

SECTION NO: LS 0008	SUBJECT: PATROL OPERATIONS	
AUTHORISED BY: State Lifesaving Committee		
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BEACH USAGE

The purpose of this guideline is to emphasize the need to supervise all activities in the beach environment (not just aquatic activities) and prioritize how patrol members should scan their beach.

Patrol member surveillance priorities are as follows: -

Primary Surveillance

1. Aquatic Activities between flagged areas (in swash, inner surf zone & breakers)
2. Aquatic Activities 200m either side of flagged areas (in swash, inner surf zone & breakers)

Secondary Surveillance

1. Aquatic activities occurring in the wave zone & beyond
2. All other beach based activities

The table below highlights the types of users at Queensland beaches and the activities they partake in.

Type	User	Location
Passive	Sightseer, tourist	Road, car park, lookout
Passive-Active	Sun bakers, picnickers & beach sports	Dry beach
Active	Beachcombers, joggers	Swash Zone
Active	Fishers, swimmers	Swash, inner surf zone
Active	Surfers, water sports	Breakers & surf zone
Active	Skis, kayaks, windsurfers	Breakers & beyond
Active	IRB's, boats & other powercraft	Beyond breakers

Source: Australian Beach Safety Management Program, A.D. Short

Activities that fall outside the normal realms of patrolling surveillance should be reported to the appropriate authority.

SURVEILLANCE PATROLS

If a club decreases its patrol type to a surveillance patrol a minimum of 3 Bronze Medallion holders shall remain on duty.

The minimum patrol equipment standard required for surveillance patrols shall be:

- 1 fully operational IRB placed in a position best suited for launching (on waters edge, slipway or approved launching point) agreed to by Branch Director of Lifesaving and State Lifesaving Committee.
- 2 Rescue Boards (1 in three Northern Branches)
- 2 Rescue Tubes and fins
- Relevant Hazard signs (i.e. strong sweep, rough surf, marine stingers, etc.)
- Hand held radio
- First Aid kit
- Bum Bag (per patrol member)
- Oxygen Equipment (SLSQ approved)
- Marine Stinger Kits (north of Bustard Heads only)
- 2 Stinger suits (north of Bustard Heads only)
- Recommend marine stinger booties and gloves to be worn

OPENING BEACHES

Patrol Members are required to determine the safety of the selected patrol area and the most appropriate method & efficient deployment of equipment & personnel in addition to any specific actions that may have to be taken to ensure public safety.

The patrol area must be located in the safest area for swimming and should be opened as wide as possible where conditions and resources allow.

Patrol flags and rescue equipment shall be positioned as close to the water's edge as possible. The flags and patrol equipment must be moved with the rise and fall of the tide to keep them at the waters edge.

Patrol Methods:

- Traditional 'between the flags'
- Roving
- Outpost
- Open Beach
- Surveillance

Patrol Deployment:

In areas where patrols are deployed the following factors can be considered:

General:

- size/distance of area to be patrolled
- number of patrons
- skill level(s) of patrons
- type of activities
- recreational equipment in use (slides, toys ,inflatable's, etc.)
- potential hazards (i.e. rocks, sudden drop off, etc.)
- the number of patrol members on duty
- the type and amount of equipment available
- other tasks required of the patrol member(s)
- facilities available to the patrol member(s)
- safety and emergency support services
- communications systems (access to support/emergency services)

Beach:

- beach type
- prevailing conditions

Under circumstances where multiple patrol members are deployed to service an area, one patrol member should be identified as the senior (responsible) person in order to establish a command and control structure. All patrol members should be briefed on their roles and responsibilities.

Once the patrol area is set up, patrol members shall erect Council ordinance signage for that respective area where required i.e. no dogs permitted, dogs on leash etc.

CLOSING BEACHES

Patrol members are required to assess the conditions that present to them and determine if closing the beach (aquatic area) is an appropriate option. The aim of this guideline is to assist by providing guidelines to determining their options and acting upon their decisions in a safe and efficient manner.

Patrol members should consider closing the beach at any time that there is an unacceptable risk to the public or the patrol of injury, illness, substantial distress or at any time that the patrol is over committed and/or is unable to effectively perform water safety tasks.

