

The following Policy statement was adopted at the Executive Committee meeting held on 11th October 2012 and adopted as Branch Policy from 20th October 2012

1. INTRODUCTION

This policy provides a guide for affiliated clubs and office bearers of SLSQ Point Danger Branch regarding the process relating to the administration and action of patrol breaches. It will further clarify the consequences of a substantiated patrol breach.

2. AIM

This policy aims to

- Clarify SLSQ Point Danger Branches position relating to the process of investigations of alleged patrol breaches.
- Outline the necessary consequences for substantiated breaches
- Outline the consequences of non compliance with branch findings/recommendations

3. COMMENCING AN INVESTIGATION

- An investigation commences for the following reasons
 - Letter received from Gold Coast Life Saving Coordinator
 - Patrol Log Review results
 - Witness Statements
 - Public Complaints

4. PROCESS OF INVESTIGATION

- a. The Branch Manager and Director of Life Saving meet and discuss the situation/reports (at this time any evidence is collected including patrol logs, incident reports, patrol breach history etc).
- b. A letter is sent to the Club Captain outlining the alleged breach. A written response is required within 4 – 14 days of this request (letters are also cc'd to President and District supervisor).
- c. Written Request is received and directed to the DOLS. The DOLS will contact the club captain to discuss the issue.
- d. A recommendation is then added to the PDB Executive Committee Agenda (depending on the nature of the breach – the club may be invited to attend)
- e. The Branch Executive makes a decision on the applicable punishment and the club is informed in writing
- f. The complete file is then sent to the SLSQ Life Saving Officer.
- g. Should an alleged breach be unsubstantiated – this will also be noted on the club file and correspondence to this effect will also be prepared.

5. DETERMINATION OF PENALTY

- Consideration is given to Patrol Breach history of the club (kept in a database at PDB office)
- Consideration is given to the severity of the Breach and its possible consequences - this includes but is not limited to
 - possible loss of life
 - danger to the bathing public
 - public perception
 - breach of patrol agreement or Patrol Operations Manual)

6. PENALTY

- Penalties can be any of the following based on the nature, number and severity of the Breach
 - Warning
 - Suspended Fine and Probationary Period
 - Monetary Fine
 - Competition Ban
- All penalties are advised to the clubs in writing and cc'd to SLSQ for their information.
- A database is kept of all patrol breaches for the season regardless of substantiation or not.

7. CONSEQUENCES

- If a club reoffends (during a probation period) the full fine must be paid
- If a patrol breach fine is not paid by the due date – all processing of awards will cease (as per PDB Policy 4 Payment of Fees)

8. CONCLUSION

This policy is a Branch Policy and as such all Branch Clubs must adhere to this as part of their responsibility towards the Branch

This policy is to be brought to the attention of all personnel for strict compliance.