCIDENT *

North Bondi boardwalk

7. SURFGUARD INCIDENT NUMBER (if available). *Please note all rescues should be recorded either during or after hours*

8. NOMINATING PERSON NAME *

9. NOMINATING PERSON EMAIL ADDRESS *

10. NOMINATING PERSON CONTACT NUMBER *

11. NOMINATING PERSON CLUB/ORGANISATION *

12. OVERVIEW OF THE INCIDENT *

Michael Nearhos and Kate Meller were both walking along the boardwalk, separately to one another and not on patrol at the time, but both happened to be passing by the clubhouse at around 10:30 AM when they noticed that a member of the public, who looked unusually pale, was sitting outside the clubhouse with Patrol 8 Vice Captain David Freedman, who was on patrol at the time. The person in question was in her 70's and did not appear to be fully conscious. Michael Nearhos suggested that the patient should be carried to the first aid room, while Kate called 000 for an ambulance. At this point PC Michael Boland appeared and proceeded to do FAST checks and put the patient on Oxygen and Pulse Oximeter.

Measures looked reasonable but the patient was delirious and drifting in and out of consciousness. The ambulance was updated as to the patient's deteriorating condition, so Kate was instructed to count breaths to ambulance officer, who increased the urgency of the callout. Michael Nearhos took what details he could from the patient, noting that she was allergic to morphine, had heartburn and had taken Gaviscon. At this point Michael decided that the symptoms seemed very similar to those of a cardiac incident. At this point Michael Boland took charge as the ambulance arrived and the patient's condition deteriorated significantly. Due to the rapid deterioration of the patient's condition, Michael Boland decided that it was appropriate to place defibrillator pads on the patient and place her on Oxygen as her Oxygen Saturation level dropped to 40% from an initial measure of 90%. An intensive care paramedic then arrived and attempted to stabilise patient with medication, ultimately deciding to immediately rush the patient to hospital, where her condition eventually stabilised due to the early intervention of the North Bondi SLSC Patrollers. The ambulance officers contacted the SLSS duty officer to note that this situation was truly "touch and go" and that had they not intervened, it was highly likely the patient would not have survived. As always, North Bondi patrollers were Ready, Aye Ready!

13. SKILL & RESOURCES APPLICATION (40%) (please use brief bullet point format)

- Were the skills used correctly and appropriately as per SOP's?
- Did the rescue/incident require advanced technical skills?
- Was the equipment chosen best for the conditions and skill level of the personnel?
- Was there optimal use of skills within the available personnel? *

- ART skills used correctly and appropriately to identify and treat a cardiac patient undergoing the initial stages of cardiac arrest - Incident required advanced skills, administered by 2 patrol captains, 3 educators and former HoE - Equipment chose (Pulse Oximeter, Defibrillator and Oxygen) were best for the conditions and skill of the personnel involved - PC made full use of skills available while still maintaining active patrol of the beach on a big day

14. PROCEDURES FOLLOWED (30%) (please use brief bullet point format)

- Were SOP's followed?
- Was the safety of the rescuers involved appropriately assessed?
- Was there appropriate leadership, chain of command, good scene mgmt, paperwork, follow-ups, etc?
- Was the equipment utilised appropriately? *

- SOP's followed to the letter for cardiac care patient - safety of rescuers was never an issue and was fully assessed at all times for potential COVID risks - Appropriate leadership and chain of command used, ambulance moved to Surfcom after initial phone call, scene management, paperwork and follow up with Duty Officer and Ambulance all as per SOP - Equipment utilised appropriately and to the maximum extent possible with a semi-conscious patient in initial stages of arrest

15. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS (15%) (please use brief bullet point format)

- Was the incident around rocks, cliffs, or other precarious situations?
- What was the size of the surf, temperature, time, visibility, weather, and other environmental conditions at land or sea? *

- Incident occurred on boardwalk outside clubhouse, with patrollers noticing a patient with an out-of-the-ordinary appearance and immediately assessing her - Surf conditions not relevant as rescue was on land

16. MEDIA CAPTURE/COMMUNICATION (5%) (please use brief bullet point format)

- Were opportunities maximised in terms of media exposure? Please give a brief overview of media exposure. Any additional articles or media releases can be emailed to ROTMNOMINATION@surflifesaving.com.au (<mailto:ROTMNOMINATION@surflifesaving.com.au>) or please paste url in box below *

- No articles were written as Patient Privacy was a major concern with the event happening in a busy boardwalk