The following are specific conditions under which beach closure may be considered (this list should not be considered to be exclusive):

Surf Conditions:	Heavily Dumping Surf Large Surf Rips/Strong Currents Debris
Marine Life:	Marine Stingers Sharks Crocodiles Any other Marine Creatures that may be a hazard on the beach
Human Hazard:	Uncontrolled surf craft infringements Powercraft hazards Civil disturbance (public unrest, criminal activity) Equipment in surf/swimming area (lines, netting, buoys, etc.)
Weather:	Lightning Hail Cyclonic conditions
Chemical Hazard:	High Pollution Levels Chemical Spill Oil/Petrol Spills Biological Agent(s)

Upon the decision to close a beach:

1. The red and yellow flags shall be removed / taken down.
2. The red flag and emergency evacuation flag (if applicable) shall be erected.
3. Where the swimming area would normally be, a 'SWIMMING PROHIBITED: sign/s with a red flag and relevant hazard sign shall be erected.
4. Report beach closure to the relevant SurfCom detailing the reason for closure (Point Danger, South Coast and Sunshine Coast Branches only)
5. SWIMMING PROHIBITED: approved best practice signage with red flag and hazard sign should be erected at major beach access points where practical and appropriate to advise the public of a closed beach. Refer to 33rd Edition of SLSA Training Manual.
6. Conditions Boards shall be changed to read 'Surf Dangerous, No Swimming'.
7. When the beach is closed, at least two patrol members both whom are Bronze Medallion holders, one patrol member preferably to be an IRB driver must be allocated to patrol the beach, to ensure swimmers do not enter the water and to be ready in case of emergency during normal patrol hours.

The current Standard Bathing By-Laws requires the red flag to be erected to assist in indicating that the beach is closed. It therefore **shall not** be utilised when the beach is open or in any other manner.

NOTE: The practise of crossing the red and yellow flags is not recognised under any bathing by-laws or the Standards Australia. This method is not to be used.

NOTE: Suitable patrol shelter/shade should be made available for patrol members that are maintaining surveillance of the closed beach.

NOTE: Further information can be found in the 33rd Edition SLSA Training Manual, and Beach Patrol Signage Catalogue (Refer to Section 10 - Beach Patrol Equipment).

AQUATIC ACTIVITY ZONING

This guideline outlines how zoning provides a beach management tool to isolate or separate activities that may be incompatible with the other activities or isolate hazards or activities that are required to be contained to a particular area.

There are two ways that zoning may be applied:

1. Confining a particular aquatic activity to a specific location.
2. The segregation of activities that are a risk to other aquatic users.

The activities that are most commonly zoned include:

- Swimming
- Body Boards
- Surf Craft
- Surf Boats
- Power Craft (including the use of PWC's and Skiing)

Marking Zoned Areas:

Areas that have been zoned for a particular use (or to exclude certain activities) can be defined by using flags, signs or buoys.

Time zones can also be used as a management tool allowing or restricting specified activities to be conducted at prescribed times.

Establishing Zoned Areas:

To establish a system of zoning the following steps may be appropriate:

1. Conduct a Risk Assessment to establish the need for zoning and the most appropriate methods for application.
2. Consultation with relevant stakeholders.
3. Establishment of a legislative framework (i.e. included in Local Laws).
4. Communication with user groups.

Monitoring of Zoned Areas:

Once established, zoned areas will require a level on monitoring. Zoned areas usually require a level of "policing" to ensure compliance.

LOST / MISSING PERSONS

This guideline is to ensure patrol members use correct procedures when approached by parents, friends or family who has lost a person. Patrol members will frequently become involved with scenarios involving Lost and Found persons. This guideline provides some principles on which to base a response.

A lost person is where a family member, friend or guardian approaches the Lifesaver and reports a person missing or a person is identified as missing as a result of an aquatic incident.

A found person: is where the patrol member either: -

- Is approached by a member of public who has lost their group,
- Comes across someone who appears distressed and lost, or
- When a member of public finds the child/person and hands them over to a patrol member.

The patrol member should follow a series of escalating procedures to handle lost and found persons:

Note: If a Patrol Member is informed of a lost/missing person that Patrol Member is to keep the informant with them or another Patrol Member at all times until the missing person is located.

Serial	Action	Suggested Time Frame
1	Information Gathering	0 – 2 Minutes
2	Preliminary Observation Contact SurfCom and Police	2 - 5 Minutes
3	Initial Search	5 – 10 Minutes
4	Coordinated Search: Under External Agency	Report after 10 minutes: Search Continued Under Direction

Contact appropriate external authorities immediately (Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast clubs should contact the SurfCom and Police in the first instance) if: -

- There is concern that the person was last sighted in or near the water.
- The person missing has special needs.
- There is reasonable suspicion or evidence that there may be criminal activity involved.
- There is any circumstance that suggests the person may be at immediate risk.
- It is better to call additional resources early than have a delayed response to an aquatic incident when it may be too late.

