



16th September 2025

Dear Patrolling Member
Scarborough Wombarra SLSC

WELCOME TO SEASON 2025-2026

Welcome back to the club for this upcoming season. I enclose for your attention the pre-season pack for season 2025-2026.

The committee thanks you very much for your continued support as returning patrol members of the surf club protecting the community and visitors to the area.

We are making some fresh changes to the clubhouse to improve storage and the rooms far more functional and user friendly and hope to have completed before the flags go up on the 28th of September.

I do apologise this welcome is a bit later than previous or I had intended. It has come down to the Illawarra Branch surf clubs (17 clubs) negotiating with State as a collective for an improved Saturday patrol format – our time is wasted in duplicating the council lifeguards on Saturday patrols and council running the beach . There is a very detailed and thoughtful replacement program offered to State which we are waiting for a response.

This directly affects our LSA (lifesaving agreement) as ours expired last season – each LSA runs for 2 years.

So with this we have created a patrol roster based on our previous LSA requirements and this could be subject to change on States response. Thank you very much to our new club captain for putting this together.

PATROL TEAMS & ROSTER

This season we have condensed our patrols and reduced to 6 patrols this year from 7 last year. This has been able to create 6 healthy patrol teams and a good mix of youth and experience on most. No real changes to most teams but last years patrol 7 being blended into other patrols.

We welcome Pete Raffety as the new Patrol captain of Team 2 replacing Shane Adams. Wishing Pete all the very best in his first season as patrol captain.

Enclosed in the pre-season pack you will find your allocated patrol team and the patrol roster for the year. We will also setup a WhatsApp chat for your team where you can communicate with your Patrol Captain and the rest of your team.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS – PEAK DAYS

Similar to what we have done previously, a google sheet has been prepared where all members can enter their name onto a day that they are willing and able to patrol on the main public holiday dates, those being Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and Australia Day. This will be shared in early November.



Please consider one extra shift if you can manage on volunteer days so we can share the load. Even if not a full am or pm shift a couple of hours here and there is a great help,

COMMITTEE

Following the AGM held on the 24th August 2025, the following members were elected to committee positions:

We would like to thank the outgoing committee member Shane Adams for your invaluable contribution to the surf club in your time and energy.

We welcome Kat and Tommy into the 25-26 committee and Zac taking on an additional role. Also welcome back Rachelle taking over social media promotions and rejoining patrol 5.

Position	Name	Position	Name
President	Doug Hamill	Member Protection & Info Officer (MPIO - 1)	Thomas Summerhayes
Vice-President	John Liaropoulos	SBS Captain	Ian Crakanthorp
Secretary	Rick Mohr	IRB Captain	Zac Lopresti
Treasurer	Jo Gullo	Gear Steward and Radio Officer	Ian Crakanthorp,
Registrar	Robert Parsonson	Vice Gear Steward	Zac Lopresti
Club Captain	Ian Crakanthorp	Nippers coordinator	Doug Hamill
Club Vice-Captain	Kat Watson	Health and Safety Representative	Rick Mohr
Chief Training Officer	Bindi Adams	Member Services and complaint manager, working with MPIO -1	Peter Rafferty
First Aid Officer	Henry Kocatekin	Uniforms	Helen Briddon
		Social Media	Rachelle Balez



PROFICIENCY

Included in the pre-season pack is a Circular that talks of proficiency requirements for this season. We ask that you look to complete the online theory component of proficiency as soon as you can. Your Patrol Captains will talk to you about the practical components of proficiency in the patrols before 31 December.

TRAINING

Please see the Education Dates for 2025/26 to date and additional to potentially be added

There is one major change in CPR procedure that all members of all clubs need to be updated with for proficiency this season. This will be an education collaboration between SWSLSC and Coledale SLSC to make available 2 dates for everyone to be signed off. This is a mandatory course and please try to make the first date so we can get as many of our members though as early as we can. This can ease the workload of our club CTO Bindi in having to hold 2 and 3 dates.

Coledale will release a 2nd date which will be early/mid-November at Coledale SLSC

Save the Date

Date: October 11th

Time 9.30 am – approx. 11.00am

Venue: SWSLSC

BBQ lunch supplied after course



Run Swim Run Proficiency

The previous RSR has been updated and now replaced with a more common-sense format 100 metre run, 100 metre straight swim with tube rescue.

The new procedure will be relayed to all patrol captains who will then update their own patrols to have completed before Dec 31st.

Online Education Proficiency

Can all returning patrol members please complete your online training element updates on the SLS education portal (as all seasons) as soon as possible so we don't have to chase all season.

Reminders will go out sporadically before the end of year.



2025 Season SWSLSC Education Calendar (so far)

Date	Award	Venue
23/24 August 2025	SMPC	SWSLSC
6 & 7 September 2025	SRC-BM w' new updates FA	SWSLSC
13 September 2025	Pre-Season (all TAF's)	TBD
14 & 21 September 2025	SMPC	TBD-Either Austi or Thirroul
27 September 2025	First Aid/ART	Thirroul
28 September 2025	Patrol Captain's Only Patrol Day PC's CPR update (if possible)	SWSLSC
11 (& 12 if required) October 2025	CPR-All Patrollers to do! ART/First Aid Skills Maint. BM Proficiency (if conditions allow)	SWSLSC
18 October 2025	First Aid/ART	Thirroul or SWSLSC (tbc)
19 October 2025 (catch up dates to be confirmed with assessors)		
26 th October	Nippers Proficiency	Thirroul Pool

SLSNSW

Also included in the pre-season pack is the SLSNSW Pre-Season information pack for your information.

REGISTRATION

Online regos were open in august and have been trickling along and please complete yourself asap if able.

If you have had a change to any of your details or having any issues registering through the SLSA portal, please email club registrar Rob Parsonson at: registrar@swslsc.com.au

The patrolling membership fees have been donated by the Ritter Family to the club on your behalf ongoing for future years.



SOCIAL EVENTS

This year, we will look to continue to run social events to foster community within the club. As with every year, there will be an end of year awards night. A date and further details will be provided later in the season.

After last year's success, we will also run the 4th instalment of our Patrol Team relay after twilight nippers, followed by a whole of club social event. In addition, we will look to get nipper parents involved again this year by running a flags event after the patrol relay.

NIPPERS REGISTRATION

Registration will occur on Sunday the 12th of October 2025, 10am-12:30pm at the Surf Club. If you are unable to attend, please contact the Registrar Rob Parsonson at: registrar@swslsc.com.au

All new family registrations to be complete face to face at the club.

GIVE US YOUR THOUGHTS

Our committee contact details are also found in this pack. Please get in contact with me if you have any queries, comments, or suggestions, I'd love to hear it.

Thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hamill', is positioned above the name and title.

