



Surf Life Saving Australia – Circular

August 2008

Patrol Captain Qualifications- Update 2

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Department Lifesaving	

Summary

This circular contains information about changes made to patrol composure requirements relating to the Silver Medallion Basic Beach Management Award

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Action

Clubs will need to ensure that each patrol has within its composure a holder of the Basic Beach Management Award or the Silver Medallion Patrol Captain Award by 31 December 2008

Overview

The National Board of Lifesaving at its February 2007 meeting last year (and reaffirmed at its February 2008 meeting) adopted a two year 'stretch' goal to make mandatory qualifications for all Patrol Captains. It resolved:

That by 31 December 2008 every Patrol Captain needs to have completed the Silver Medallion Patrol Captain Award (now the Silver Medallion - Basic Beach Management)

The Board of Lifesaving reviewed progress within each State at its July 2008 meeting to determine if the organisation is on track to meet this objective.

At the July 2008 meeting it resolved:

That by 31 December 2008 every patrol will comprise of at least one person that has completed the Silver Medallion - Basic Beach Management (or equivalent Silver Medallion Patrol Captain Award).

Clubs should take all reasonable steps, if they have not already done so, to ensure that each of their patrols has someone with the above qualification by 31 December this year and work towards ensuring that each of their unqualified patrol captains are enrolled in the Basic Beach Management Module during the upcoming season or complete the RPL process.



Strategic outlook

Most roles within Surf Life Saving have an SLSA qualification attached to ensure that members are adequately trained for that particular duty (eg. IRBD award for drivers of Boats or ARC certificate for the operator of the oxy viva). The Board of Lifesaving acknowledges the ever increasing complexity of managing a patrol team.

Consequently, it has developed the beach management stream of qualifications mapped through the Certificate III in Public Safety (Aquatic Search and Rescue). The Board of Lifesaving has decided that Module 1 of this course is a very important introduction to patrol captain duties.

The overall intention over the next five years is to 'up-skill' our patrol captains so they hold an appropriate industry qualification (Certificate III in Public Safety (Aquatic Search and Rescue)). Clubs and services should now be working towards ensuring every patrol captain is receiving ongoing training and focus on how they up-skill patrol captains using the beach management modules as they roll out over the next two seasons.