INFORMATION GATHERING

Gain the necessary information to commence appropriate actions.

Note: If a Patrol Member is informed of a lost/missing person that Patrol Member is to keep the informant with them or another Patrol Member at all times until the missing person is located.

Missing Child

- Obtain descriptive details of the missing person (Name, Age, Basic clothing)
- Identify last location of missing person
- Identify time since last seen

Missing Parents

- Try to obtain child's name
- Obtain child's basic description
- Do not carry child on shoulders or give anything to drink/eat

Missing Person in the water

- Identify the activity and last location of missing person
- Identify time since last seen
- Identify their condition and if they are a swimmer or not

Preliminary Observation

- Patrol members are to observe the local area, commence surveillance at waters edge and work back.
- Reassure parents or carer and where possible obtain addition details such as other possible search areas i.e. location of car, residence, etc.

INITIAL SEARCH

- Patrol members are to commence the relay of information. Search to encompass adjacent beach areas and off-beach sites in the immediate area.
- Initial information should be passed to the appropriate coordinating agency.
- Commence recording of information.

CO-ORDINATED SEARCH

- All available information passed appropriate coordinating agency (usually the police).
- Lifesavers to continue as directed by coordinating agency.

LOST PROPERTY

When a patrol member is handed or finds property that he/she believes to be lost, the following procedure is to take place:

1. Confirm the owner of the property is not in the immediate vicinity.
2. If handed the item take details of the person handing in the lost/found property.
3. Secure the items and record details.
4. At the earliest possible opportunity lodge the items with an appropriate authority: Local Authority, Security, Police, etc.

EFFECTS OF WATER DEPTH ON AQUATIC SAFETY

The purpose of this guideline is to provide guidance for patrol members whilst setting up the beach area and also monitoring conditions throughout their patrol.

The principles outlined below should be used as guidelines when opening the beach, placing the flags and also completing beach report boards

Rip & Surf Zone Current Velocity

- Rip Feeder & Long shore Currents travel at 0.5 – 1.5 m/sec (2-5 km/hr)
- Rip currents under average wave conditions (< 1.5m high) attain maximum velocities of 1.5m/sec (5.4km/hr)

Water Depth

Safest	Knee Depth	-	Can Walk against a strong rip current
Moderately Safe	Waist Deep	-	Can maintain footing in a strong rip current
Unsafe	Chest Deep	-	Unable to maintain footing in rip current

NOTES: -

- Olympic swimmers can swim at 7km/hr
- An average rip in a surf zone 50m wide can carry someone outside the breakers in as little as 30 seconds
- Advise swimmers to keep their feet on the sand at all times
- What is shallow and safe for an adult can be deep and distressing for a child

SAND STRUCTURES COLLAPSE

The purpose of this guideline is to outline the hazards associated with digging sand holes at the beach, and to highlight how patrol members can control it as a risk.

Sand structures/digging cause hazards because: -

- Sand obscures other hidden hazards such as munitions, glass, and other sharp objects
- Sand can become 'boggy' and unstable when nearing down towards sea level
- Sand is unstable that can't be trusted and can collapse at any time (especially hazardous with tunnels)
- A toddler is obscured from view when digging inside a deep hole and cannot be seen in the event of a collapse
- Holes present uneven surfaces to Lifesavers when responding to an incident on foot and while operating vehicles especially at times of poor light, bright sunlight or when looking out to sea.
- Digging into the side of a dune to creates an unstable overhang that can collapse at any time

GUIDELINES FOR PATROL MEMBERS

- Discourage sand digging where possible
- Observe best practice guidelines when advising beach patrons from participating in any dangerous activities
- The lifesaver's observation of the water should not be compromised in this situation

DEALING WITH DIFFICULT SITUATIONS

Patrols are wide open to the public view and patrol members are constantly watched by beach visitors.

The primary role of a patrol member is to observe and protect water users. Because of the nature and variety of facilities that are provided at beaches, patrol members also provide a service to the public.

With this in mind, extensive courtesy should be paid to all persons requesting assistance, even those who are making a complaint. The fact that a beach user is being rude does not justify a patrol member to conduct themselves the same way.

