

Whatever it takes

Rescue of the Month Program

Attention: Branch President, Branch Director of Lifesaving, Branch Secretary, Club Captain, Patrol Captain

Actioned By: Club Captain and Patrol Captain, Branch Director of Lifesaving, Branch Administrator

Date: 20th August 2010

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Summary	Each month during summer a 'Rescue of the Month' will be available to be selected at both Branch and State level for the most outstanding rescue for that period. (Periods: Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May-Sep)
Objective	To recognise and promote outstanding frontline work of SLSNSW Lifesavers and Lifeguards
Action Plan Ref:	1.1.2 – <i>Promote Lifesaving Recognition Awards</i>
Action	For any outstanding rescue/first aid performed by SLSNSW Lifesavers and ALS Lifeguards on or off-duty: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the nomination form 2. Send the completed form to your Branch by the due date. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please contact your Branch for the appropriate contact person. - Lifeguard Supervisors nominating for ALS Lifeguards are to send forms directly to the Manager, Australian Lifeguard Services (NSW) 3. Branches select their Branch Rescue of the Month and forward the details to SLSNSW by the due date.

Overview

Lifesavers and Lifeguards provide a valuable service on beaches and in communities throughout NSW – many exceptional rescues and first aids performed over and above normal duties and which showcase excellence in lifesaving skills and procedures often go unrecognised.

The 'SLSNSW Rescue of the Month' aims to recognise excellence in lifesaving and service delivery, measured against industry best practice and operating procedures. It is not aimed to encourage unnecessary risk or neglect of safety considerations.

The 'Rescue of the Month' is a **separate** SLSNSW program to the SLSA Meritorious Awards. Members are encouraged to nominate to both programs separately.

Monthly winners become finalists for the SLSNSW Rescue of the Year which will be awarded as part of the annual Awards of Excellence.



Eligibility

- Rescues, First Aid (or other life saving actions), conducted during or outside of patrol hours, year round, on or off the beach.
- All nominees are to be current members of SLSNSW or employees of Australian Lifeguard Services and are required to be proficient as per SLSNSW timelines and requirements.
- All nominations received by SLSNSW are to be sent from the Branch or Lifeguard Supervisor.
- All nominated rescues/incidents must be performed inside the designated time period i.e. a rescue/incident that occurs in November is only eligible for the November Award, etc (see table below for due dates).
- All Club nominations are to be received by the Branch on or before the applicable closing date.
- All Branch winners are to be received by SLSNSW on or before the applicable closing date. No late correspondence will be entered into. Late nominations will not be eligible for the Rescue of the Month, but are eligible for a separate meritorious award nomination.
- Branches may make only one (1) nomination to SLSNSW per time period.
- The Manager, Australian Lifeguard Services (NSW) may make only one (1) nomination per time period.
- All nominations are to be received on the official 'Rescue of the Month Nomination Form'. This can be downloaded from the SLSNSW website or obtained by contacting 02 9981 7488
- SLSNSW reserves the right to nominate any outstanding rescue/incident in addition to any Branch nomination, inside the designated time period.
- SLSNSW reserves the right to promote details of rescues and the nominated rescuer(s) internally and externally in promotion of SLSNSW services, members and the Rescue of the Month program.
- Nomination for the awards serves as an agreement of the conditions as stated above.

Timelines / Due Dates

There are eight (8) time periods for nomination.

Month	Nomination Period End	Nominations Close (at Branch and to NSW Lifeguard Manager)	Nominations Close (at State)	State Winner Announced
May - September	Thursday 30 th September	Friday 8 th October	Friday 15 th October	Friday 22 nd October
October	Sunday 31 st October	Friday 5 th November	Friday 12 th November	Friday 19 th November
November	Tuesday 30 th November	Friday 3 rd December	Friday 10 th December	Friday 17 th December
December	Friday 31 st December	Friday 7 th January	Friday 14 th January	Friday 21 st January
January	Monday 31 st January	Friday 11 th February	Friday 18 th February	Friday 25 th February
February	Monday 28 th February	Friday 11 th March	Friday 18 th March	Friday 25 th March
March	Thursday 31 st March	Friday 8 th April	Friday 15 th April	Friday 22 nd April
April	Saturday 30 th April	Friday 6 th May	Friday 13 th May	Friday 20 th May

Criteria

There are six (5) key areas assessed as part of the judging criteria:

1. Application of Skills and Resource Utilisation
2. Environmental Conditions
3. Procedures Followed
4. Potential Outcome
5. Media Capture / Communication

Judging

- The Branch judging panel/method shall be determined by the Branch
- The State judging panel shall be determined by the State Lifesaving Manager and Director of Lifesaving
- The announcement of a winner is final and there will be no correspondence entered into

Recognition / Winners

- Clubs/Services shall be the award recipients for winning nominations.
- Award recipients will be announced by the Branch for the monthly Branch award and by SLSNSW for the Monthly State award.
- Branch monthly winners shall be recognised via a framed citation for the club + any additional methods as determined by the Branch and/or SLSNSW.
- State monthly winners shall be recognised by a framed citation for the club + additional rewards (sponsor dependant).

2009/10 Season Winners List

Month	Branch	Club	Location
October	Illawarra	Helensburgh/Stanwell Park	Stanwell Park Beach
November	Far South Coast	Pambula	Bar Beach
December	Central Coast	Ocean Beach	Booker Bay
January	Central Coast	North Avoca	Bateau Bay
February	Hunter	Redhead	Redhead Beach
March	Lower North Coast	Pacific Palms	Blueys Beach
April	Mid North Coast	Hat Head	Hat Head Point
Rescue of the Year	Mid North Coast	Hat Head	Hat Head Point

Club/Service Rescue of the Month Nomination Form

Please complete this nomination form for the Rescue of the Month Award and forward to your **Branch** by the closing date.

To enter, please complete the following overview of the incident and then provide specific details in the six key criteria sections.

Name of Club / Service			
Date of Incident		Time of Incident	
Names of Lifesaver(s) / Lifeguard(s) Involved			
Location of Incident			
Incident Number in SurfGuard			
Overview of the incident / rescue (Limit 500 words):			

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS IN BRIEF BULLET POINT FORMAT

Section 1	APPLICATION OF SKILLS AND RESOURCE UTILISATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Were the skills used correctly and appropriately as per SOP's?</i> • <i>Did the rescue / incident require advanced technical skills?</i> • <i>Was there optimal use of skills within the available personnel?</i> • <i>Was the correct equipment utilised appropriately?</i>
Section 2	ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Was the incident around rocks, cliffs, or other precarious situations?</i> • <i>What was the size of the surf, temperature, time, visibility, weather, and other environmental conditions at land or sea?</i>
Section 3	PROCEDURES FOLLOWED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Was the safety of the rescuers involved appropriately assessed?</i> • <i>Was there appropriate leadership, chain of command, good scene management, paperwork completed, follow-ups etc?</i>
Section 4	POTENTIAL OUTCOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Would the outcome have been the same if the rescuers hadn't intervened?</i>
Section 5	MEDIA CAPTURE/ COMMUNICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Were opportunities maximised in terms of media exposure? If yes, please attach article or give a brief overview of media exposure.</i>

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Checklist - Have you:

Completed the nomination form correctly?	
Checked that all nominees are proficient and members on SurfGuard?	
Attached Incident Log or reference incident number in SurfGuard?	
Attached any/all related media clippings?	
Forwarded to your Branch by the due date?	