

View results

Respondent

226

Anonymous

38:44

Time to complete

1. CLUB/SERVICE *

2. BRANCH *

- Far North Coast
- North Coast
- Mid North Coast
- Lower North Coast
- Hunter
- Central Coast
- Sydney Northern Beaches
- Sydney
- Illawarra
- South Coast
- Far South Coast

3. DATE OF INCIDENT *

4. TIME OF INCIDENT *

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

Harry McNamara
Denny Rowlands
Paul Russell
Kaylene Walker
Lou Southwell
Alex Brown
Herni Carrera
Lawrence Scanlon
Sutherland Council Lifeguards

6. LOCATION OF INCIDENT *

Wanda Beach

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

N/A

8. NOMINATING PERSON NAME *

Denny Rowlands

9. NOMINATING PERSON EMAIL ADDRESS *

captain@wandaslsc.com.au

10. NOMINATING PERSON CONTACT NUMBER *

0401688221

11. NOMINATING PERSON CLUB/ORGANISATION *

Wanda SLSC

12. OVERVIEW OF THE INCIDENT *

As the tide was going out, towards the end of the Patrol on the first "Beach Open" day of the 2024-25 season at Wanda and with a Patrolling member herding swimmers back in the Flags; no more than 20m from the shore, 4 beach goers were swept off the northern bank of flagged area by a large dumping wave into a deep fast flowing gutter.

A member of the public tried to assist, but they were dragged under by the panicked victims, adding a 5th person to the group in trouble. As the Wanda Patrol reacted, 4 of victim's heads went under the water. being closest to the incident, Patrol Captain Harry McNamara and Club Captain Denny Rowlands hit the water on rescue boards, with 4 of the party grabbing the first board to arrive manned by Harry and the 5th grabbing Denny's board.

The rescuers were soon assisted by Wanda Member Paul Russell on a rescue board; at the beach training with his nipper children, keeping the 5 patients head above the water until the Sutherland Council Lifeguards arrived on their RWC; which was used to ferry the patients back to the sand, where a secondary assessment of the patients took place.

The rescuers were supported on the beach by Patrol Members Kaylene Walker, Lou Southwell, Alex Brown, Herni Carrera and Lawrence Scanlon for a great result, and reminding us of the need to be ever vigilant.

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? *

- Text book board rescue - Perfect for conditions
- Tubes were consider for the rescue, but the boards were more suitable for a small mass rescue close to shore in a fast flowing gutter
- Rescue was performed by competent board paddlers that were closest to the incident
- Victims were attended by the Patrol's ART once back on shore
- Incident was over fairly quickly and no further interventions were required

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? *

- Club Captain acting as VC to provide mentorship to new Patrol Captain
- On viewing the incident Denny instructure Harry to "Go"
- It was soon apparent that there were multiple victims and that Harry would require assistance
- Denny as an experienced board paddler handed over to Patrol to Senior Patrolling member
- Standard board rescue of multiple victims
- Assistance from the Council RWC to ferry the patients to shore.
- Patrolling members recovered the victims from the Council RWC dropoff and the Patrol ART provided a secondary assessment
- Other patrolling members keep watch on the beach while the rescue took place.

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? *

- Fine day and the first "Beach open day of the season" - Temp in the high 20's
- Waves size was reducing across the day, after several days of large surf
- Tide was on the way out, which contributed to the hazard
- Large waves dumping on the shore

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 or please paste url in box below *

No media exposure.