

Surf Life Saving Queensland

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TO: Secretaries/Administrators
All Branches/Clubs - ACTION
All Branch Directors Surf Sports
All Branch Directors Life Saving
All Club Captains

SUBJECT: ***2004/2005 PATROL HOUR OBLIGATIONS -
COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS***

It is important that all Clubs carefully read this document to ensure there is no misunderstanding.

This circular replaces all previous circulars relating to patrol hours and the eligibility of members of SLSA to participate in competitions. Please note that the following is a minimum requirement and members should refer to the Club's rules, regulations and constitution for any variances.

SLSQ will be conducting spot checks on Club patrol hours during the season, and therefore Clubs will need to have this information available if required.

If you have any queries or require further information, please contact Peter Roberts or Louise Hogben at Surf Life Saving Queensland.

Please ensure your relevant Club officers action this important circular.

GREG KEEN
Surf Sports Officer

PATROL HOUR OBLIGATIONS & COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

WHO MAY COMPETE?

To be eligible to compete, a member shall be of the membership categories of Active Senior, Active Junior, Active Cadet, Active Reserve, Long Service, Life, Award or Associate. In the case of all competing members, the member shall be a current/proficient Surf Life Saving Australia Bronze Medallion holder.

The above membership categories embrace the following competition categories.

- ◆ Under 15 yrs
- ◆ Under 17 yrs
- ◆ Under 19 yrs
- ◆ Under 21 yrs
- ◆ Senior
- ◆ Open
- ◆ Restricted (over 24 yrs)
- ◆ Masters (over 30 yrs)

In the case of Junior Activity members (Nippers), to be eligible to compete in Under 15 events, they must be 13 years of age, be the holder of a current/proficient Surf Rescue Certificate, and have completed the required number of patrol hours as per the SLSA policy.

WHO SHALL DO PATROLS?

Clubs may require all or any of the above membership categories to do patrols; **however** the following categories of members **must do patrols**:

Active Seniors/Active Juniors (Under 17/19), Active Reserves, Active Junior/Active Cadet (Under 15), Award and Nippers (Under 14) who wish to compete in "Senior" carnivals. Members in the foregoing categories who hold a Club and/or Branch position must still do the required number of patrol hours.

It is SLSA policy that members involved in specialist services (e.g. helicopter, jet rescue boat, radio command) should have these hours credited to their Club patrol hours.

Members who work as Lifeguards, Beach Inspectors, etc. are **not** exempt from patrol duties.

UNDER 13-14 AND UNDER 15 MEMBERS

Nippers (Under 13- Under 14) and Active Cadet/Active Junior (Under 15) members who wish to compete at a "Senior" carnival must complete the patrol hours obligations as per the SLSQ policy.

PATROL HOUR OBLIGATIONS

All members who wish to compete at any Association championships must be current/proficient and financial members of an affiliated Club.

The minimum number of personal patrol hours must not be less than **25 hours** for the preceding calendar year – 1st January 2004 to 31st December 2004.

The minimum requirement for **all active reserve** members will be **12 hours**.

New members, members re-joining or members returning after a leave of absence are required to do **four (4) hours patrol per month** before competing in any Association championships.

PATROL HOURS SHALL ONLY BE CALCULATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

<i>New Members or Returning Members - 2004</i>	<i>Patrol Hour Requirement</i>	<i>Patrol Hour Requirement (Active Reserve)</i>
January 2004	25	12
February 2004	24	12
March 2004	20	12
April – September 2004	16	8
October 2004	12	8
November 2004	8	4
December 2004	4	4

Example A: Sally joined as an Active Junior in September 2004. She completed her award on the 20th October 2004. Sally is required to complete 12 hours of patrol to be eligible to compete during the 2004/2005 season.

Example B: Joey has been a member in Nippers since he was an Under 8. He completed his SRC when still an Under 13 and wants to compete in the U15 age group at the Senior Carnivals. Joey completed this award in February 2004, he therefore needs to complete a minimum of 24 hours of Patrol to be eligible to compete during the 2004/2005 season in the U15 age group.

Patrol hours shall only be calculated on the following terms:

- ◆ Rostered patrols
- ◆ Substitute for another member
(These hours will be credited to the member who is actually doing the patrol)
- ◆ Voluntary patrols
- ◆ Water Safety for Junior Activities at Club level only that has been documented in the relevant Water Safety Log (club management to confirm in club minutes)
- ◆ Specialist services (e.g. helicopter, jet boats, etc.)

NOTES:

- 1) Water Safety hours at any surf carnival WILL NOT be accepted.**
- 2) These are absolute minimum requirements and minor shortfalls will not be acceptable.**
- 3) Only Long Service and Life Members can be exempted from these patrol hour obligations.**
- 4) Patrol Hours to not transfer with a member when they transfer clubs.**

CHECKING

Branch officials may carry out checks on patrol hour obligations on any Club within their Branch. SLSA and SLSQ may also carry out checks or request a Branch to carry out the check on their behalf.

WHO SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM PATROLS?

The Club may give special consideration for full or partial exemption from patrol obligations to members who fall into any of the following categories, and proportion the patrol requirements accordingly. Any exemption must be endorsed by the respective Branch.

- ◆ Life Members
- ◆ Long Service Members
- ◆ Members on special Association assignment, e.g. members of SLSQ/SLSA representative teams, instructional teams, etc.

The holding of a Club and/or Branch position is not considered as a special Association assignment.

All exemptions must be applied for annually. Members on holidays or involved in school or university exams or due to work commitments are not eligible for exemption from beach patrols with their competitive club.

CLUBS ATTENDING CARNIVALS

A Club shall not compete at a carnival (during the patrol season) unless there is a full and competent patrol, including equipment as per the SLSQ Patrol and Operations Guidelines, on duty on their own beach.

PATROL HOUR OBLIGATIONS

The timetable/schedule of patrol times will be determined by the SLSQ Director Life Saving in consultation with all Branch Directors of Life Saving, and all Clubs patrol obligations will be as laid down in the SLSQ 2004/2005 Patrol and Operation Guidelines Circular and/or individual Club Patrol Agreements.

PROFICIENCIES

All Association members shall pass the annual proficiency test and carry out the necessary patrol duties as determined by the category of membership.

It will be the direct responsibility of the competitor/clubs to ensure these requirements are met.

The cut-off date for proficiencies for members wishing to compete will be 31st December each year unless otherwise approved by the SLSQ Surf Sports Officer.

To facilitate patrols and patrol rosters, all current proficient members shall be deemed proficient to 31st December 2004.

Members becoming proficient or obtaining a new Bronze Medallion during the period 1st July to 31st December 2004 shall be deemed proficient until 31st December 2005.

PATROL OBLIGATION DECLARATION LETTER - CLUB RESPONSIBILITY

Clubs are requested to submit (*on Club letterhead*) details of any exemptions. **Remember, Clubs are not required to list Life Members or Long Service members in the Club exemption letter.**

In all other cases where members are requesting full or partial exemption, the Club letter must state clearly the reason for the exemption, along with the member's details regarding joining and/or re-joining date.

The letter is to be completed and forwarded:

**By Clubs to Branches (for review and endorsement) NO LATER THAN 10TH DECEMBER 2004.
By Branches to SLSQ (for ratification) NO LATER THAN 3rd JANUARY 2005.**

Please be sure that these requirements have been fulfilled when nominating competitors for all events and championship competitions.

Should you require further information, please contact either Peter Roberts or Louise Hogben at Surf Life Saving Queensland.
