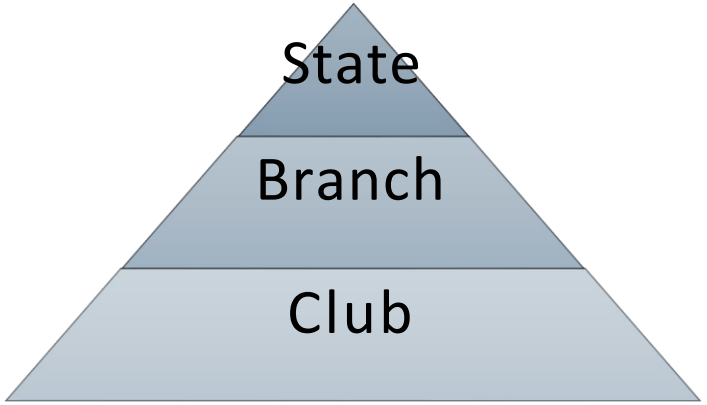
Queensland

2026/2027 PATROL SEASON BRIEF

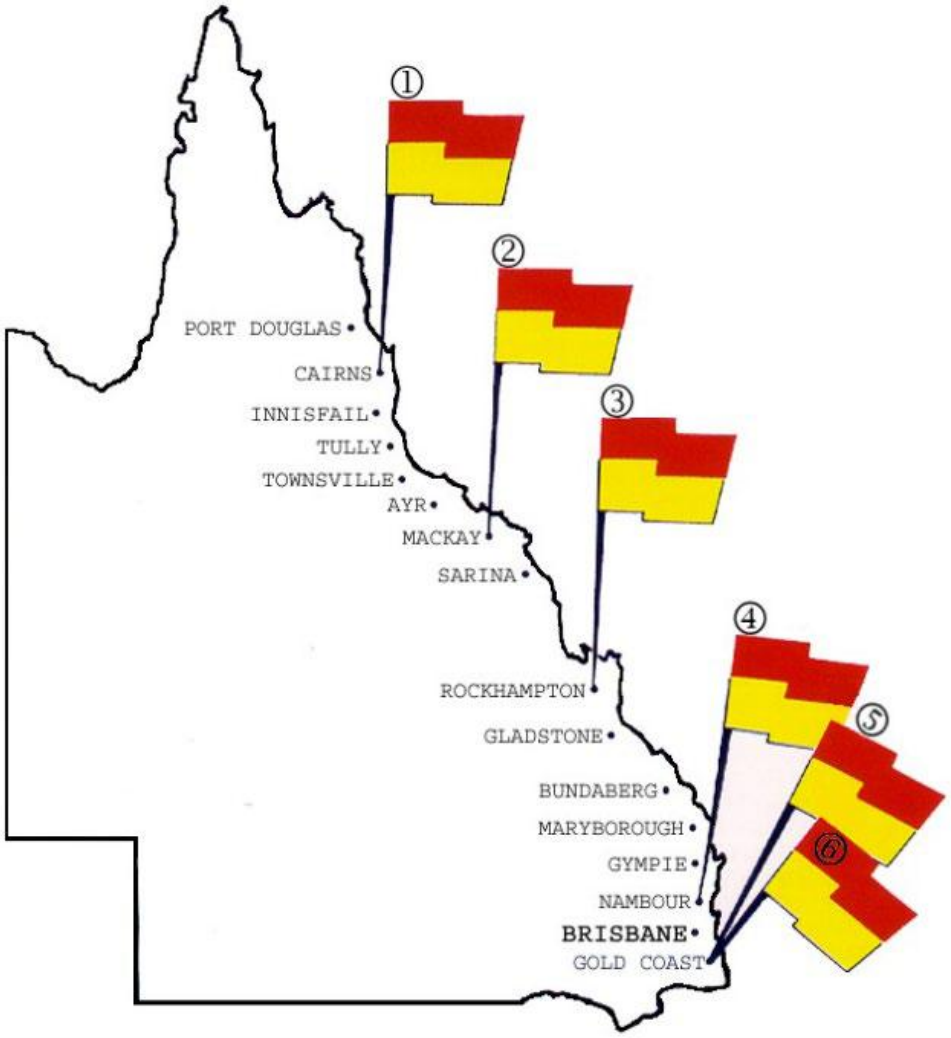
PATROL & CLUB CAPTAINS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways on which we gather and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples today.



- SLSQ has 58 established surf lifesaving clubs 6 branches and members patrolling 8,000 kilometres of the Queensland coastline from Port Douglas to Rainbow Bay.
- SLSQ has over 700 staff across the state with 6 state regional offices.



SLSQ LIFESAVING COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

LIFESAVING COMMITTEE – 4 meetings per year

VOTING

State Lifesaving Officer *(Chairman)**
Deputy State Lifesaving Officer
Branch Director of Lifesaving (DOLS) x 6
Operations Support Advisor

NON VOTING

COO
General Manager Public Safety & Emergency
Head of Lifeguards
Lifesaving Services Manager
Lifesaving Coordinator *(Minute Sec)*
Lifesaver and Youth Lifesaver of the Year

***Ex Officio on all panels**

Four (4) face to face meetings per year – End of February, May, August and November annually

The powers and duties of the Lifesaving Committee is to establish Special Purpose Panels or sub-committees under the control of appointed Chairperson/Advisors to deal with specific topics or projects.