Doug Hamill
President



Scarborough Wombarra SLSC



NIPPERS

Welcome to the 2025-26 Surf Lifesaving Season

Rego Day

Sunday 12th October 2025
10am to 12.30 pm @ Surf Club
or contact club registrar
Rob Parsonson
registrar@swwslsc.com.au

Fees

\$100 per child (*includes compulsory parent associate membership*)
\$150 for 2 children (*incl. 1 parent associate membership*)
\$180 family membership
Active Kids Vouchers are accepted

2025

26th October — Proficiency
(9am - 11:30am at Thirroul Pool)
9th November — 1st Nippers
23rd November — 2nd Nippers
7th December — 3rd Nippers
14th December — 3rd Nippers
(Xmas Nippers)

Morning Nippers 10am - 11:30am
Twilight Nippers 3pm - 4:30pm

2026

18th January — 5th Nippers
25th January — 6th Nippers
8th February — 7th Nippers
(*Twilight Nippers followed by Iron Person Patrol Relay*)
22nd February — 8th Nippers
8th March — 9th Nippers
22nd March — 10th Nippers
(*Presentation*)

All **NEW** Nipper registrations receive **FREE** club T-shirt and Cap
High viz **pink** singlets or rashies and nipper **club caps**
are compulsory for U6s- U14s at nipper meetings



Bring on Summer



PATROL TEAMS

2025/26 SEASON

PATROL TEAM 1

Capt	Ben Hamill	BM
2	Zac Lopresti	BM
3	Doug Hamill	BM
4	John Liaropoulos	BM
5	Jed Stuart	BM

PATROL TEAM 2

Capt	Peter Rafferty	BM
2	Rick Mohr	BM
3	Brett Shirvington	BM
4	Nerissa Keay	BM
5	Simon Eckerman	BM
6	Ruby Eckerman	BM
7	Paul Cullen	BM

PATROL TEAM 3

Capt	Thomas Summerhayes	BM
2	Ant Ritter	BM
3	Matt Steffen	BM
4	Kieran Ritter	BM
5	Remy Harper	BM
6	Jemima Robinson Lemon	SRC
7	Audrey Steffen	SRC

PATROL TEAM 4

Capt	Bindi Adams	BM
2	Ian Crakanthorp	BM
3	Gary Jordan	BM
4	Robert Parsonson	BM
	Plus new BM's	

PATROL TEAM 5

Capt	Kathleen Watson	BM
2	Rachelle Balez	BM
3	Simone Read	BM
4	Alara Ercan	BM
5	Maeve Steller-Rich	BM
6	Madeleine Mac Mahon	BM
7	Nara Rourke	BM/VC
8	Layla Ercan	SRC

PATROL TEAM 6

Capt	Henry Kocatekin	BM
2	Sebastion Buchanan	BM
3	Beck Harper	BM
4	Shay Harper	BM
5	Zane Todorcevski	BM
6	Siena Todorcevski	BM
7	Rose Stuart	BM
8	Alyssa Jeffries	BM
9	Loen Sevastos	BM



PATROL ROSTER

2025/26 SEASON

#	Day	Date	AM	PM	SAT	Notes
1	Sunday	28/09/2025	PC	PC		Patrol Captains Patrol
2	Sunday	05/10/2025	1	2		
3	Monday	06/10/2025	3	5		
4	Sunday	12/10/2025	2	4		(Peter R away 19,26) hence change of "2"
5	Sunday	19/10/2025	6	1		
6	Sunday	26/10/2025	5	3		Pool Proficiency Thirroul 9-11 am
7	Sunday	02/11/2025	6	4		
8	Sunday	09/11/2025	2	1		NIPPERS #1
9	Sunday	16/11/2025	3	5		
10	Sunday	23/11/2025	4	6		NIPPERS #2
11	Sunday	30/11/2025	1	2		
12	Sunday	07/12/2025	4	3		NIPPERS #3
13	Saturday	13/12/2025			5	
14	Sunday	14/12/2025	6	1		NIPPERS #4 Xmas
15	Saturday	20/12/2025			3	
16	Sunday	21/12/2025	5	4		
17	Thursday	25/12/2025	Call for volunteers			Volunteers on google sheet
18	Friday	26/12/2025	Call for volunteers			Volunteers on google sheet
19	Saturday	27/12/2025			6	
20	Sunday	28/12/2025	1	2		
21	Thursday	01/01/2026	Call for volunteers			Volunteers on google sheet
22	Saturday	03/01/2026			4	
23	Sunday	04/01/2026	3	5		
24	Saturday	10/01/2026			1	
25	Sunday	11/01/2026	4	6		

#	Day	Date	AM	PM	SAT	Notes
26	Saturday	17/01/2026			2	
27	Sunday	18/01/2026	5	3		NIPPERS #5
28	Saturday	24/01/2026			6	
29	Sunday	25/01/2026	1			NIPPERS #6
30	Monday	26/01/2026	Call for volunteers			Volunteers on google sheet
31	Saturday	31/01/2026			3	
32	Sunday	01/02/2026	4	5		
33	Saturday	07/02/2026			1	
34	Sunday	08/02/2026	2	6		NIPPERS #7
35	Saturday	14/02/2026			4	
36	Sunday	15/02/2026	5	3		
37	Saturday	21/02/2026			6	
38	Sunday	22/02/2026	2	1		NIPPERS #8
39	Sunday	01/03/2026	3	4		
40	Sunday	08/03/2026	6	5		NIPPERS #9
41	Sunday	15/03/2026	1	2		
42	Sunday	22/03/2026	5	3		NIPPERS #10 Presentation
43	Sunday	29/03/2026	4	6		
44	Friday	03/04/2026	2	1		Good Friday
45	Saturday	04/04/2026	3	4		Easter Saturday
46	Sunday	05/04/2026	6	5		Easter Sunday
47	Monday	06/04/2026	1	2		Easter Monday
48	Sunday	12/04/2026	3	4		
49	Sunday	19/04/2026	5	6		
50	Saturday	25/04/2026	PC	PC		Patrol Captains Patrol



Circular 3895

Released 30th July 2025

Skills Maintenance (Proficiency Check) Requirements for 2025/26 Season v1.1

Attention: Branch Presidents, Branch Directors of Lifesaving, Branch Directors of Education, Club Presidents, Club Captains and Club Chief Training Officers

Actioned by: Surf Life Saving NSW Education and Lifesaving

Date: 30th July 2025

Contact: Email: education@surflifesaving.com.au

Summary	All active lifesavers are required to complete a skills maintenance (proficiency check) to demonstrate competency in the lifesaving award/s they hold and in which they wish to remain current. This circular outlines the skills maintenance requirements for the 2025/26 season.
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Introduction

The requirements in this circular detail the minimum state and national requirements for the SLS 2025/26 season as developed in consultation with the state and national Lifesaving and Education Committees.

