



Surf Life Saving Australia - Circular

Title:	Nominations for Independent Members of the Lifesaving Advisory Committee (LAC) and National Medical Advisor.
Document ID:	Circular 86/24-25
Audience:	Presidents & Secretaries, State/Territory Centres, Branches & Clubs, SLSA Directors, Advisors, Committee Chairs, SMG, Interested Parties
From:	Michael Bonnici – Manager, Coastal Safety
Date:	23 June 2025
Summary:	Surf Life Saving Australia is seeking nominations from suitably qualified and experienced members for positions on the Lifesaving Advisory Committee (4 x Independent Members) and for the role of National Medical Advisor, each with a 2-year appointment. Nominations must be submitted online by COB 23 July 2025 , endorsed by the nominee's Club, and completed separately for each position.

Overview of Responsibilities and Obligations

Members interested in nominating for these positions should carefully read the relevant Position Descriptions to confirm eligibility, willingness, capability and capacity to fulfil the important responsibilities associated with the role (Appendices). All representatives must have the relevant knowledge and experience to effectively contribute to the role.

Members appointed to the LAC will be appropriately qualified and/or have experience in one or more of the following areas:

- a) Lifesaving Operations
- b) Emergency Management
- c) Injury Prevention
- d) Community Development
- e) Education
- f) Public Policy
- g) Risk Management.

Expression of Interest

Nominees are required to submit a properly completed ***Expression of Interest Form***. Nominees must submit a completed Expression of Interest Form, including Club endorsement.

[Online Expression of Interest form.](#)

Closing Date

Completed nominations must be received online by **COB 23 July 2025**.

Need advice or help?

Prospective nominees can contact the SLSA Manager Coastal Safety, Michael Bonnici if any clarifications or explanations are required. Email Michael.bonnici@sls.com.au.

For the committee Terms of Reference please go to the Document Library on the SLSA Members Area. [DOCUMENT LIBRARY](#)



Surf Life Saving Australia
Position Description

NATIONAL MEDICAL ADVISOR

Reports to:	Chair, Lifesaving
Term of Office:	2 years (appointed on odd years. eg. 2025-2027)
Consultation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manager Coastal Safety – Surf Life Saving Australia • National SLS Advisory Committees and subcommittees across lifesaving, sport, participation, learning and development • SLSA Lifesaving Technical Advisers • Surf Life Saving State and Territory representatives • Chair of Sport and SLSA Sport Manager
Purpose:	To provide expert advice on medical and health matters relating to lifesaving operations, education, and surf sports.
Responsibilities:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Respond to requests for technical advice on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Resuscitation techniques and emergency care ii. First aid treatment, equipment and facilities iii. Lifesaver health and safety 2. Chair the national medical advisory group meetings; providing updates, outcomes and recommendations through to the SLSA Chair, Lifesaving. 3. Coordinate and assist with research, testing and evaluation of resuscitation and first aid techniques 4. Represent SLSA on the Australian Resuscitation Council and the International Lifesaving Federation Medical Committee 5. Revise resuscitation and first aid educational resources to ensure currency and accuracy 6. Proactively contribute to the maintenance of medical related SLSA policies, procedures and guidelines 7. Review specific medical cases on referral from state medical advisors or their equivalent.
Desired Skills and Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A qualified medical practitioner with appropriate expertise, registered to practice in one or more of the States and Territories of the Commonwealth of Australia • Current financial membership of an affiliated SLSA organisation • High quality written and oral communication skills.



Surf Life Saving Australia Position Description

INDEPENDENT MEMBER, LIFESAVING MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
Reports to:	Chair, Lifesaving
Term of Office:	2 years (July 2025 - July 2027)
Consultation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manager, Coastal Safety – Surf Life Saving Australia • National SLS Advisory Committees and subcommittees across lifesaving, sport, participation, education and development • SLSA Lifesaving Technical Advisers • SLSA Management • Surf Life Saving State and Territory representatives
Purpose:	The purpose of this role is to contribute to the national leadership and effective consultation process for lifesaving activities as part of the Lifesaving Member Advisory Committee.
Responsibilities:	<p>Funding, Planning and Reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide input into the development of SLSA business plans • Contribute to funding distribution discussions to ensure funding is allocated in an equitable manner to achieve the best outcome for the Australian community. <p>Leadership and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in high quality member consultation as a member of the Lifesaving Member Advisory Committee • Contribute to special purpose working groups to support the delivery of lifesaving projects as necessary • Provide leadership and advice to SLSA's broad range of lifesaving stakeholders including state/territory directors and national/state/territory staff • Promote a culture of continuous improvement, including a commitment to quality customer service within SLSA lifesaving. <p>Lifesaving Operations, Training and Education, Water Safety, Drowning and Injury Prevention, Emergency Management, Organisational Development,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate, consult and liaise with state/territory SLS entities, SLSA directors, industry and interest groups to develop and promote best practice operational standards, consistency and adherence to national policies, procedures and guidelines • Foster and facilitate collaboration across the SLS lifesaving movement. • Support the development, review and continuous improvement of all SLSA lifesaving resources, ensuring alignment across all areas of operations • Support the delivery, review and continuous improvement of lifesaving education frameworks and pathways • Promote and support organisational development activities • Support the collection, analysis and interpretation of data from relevant entities and sources to inform evidence-based decision making • Support the development and delivery of recognition and meritorious awards programs to promote excellence in lifesaving across the movement • Support the development and streamlining of SLS lifesaving, sport, education and development activities into a cohesive framework • Support the delivery of nationally significant projects for lifesaving.

	Representational <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent SLSA's membership on lifesaving matters ensuring members views are well considered in the organisational decision making process. • Attend national SLSA Lifesaving meetings and forums.
Selection Criteria	
Qualifications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Member of SLSA with experience across a range of lifesaving operational functions essential. 2. Tertiary qualifications and/or equivalent relevant experience in the areas of emergency management, community development, injury prevention, general management, or public policy are desirable. 3. Graduate qualifications in the area of business, operations or a related field are also desirable.
Knowledge & Experience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strong understanding of the role of governance and management layers in delivering organisational outcomes. 2. Strong understanding and extensive experience in lifesaving operations. 3. Knowledge of emergency management principles and the emergency management arrangements in Australia. 4. Experience in negotiating and sourcing funding from external organisations including government, donors and commercial entities. 5. Experience in using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint). 6. Knowledge and understanding of SLS philosophies, principles, lifesaving activities, programs, services, policies and procedures. 7. Strong understanding of issues that affect SLS on a national level. 8. Experience in one or more of the following areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Lifesaving Operations b) Emergency Management c) Injury Prevention d) Community Development e) Education f) Public Policy g) Risk Management.
Skills & Attributes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strong leadership competencies – able to positively influence a broad range of stakeholders who may have contrasting priorities. 2. Ability to cultivate productive working relationships, facilitate and develop partnerships, value diversity and develop people. 3. Ability to influence through written and oral communication and interpersonal skills. 4. Ability to show initiative, prioritise and meet commitments and deadlines. 5. Analytical skills to assess a broad range of evidence and communicate findings to influence decision making.