ADVISORS

- Dangerous Marine Creature Advisor (Jellyfish, Sharks, Crocodiles)
- Medical Advisor
- Emergency Care Advisor
- SOCC (State Operations and Communication Centre) Advisor
- Specialist Powercraft Advisor
- Helicopter Services Advisor
- Drone Advisor

SPECIALIST POWERCRAFT PANEL

- Specialist Powercraft Advisor *(Chair)*
- *Powercraft Subject Matter Experts*
- SLSQ Lifesaving Staff *(Sec)*

(4 meetings/year)

OPERATIONS SUPPORT PANEL

- Operations Support Advisor *(Chair)*
- Regional Operations Support Advisors x5
- SOCC Advisor
- Helicopter Services Advisor
- Specialist Powercraft Advisor

Non voting

- Lifesaving Services Coordinator GC, SSC, WBC, NBB, NQB
- Lifesaving staff (*Minute Sec)*

(4 meetings/year – 2 regionally, 2 combined)

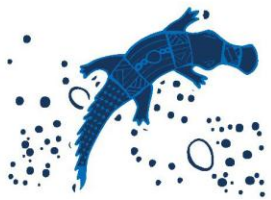
Emergency Management Working Group

- Emergency Management *(Chair)*
- four subject matter experts
- General Manager Public Safety & Emergency
- Manager Emergency Response

Drone Panel

- Drone Advisor *(Chair)*
- *5 x Regional Drone Advisors*
- *Helicopter representative*
- *Lifesaving Services Manager*
- Lifesaving Staff *(non-voting)*

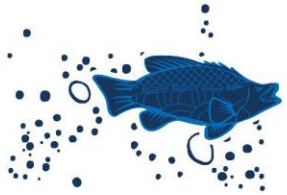
(4 meetings/year)



PATROLLING VIGILANCE & KNOWING AWARDS

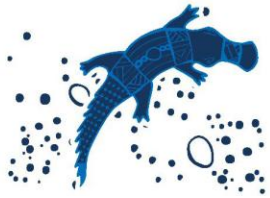
BEACH VISITATION OUTSIDE THE FLAGS - REGIONS

Region	2024/25 Season	2025/26 Season
Gold Coast	1,533,929	1,624,442
Sunshine Coast	6,775,230	7,306,734
Wide Bay Capricorn	454,440	428,848
North Barrier	410,152	357,450
North Queensland	533,998	552,044
Total	9,707,749	10,269,518



RESCUES OUTSIDE THE FLAGS - REGIONS

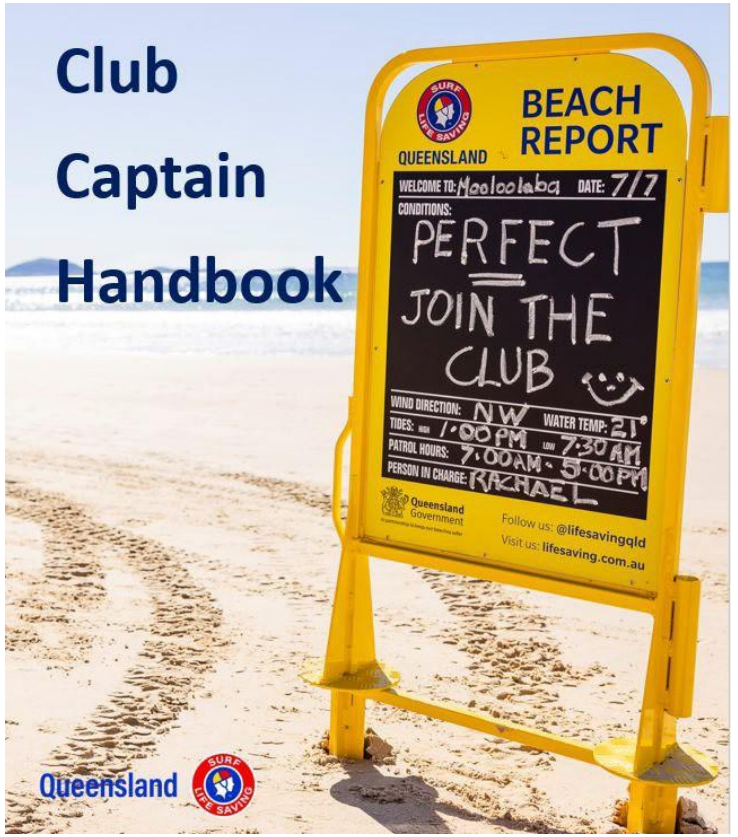
Region	Inside Flags	100m Outside	Outside 100m+	Total
Gold Coast	122	453	108	683
Sunshine Coast	141	543	325	1,009
Wide Bay Capricorn	23	41	50	114
North Barrier	7	0	34	41
North Queensland	30	4	30	64
Total	323	1,041	547	1,911



CLUB CAPTAINS GUIDE

This handbook lays out the expectations and duties of the Club Captain and provides guidance as to how to manage areas of the club with the below information:

- Role of the Club Captain
- Duties of the Club Captain
- Planning for the season
- Support networks
- Resources
- Contacts
- Procedures



PATROL OPERATIONS MANUAL

The Patrol Operations Manual (POM) is the primary operational guide for all patrolling members. It outlines the policies, procedures, standards, and expectations required to safely and effectively deliver patrol and lifesaving services across Queensland beaches.

The manual provides guidance and information on the following areas:

- Patrol operations and member responsibilities
- Emergency response procedures
- Surf rescue and search operations
- Communications and radio procedures
- Incident reporting and beach safety management
- Patrol administration and documentation
- Member welfare, safety, and wellbeing

The Patrol Operations Manual can be accessed through the SLSQ Members Portal, where members can view the latest version and associated operational documents. It is recommended that all operational members regularly review the manual to remain current with Surf Life Saving Queensland's patrol and emergency response requirements.

FUEL STORAGE

The Fuel Storage section of the Patrol Operations Manual (POM) has been updated to reflect current fuel storage requirements and permissible fuel quantities for surf clubs. The review was undertaken in consultation with the Risk Manager and considered the typical fuel storage needs of clubs, including:

- 3–4 ULP-powered vehicles;
- Fuel requirements for IRB operations; and
- A diesel-powered tractor.

The updated guidance clarifies that surf clubs may store a maximum of 500 litres of fuel, with no more than 250 litres of petrol and 250 litres of diesel stored on site at any one time. By providing clear limits, safety requirements, and risk management considerations, the update aims to promote safe and compliant fuel storage practices while ensuring clubs can maintain operational readiness and effectively support patrol and emergency response activities.

RWC CREW

A new section has been added to Section 12 of the Lifesaving Patrol Operations Manual (POM) to formally introduce the Rescue Water Craft (RWC) Crew role. This section outlines the responsibilities, requirements, and operational expectations of RWC Crew members, recognising their critical role in supporting safe and effective RWC operations.