Patrol members must learn to keep an even temperament and a helpful approach, regardless of how they are treated by others - this reflects a major aspect of a professional demeanour.

BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINES:

Give courteous attention to the beach visitor, answering all questions asked: –

- When asked a question to which a patrol member cannot supply an answer, the patrol member should politely direct the visitor to a source where the information is available.
- When speaking to a beach visitor, it is usually more polite to remove sunglasses, and maintain eye contact at a similar level to the visitor.

Be prepared to supply beach visitors with answers to commonly asked questions: -

- Examples are air and water temperatures, tide times, weather forecasts, the correct time, conditions and local by-laws.
- The beach report board should be kept current and neat with no unofficial remarks.

Only use Public address systems for official matters: -

- Anything announced using a PA will be not only heard but also judged by all beach visitors who can hear it.
- Courtesy is of particular importance when messages are heard by large numbers of people.

Never reprimand an individual who has been rescued: -

- The casualty will have already learned a lesson and will more than likely have a 'bruised' ego.
- If important to say anything to the casualty, try and direct it towards the reason they got into trouble and say something constructive to prevent them from getting into that situation again.
- Make the contact as diplomatic as possible.

Avoid lecturing beach visitors: –

- If a point needs to be made, fully explain the rationale and request for compliance.

Provide your name, position and club to any person requesting the information: –

- A patrol member who refuses such information suggests a need to hide from a complaint that may or may not be valid.

Address all people in a friendly and courteous manner: –

- Avoid approaches that start with “hey you” or similar words as this will no doubt set the visitor in a defensive posture that will make understanding or compliance difficult.
- Whenever possible, visitors should be approached personally and spoken to individually.
- The use of public address systems, whistles and signals is good for general announcements, but is often embarrassing when used to address individuals and should be avoided.

VIOLENCE:

Violence is an incident in which a member is abused, threatened, or assaulted by a member of the public or colleague during the course of his/her duties, or even when not on duty but related to those duties.

Verbal abuse and threats is the most common, and physical attacks are rare.

We all have an interest in eliminating violence. Violence can cause pain, suffering, and even disability or death if severe enough. Physical attacks can be dangerous, but serious or persistent verbal abuse can also damage our employee's health through stress.

Any Physical or Verbal abuse suffered by any member should follow the procedures listed below:-

In all cases, patrol members should try and calm the situation and move away

1. If possible, you should call for back up stating your position and problem
2. Each available patrol member in the vicinity should then make every effort to move to the location and provide back up using safe and legal means of transport.

Post Incident: -

1. Inform your Patrol Captain immediately.
2. Complete an incident report form (take particular care to complete the narrative as thoroughly as possible and state the nature of the incident).
3. Where physical abuse has been suffered, contact the police immediately.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

Inappropriate behaviour covers numerous activities that occur on beaches. These include, but are not limited to:

- Suspect Paedophiles
- Indecent exposure
- Public Sexual Activities

Any incident that is reported, alleged or observed to have occurred involving “inappropriate sexual advances or behaviour” or “inappropriate adult sexual behaviours (Sexual Molestation of children)” must be handled expediently with sensitivity and discretion.

Under no circumstances should a patrol member support or accuse an individual or suspect regardless of the reporting circumstances.

PROCEDURES:

Where a patron reports someone to a patrol member or a patrol member spots someone involved in offensive inappropriate behaviour or they believe someone to be suspicious they should follow the procedures listed below:

- Make note of the person’s description.
- Contact Queensland Police or SurfCom (where applicable) for assistance.
- Maintain surveillance of the water giving close supervision to any child that is at risk of inappropriate adult sexual behaviour.
- When Queensland Police arrive, the patrol member should offer their assistance. If they require no further help, the patrol member should return to their normal duties.
- The patrol member should search for the suspect and observe them staying in contact with their patrol until the Police arrive.

The patrol member’s observation of the water should not be compromised in this situation.