The national Lifesaving Committee previously approved a three-year cycle for skills maintenance for both the Surf Rescue Certificate and Bronze Medallion. This season, the Skills Maintenance practical will focus on the introduction of Lifesaving CPR.

Theory Component

Members are required to complete the skills maintenance theory component online, as assessment marking and record keeping is automated and reduces the burden placed upon SLS trainers and assessors. If a member is unable to complete this component online, they should speak with their club training officer.

Bronze Medallion, Surf Rescue Certificate and Resuscitation award members must complete the following:

- Watch a video update outlining changes to skills maintenance requirements, as well as any changes to SLS procedures or ANZCOR guidelines
- A short eLearning module outlining Lifesaving CPR techniques

Advanced Resuscitation Techniques and **Advanced Resuscitation Techniques [AID]** award members must also complete the following:

- Watch a video update outlining changes to ART delivery for Lifesaving CPR with particular emphasis on leadership and team management

IRB Crew and **Silver Medallion IRB Driver** award members must complete the following:

- Watch the video updates outlining the technique changes to IRB Crew and Silver Medallion IRB Drivers
- A short Powercraft Safety module

RWC Operator award members must complete the following:

- A short Powercraft Safety module

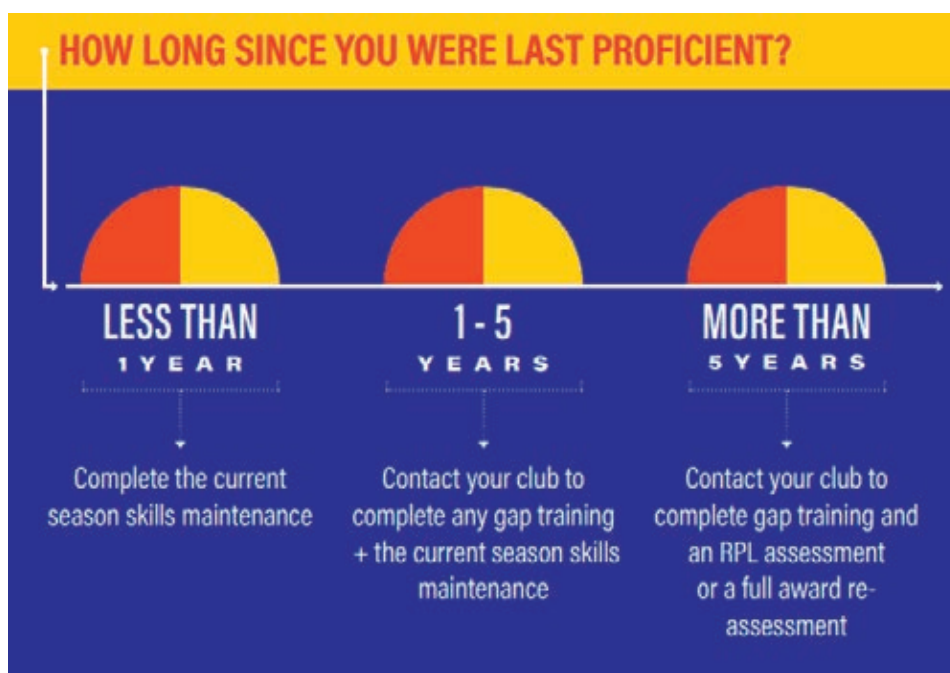
There are no theory components for other awards.

Practical component

The information below outlines the practical requirements of each SLSA award for skills maintenance. Where possible, scenarios should be used to combine components; for example, a scenario combining a tube rescue with signals. Training resources that support SLSA awards are in the SLS Document Library accessed via the [SLS Hub](#). Members are encouraged to review these prior to commencing the patrolling season.

Gap Analysis (Appendix 1)

The infographic below outlines the requirements for members who have not remained proficient for more than one year. Appendix 1 indicates the changes in the various awards over the years to enable required gap training to be identified. RPL enquiries can be sent directly to the SLSNSW Training & Education Team using the [RPL Enquiry Form](#).



Aquatic Rescue Pathway Awards

Bronze Medallion (BM) and Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC)

1. Run-Swim-Rescue (timed)

100m Run – 100m Swim in 3:30 minutes or less

- The run distance to be taken from waist deep water, e.g., the run is from a flag, around a marker and to waist deep water. The swim component is to a marker 100m from waist deep water.
- The swim leg is conducted with a rescue tube attached to the rescuer. The use of fins is optional and permitted.
- Patients will be waiting in the water in line with the 100m marker. Rescuer secures the conscious patient with the tube. The timed component of the Run-Swim-Rescue finishes at this point.
- Rescuer swims 100m to return to the beach with the patient.
- Rescuer assists the patient to the water's edge.

2. Signals

Demonstrate knowledge of signals. The demonstration must include the following:

- Beach to water signals
- Water to beach signals

3. Resuscitation (CPR)

For Season 2025/26, Lifesaving CPR will be introduced and demonstrated.

The face-to-face training for the new Lifesaving CPR techniques will fulfil the member's requirements for their annual Resuscitation skills update. No further tasks are required.

Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue (SMAR)

Proficiency is required in the prerequisites for this award to remain current. The prerequisites are:

- Complete a 400m swim in 8 minutes or less in a swimming pool of no less than 25m length
- Hold and be proficient in the SLSA Bronze Medallion [and hold the Certificate II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue)].

Gold Medallion (GM)

1. A member must be proficient in each of the following awards:

- Bronze Medallion
- Advanced Resuscitation Techniques or Advanced Resuscitation Techniques [AID]
- First Aid or First Aid [AID]

2. Pool Swim

- The member must complete an 800m swim in under 14 minutes in a swimming pool of no less than 25m.

- The pool swim must be completed before any other component of a Gold Medallion skills maintenance.
3. Mission Test (timed)
- The distance will be 400m swim, 800m run, 400m board paddle, and 800m run.
 - The time will be less than 25 minutes
 - The run distance to be taken from waist-deep water, e.g., the run is from a flag, around a marker and to waist-deep water. The aquatic components are from waist-deep water around two swimming buoys and back to waist-deep water
 - Aquatic course must be around two swimming buoys.
4. Rescue
- Demonstrate a board rescue according to SLSA operating procedures in the current SLSA Public Safety and Aquatic Rescue training manual. The patient should be 200m out to sea.
 - Demonstrate a tube rescue according to SLSA operating procedures in the current SLSA Public Safety and Aquatic Rescue training manual. The patient should be 100m out to sea and the member should use swim fins during this rescue.
5. Complex Rescue Scenario (may include one of the rescues above)
- Demonstrate a complex rescue scenario as set by the delegated assessor according to the SLSA operating procedures in the current SLSA Public Safety and Aquatic Rescue training manual
 - The rescue must assess the following events:
 - Negotiating the surf zone
 - Securing the patient/s
 - Returning to shore without losing the patient/s
 - Calling for assistance
 - Performing emergency care as required by the patient/s.