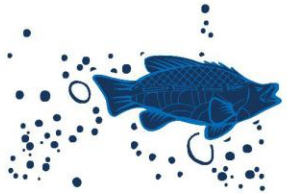
The addition provides guidance on the integration of RWC Crew into patrol activities, including operational readiness, communication, risk management, and teamwork with RWC Operators and the broader patrol. By defining the role and establishing consistent operational standards, this update aims to enhance safety, capability, and service delivery across all patrol environments.

TAG OUT PROCEDURE

Out of Service tags are a critical safety control used to identify equipment that is damaged, faulty, incomplete, or otherwise unsafe for use. Equipment that has been tagged must not be operated until the issue has been fully rectified and verified by an authorised person. Correct use of these tags helps prevent equipment failure, rescue delays, injuries, and unnecessary risks to both members and the public. When in doubt, always treat tagged equipment as unsafe and report it through the appropriate channels.

Key Points

- Tag equipment immediately if it is damaged, malfunctioning, unsafe, or missing required safety components.
- Record the date, time, reason for removal from service, and notify the appropriate supervisor.
- Only an authorised person can approve the removal of an Out of Service tag once the issue has been rectified and verified.
- Never bypass or use tagged equipment. Doing so can lead to equipment failure, rescue delays, injury, or legal consequences.



WOMEN @ SLSQ 2026 GENDER EQUITY DIAGNOSTIC

In 2022, SLSQ undertook its first Women at SLSQ Diagnostic to better understand the experiences of women across our movement - identifying key themes, challenges and opportunities.

Four years on, we're revisiting this work to measure progress, understand what has changed, and highlight where further support is needed.

The 2026 diagnostic will include a short survey and virtual listening sessions, capturing both data and lived experiences to help shape future initiatives that support the participation and advancement of women in surf lifesaving.

All responses will remain confidential, with findings used to drive meaningful, evidence-based change across the organisation.

If you are 18 years and over the survey is now live - check your inbox and have your say.

LIFESAVING AWARDS

Lifesaving Excellence

Recognising members who have demonstrated exceptional commitment, skill, and professionalism in lifesaving activities. This award acknowledges actions that have made a significant contribution to preserving life and promoting excellence within Surf Life Saving.

Bravery Award

Awarded to members who display outstanding courage and bravery while undertaking a rescue or emergency response. This recognition is reserved for actions involving considerable personal risk in the service of saving others.

SLSA Meritorious awards

Recognising members who have performed a rescue or lifesaving act of an exceptionally high standard. This award acknowledges outstanding judgement, skill, and dedication where the actions are considered worthy of special commendation.

https://form.jotform.com/220180789548869

SURF RISK RATING (SRR)

Surf Lifesaving Queensland is implementing the SRR tool across all clubs, branches and state operations to strengthen risk awareness, improve consistency and support safer patrols, training and events.

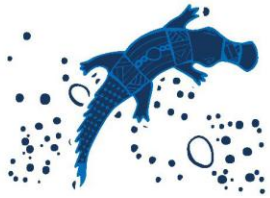
From the 1st September the Surf Risk Rating will be required to be used for signing onto patrol, member training, surf sport training, nippers, carnivals or events.

The aims of the Surf Risk Rating include:

- To enable water safety managers, officials and others to be advised of a Surf Risk Rating (SRR) in a timely and efficient manner.
- To have a consistent process for the evaluation of a surf risk rating.
- To provide key decision makers with information to enable them to make informed decisions.

How to Access:

- Complete the Surf Risk Rating (SRR)eLearning Course
- Login to the members area- choose eLearning – this will take you to the SLSQ Hub. On the home page you will see further training and a tile for the SRR.
- On completion of the course the award SRR App Access will be added to your SurfGuard profile.
- **NOTE:** It can take up to one week to have access to the SRR in LIMSOC.



H5 BIRD FLU OUTBREAK - SMEACS

1. AVOID contact with sick or deceased wild birds or wildlife and their environment. Do not touch or collect sick or deceased wild birds or wildlife.

2. RECORD what you see. If safe, record information on the number of dead birds/animals, species (where known), location, date and time.

3. REPORT sick or deceased wild birds to the State Operations and Communications Centre (SOCC) until otherwise notified. The SOCC will then contact the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888 (24/7) or 13 25 23 with the recorded information. A report will also be made to the local council to remove the bird.

4. MAKE SAFE if possible and safe to do so cover the deceased bird to stop others from coming into contact with it, until the local council can remove it.

If removal is required, ensure appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is worn in accordance with relevant guidance and organisational procedures before handling or disposing of the bird.

DEFIB CLOTHS

During the 2024/2025 season, Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) distributed scissors and microfibre cloths to each Club for storage with Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) while on patrol, to support effective emergency response.

The use of a drying cloth when operating an AED is essential to ensure that electrode pads adhere securely to the patient's bare skin, allowing the electrical current to be delivered effectively to the heart.

A drying cloth is a critical component of an AED preparation kit, as the presence of moisture—from perspiration, rain, or water immersion—may prevent proper pad adhesion. This can result in failed analysis or ineffective, and potentially hazardous, shock delivery.

SLSQ kindly reminds all Clubs to ensure that the distributed scissors and microfibre cloths are stored with the AED during patrol operations.

A letter will be sent to Clubs as a reminder of the above.

