

Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Inc.
Board of Education and Assessment

Minutes of Meeting – Thursday 16th April, 2009 commencing at 7.13 pm
Dee Why SLSC

1. ATTENDANCE

As per attendance book

Andrew Hjorth, Jessica Menzies and Kieran Menzies were accepted by the BoE&A last month and were present at their first meeting

2. APOLOGIES

As per attendance book

3. MINUTES

Amendment to the March minutes - Joe Mastrangelo was accepted by the BoE&A as an Assessor for Bronze and ARC, not IRB as minuted.

With this amendment, the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Adopted

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5. NEW MEMBERS

Dominic Bond (Manly) - Assessor Bronze Medallion

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Agenda items requested for SLSNSW education conference

First aid matrix for revision – emailed to Chief Instructors

Club quality checks – checklist to ensure RTO compliance within Clubs – emailed to Chief Instructors and Club Presidents.

7. REPORTS

Nil

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

Education Conference:

There is a Lifesaving and Education Conference in May for all SLSNSW Directors of Education. Michael Wasley asked the meeting if there were any agenda items they wanted him to request or issues they wanted raised at the meeting. There were no issues raised by those present.

Training Course Report:

There is now an extra two pages in the SNB training course report for assessor and candidate names to be listed. This will ensure that the Branch is aware who is conducting our assessments and the names of the candidates who were present.

33rd Edition Training Manual:

The new 33rd edition Training Manual is now being proof read – feedback to SLSNSW by 10th May. This new manual should be ready for the 2009/10 season.

RTO:

RTO compliance sheets and checklists were emailed to all Chief Instructors and Presidents last week. Clubs have been asked to look at these to see where their Club is in regards to RTO compliance.

Proficiency Dates:

The Director was asked if it was possible for the Branch to advertised Club proficiency dates to assist those Clubs with few assessors to get their proficiencies done by attending at another Club. The Branch will get a list from Clubs and advertise them on the course calendar.

Pre-season Workshop:

There are still some inconsistencies in assessments within the Branch. There will be a workshop at the beginning of the season to ensure that all trainers/assessors are aware of what is expected for each discipline. ARC assessor will also need to attend at least 2 ARC assessments at Nth Curl Curl for their re-endorsement.

Centralised Venues:

The meeting discussed the introduction of centralised venues for the Run-swim-run and scenario components of the bronze. It was suggested that there be three venues (northern, central and southern venues). These assessments would be held at least once a month in each venue – more often if required in the peak pre-Christmas period. This would be to ensure consistency of assessments across the Branch and help to increase our standards and quality control. Senior assessors would be the point of contact for any issues or disputes. Dates would be set prior to the beginning of the season so Clubs know the dates they are aiming towards for their assessments. All Clubs attending the centralised venue would need to provide enough assessors, equipment and water safety for their candidate numbers, and those Clubs without assessors would be responsible for contacting assessors to attend on their behalf. Numbers of candidates assessed may need to be limited by the number of assessors available on the day. Assessors will also be encouraged to attend some assessments outside their region for professional development. Senior assessors may be allocated to each venue by the Branch Office.

Written paper must always be completed prior to the rest of the components of the bronze, and signals must be completed prior to any water work taking place. Clubs will still need external assessors for all other components of the assessment, and it would be preferable if a senior assessor was present for the board rescue, tube rescue and carries components.

Clubs who hold intensive 5 day courses or school holiday courses for bronze and SRC will still be able to hold their own bronze medallion assessments using external and senior assessors as before.

Training/Assessment issues:

Clubs with few assessors will be encouraged to increase their assessor numbers for next season.

Written assessment papers will be re-written prior to the beginning of next season. There will be trainers and assessors courses run over winter – all Clubs are encouraged to have members at these courses.

Clubs holding Part B assessments should let surfcom know there is an assessment at their beach and notify them again when the assessment is complete.

SLSWA has video footage for resuscitation and carries. These have been ordered by SLSNSW and will be distributed to Clubs as soon as they are available.

Radio components will be re-introduced for SRC next season.

Signals component could become part of the written assessment.

Defibrillation and Spinal courses will be run in Clubs if there are sufficient numbers. Please book through the Branch Office.

RPL:

It is important that all members who have an SRC are offered RPL when they do their bronze medallions. It was noted that if we are going to offer RPL we need to ensure that the candidates are competent in the skills.

Surfguard:

Clubs who have member awards still missing from surfguard can either fill in a manual award entry form with the award details or contact the Branch Office.

Bronze Medallion resources trial:

North Steyne is currently conducting a bronze course using trial resources from Western Australia for SLSNSW. Part of this trial involves an online assessment paper and feedback will be given to SLSNSW once the course is complete.

Thank You

John Lewis from Whale Beach thanked Michael Wasley and all the assessors for helping Whale Beach with their assessments throughout the season.

Meeting closed at 8.12pm.

Next Board of Education and Assessment Meeting
Thursday 21st May, 2009
7pm at Dee Why SLSC