BREACH OF PEACE ON BEACHES

Scope	This procedure applies to all operational levels of Surf Life Saving Queensland.
Purpose	To define the procedures when a disturbance, such as an altercation, occurs at a beach during patrol hours.
Introduction	It is possible that an altercation may take place adjacent to patrol areas. Members are to ensure that their own personal safety and that of any members in their charge.
Notification of SurfCom	SurfCom is to be notified immediately whenever a “gang” of people arrives at a beach. SurfCom shall make full and accurate notes in the Log.
Notification of the Police	Upon receipt of information that a gang has arrived at a beach, SurfCom is required to contact the police and pass this information on to them. SurfCom is to be notified immediately of any disturbance with a request for urgent police assistance. Normal notification is via 000.
Notification of other lifesaving services	SurfCom is to notify neighbouring clubs of the situation. Additional resources should only be sent to the incident if they are requested by the Patrol Captain or a Duty Officer/Lifesaving Services Coordinator. SurfCom is to task Operational Support units to the area to provide water safety and rescue services. Duty Officers/Lifesaving Services Coordinator must be notified and a DO must attend.
Rescues	In the event of a rescue, consideration should be given to taking any patients to an adjacent beach. Normal protocols in regards to the safety of the patients and rescuers are important, e.g. surf conditions, unstable condition of patient, etc.
Altercations	If there is likely to be an altercation near patrol members, all members are to leave the beach with two members remaining at a vantage point to monitor the bathing public (if it is safe to do so). The members are to proceed to the club rooms until the disturbance has subsided. SurfCom must be advised of this. Any First Aid and Oxygen equipment is to be removed from the beach. Every effort is to be taken to ensure that young or inexperienced members are protected and do not become involved.
Roving patrols	In the event that, at the time the patrol are leaving the beach, there is a roving patrol being undertaken by members of the patrol; the patrol captain is to radio the roving patrol members and advise them of the situation. The roving patrol members are to either proceed to a nearby club or not return to the location of the disturbance until they are advised that it is safe to do so.
IRB	If an IRB is signed on the IRB driver and crew are to patrol the beach from the water. The IRB must be equipped with a radio.

Operations Support Group	<p>If large groups start to display anti-social behaviour the Patrol Captain should request the attendance of the Operations Support Service to provide additional water safety services.</p> <p>In the event that an incident occurs, Operations Support Service members are not to become involved unless there is an absolute need and this is to rescue and remove members from any confrontation.</p> <p>If there is an incident and members are unable to leave the beach because access is blocked, every effort is to be made to have the members retrieved from the beach and taken to the ORB. The Operations Support Service is to actively patrol the area in any event that the patrol is unable to patrol the beach.</p>
Interaction with offenders	<p>Members must avoid becoming involved in any form of interaction with people causing a disturbance on the beach. Have no verbal communication with them and avoid any eye contact if possible.</p> <p>If members are harassed by “gang” members, leave the area and make sure that you stay with experienced members. Ensure SurfCom has called the police.</p> <p>At no time is a member to communicate with any person who is harassing or intimidating them.</p>
Injuries and rescues	<p>If any person is injured or requires to be rescued from the water, including offenders, normal first aid and rescue procedures are to be provided as long as it is safe to do so.</p>
Patrol Uniforms	<p>Clubs are to ensure that patrol uniforms are only worn whilst on patrol. They are NOT to be worn to and from a patrol, at the shops or after a patrol at the club etc. Clubs should keep any eye out for people wearing patrol uniforms who are not on patrol. This information is per the SLSQ circular issued 16/12/05.</p>
Media	<p>No member is to take part in a media interview, including those that are “off the record”. SurfCom is to be notified and they are to arrange the attendance of the Duty Officer/Lifesaving Services Coordinator or an appropriate club or Branch official.</p>
Additional information	<p>Please refer to the SLSQ circular issued 16/12/05 for other information relating to these types of incidents.</p>
Review	<p>The State Lifesaving Committee will review this policy annually.</p>



DATE 7th July 2010
SUBJECT Lifesaving Activities at Closed Beaches
Approved by Lifesaving Committee

The following policy statement was adopted at the Lifesaving Committee meeting held 29 May 2010 and adopted as State Policy from 7th July 2010:

POLICY

BACKGROUND

As Surf Lifesavers our members are called upon to conduct rescues in varying conditions, sometimes in hazardous seas. When the sea conditions are extremely hazardous and have been judged unsafe for the public to swim, the beach will be closed however there may be incidents where SLSQ members are required to perform rescues etc in these conditions.

In order to ensure that members have the required skills and abilities to work in such environments, members may wish to conduct activities in hazardous conditions.

LIFESAVING ACTIVITIES AT CLOSED BEACHES

If a Patrol Captain deems the beach conditions too dangerous for the bathing public he/she will close the beach and continue to advise the public not to enter the water.

As surf life savers may one day be required to perform rescues etc in hazardous and potentially dangerous conditions some members may wish to conduct Lifesaving training to ensure they have the skills to negotiate potentially dangerous conditions.