NATIONAL DEFINITIONS - *UPDATED*

A **preventative action** is defined as: *'Direct action taken to reduce or eliminate the probability of a rescue, first aid or other reportable incident from occurring.'*

A **search** is defined as: *An operation, involving lifesaving services and resources to locate person/s who may be in distress or another object.*

An **assist** is defined as: *Where a person is not in distress yet may require help to return to safety. They would most likely be able to get themselves out of danger if unassisted but could be at risk later if left.*

GWN RADIO COMMS – BY EXCEPTION ONLY

- No radio checks
- Think about your neighbour

GWN RADIOS - Lifesaving Patrol Operations Manual (POM) - 1

lifesaving.com.au/gwn

GWN RADIO CLEANING AND MAINTAINENCE

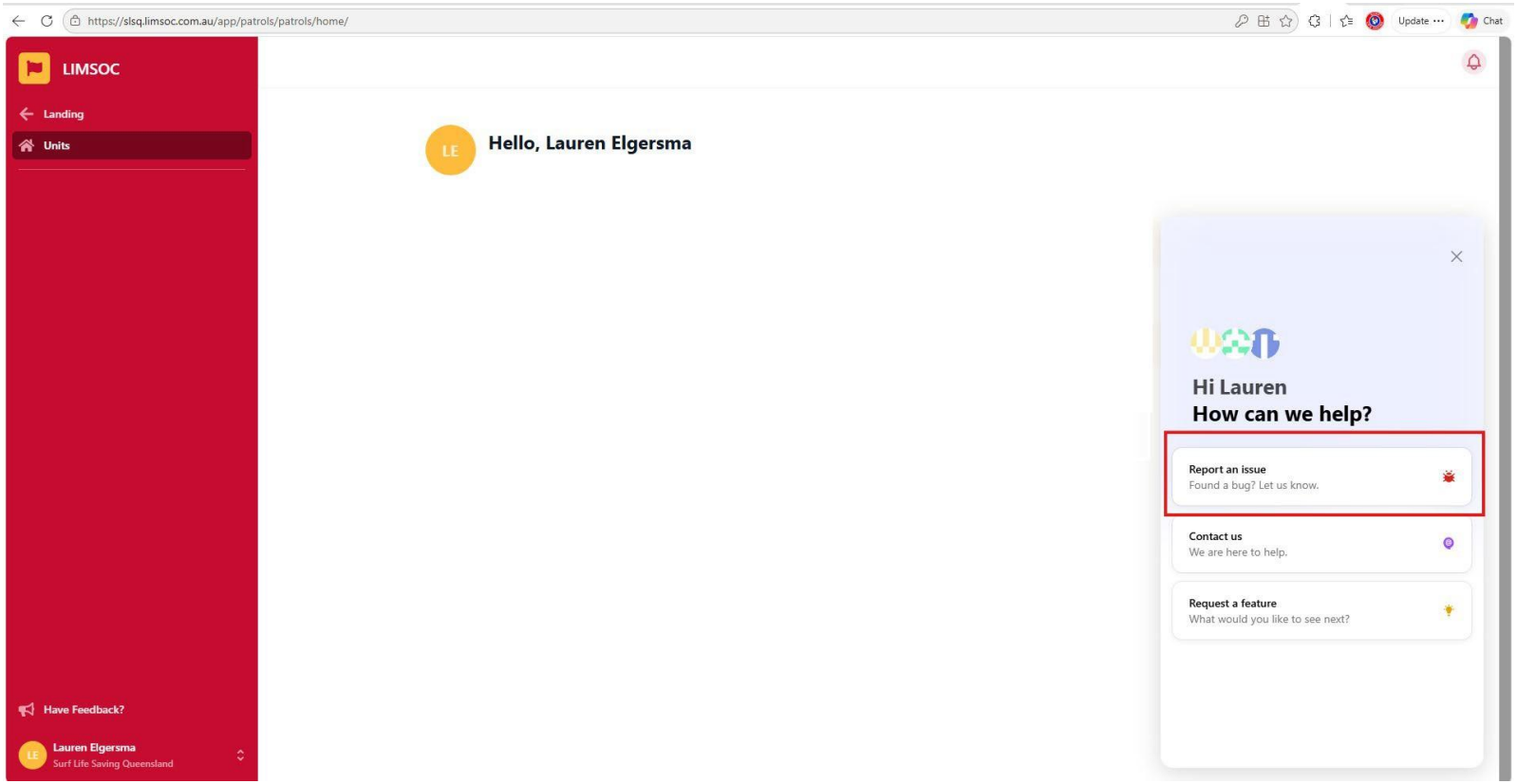
- Moisture is the enemy
- Radios cannot be placed on charge unless completely dry
- Any issues, not matter how minor should be resolved via the NOCC 1800 number.
- Issues caught early are covered under the arrangement – Waiting until the radio is unusable generates a significant cost

LOST OR DAMAGED RADIOS - Lifesaving Patrol Operations Manual (POM) - 1

LIMSOC

Where to access admin guide - LIMSOC - SLSQ administration operations manual - 1

Report bug – any issues



SURF EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM

Details the framework of SLSQ emergency response protocol and guides the process in which assets are notified and tasked, as well as the expected chain of command for an emergency response.

Surf Emergency Response System Procedure (SERS).

SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

Outlines the responsibilities, stages and operations undertaken by all personnel involved in an SLSQ search and rescue operation. It should be used in conjunction with other relevant major incident response procedures.

Search and Rescue Operations (SAR) Procedure.

OPPORTUNITIES - *UPCOMING WORKSHOPS*

Women in Lifesaving Events

- 25 October 2026 – SEQ Women in Lifesaving Workshop
- 21 November 2026 – Central & North Queensland Women in Lifesaving Workshop

Registration Link - 2026 Women in Lifesaving Workshop Registration – Collaboration

Women's Patrol Captains Breakfast & Yoga

- 20th Feb 2027
- Gold Coast

OPPORTUNITIES - *UPCOMING WORKSHOPS*

Regional Capability Workshops

The Regional Lifesaving Capability Building Workshops have now commenced across Queensland, with several workshops successfully delivered and receiving positive feedback from both participants and stakeholders. The workshops were established to enhance operational readiness, strengthen emergency response capability, and build future lifesaving capacity through practical, scenario-based training tailored to regional priorities and local surf conditions.

Feedback from participants and stakeholders has highlighted a number of positive outcomes.

The workshops have generated strong engagement from both members and regional stakeholders, creating valuable opportunities for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and skills development. The high level of participation and support has enabled workshops to run smoothly and effectively, ensuring members receive quality training in a practical and supportive learning environment.

