

FROM THE CITY TO THE SURF!

BRISBANE LIFESAVING SERVICE

INFORMATION BOOKLET



Queensland

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HISTORY

The iconic **RED** and **YELLOW** flag has a storied history, originating in **World War I** particularly by ships to indicate man overboard and all friendly ships in the vicinity commenced search procedures immediately. First hoisted on the shores of Gallipoli, it helped ANZACs identify safe havens on the shores of Gallipoli. Returning soldiers brought this symbol home, establishing it on Australian beaches in the 1920s as a mark of service, mateship, and protection. Today, the red and yellow flags and caps are Australian icons, representing a culture of putting others first.

The **red and yellow flags** have come to be an **Australian icon**, representing a culture founded on the need to be a true mate and put others first. The red and yellow cap branches from the foundations of the red and yellow flag and ensures that Life Savers are easily identifiable to the public, thereby providing beachgoers with the same security they have when they see the flags flying.

WHO WE ARE

Surf Life Saving Queensland's (SLSQ) Brisbane Lifesaving Service (BLS) is a volunteer service based in Brisbane. Our Members train in lifesaving skills to support small Clubs and enhance safety across Southeast Queensland. BLS formally began in 2011 to support our fellow volunteer Surf Lifesaver to deliver our vision of **"Zero Preventable Deaths in Queensland Public Waters"**.

BLS members commit to patrol once a month (5hrs) on the **Gold Coast and/or Sunshine Coast**. Each season, we support various clubs depending on community needs.

Clubs for the 2024/25 Season



These locations change each season depending on which Clubs require further support. A patrol roster is released at the commencement of each season that includes all patrol locations for the season.



#FROM THE CITY?

WE BRING THE CLUB TO YOU!

SLSQ will be encouraging passionate BLS Members of this movement to have the opportunity to gain qualifications and experience in all services of SLSQ.

This includes visits to the Gold Coast and demonstration of our operations support services like; patrolling on the Jet Ski (wave runner), and radio operations in our State Operations Communication Centre.

OBJECTIVES

- Engage in various rescue services and understand their importance.
- Help Members achieve their goals and explore different services within SLSQ.
- Develop leadership skills and enhance lifesaving knowledge.

PARTICIPANT FEES

| MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY | FEE |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| NEW MEMBERSHIP | \$170 |
| ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP – RENEWAL | \$80 |

Your initial membership will include a:

- BLS T-Shirt
- BLS Swimwear
- Training Rash Shirt
- Full Patrol Uniform (*upon successful completion of Assessment*)
- Award Resources
- Ongoing access to training courses at no additional cost. Most training is nationally accredited – transferrable to work or educational institutions.

Please note:

Throughout the program you will be required to wear the BLS Shirt and at times your patrol uniform. Alterations to this clothing will not be tolerated, e.g. cutting sleeves, drawings etc. When wearing the required uniform, you will be expected to act responsibly as you are representing the entire Surf Life Saving organisation, as well as Brisbane Lifesaving Service. Please ensure your completed and endorsed nominations are in prior to this date to allow for efficient completion of all administration and program planning.

HOW DO YOU REGISTER?

To register for BLS, participants will need to complete:

- Sign up to Brisbane Lifesaving Service: www.join.sls.com.au
- Create a Members Portal account: www.portal.sls.com.au
- Attend an information and pool swim session. Contact brisbane@lifesaving.com.au to arrange.
- Complete and submit a Blue Card form.
- Finalise payment of membership fees.
- Request access to the private Brisbane Lifesaving Service Facebook Group.

Please ensure you have completed and submitted the relevant forms prior to the commencement date of the course to allow for efficient completion of all administration and program planning. Participants will receive a letter of acceptance via email, outlining further details of the program. You will also be added to the Brisbane Lifesaving Facebook page upon request.

COURSE INFORMATION

OBSERVER

Have a keen eye for detail but prefer to stay dry on the beach? Join the team as an Observer. In this role, you'll enhance your First Aid skills and knowledge to actively patrol the beach and assist in keeping beachgoers safe through vigilant surveillance.

Requirements: Applicants must be at least 13 years old at the start of the course.

Training: The Observer Award is a concise course, taking only 1.5 to 2 hours to complete. It ensures that those performing patrolling duties as Award Members have the essential knowledge and understanding of the beach environment.

- **Surf Awareness and Skills:** Learn to identify rips, understand different types of waves, and recognise potential patients.
- **Communication:** Master beach signals to effectively communicate with fellow lifesavers.
- **Beach Management:** Understand the essentials of managing beach safety and responding to incidents.

