CIRCULAR

Title:	EOI OPEN - Sunshine Coast Branch Reservists & Patrol 99 - Patrol Teams
Department:	Lifesaving & Membership
Date:	5.11.2026

The Sunshine Coast Branch is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from active and proficient members interested in joining either the Sunshine Coast Branch Reservists or Patrol 99.

While both initiatives support patrol capability across the Branch, they have distinct purposes. The Reservists provide a flexible, voluntary pool of members who may be available to assist clubs when required, while Patrol 99 is a proactive development initiative focused on creating a safe and supportive environment for female patrolling members to build confidence, develop skills, expand networks, and grow their involvement in Surf Life Saving.

Sunshine Coast Branch Reservists Patrol

The Sunshine Coast Branch Reservists are a voluntary pool of proficient patrol members who may be available to assist clubs experiencing patrol staffing shortages or requiring additional qualifications to meet patrol requirements.

There is no obligation to respond to a request for assistance. Members are not expected to fill vacancies or commit to a fixed roster. The Reservist program simply provides a list of members who may be available to assist when opportunities arise.

The initiative is designed to provide flexibility for members who would like to remain involved in lifesaving patrol operations beyond their regular club commitments. This patrol team will be operating separately and in addition to their club patrol requirements. It may particularly appeal to long-service members looking for opportunities to get back into the red and yellow, patrol at different beaches, and stay connected with lifesaving, while remaining open to all active and proficient patrolling members.

This group would be suitable for members who:

- Hold current patrol qualifications and proficiency;
- are current financial members of an affiliated SLS organization
- Would like flexible patrol opportunities without ongoing roster commitments;
- Enjoy experiencing different club and beach environments;
- Want to assist clubs when their availability allows;
- Are interested in supporting patrol operations across the Branch.

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Patrol 99

Patrol 99 is a Women's Advisory and Advocacy Group (WAAG) initiative designed to create a safe space for women on the Sunshine Coast to be mentored and supported throughout their lifesaving journey.

The initiative aims to bring together female patrolling members and allies from across the Branch to patrol alongside one another at different clubs and beaches, creating opportunities to build confidence, gain experience, strengthen networks, and develop leadership capability in a supportive environment. Patrol 99 recognises that many members may not always have the opportunity to perform certain patrol functions, gain exposure to different beach environments, or learn from experienced members within their own club. Through shared patrol experiences, mentoring, and networking, Patrol 99 seeks to support women to grow their confidence and participation in lifesaving.

Unlike the Reservists program, Patrol 99 is not primarily focused on filling patrol vacancies. Rather, it is a proactive member development initiative designed to support, connect, and empower women through planned patrol opportunities and activities. While clubs may benefit from the additional patrol support provided, the primary objective is to foster confidence, capability, and connection across the women's lifesaving network.

Participation in Patrol 99 is flexible. Members are not required to attend every Patrol 99 activity or patrol opportunity, and there is no expectation of a fixed commitment throughout the season. Members are encouraged to participate whenever their personal, family, work, and club commitments allow.

Patrol 99 would be suitable for members who:

- Are proficient and financial members of an affiliated SLS club;
- Want to build confidence in patrol operations and leadership roles;
- Enjoy networking with members from other clubs and patrolling at different beaches;
- Are interested in being mentored or mentoring others within a supportive environment;
- Support and promote female participation in Surf Life Saving;
- Wish to participate in Patrol 99 activities and patrol opportunities throughout the season as their availability allows; and
- Value creating an inclusive and supportive patrol environment across the Branch.

Final Details

Members' patrol hours for both teams will be managed by both the Branch and Regional Teams in collaboration with members and clubs.

Dates regarding upcoming patrols will be communicated to members through the respective channels with no pressure on either group to attend every opportunity.

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Queensland SUNSHINE COAST

How to Apply: EOI for both Teams here

Members may nominate for:

- Sunshine Coast Branch Reservists
- Patrol 99 – Women's Patrol (Male Allies Welcome)

*** Members may nominate for both if they wish!***

The EOI form will collect member contact details, club affiliation, current qualifications and awards, and general availability to assist in the planning and coordination of both initiatives.

Following the EOI process, interested members will receive further information regarding the program(s) they have expressed interest in, including expectations, upcoming opportunities, and next steps for involvement. Members will all best sent to their Clubs for endorsement following the EOI process.

For any questions regarding the Sunshine Coast Branch Reservists or Patrol 99, please contact Roger, Toni, or the Sunshine Coast Regional Team. We encourage all interested members to submit an EOI and be part of supporting, strengthening, and developing patrol capability across the Sunshine Coast Branch.

Yours in Lifesaving,

ROGER ASPINALL
Director of Lifesaving
Surf Life Saving Sunshine Coast Branch

TONI READ
Chair – Women's Advisory & Advocacy Group
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