OPPORTUNITIES - *UPCOMING WORKSHOPS*

Regional Capability Workshops - Dates

North Queensland	19th -20th September	Mission Beach
North Barrier	17th – 18th October 24th – 25th October	Townsville Mackay
Wide Bay Capricorn	12th September	Tannum Sands
Sunshine Coast	21st November	Mooloolaba
Gold Coast	23rd January	TBC

OPPORTUNITIES - *UPCOMING TRIALS*

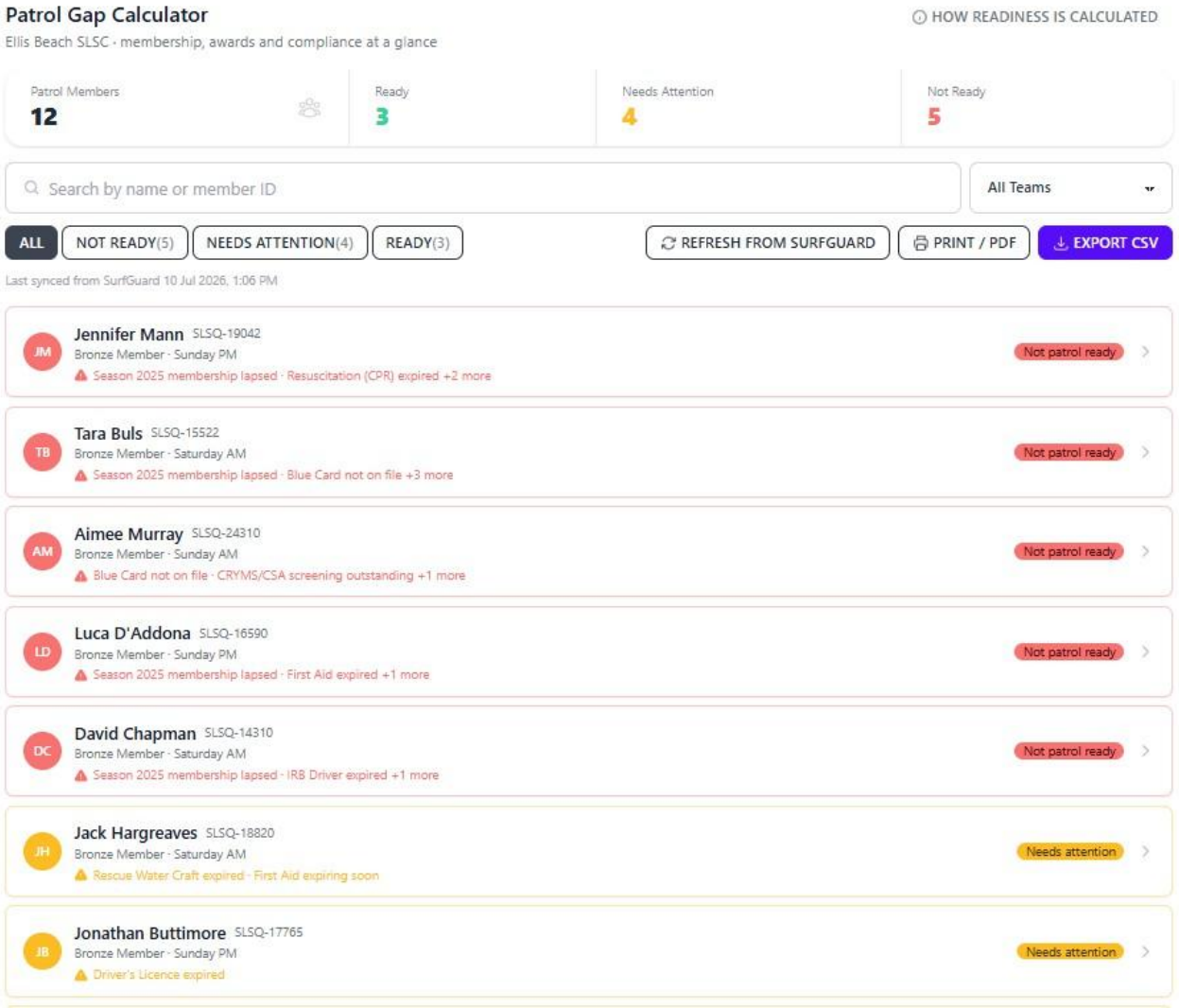
Rescue Boogie Trials

This year, Surf Life Saving Queensland will commence trials of the Rescue Boogie, an innovative remotely operated rescue device designed to enhance frontline lifesaving capability. The trial program has been established to evaluate how emerging rescue technology can complement traditional rescue methods, improve response times, and provide additional options for supporting patients in challenging surf conditions.

The trials will provide valuable opportunities for members to explore the operational application of this technology and assess its effectiveness within Queensland's beach environment. Feedback from participating members and stakeholders will help inform future use and identify how the Rescue Boogie may contribute to improved beach safety outcomes and enhanced emergency response capability.

North Queensland	22nd August 23rd August	Port Douglas Etty Bay
North Barrier	3rd October 4th October	Townsville Sarina
Wide Bay Capricorn	7th November 14th November 15th November	Yeppoon Tannum Sands Hervey Bay
Sunshine Coast	22nd November	Collum Beach & Noosa Main (PM)
South Coast	5th February 2027 6th December	Point Lookout Broadbeach
Point Danger	16th January 2027	Bilinga

PATROL GAP CALCULATOR



PATROL ROSTERING SYSTEM

Patrol Roster

OPEN PATROL GAP CALCULATOR

Ellis Beach SLSC · which teams are on shift this week

Teams Rostered	Open Shifts	Members Rostered	Gaps To Resolve
3	1	12	9

6 Jul – 12 Jul 2026

Morning Afternoon

Recurring weekly pattern · teams patrol the same slot each week

	MON 6	TUE 7	WED 8	THU 9	FRI 10	SAT 11	SUN 12
Morning · 9am–1pm							8 members rostered
Saturday AM 2 not ready · 2 attention	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	9am–1pm	Off
Sunday AM 1 not ready · 1 attention	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	9am–1pm
Afternoon · 1pm–5pm							4 members rostered
Sunday PM 2 not ready · 1 attention	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	Off	1pm–5pm