Join as an Observer and contribute to beach safety while staying on dry land. Your vigilance and knowledge are vital to the surf lifesaving team.



BRONZE MEDALLION

Step into the iconic “red and yellow army” and become a fully qualified surf lifesaver on beach patrol with the prestigious Bronze Medallion. This award is the pinnacle of Surf Life Saving patrolling, equipping you with essential skills and knowledge in surf awareness, rescue techniques, radio communication, CPR, and first aid.

As a Bronze Medallion holder, you'll play a crucial role in ensuring beach safety, conducting patrols, and being ready to perform rescues using boards or tubes, as well as proactive preventive actions.

Requirements:

- Be a minimum of 15 years old at the start of the course.
- Complete a 400m pool swim in under 9 minutes.

Training: The Bronze Medallion course spans approximately six sessions, blending physical training with theoretical knowledge (available through an online platform). This comprehensive training prepares participants to patrol effectively as qualified surf lifesavers across Australia. This training includes:

- Safety and well-being
- Surf awareness and skills
- Human body awareness
- Resuscitation, defibrillation, and basic oxygen techniques
- First aid communications
- Radio operations
- Rescue techniques, including carries and supports
- Beach management

Nationally Recognised Qualifications: Upon completion, participants receive the PUA20119 Certificate II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue), which includes key competencies such as:

- PUASAR012: Apply surf awareness and self-rescue skills (C)
- PUASAR013: Participate in an aquatic rescue operation (C)
- PUACOM001: Communicate in the workplace (C)
- PUATEA001: Work in a team (C)
- PUATEA004: Work effectively in a public safety organisation (C)
- HLTAID010 - Provide basic emergencies life support (C)
- PUAOPE013: Operate communications systems and equipment (E)
- PUAWHS001: Follow defined work health & safety policies & procedures (E)

Join the ranks of dedicated lifesavers and make a difference on Australia's beaches with the Bronze Medallion.

SURF RESCUE CERTIFICATE

Get the perfect introduction to surf lifesaving with this preparatory role to join a beach patrol team.

The Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) is a stepping stone towards gaining a Bronze Medallion and provides participants with basic skills and knowledge of first aid, rescues, and CPR, enabling them to patrol as part of a patrol team.

Requirements:

- A minimum of 13 years old on day of course commencement.
- Able to complete a 200m pool swim in less than 5 minutes.

Training: The Surf Rescue Certificate will take approximately five sessions to complete, with both practical and theory tasks required. As a Surf Rescue Certificate award member, you will be able to patrol as a part of a patrol team.

Nationally Recognised Qualifications: Upon completion the following Nationally Recognised qualifications will be awarded to the member:

- PUAOPE013 Operate communications systems and equipment.
- PUASAR012 Apply surf awareness and self-rescue skills.
- PUASAR013 Participate in an aquatic rescue operation.
- HLTAID001 Provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

FIRST AID

Let your caring and compassionate side shine as you patrol and provide first aid on the beach (but stay out of the water). The First Aid award provides participants with the skills and knowledge required to provide initial care and treatment to a sick or injured person. As a First Aid award holder you are able to patrol in a patrol team to provide first aid to the public but are not required to enter the water for rescues.

Requirements:

- A minimum of 14 years old on day of course commencement.

Training: A full day course (8 hours) will expose the participant to varying scenarios relating to health conditions and emergency situations that may arise on the beach, in the workplace or around the home.

This Course Covers:

- How to respond in an emergency situation.
- Apply appropriate first aid procedures.
- Communicate details of the incident.
- Evaluate own performance.
- Evaluate the incident.

Nationally Recognised Qualifications: Upon completion of the course, the following Nationally Recognised Units will be awarded:

- HLTAID003: Provide First Aid





RADIO OPERATOR

Got a voice for radio but no desire to enter the water? Be part of integral communications in a patrol team and stay dry on the beach.

The Radio Operator is vital for communicating within patrols during standard patrol duties and emergency situations. As a Radio Operator, you will learn the required skills and knowledge to operate radio equipment and correct radio terminology.

Requirements:

- A minimum of 13 years old on day of course commencement.

Training: The Radio Operator Certificate takes approximately 2.5 hours to complete and ensures that radio communications are effective during patrol duties and emergency situations.

This Course Covers :

- Use of communication systems and equipment
- Transmit and receive communications
- Maintain communications equipment

Nationally Recognised Qualifications: Upon completion of the course, the following Nationally Recognised Units will be awarded:

- PUAOPE013A: Operate communications systems and equipment

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Brisbane Lifesaving Service Coordinator.

(07) 3846 8054

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