Emergency Care Pathway Awards

SLSA awards involving resuscitation are to be assessed annually. Once proficiency is achieved, resuscitation in other SLSA award skills maintenance is not required to be performed again.

Please note that completion of the SLS skills maintenance for any award in the SLSA emergency care pathway is not sufficient to result in the renewal of the HLTAID unit of competency that aligns with the member's award. For example, the skills maintenance for the SLSA Resuscitation award is not sufficient to result in the renewal of a member's HLTAID009 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation or HLTAID015 Provide advanced resuscitation and oxygen therapy units of competency. Members should contact their SLS state/territory centre for advice on renewing their units of competency.

Resuscitation

For Season 2025/26, Lifesaving CPR will be introduced and demonstrated.

The face-to-face training for the new Lifesaving CPR techniques will fulfil the member's requirements for their annual Resuscitation skills update. No further tasks are required.

Advanced Resuscitation Techniques

The below requirements apply to the Advanced Resuscitation Techniques and Advanced Resuscitation Techniques [AID] awards:

1. Resuscitation (CPR)

See Bronze Medallion and SRC Skills Maintenance Resuscitation (CPR) component above for requirements.

A member is proficient in this component of the ART Skills Maintenance if they have completed the relevant BM and SRC Skills Maintenance.

2. Advanced Resuscitation

Team CPR scenario including primary assessment (DRSABCD) – to include resuscitation methods using a resuscitation mask or face shield, AED, oropharyngeal airways and oxygen supplement (oxygen cylinder connected to bag-valve-mask resuscitator on an unconscious patient).

3. Bag-valve-mask resuscitator

Correct setup, check and use of bag valve mask resuscitator

The deadline for the completion of the upgrade from Advanced Resuscitation Techniques (ART [AID]) - HLTAID007 to Advanced Resuscitation Techniques (ART) – HLTAID015 has been extended from July 2024 to July 2026 (unless a new training package is released prior to this date and HLTAID015 is superseded).

Beach Management/ Award Member Pathway Awards

Radio Operations (RO)

While there is NO assessable practical radio component this season, clubs are encouraged to have member practice using radio equipment in an operational patrol environment including:

- Pre-operation checks
- Knowledge of local operating channels and uses
- Inter-patrol communications
- Rescue procedures, requests for assistance which include the four P's.

For those who use this award as part of their operation within a SLS communications centre, additional skills maintenance requirements may be included at a local level.

Silver Medallion Patrol Captain

There is no Skills Maintenance requirement for Season 25/26. Current awards will have the expiry date in Surfguard renewed automatically by SLSA.

Powercraft Pathway Awards

Powercraft award holders will need to demonstrate skills in a 'one off' skills maintenance check this season due to changes to the award delivery. All members must demonstrate proficiency in the associated pre-requisite awards as follows:

- IRB Crew
 - Proficient Bronze Medallion
- Silver Medallion IRB Driver
 - Proficient Bronze Medallion
 - Proficient IRB Crew
 - Hold a current state/territory boat license (where applicable)
- RWC Operator
 - Proficient Bronze Medallion
 - Hold a current state/territory boat/PWC license (where applicable)
 - Additional state/territory pre-requisites as required.

All IRB operators are encouraged to review the new [9th Edition IRB Manual](#) to gain a better understanding of new content and techniques.

All RWC operators are encouraged to review the new [1st Edition RWC Manual](#) to gain a better understanding of new content and techniques.

For the 2025/26 season, all IRB Crew skills maintenance **MUST** be conducted by an IRB Trainer, Assessor or Facilitator (i.e. no Endorsed Delegates).

Silver Medallion Driver & RWC Operator skills maintenance must also be conducted by an Assessor or Facilitator as per normal.

IRB Crew (IRBC)

Demonstrate effective and safe crewing practice and ability including:

- Crewing positions
 - [Rise Crewing Position](#)
 - [Standing Crewing Position](#)
 - [Lock-in Position](#)
 - [Emergency Punch Position](#)
- [Re-boarding the IRB](#)
- Awareness of Powercraft Code of Conduct.

Silver Medallion IRB Driver (SMIRBD)

Demonstrate the ability to apply safe driving practice including but not limited to:

- 1 o'clock wave negotiation
- [Parallel running](#)
- Awareness of Powercraft Code of Conduct.

Rescue Watercraft Operator (RWCO)

Demonstrate the ability to apply safe driving practice including but not limited to:

- Continued application of the SLSA Powercraft Code of Conduct
- Competence in safe RWC Operator techniques including:
 - Ability to carry out an assisted launch from the beach

- Parallel running
- Figures of eight
- Response to signals
- Negotiation of surf as required
- Demonstrate ability to conduct a victim rescue
- Demonstrate the ability to reboard the craft from deep water
- Competence in pre- and post-operation procedures

Specialist powercraft awards (JRB/ORB/RIB Crew, Driver, Skipper)

Skills maintenance for specialist groups shall be determined by the individual group and as approved by SLSNSW. Skills maintenance may be assessed during normal operational activities.

Side-by-Side Vehicle (SSV)

It is not a national requirement to undertake an annual SSV (ATV) proficiency. Instead, a member's driving license must be checked each year for currency. Each SLS state/territory centre can manage this process, and this information can be recorded in SurfGuard.

A member who loses their driver's license (whether through cancellation or suspension) must not be driving the SSV. Provisional drivers are to display plates as required by their state legislative body.

Members must participate in an SSV Operator Induction for each new SSV make and model that they have not driven before. The SLSA *SSV Operator Induction Guide* is available in the SLS Members Area Document Library.

Age Managers and Age Manager Assistants

Age Manager awards expire after 5 years and must be renewed on expiry to manage Nipper activities on the beach. Age Managers need to refer to the SLS Hub for the expiry date.

Age Managers and Age Manager Assistants must complete an annual proficiency by watching the SLSA Age Manager video to keep abreast of changes that may have occurred during the season. If a member is unable to complete this component online, they should speak with their Junior Activities Coordinator.

A member is proficient:

- If they hold a current Age Managers course (completed online).
- If they hold the current working with children check (if required).
- If they have watched the SLSA Age Manager video.

