



Surf Life Saving Australia - Circular

Title:	Review of IRB Motors, Throttle Recoil Mechanism Compliance and Request Process
Document ID:	Circular 65/24-25
Audience:	All Clubs, Branches and States/Territories
From:	Coastal Safety
Date:	1 May 2025

Purpose

This circular is to remind and encourage all Surf Life Saving Clubs, Branches, and States to review the throttle systems of their Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) motors to ensure compliance with national safety requirements. A properly functioning throttle recoil mechanism is critical to the safety of IRB operations, especially in the event that the driver and crew are ejected from the vessel.

Background

Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) is committed to the highest standards of operational safety. As outlined in **Circular 15/23-24 – IRB Motor Safety: Throttle Recoil Mechanism, Throttle Tension Toggle and Standardised Kill Switch**, all IRB motors must be fitted with a functioning throttle recoil mechanism. This safety feature ensures that, if the operator and/or crew are removed from the vessel, the throttle automatically returns to the idle position, reducing the risk of an unmanned runaway vessel.

To assist Clubs in meeting this requirement, SLSA has developed the Throttle Recoil Mechanism Request Form. This form enables Clubs and Services to request a compliant throttle recoil mechanism for their IRB motor(s) where one is not already installed or where a replacement is necessary.

Action required

All Clubs are required to.

- Review all existing IRB motors to confirm that a compliant throttle recoil mechanism is installed and fully operational.
- Submit a request via the SLSA Throttle Recoil Mechanism Request Form if a compliant mechanism is not currently installed.
- Ensure that the Throttle Tension Toggle and Kill Switch are also inspected and aligned with the requirements set out in **Circular 15/23-24**.

Compliance

Compliance with this safety requirement is mandatory and forms part of ongoing national IRB safety standards.



Accessing the form

Step by step guide to completing Throttle Recoil Mechanism request form

1. Go to [Coastal Safety Portal - Jira Service Management](#)
2. Select [SLSA Throttle Recoil Mechanism Request - Coastal Safety Portal - Jira Service Management](#) from the list of available forms.
3. Fill in the Required Details:
 - Reporter Information
 - Equipment information
 - Reason for request
4. Submit the form
5. After Submission
 - You will receive a confirmation acknowledging receipt of your request
 - The SLSA team will process your request and contact you if additional information is needed.

Further information

For additional information or clarification regarding this circular or the throttle recoil mechanism requirements, please contact your State or Branch Lifesaving Operations Officer or contact SLSA Coastal Safety team via equipment@slsa.asn.au.