This policy has been broken into four areas assist our members in understanding the actual activities that can be carried out on our beaches. The four areas of this policy are:

- I. Training of club members for a SLSA award
- II. Training conducted for Maintaining Skills of Patrolling Lifesavers in awards currently held
- III. Training/Maintaining Skills of Operations Support operators
- IV. Training Conducted for competition purposes

If Lifesavers wish to conduct activities at beaches that have been closed due to hazardous surf conditions then the procedures outlined in the respective area **must** be adhered to at all times.

No Junior Activities are to be conducted at Closed Beaches.

No Lifesaving Activity is to ever be conducted at beaches closed due to Dangerous Marine Creatures (Sharks, Crocodiles, Marine Stingers etc), debris in the water or electrical storms.

I. Training of club members for a SLSA award.

If the beach is closed, training of members for new SLSA Awards (i.e. an award not currently held) is not permitted.

II. Training conducted for Maintaining skills of Patrolling Lifesavers

Members who wish to carry out lifesaving activities for the purpose of maintaining surf skills or improving surf skills must adhere to the following procedure:

1. Members must be financial members of the association and be eligible and proficient to conduct patrol operations.
2. Inform Patrol Captain that you wish to conduct lifesaving activities for the purpose of maintaining skills for an award currently held.
3. Advise SurfCom and the Duty Officer in the region that training is being conducted. If Surfcom/Duty Officer not applicable to area Branch Director of Lifesaving and/or Lifesaving Services Coordinator should be advised.
4. Wear the club training cap or patrol cap.
5. Prepare appropriate Water Safety;
 - a. If tube rescue or board rescue training is being conducted there is to be a minimum of one (1) fully equipped IRB on standby as Water Safety. The crew of the water safety IRB must be aware of the training being conducted and agreeable to acting as Water Safety personnel. Patrol IRB can be used with approval from both Patrol Captain and IRBD.
 - b. If IRB rescue training is being conducted there is to be a minimum of a one (1) fully equipped IRB, (not being used in the training) on standby as Water Safety. The crew of the water safety IRB must be aware of the training being conducted and agreeable to act as Water Safety personnel.
6. The relevant training signs are to be erected as per normal training procedures.
7. Once the training is completed advise Surfcom/Duty Officer or Director of Lifesaving and/or Lifesaving Services Coordinator in the region that training has ceased.

NOTE: The above procedure also applies for members who are in the process of up grading their Powercraft Surf Accreditation as well adhering to the Powercraft Surf Accreditation Policy.

III. Training / Maintaining of Operations Support Personnel

Members who are involved in Operations Support and wish to carry out lifesaving activities for both SLSA award training and members maintaining skill level must adhere to the following procedure:

1. Members must be financial members of the association and must hold the appropriate pre requisites for the activity they wish to conduct.
2. Members must seek approval from the State Operations Support Officer and/or respective State Advisor or delegate.
3. Inform Surfcom and the Duty Officer in the region that training is being conducted. If Surfcom/Duty Officer not applicable to area Branch Director of Lifesaving should be advised.
4. Wear the appropriate uniform for the activity being conducted.

5. A fully equipped RWC or IRB that is not involved in the training must be in a position that it can respond to the area if needed.
6. The relevant training signs are to be erected as per normal training procedures.
7. Once the training is completed advise Surfcom/Duty Officer or Director of Lifesaving in the region that training has ceased. Operations Support Officer and/or respective State Advisor or delegate should also be advised on completion of training.

IV. Training/Up skilling for Surf Sports Activities

Clubs who wish to carry out Training/up skilling activities for members for the sole purpose of competition must adhere to the following procedure;

1. Training Session must be endorsed by club management committee.
2. Accredited and endorsed Coach must carry out a risk assessment prior to the commencement of the session.
3. Coach must consult with the patrol captain prior to the commencement of the session to make sure that there is an appropriate rescue response in place if needed.

Note: If the Patrol Captains deems that there is not an effective rescue response the training session must not proceed.

If any member fails to comply with the appropriate procedures, relevant to the actual activity they intend to partake in as shown above they risk the possibility of facing SLSQ judicial procedures. Members who also fail to comply with the above procedures risk the possibility of negating their workers compensation benefits.

NOTE: If the planned session is to be conducted at a closed beach that is not under SLSQ control the club/members must still adhere to the above listed procedures and they must consult with the authority that is controlling the beach.

Revision date: 7th July 2010