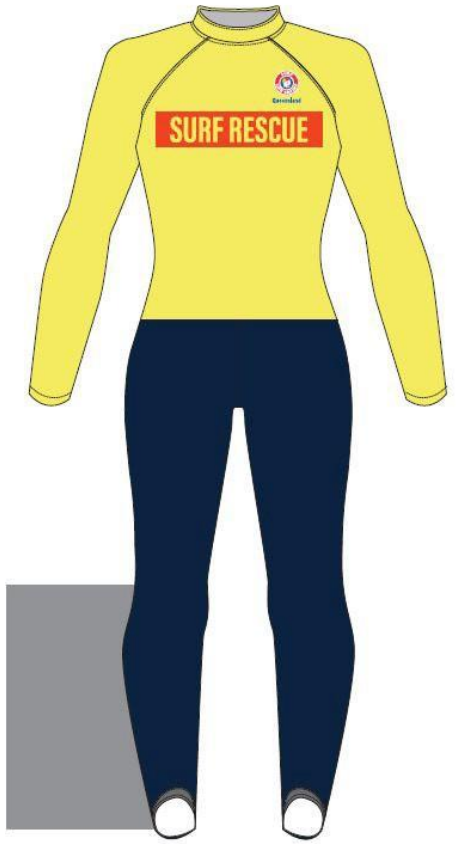
PATROL UNIFORMS

- Qantas & Anaconda is the patrol shirt that all patrol captains (and encourage others) need to be wearing.

MARINE STINGER SUITS

The new marine stinger suits are made up of 80% Nylon and 20% spandex. They are far more lightweight than the older models.

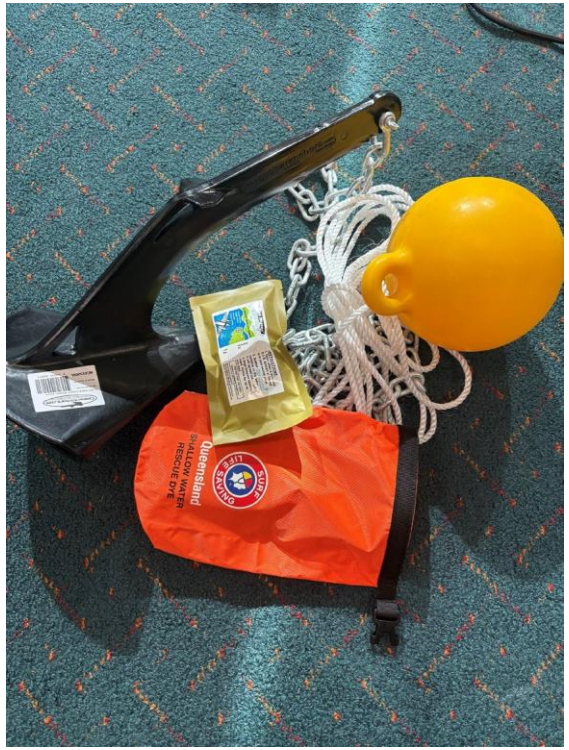
Each club that requires the suits will receive 4 of each size. All suits are unisex and range from size Small to 4XL.



SHALLOW WATER RESCUE KITS

Each club shall receive a Shallow Water Rescue Kit containing the below items:

- Rescue dye drybag
- 3 x packets of sea dye
- Plastic 3kg anchor – attached to chain and rope
- 1 x Marker buoy



ONLINE STORE

Lifesaving gear and equipment can be purchased on the online store:

Only for SLSQ Clubs and Branches |Surf Life Saving Queensland

SLSQ is currently in the process of changing the online store over to Shopify. This will be completed prior to the start of the 2026/27 season. Once the Shopify store is up and running, a new purchasing procedure will be sent out to all clubs and branches.

YELLOW GEAR

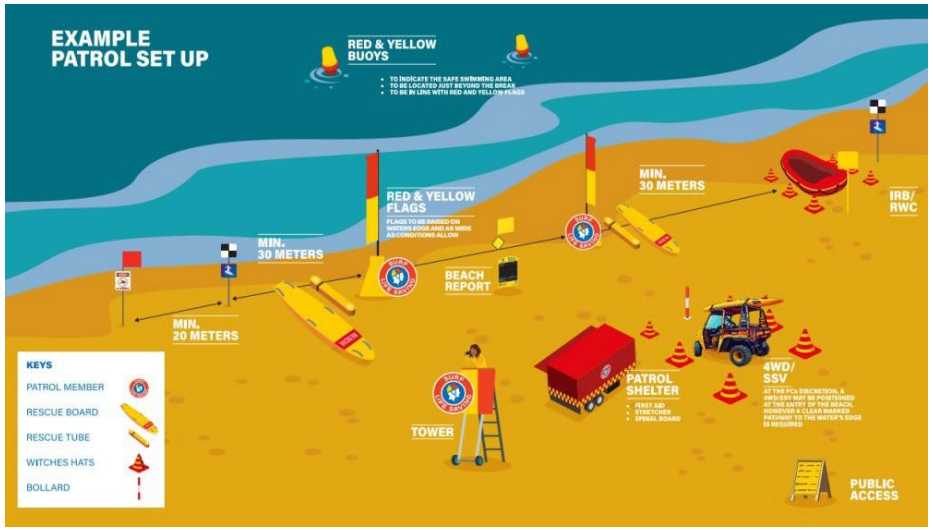
Every club is entitled to the standard yellow gear included in the list below. Yellow gear is free to the clubs if they are purchasing to fulfill their yellow gear requirement or if they are replacing damaged gear. If a club wishes to purchase extra yellow gear, they are required to buy it through the online store.

Flags
- Yellow Flag
- Red Flag
- Red & Yellow Flag
- Black & White Flag

Corflute Signs
- Surfcraft
- Beach Closed
- Drone in Use
- Powercraft Launch Area
- Lifesaving Equipment in Use
- Danger No Swimming

Poles
- Flag Pole
- Red Pole
- Yellow Pole
- Black Pole

Misc.
- Beach Report Sign with Spikes
- A-Frame Board
- Board & Tube Holder
- Pineapple or Patrol Feet



HOT DEBRIEFS

V3Hotdebrief.mp4

OPERATIONAL “HOT” DEBRIEFS - Lifesaving Patrol Operations Manual (POM) - 1

PEER SUPPORT AT SLSQ

Peer support is members supporting members.