Appendix 1 – Gap Analysis

Award	Season	Change
All Resuscitation (including SRC, BM, First Aid, ART)	2009/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ratio of compressions to breaths in CPR changed to 30:2 Defibrillation awareness added 'D' added to DRABCD, defibrillation
	2011/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'S' added to DRSABCD, send for help
	2012/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment of anaphylaxis, using an autoinjector
	2013/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infant resuscitation on a manikin to be assessed in all CPR training
	2014/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victim's airway and breathing is routinely assessed on their back – they are only rolled if necessary to clear foreign matter
	2015/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specified number of scenarios and 2 minutes of uninterrupted CPR on: a) an adult manikin on the floor; and b) an infant manikin on a stable surface to be assessed in all CPR training
	2016/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate of CPR compressions changed to 100-120 compressions per minute
	2025/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lifesaving CPR introduced by some States
Advanced Resuscitation Techniques only	2010/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suction introduced SLSA awards Advanced Resuscitation Certificate and Defibrillation Certificate replaced with Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate
	2014/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of vital signs Respirations, Pulse and Temperature, completion of incident report, and 3x scenario to be assessed
Bronze Medallion	2011/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRB awareness added
	2012/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 new signals added <ul style="list-style-type: none"> submerged patient missing (Code X); and all clear
	2013/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34th edition training manual released Theory paper added to skills maintenance assessment Revision of safety while working in a beach environment; surf awareness and rip current survival principles; how oxygen is used in team resuscitation; use of whistles as communication; identifying distressed and drowning victims; surveillance methods and beach management Addition of use of swim fins as a basic survival technique; information on the lymphatic system; stroke; anaphylaxis; the phonetic alphabet; 3 person walk up spinal Removal of in-water rescue breathing; 5-person spinal carry
	2016/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34th edition (revised July 2016) training manual released ARC (Aus Resuscitation Council) guideline changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compression rate (100 – 120 compressions per minute) Heart attack first aid treatment (give aspirin unless anaphylaxis is a contraindication) Shock first aid treatment (no longer raise legs) Heat exhaustion first aid treatment (give electrolyte sports drink) External bleeding first aid treatment (no longer raise bleeding limb) Spinal management (removal of standing spinal and application of a cervical collar)

	2017/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 2017 reprint of SLSA 34th edition Public Safety and Aquatic Rescue (revised July 2016) • ARC guideline changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Checking resuscitation equipment (notably oxygen pipe connection, assembly, or resuscitation bag valve devices). • EpiPen administration (now 3 seconds and no massaging injection site) (9.2.7)
	2018/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARC guideline changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Severe Bleeding (prioritise management of severe bleeding over airways) ○ Tourniquets (use of two) ○ Haemostatic dressing (to manage severe bleeding) ○ New guideline for first aid management of a diabetic emergency (9.2.9)
	2019/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSAR 35th edition released May 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removal of oxygen therapy and oxygen aided resuscitation to the resuscitation component of the SRC / Bronze ○ Spinal Management content added to Bronze ○ Tourniquet training added to Bronze ○ Mental health awareness training for SRC and Bronze • ARC guideline updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shock (control bleeding, send for help, reassure) (9.2.3) ○ Snake bites (send for help, immobilise, and apply pressure) (9.4.1) ○ Hyperthermia (send for help and cool person by any means available) (9.3.4)
	2020/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARC guideline changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Treatment for hyperthermia includes ice on the soles, palms, and cheeks in addition to groin and armpits. No longer on the back of the neck. (9.3.4) ○ Removal of blind finger sweeps for airway management. Now reach in to seize and remove visible items directly. (4)
	2021/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARC Guideline changes: (9.2.10) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommend against the routine administration of oxygen in persons with suspected heart attack and stroke who do not have signs of shock ○ Oxygen should be administered to persons with an oxygen saturation of less than 92% (where a pulse oximeter is available). ○ Oxygen should be given to persons with signs of blue colouration of skin, shock, decompression illness or a situation suggestion carbon monoxide poisoning (irrespective of oxygen saturation level)
	2022/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A new brand of adrenaline autoinjectors are available with Anapen being reintroduced. Members should be familiar with and practice the administration of both an EpiPen and an Anapen training device
IRB Crew & Driver	2007/08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powercraft Code of Conduct introduced
	2011/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra safety protocols for IRB introduced, including safe lifting of IRB, removal of right crew foot strap and addition of 'locked in' position for crew
	2015/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of lifejackets, personal flotation devices and surf helmets in IRB training
	2024/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powercraft Code of Conduct updated

IRB Crew	2015/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knots and lashings to be assessed
	2025/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crewing positions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rise Crewing Position ○ Standing Crewing Position ○ Lock-in Position ○ Emergency Punch Position • Re-boarding the IRB
IRB Driver	2025/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wave negotiation at a 1 o'clock angle

2025/26 SLSNSW PRE-SEASON INFORMATION PACK



SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES



Introduction

The Surf Life Saving NSW Pre-season Information Pack focuses on:

 Changes to policies or procedures	 Links to key reference material to review prior to the season
 Key tasks to complete before the season starts	 Key dates to be aware of

The information is divided into the following sections and aimed at:



Information for all

SLS Hub

SLSA launched a [new Hub](#) in July which replaces the Members Area. Members need to reset their password before accessing the Hub and linked services (e.g. Operations app, Assessing app).

Lifesaving CPR

SLSNSW will be introducing **Lifesaving CPR** this season – an evidence-based, simplified, and standardised approach to improve survival from cardiac arrest on and off the beach. TAFs and endorsed delegates will be updated during their pre-season meetings, with the changes being integrated into skills maintenance for patrolling members.

To ensure that members don't have to repeat their skills maintenance, **please ensure that your club is aware that skills maintenance for CPR should not commence prior to your club's TAFs being trained in Lifesaving CPR.**

We suggest that clubs consider using the Club Lifesaving Equipment Grant (CLEG) and Beach Safety Equipment Fund (BSEF) to purchase any additional equipment required to ensure a successful roll out.

Executive Training Calendar

SLSNSW delivers a range of online sessions throughout the season designed to support members of club management teams. We recommend that all new club and branch officers attend the **Club Management Induction** in August and that all new and existing club and branch officers attend the **Optimising Board Performance** session in October. See the full suite of sessions and register via the [Club Executive Training Schedule](#).

Child Safe

With 30,000 junior members and 30% of patrolling members under the age of 18, Surf Life Saving NSW is committed to the safety and wellbeing of every child and young person who takes part in our activities, programs, events or services.

All **patrolling members** aged 18 years and over, along with those in the following roles, are required to complete the **online SLS Child Safe Awareness** course if they have not previously completed it.

- Club and Branch Officers
- Patrol Captains and Vice Patrol Captains
- Junior Activity Chairs and Age Managers
- Coaches and Officials
- Trainers, Assessors and Facilitators
- MPIOs, Complaints Managers and Child Safe Coordinators

A new **Child Safe Awareness for Young People** course is being released this season for members under the age of 18.

The following child safe resources are also available to support clubs to identify and manage child safe risks for SLS activities.

