



SLSQ Policy

Title: Lifesaving Activities at Closed Beaches	Department: Lifesaving
Policy No: LS09	Version: 4
Effective Date: 23.11.2024	Approved Date: 23.11.2024
Revision Date: 23.11.2027	Approved by: SLSQ Board

Introduction:

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, patrolling members will drop the flags and the beach will be closed. However, there may be incidents where Surf Lifesaving Queensland (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, informing all relevant personnel outlined in the policy.

Purpose:

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.

Application:

This policy applies to all affiliated Clubs and members of Surf Life Saving Queensland.

Definitions:

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
IRB	Inflatable Rescue Boat
SLSA	Surf Life Saving Australia
SLSC	Surf Life Saving Club
SLSQ	Surf Life Saving Queensland



Policy:

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

- I. Training of club members for a Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) award;
- II. Training conducted for Maintaining Skills of Patrolling Lifesavers in proficient awards;
- III. Training/Maintaining Skills of Operations Support operators;
- IV. Training Conducted for competition purposes.
- V. Water Safety for internal and external events

If Lifesavers wish to conduct activities at beaches that have been closed due to hazardous surf conditions, then the procedures outlined in the LSP 012 Policy **MUST** be adhered to at all times.

No Junior Activities are to be conducted at Closed Beaches.

If a Patrol Captain deems the beach conditions too dangerous for the bathing public, he/she/they 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.

There are three circumstances where no Lifesaving Activity is to ever be conducted at beaches closed, this includes:

- 1. Dangerous Marine Creatures (Sharks, Crocodiles, Marine Stingers etc.)**
- 2. Debris in the water**
- 3. Electrical Storms**

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Whimpey".

Dave Whimpey
Chief Executive Officer
Surf Life Saving Queensland