When something difficult happens on or off the beach, a trained Peer Support Officer reaches out to check in, listen, and provide confidential support.

Why it matters:

- Early support leads to better outcomes
- PSOs understand the surf lifesaving environment
- It reduces the risk of longer-term mental health impacts
- It helps members stay connected to the club and the role they love

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

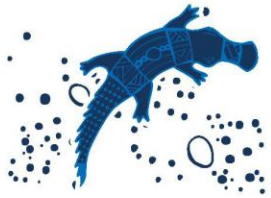
- Incident reported to SOCC
- Member Welfare is notified
- PSO activated within 48 to 72 hours by SOCC
- First contact is a text message, not an unannounced call
- Member is always in control
- Support is available outside of incidents too

YOUR ROLE AS A LEADER

Your role is to:

- Notice when something seems off (outside of an incident)
- Check in informally
- Get the member's permission
- Contact Member Welfare and we take it from there

Always make sure the member knows they have been referred.



EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY

CONCERNED PATROL TEAMMATE
Notice changes, check in early, connect your teammate to the right person. You do not need to fix it.

PATROL CAPTAIN
Check immediate welfare, document the incident, link with the Duty Officer, follow up with members in the weeks after.

DUTY OFFICER
Coordinate the referral through SOCC, gather incident details, distribute peer support brochures at the scene, set expectations with members.

CLUB CAPTAIN / PRESIDENT
Make pathways visible, support your leaders, protect confidentiality, encourage a culture where people feel safe to ask for help.

SIGNS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Trust your instincts. Look for:

- Withdrawal from team or club activities
- Changes in mood, energy or behaviour after a patrol
- Increased irritability or emotional reactivity
- Comments about not coping or not wanting to be here
- A gut feeling that something is not right

HOW TO REQUEST PEER SUPPORT

As a leader:

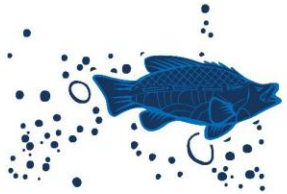
- Email: memberwelfare@lifesaving.com.au
- Tell us what happened, who was involved, and the best contact details.

Members can also reach out directly at any time.

HOW YOUR CLUB CAN HELP

As club leaders, you play an important role:

- Make sure your members know the program exists
- Display the peer support awareness flyer in your clubhouse
- Encourage members to reach out if they are struggling
- Contact Member Welfare if you have concerns about a member
- Consider putting your hand up as a PSO if you are not already one
- Normalise help-seeking within your club culture
- Share the resources in this pack with your members



WHAT PEER SUPPORT IS NOT

Not a counselling or clinical service

- Not mandatory, members can decline at any time
- Not connected to any disciplinary process
- Conversations are confidential and will not be reported back to you

If a member is in immediate danger, always call 000 first.

WHAT'S IN YOUR PACK

- 10 x peer support awareness flyers for display in your club house
- 30 x trauma and critical incident flyers for distribution to members

PFA TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

- Optional Psychological First Aid training for leaders
- Background knowledge on psychological first aid
- Not a PSO qualification
- Open to all club and patrol leaders
- Interested? Get in touch

CONTACT & RESOURCES

Member Welfare is here for you and your members.

Email: memberwelfare@lifesaving.com.au

Website: lifesaving.com.au/member-welfare

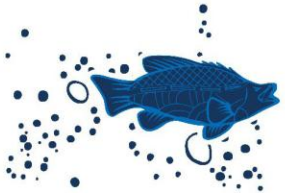
If someone needs immediate support:

Lifeline: 13 11 14

Beyond Blue: 1300 22 4636

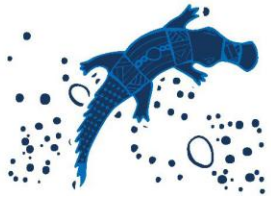
CLUB SAFETY CHECKLIST

- SLSQ have compiled a safety checklist to assist clubs in gauging their safety exposure.
- The list is not compulsory but a valuable tool in helping Surf Lifesaving Clubs identify areas where improvement may be desirable.
- Please use the below link to access the checklist.



SAFETY DATA SHEETS

- Please consider the following when using Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
- The purpose of Safety Data Sheets is to inform users about the potential health, physical and environmental hazards of a chemical assisting users to understand the risks involved in handling it safely. It provides advice on safe handling and storage and emergency response guidance.
- Either, electronic of hardcopy safety data sheets are acceptable however they have to be accessible. For that reason, it is recommended that a titled yellow hardcopy folder be kept in the vicinity where chemicals are stored.
- SDS have a lifespan of 5 years issue. If your SDS is older than 5 years it needs to be updated.
- SLSQ have adopted a self sourcing approach to Safety Data Sheets. If a SDS is required for a specific chemical, contact SLSQ who will source and provide a current SDS for that chemical. Once a chemical SDS has been requested, after providing it to the requesting club, a copy will be kept in a central library for further use. Requests can be made for SDS through SLSQ Health and Safety.



Queensland

Club audit Checklist

This checklist has been developed to assist club safety officers in addressing their hazard identification and reporting within their surf lifesaving clubs.