- A **Club Child Safe Risk Management Document** to support you to review your club's child safe practices in line with the NSW Child Safe Standards.
- A **Child Safe Activity Planning Guide** to support clubs with child safe risk management when planning for activities involving members under the age of 18.

These resources are available on the [SLSNSW Child Safe webpage](#).

Club Management

Key Changes

- SLSNSW has added new workshops to its **Club Executive Calendar** including sessions on youth engagement, optimising board performance, social media and marketing your club, lifesavers with pride and volunteer leadership. We recommend that all new club and branch officers attend the **Club Management Induction** in August and that all new and existing club and branch officers attend the **Optimising Board Performance** session in October.
- The **IT Systems User Account Application Form (Form 49)** is now automated. Using this automated form, branches now manage SurfGuard access requests, with SEMS requests managed directly by SLISA.
- With Workplace by Meta being retired in the next few months, SLSNSW will be migrating its networking groups for **Complaints Managers, MPIOs and Child Safe Coordinators to WhatsApp**. Please ensure that members holding these positions are recorded in SurfGuard to ensure they receive the invite to join in August.
- The **SLSNSW Club Guide** has been updated and is now available on Manula – an online searchable platform. Club Guide is designed for Club Management Team members and supporting officers to help them effectively manage SLS clubs in NSW. SLSNSW suggests club officers review this guide regularly for role-relevant information and support.
- With the launch of the **SLS Hub**, clubs will need to review their websites to ensure that any links to the SLS Members Area are updated to redirect members to the Hub (see link on page 2).
- SLS is working closely with Sport Integrity Australia to better understand the implications of the national social media ban for young people under the age of 16 for SLS. The ban comes into effect on 10 December 2025. Further information will be distributed to clubs in the coming months.

Reminders

- There is a **12-month access limit to SurfGuard** for all users. Branches will provide clubs with a list of current users in August, and clubs will be required to indicate which members still require access. Users not verified by a club by **12 September** will be deactivated the following week.
- **Charitable fundraising numbers (CFNs)** are valid for a period ranging from 1 to 5 years, based on the selection made during the application process. Clubs and branches are advised to check the expiry date of their CFN for the upcoming season and renew through Services NSW if their expiry date is approaching.
- Clubs and branches must meet the requirements detailed in the **Annual Club Compliance Circular** to ensure access to state funding distributions for the 2025/26 season.

Relevant Links

- [Club Executive Calendar: Tasks, Resources and Workshops](#)
- [Annual Compliance Circular](#)
- [Club Guide](#)
- [IT Systems Tasks for Pre and Post Season](#)
- [IT Systems Access \(Form 49\)](#)
- [Check CFN Expiry Date](#)
- [Member Assistance Program](#)
- [Verify Working With Children Checks \(WWCCs\)](#)

Key Tasks

- Complete annual compliance requirements as outlined in the above circular.
- Access the Club Executive Calendar and encourage club management team members to access online workshops.
- Encourage new members of the club management team to attend the Club Management Induction in August.
- Encourage all new and existing club and branch officers to attend the Optimising Board Performance session in October.

Key Dates

- SLSNSW Awards of Excellence – Saturday 16 August 2025 (Hyatt Regency, Sydney)
- Compliance Part 1 Deadline – 12 September 2025
- Compliance Part 2 Deadline – 31 October 2025

Key Changes

- The **SLSNSW Public Safety Standard Operating Procedures (PSSOPs)** are in the process of being updated and will be released in September. Club Captains and Branch Directors of Lifesaving will be communicated with directly when they are available and provided with a summary of changes.
- After introducing **flexible patrolling options** last season, SLSNSW have listened to feedback and will be updating the options and the accompanying matrix ahead of the 2025/26 season. The key change will be to remove the temperature-based requirements for enacting the different patrolling options. Updates will be included in the revised SOPs.
- The **SLSNSW Patrol Operations Manual (POM)** - the template that clubs complete outlining club-specific communication protocols, hazard and risk management plans, beach management strategies, and emergency operations plans - has been updated for use ahead of the 2025/26 season.
- The **Rescue Services application process** has been updated and a new online application form will be available on the SLSNSW website in the coming weeks. This form will also be used for the re-endorsement of Rescue Services personnel (including Duty Officers, RWC operators and Offshore Rescue Boat operators).
- SLSNSW will be introducing **Lifesaving CPR** this season – please ensure you have read the information related to this in the **Information for all** section on page 2.
- Patrolling members aged 18+ are required to complete the **SLS Child Safe Awareness course** this season if they have not previously completed it. The new **Child Safe Awareness for Young People course** is being released this season for members under the age of 18 – please encourage members aged 15-17 years to complete this.
- After two successful pilots in June 2025, SLSNSW will be hosting four **Lifesaving Development Programs** this season alongside **Advanced IRB Programs**. Dates will be confirmed and expressions of interest will open in the coming weeks.

Reminders

- All vehicles used by clubs (ATCs, SSVs, Tractors, 4x4s) must have the **appropriate registration** (which may be conditional). Where conditional registration applies, it is highly recommended that the registered area of operation be as broad as possible and that it realistically reflects potential locations of vehicle operations, including during incident responses (e.g. all areas in proximity of the Surf Life Saving Club, adjacent parks, cycle ways, neighbouring surf clubs and beaches, etc.). The intent of this is to ensure that the vehicle is registered to be driven through car parks, pathways, storage sheds and other areas within the vicinity of the club, or when attending to incidents away from the 'own' club and beach (e.g. adjoining park areas). Use of unregistered vehicles may result in liability not being covered by insurance.
- **Incident reporting is available via the SLS Operations app** to be used in place of the paper log. The app displays existing incidents and allows for new incidents to be created. Please contact the State Operations Centre with all member injuries.
- **Gear and equipment inspections can be managed via the SLS Operations app.** The app integrates with SurfGuard and helps to reduce the administrative burden associated with gear and equipment inspections. Branch Inspectors need to be registered on SurfGuard to access the app. Please inform Hamish Jones (hjones@surflifesaving.com.au) of your inspectors so that access can be provided.
- Clubs and branches must meet the requirements detailed in the **Annual Club Compliance Circular** to ensure access to state funding distributions for the 2025/26 season. This includes requirements related to gear and equipment and emergency call out teams.

Relevant Links

- [Public Safety Standard Operating Procedures \(SOPs\)](#)
- [Patrol Operations Manual \(POM\)](#)
- [SLS Operations App User Guide](#)
- [Annual Compliance Circular](#)
- [Gear & Equipment Inspection Program](#)
- [Gear, Equipment & SLS Vessel Registrations, Sales & Disposals](#)
- [SLSNSW Skills Maintenance Circular](#)
- [Critical Incident Support](#)

Key Tasks

- Plan patrol roster (using Lifesaving Service Agreement).
- Update Patrol Operations Manual (POM) and provide a copy to all patrols.
- Complete gear and equipment inspections, attaching Defective Equipment Tags as required.
- Update the Emergency Call Out Team mailing group in SurfGuard.
- Register new Surf Rescue vessels, along with any existing vessels which are not on SurfGuard.
- Manage the sale or disposal of Surf Rescue vessels in line with requirements.
- Ensure Rescue Services members re-endorse using the online form before 31/12/2025.

