

ANNUAL PATROL HOUR OBLIGATIONS

WHO MAY COMPETE?

To be eligible to compete, a member shall be of the membership categories as per the current SLSA Competition handbook.

Junior Activity members wanting to compete in Under 15 events must be a proficient Surf Rescue Certificate holder and complete the required patrol hours.

WHO SHALL DO PATROLS?

Clubs may require all or any membership categories to do patrols (as per their club constitution); however at the very least the following categories of members must do patrols if they wish to compete:

Active, Under 19, Active Reserves, Under 17 and Under 15 members who wish to compete in "open" carnivals. (Masters competitors must complete patrols as per their membership category eg. Active, Active reserve, Long service)

It is SLSA policy members involved in volunteer specialist services (e.g., helicopter, offshore rescue boat, radio commands, etc.), should have these hours credited to their club (personal) patrol hours. The patrol/operation log books of these services may be called on to verify these hours.

Members who are employed as lifeguards, beach inspectors, helicopter crew etc. are NOT exempt from patrol duties.

PATROL HOURS OBLIGATIONS - STATE AND AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP CARNIVALS

All members who wish to compete at any State or Australian Championship must be financial, proficient and carry out their rostered patrol duties for the club for which they are competing.

The minimum number of personal patrol hours must not be less than twenty-five (25) hours for the preceding calendar year, i.e., 1st January, 2004, to 31st December, 2004.

The minimum requirement for Active Reserve members must not be less than 12 hours for the preceding calendar year, i.e., 1st January, 2004, to 31st December, 2004.

The minimum requirement for new members, members re-joining a club (was not a member of the association during the previous season), or members returning after a leave of absence must not be less than four (4) hours patrol before competing in a State or Australian

Championships. *Refer to minimum patrol hour's chart.*

Patrol hours shall only be calculated on the following personal hours completed by the competitor:

- Rostered
- Substitute for other members. (These hours will be credited to the member who is actually doing the patrol - **NOT** the member for whom the substitution is being done).
- Voluntary patrols
- Water Safety for Juniors; and
- Volunteer Specialist Services (e.g., Helicopter, Jet Boats, Radio Commands)

All patrol hour verification will be from SLSA Patrol Log Books

Penalty patrol hours shall not be used as personal patrol hours for competition purposes

New Members joining after 1st January, 2004, and prior to the closing date of entries must fulfil a minimum of four (4) hours patrolling.

Members joining or returning during the period 1st January, 2004, to 31st December, 2004, are required to complete patrol hours in accordance with the following table:

Joining/returning during 2004	Min. Patrol Hour Requirement (Active & Under 15)	Min. Patrol Hour Requirement (Active Reserve)
January, 2004	25	12
February, 200	24	12
March, 2004	20	12
April - September, 2004	16	8
October, 2004	12	8
November, 2004	8	4
December, 2004	4	4

Surf Life Saving New South Wales reserves the right to identify members from some, or all entries, and ask the respective Branch to examine the eligibility of these members.

Where Clubs consider they are disadvantaged by the minimum patrol hour requirements, they may make application for a reduction of the patrol hour requirement through their respective Branch to Surf Life Saving New South Wales on an annual basis only.

Members with less than the foregoing prescribed patrol hours, without suitable explanation, are ineligible to compete at the New South Wales Surf Life Saving Championships and will not be entered in the draw of events.

If clubs have in their respective Constitutions, Rules and By-Laws a requirement that members who are in default of a specific number of patrol hours are suspended from club privileges and activities, then that club requirement must be applied to members being entered in the New South Wales Surf Life Saving Championships.

However, clubs must observe the SLSA Constitution which provides for a maximum of 10 hours patrol default whereupon members must not be entered for any competition. Important: It is advisable members complete their proficiency as early as possible to ensure they are eligible to enter the NSW Championships. Surf Life Saving New South Wales views that the member had since the patrolling season commenced to do their proficiency, and as a result may be refused a late proficiency check for competition purposes.

WHO SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM PATROLS?

A club may give special consideration for full or partial exemption from patrol obligations to members who fall into any of the following categories:

- Principle Club Office Bearers, e.g., President, Club Captain, Chief Instructor, Secretary, Junior Activities Officer.
- Life Members. (*Automatic full exemption - SLSA Rules and Regulations*)
- Long Service Members. (*Automatic full exemption - SLSA Rules and Regulations*)
- Active Reserve Members. (*Automatic partial exemption - SLSA Rules and Regulations*)

Members carrying out duties in other areas such as instruction, offshore rescue boat, aerial services and similar areas of active surf life saving.

- Members on special Association assignment, i.e., members of representative teams, instructional teams, etc.
- Members holding office in the Association at Branch, State or National level.

Such exemptions must be constituted by the club, and individuals who meet criteria should be noted in Club Minutes, and endorsed by the respective Branch. When applying for exemptions, which are not automatic under SLSA Rules and Regulations, copies of all relevant documents, e.g., extracts from Constitutions and/or Minutes of Club General Meeting should be attached. All exemptions must be applied for annually and submitted for approval by 31st December, 2004.

Members who are employed as lifeguards, beach inspectors, helicopter crew etc. are not eligible for patrol exemption due to work commitments.

PATROL HOUR CHECKING

Branch Officials may carry out checks on patrol hours obligations on any club within their Branch. Surf Life Saving New South Wales may carry out checks or request a Branch to carry out the check on their behalf.

With regard to entries submitted for competition events, it will be the responsibility of the Club Officer completing the "declaration" on the form to ensure all members nominated are proficient, financial and have completed the patrol obligations required by the club.

CLUBS ATTENDING CARNIVALS

Clubs attending a surf sports carnival during the patrol season must:

- Ensure that there is a rostered patrol on the beach that meets the patrol obligations of the club, otherwise the club is ineligible to compete.
- Competitors rostered for patrol duty have a substitution, or are ineligible to compete.

SPECIALIST SERVICES

Hours accumulated during volunteer patrols in specialist areas such as Offshore Rescue Boats,

Aerial Services, Radio Commands and Water Safety are acceptable to meet the member's personal patrol hour obligations set by the club. Members of these services should still carry out the club patrol obligations if required by their respective clubs.

Members performing water safety for Junior Activities are permitted to have these hours accredited to their club personal patrol hours, if rostered for water safety duty and the hours are entered in the logbook.

MINIMUM PATROL STRENGTHS AND AWARDS TO BE HELD

There is a state minimum of three proficient SLS Bronze Medallion holders on patrol at any time when a patrol is rostered on as above. Branches and clubs may increase this minimum as above.

It is recommended that one of the Bronze Medallion holders be a Silver Medallion Patrol Captain, but this is not mandatory.

There will need to be at least three proficient SLS Bronze Medallion holders, one of the Bronze Holders must also be a proficient IRB Crew and another of the Bronze Holders must also be a proficient IRB Driver. There must be one proficient ARC holder on each patrol.

NOTE: It is compulsory for the 2004/05 season to have an ARC holder on every patrol.

For more detailed information, refer to the NSW Circular No. 1050. 2004/2005 Lifesaving Requirements season 2004/2005.)
<http://www.surflifesaving.com.au/news/index.html>