The checklist provides guidance only, it is not intended as a definitive list for the identification of all hazards. Club Officers are encouraged to make recommendations to suit their specific environment. **Note:** there will be hazards/deficiencies not mentioned on the checklists that will need to be identified and managed. Please amend as necessary. (N/A if not relevant)

Location :	
Person/s completing checklist:	**Date:**
Fire safety and emergency response	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
Safety rules, emergency information and evacuation routes are prominently displayed.	
The alarm can be heard in this area (where applicable).	
Doorways, walkways and evacuation exits are kept clear and at least 600mm wide.	
Fire control equipment is easily accessible, signed, regularly tested and of the appropriate type.	
Emergency lighting is available if necessary.	
An approved first aid kit is readily available and stocked appropriately.	
Staff are inducted on local workplace and personal security protocols (if necessary)	
Buildings	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
The workspace is clean and tidy.	
Inspect for signs of wear or damage, (cracks, leaks)	
There is sufficient space for each person to perform their work safely.	
Floor surfaces are maintained in a safe condition and suitable for the type of activities conducted.	
Walls, ceilings and roofs safe and in good condition.	
Steps/stairs/ramps are in a safe condition with non-slip surface, and secure handrails where needed.	
Doors, windows, locks and latches are in good condition and working order.	

There is adequate ventilation.	
There is adequate lighting to work safely.	
Toilet facilities clean and in good condition	
Items are available to maintain appropriate levels of hygiene.	
Furniture, fixtures and fittings	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
Furniture is safe and in good condition.	
Light fittings/fixtures and ceiling fans are in good condition and working order.	
Hallways/towers are clear of obstructions.	
Storage	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
Required resources and equipment are stored safely and inspected regularly.	
Free standing shelves/cupboards/filing cabinets are secured to ensure stability.	
Hazardous chemicals	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
Current (within five years) safety data sheets are readily available for hazardous chemicals. (SDS Sheets are available from, SLSQ)	
Hazardous chemicals are stored and labelled appropriately.	
Electrical	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
Electrical equipment is in good condition, visually inspected before use and tested as required by the department's electrical testing procedure.	
Power boards, air pumps, power cords and power outlets are at least 200 mm above any source of water.	
All new power boards purchased will have an overload switch.	
All areas have Residual Current Device (RCD) protection.	
Electrical cables/cords are kept clear of walkways etc.	
Plant and Equipment	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
Manuals are available for operating equipment and machinery.	
A maintenance register (electronic or hard copy) in place for all equipment and machinery that requires regular maintenance and servicing.	
Moving parts of all machinery and equipment is in accordance with the regulations and manufacturer instructions.	

All plant/equipment are in good working order and serviceable.	
No machinery and equipment is hazardous due to noise, fumes or other factors.	
Schedule regular inspections and maintenance of all equipment and facilities and ensure all	
Maintain logs of inspections for accountability	
General	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**
Other hazards such as sharps, glare, noise, fumes or vermin have been identified.	
Hand washing facilities are available.	
All equipment for patrols (flags,boards, rescue tubes, notice boards etc)are in good working order	
Emergency Procedures	
Incident reporting: Establish a clear incident and hazard reporting procedure and ensure all members are familiar with it.	
Emergency Contacts: Keep an updated list of emergency contacts (local authorities, medical services, EAP) accessible to all members.	
Other Issues	**Action if required (✓ if no action)**

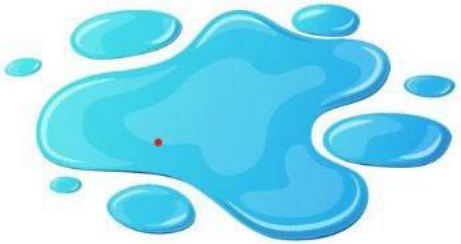
WHY SHOULD WE REPORT INCIDENTS AND HAZARDS?

By adopting a no blame culture, we can arrive at the true benefit of reporting and collating incident and hazard statistics.

- By analysing incidents and hazards we can
- Identify common trends
- Prevent recurrence
- Identify root causes
- Protect team members
- Comply with legal requirements whilst supporting learning and accountability
- Learn and improve systems

HAZARD VERSUS INCIDENT

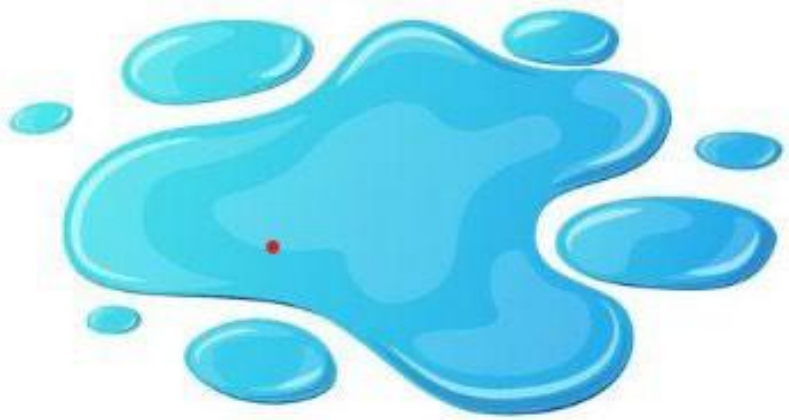
The best way to explain this is via example.



HAZARD VERSUS INCIDENT

The Scenario

A puddle of water in the workplace. Most people will walk around it and move on without considering the ramifications of what might happen. As it stands now it isa potential accident waiting to happen. How we deal with it dictates how it will be classified.



HAZARD VERSUS INCIDENT

The best way to explain A hazard is defined as anything that has the potential to cause harm, injury, illness, damage to property, or damage to the environment.

An Incident is generally defined as an unplanned event or occurrence that causes, or has the potential to cause, injury, illness, damage or loss.

The incident

Someone walking along with their mind on something else or presuming the path forward is safe.

Perhaps they are focused on the mobile phone conversation they are having or deep in thought about some pressing matter and do not see the puddle.

Perhaps the tread on their shoe is worn smooth.

The result is their foot comes in contact with the puddle and balance gives way and they find themselves lying on their back with a potential back injury.

What is termed as a “near miss” is if they slipped but regained their footing without falling.

Reimagine this as a block of Swiss Cheese with holes lining up culminating in the incident.

THE HAZARD

The same puddle, the same workplace, the difference.

A worker walking the same path sees the puddle, perhaps they have slipped over before.

Perhaps they see the potential consequence of not paying attention to their path forward.

They act. Out comes the mop and bucket and the puddle is removed.

The worker has turned this into a hazard by removing it before someone is harmed or property damaged.

Education Update

Queensland

Thank you!