Key Dates

- SLSNSW Awards of Excellence – Saturday 16 August 2025 (Hyatt Regency, Sydney)
- SLSNSW and Club Pre-Season meetings – 1 & 2 September
- Club gear and equipment inspection deadline – 12 September 2025
- Emergency call out team members entered into SurfGuard – 12 September 2025
- Patrol season starts – 27 September 2025
- Patrol season ends – 26 April 2026

Key Changes

The opportunity to discuss the below key changes in more detail will be available to all Trainers, Assessors, Facilitators (TAFs) and Chief Training Officers (CTOs) at the upcoming branch pre-season meetings. They will also be presented in the online pre-season module which will be released in August. Completion of the online module is a requirement for annual TAF re-endorsement.

Key changes to be communicated include:

- Surf Lifesaving NSW will be introducing **Lifesaving CPR** this season – please ensure you have read the information related to this in the **Information for all** section on page 2.
- Outside of the introduction of Lifesaving CPR, changes to **skills maintenance** this season include:
 - The replacement of the 'run-swim-run' with a 'run-swim-rescue' to better reflect the operational requirements of patrolling members.
 - Demonstration of the new crew and driver techniques rolled out last season for IRB award holders.
- Due to the above, only endorsed IRB Trainers, Assessors or Facilitators can conduct IRB Crew skills maintenance this season (i.e. not Endorsed Delegates).
- In May 2025, SLSA released refreshed learning and assessment resources for the **Rescue Watercraft (RWC) course**. This includes new eLearning, a new digital training manual specifically for RWC, and a new Delivery & Assessment Guide and Assessment Portfolio. As of 1 July 2025, the new RWC course resources (available on the SLS Document Library) are the only RWC resources to be utilised in NSW. RWC Operators will be upskilled with any changes via Skills Maintenance in the 2026/27 season. To better support the increasing need for RWC training across the state, SLSNSW will be supplementing branch RWC training with **state-run courses** this season.
- To improve the member experience of accessing First Aid training via the volunteer-delivered process, **pre-course eLearning** is now available in the SLS eLearning platform.
- The **Silver Medallion Patrol Captains Bridging course** has been

streamlined for experienced patrol captains wishing to update to this award. The online learning includes just three (3) modules (Surf Risk Rating, Leadership and Incident Management), and the pre-requisite requirement no longer requires a 100-word essay. Delivery resources can be found in the SLS Document Library.

- A new **Nipper Safety Assistant (NSA) Award** has been created nationally to assist clubs with additional resources for water safety during Nippers. See the **Membership** section on page 7 for more information.
- Minor updates have been made to the **SLSNSW Education Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)**. The key changes are that:
 - First Aid Facilitator awards are now re-endorsed like all other TAF awards (not re-appointed).
 - Trainer and Assessor awards are now available for the Silver Medallion Patrol Captain award (it is no longer a Facilitator-only award, noting that Assessors cannot assess participants they have trained).
- From 1 July 2025, SLSNSW will be operating under the new **Standards for RTOs 2025**. Under the revised Standards:
 - There is an opportunity to re-engage former TAFs with older versions of TAE qualifications and skill sets.
 - Some Endorsed Assessors will be able to move to Assessors, no longer operating under the Supervisory Framework.SLSNSW will work directly with CTOs and Branch DoEs to identify affected TAFs and support any transitions.
- Minor updates have been made to the **Co-Delivery: Quick Reference Guide** to clarify that there are no tenure or ratio requirements that apply to this process. TAFs and CTOs are encouraged to discuss co-delivery arrangements on a case-by-case basis, with SLSNSW available to support these discussions if required.

Reminders

- Fully **subsidised First Aid training** delivered by the SLSNSW Australian Lifesaving Academy (ALA) continues to be available for new ART award holders, proficient ART award holders (who need to update by July 2026),

and ART and Bronze Medallion TAFs. Contact your Branch DoE or the SLSNSW Training & Education Team to find out more.

- **Working with Children Checks** are required for TAFs who volunteer (or are likely to volunteer) with members under the age of 18 for more than 5 days in a calendar year.

Relevant Links

- [TAF Re-endorsement](#)
- [SLSNSW Education SOPs](#)
- [Skills Maintenance](#)
- [Co-Delivery](#)
- [Becoming a TAF](#)
- [Training Resources & Forms](#)
- [SLS Hub](#)
- [SLSNSW Assessing App support](#)
- [RPL Service](#)

Key Tasks

- Assist TAFs to ensure currency in the latest HLTAID units of competency (CPR annually, First Aid and Advanced Resuscitation every three years).
- Support TAFs to complete the SLSNSW TAF pre-season online module (available in August 2025) and then complete the online re-endorsement/re-appointment form.
- Ensure TAFs and patrolling members complete skills maintenance before 31/12/25.
- Work with Branch DoE's to ensure that appropriate supervision is in place for all assessments conducted by Endorsed Assessors and that supervisory activities are recorded through the Record of Supervision Form.
- Add/update the appropriate 'Endorsed Delegate' award to endorsed delegates for skills maintenance in SurfGuard for each club.

Key Dates

- Training Officer Certificate courses – quarterly intakes
- Assessor and Facilitator courses – intakes as required
- Branch Education Pre-Season Meetings – August/September 2025
- SLSNSW Awards of Excellence – Saturday 16 August 2025 (Hyatt Regency, Sydney)

Surf Sports

Key Changes

- During the season it is anticipated that the **carnival entry process** will transition from SEMS to Live Heats. Detailed information will be provided well in advance of any changes.
- Surf Lifesaving NSW will be introducing **Lifesaving CPR** this season – see the **Information for all** section on page 2. The changes will require updates to the **scoring sheets for Champion Lifesaver & Patrol and First Aid competitions**. The changes will be made in September and will align with updated content in the Public Safety Aquatic Rescue (PSAR) manual.

