

SLSQ Circular

No: 147.12.12

To: All SLSQ Clubs
SLSQ Branches
SLSQ Staff

CC: State Lifesaving Committee
State Sport Committee
State Membership Services Committee

From: State Lifesaving Officer – Peter Lucas
State Sport Officer – Charles Melloy
State Membership Services Officer – Rob Campbell

Date: 20 December 2012

Subject: SLSQ's clarification on updated SLSA Water Safety Policy 1.1

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Please be advised that Surf Life Saving Australia has recently reviewed, updated and released the national policy 1.1 Water Safety.

For the avoidance of all doubt, Surf Life Saving Queensland would like to bring to your attention the following points from the Policy and Procedures:

1. Sport training is now governed under the Water Safety Policy
2. A comprehensive 'buddy' procedure has been incorporated for all SLS member training (except for Junior Activities where participant/s do not hold a current SRC or above)
3. All personnel undergoing any aquatic activities are encouraged to complete a pre- season/annual training plan and risk management plan
4. All risk assessment paperwork shall now be filed for a **minimum** of 5 years
5. All SLSA approved gear and equipment including SLSA approved racing boards are now considered as rescue equipment
6. Junior Evaluations (SLSQ Junior Preliminary Evaluations) ratios are now 1:1 (Watersafety to Participant) for the pool evaluation however, the SLSQ Competency Beach Evaluation (run-swim-run) shall be a ratio of 1:5 (Watersafety to Participant)
7. A minimum of 50% of all Water Safety personnel are required to be in water during aquatic activities
8. SLSA's High Visibility Safety Garments circular (circular no: 56/2012/13) will become compulsory from October 2013.

The following existing standards are to remain in place until the next Water Safety Policy Review which is scheduled through SLSA in October 2013 (or otherwise advised):

1. If you are utilizing the buddy system for watersafety, clubs shall ensure rescue equipment be made available as per outcome of the Risk Assessment
2. Risk Assessments shall be completed prior to all aquatic activity commencement
3. All Water Safety personnel be clearly identified in the correct Water Safety attire including a high- visibility orange coloured cap secured under the chin
4. SLSQ's High-Visibility Clothing Policy (Policy no SS07) remains in place unless otherwise informed
5. All Water Safety attire for any sport events will be detailed in all final carnival bulletins

Surf Life Saving Queensland will be conducting a series of colour tests to determine the most appropriate colour to be worn by Water Safety and training Personnel.

Until the completion of the tests, SLSQ's Watersafety colours remain as the following:

Water Safety Personnel – High-Visibility Orange

Participant in Lifesaving training – Club Cap/High-Vis Cap

IRB Lifesaving and Competition Training – Club/high-visibility cap and High-Visibility Rash shirt

For further information relating to the policy please contact the following SLSQ staff:

Sport – Stuart Hogben shogben@lifesaving.com.au

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Regards

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