Reminders

- **Branch SEMS training** is available and can be coordinated through the SLSA IT Helpdesk. User guides and webinars are also available.
- All competitors will be utilising **Live Heats** at most branch carnivals and all state events. All competitors at these events will require a Live Heats wrist band to compete. Additional wristbands can be purchased directly via contacting Teresa.Vombruch@sls.com.au.
- All Branch level carnivals and above must be advised to the State Operations Centre (SOC@surflifesaving.com.au) **in advance of the carnival date** (i.e. type, age groups, expected numbers).
- Branch and Local Carnival Safety & Emergency Management Coordinators **must sign on/off with the State Operations Centre using call sign 'Carnival & [Location]'** for all carnivals and events they are overseeing. This protocol extends to all Special Events a club may be involved with.
- **Special Events** (any activity which is not specifically described in the Surf Sports manual (SSM) e.g. ocean swims, water safety/first aid for sports/community events run by other organisations etc.) may only proceed if approved as a Special Event. The level and type of insurance coverage and/or limitations will be advised as part of the approval process.

- **Working with Children Checks** are required for coaches and officials who volunteer (or are likely to volunteer) with members under the age of 18 for more than 5 days in a calendar year.
- Coaches and Officials are required to have completed the online SLS **Child Safe Awareness course**. This requirement will be checked by SLSNSW during the reaccreditation process.
- All coaching and official **re-accreditation documentation** is to be sent to ssaccreditations@surflifesaving.com.au.

Relevant Links

- [Surf Sports Weekly](#)
- [Surf Sports Manual](#)
- [Surf Sports Event Calendar](#)
- [Live Heats Device Guide](#)
- [SEMS User Guide](#)
- [Special Event Application Form](#)
- [Officials and Coaches Reaccreditation Forms](#)

Key Tasks

- Ensure your club's officials and coaches accreditation is up to date if their accreditation period is ending on 31/12/2025.
- Ensure members' awards, proficiencies and patrol hours are updated in SurfGuard by 31 December relevant to their age group to compete.
- Ensure your branch has procured the relevant hardware to utilise the Live Heats platform.
- Ensure your branch has an adequate supply of Live Heats wristbands prior to the start of the season.
- Ensure your club's competitors have a Live Heats wrist band allocated to them.
- Encourage key personnel to subscribe to Surf Sports Weekly to keep up to date with all sport-related information.

Key Dates

- SLSNSW Awards of Excellence – Saturday 16 August 2025 (Hyatt Regency, Sydney)
- NSW Interbranch Championships – 29-30 November 2025
- NSW Country Championships – 23-25 January 2026
- NSW Surf Lifesaving Championships – 19 February-1 March 2026

Membership 2025

Key Changes

- SLSNSW has launched a statewide **Youth Strategy** focused on improving engagement of members aged 11-17. A series of face-to-face forums will be hosted in October/November this year to launch a suite of tools and resources to better support club Youth Officers to deliver engaging programs and retain youth members (see **Key Dates** section)
- A new **Child Safe Awareness for Young People** course is being released this season for members under the age of 18. Patrolling members aged 18+ are required to complete the **SLS Child Safe Awareness course**, along with other role holders listed on page 2 of this pack.
- After two successful pilots in March and June 2025, SLSNSW will be hosting two **Emerging Volunteer Leader Programs** for members aged 18+ this season. See **Key Dates** section below. Expressions of interest will open in August 2025.
- This season SLSNSW will be hosting two programs aimed at members aged 18-25. The programs aim to broaden members' awareness of SLS pathways and support the development of a network for members in this age range. See **Key Dates** section below. Expressions of interest will open in September 2025.
- Wellbeing remains a priority at all levels. In the 2025/26 season, position titles have been updated to better reflect role responsibilities and minimise confusion.
 - **Peer Support Officers** (previously Branch Peer Officers) will continue to provide on-the-ground support following critical incidents, assisting Duty Officers with scene management, conducting well checks post-incident, and referring members to professional support services as necessary.
 - **Wellbeing Officers** (previously Club Peer Supporters) will focus on promoting wellbeing and providing support within their local club community. They will encourage early help-seeking behaviours and offer personal and club-related support within regular club activities. Expressions of interest are open until 1 September 2025.

- The **SLSA Age Manager Course** has been updated with a refreshed look and improved content including interactive learning modules on diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as information on supporting neurodiverse children. There is no requirement for existing Age Managers to complete this course, however Age Managers must complete the annual proficiency by watching the SLSA Age Manager video available via the SLS eLearning platform.
- **Proof of age (e.g. birth certificates) is no longer required to be sighted for new members** joining Nippers. This change aligns with other community sport sign-up processes, simplifying the process for members.
- A new **Nipper Safety Assistant (NSA) Award** has been created nationally to assist clubs with additional resources for water safety during Nippers. NSAs can support water safety personnel during Nipper activities when it has been deemed suitable by the Water Safety Supervisor and when:
 - Conditions are confirmed as low risk conditions with an assessment completed in the Surf Risk Rating (SRR) tool.
 - The age group is U8 or below.
 - Activities are shallow water only.
 - NSAs do not make up more than 50% of the water safety team for the Nipper activity.

The award is available for members aged 13+ and requires completion of a 50m swim, 2-minutes of treading water, signals and rescue tube orientation and practice in its usage.

The **Signals Poster** and **NSA Sign Off Sheet** (both available on the SLS Document Library) are the only resources required to deliver this award, which can be delivered by SRC/BM Trainers, Assessors, Facilitators (TAFs) or Endorsed Delegates.

Clubs are encouraged to consider expanding their Endorsed Delegate pool to ensure the delivery burden does not fall solely on existing TAFs.

More information can be found in Policy 1.01A Water Safety Procedure and Policy 1.01B Nipper Safety Assistant Award Procedure.

Reminders

- **Special Events** (e.g. camps, fun days etc.) may only proceed if approved as a Special Event. The level and type of insurance coverage and/or limitations will be advised as part of the approval process.

Relevant Links

- [SLS Document Library & eLearning Platform](#)
- [Member Wellbeing and Critical Incident Support](#)
- [Wellbeing Officer Expressions of Interest](#)
- [Workers Compensation](#)
- [Member Development Programs](#)
- [Member Recognition](#)
- [Junior Activities Resources](#)
- [Nipper App User Guide](#)
- [Active Kids Vouchers](#)
- [Child Safe Resources](#)
- [Working with Children Check Requirements](#)
- [Verify Working With Children Checks \(WWCCs\)](#)

Key Tasks

- Ensure that WWCCs are verified on the Office of the Children's Guardian website before verification details are recorded in SurfGuard.
- Ensure that any expired WWCCs are renewed and reverified on the Office of the Children's Guardian website.
- Ensure that Age Managers have completed their training (including the annual Age Manager Video) to remain current.

Key Dates

- SLSNSW Awards of Excellence – Saturday 16 August 2025 (Hyatt Regency, Sydney)
- Youth Forums - October/November dates TBC
- 18-25 Programs (Sydney)
 - 21-23 November 2025
 - 17-19 April 2026
- Junior Lifesaver of the Year Program – April 2026
- Emerging Leader Programs (Sydney)
 - 5-7 December 2025
 - 20-22 March 2026