

SLSSNB ANNUAL GEAR INSPECTION – 20TH AUGUST 2023

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Portfolio:	Lifesaving
Audience:	Club Captains, Gear Stewards, Radio Advisors, Chief Training Officers, JAC, Club Presidents, Club Secretaries
Summary:	Gear Inspection for SNB Clubs is held on the 3rd Sunday of August each year. This date is mandated in the SLSSNB Regulations. Gear Inspection for the 2023-24 season will be held on Sunday 20th August 2023.

PURPOSE

The Annual Gear & Equipment Inspections program ensures all Surf Life Saving patrols have sufficient equipment to meet Lifesaving Service Agreement requirements. The inspections program also promotes the accurate recording of gear & equipment details in SurfGuard providing current information to support funding applications and equipment turnover programs. Furthermore, it promotes the management, maintenance and quality of all patrolling gear and equipment, creating a safer working environment for members and enhanced rescue capabilities.

As per Surf Life Saving NSW Standard Operating Procedures [LS3.8 \(SOP 12/2019\)](#), ALL frontline lifesaving equipment must be annually inspected prior to the commencement of each patrolling season to ensure:

- Gear & equipment is operationally fit to use for Surf Life Saving purposes and is not damaged or faulty.
- Clubs and services meet the minimum patrol equipment requirements as outlined in the SLSSNB SOP's.
- Gear & equipment repairs, maintenance and upgrade requirements are identified.
- New gear & equipment SOP's, Specifications and Policy update requirements have been implemented.
- Correct and current information is updated on SurfGuard.
- All gear & equipment is SLSA endorsed.

PRE-INSPECTIONS

Clubs should be aiming for all gear & equipment to PASS inspection on Sunday 20th August 2023.

Clubs are required to conduct pre-inspections on all gear and equipment. This is to ensure all repairs and servicing can be completed prior to final inspection. Any equipment that is deemed to be not fit for service and cannot be repaired, should be discarded and replaced.

INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS

Branch Gear Inspectors will be responsible for inspecting IRBs and SSVs. We will also have operators at Surfcom Northern Beaches to conduct radio checks with the Clubs. These inspections and checks will be done on Sunday 20th August 2023.

Remaining equipment can be inspected by the nominated Club gear steward(s). These remaining Club led inspections can be done on or prior to Sunday 20th August 2023.

CLUB GEAR INSPECTORS

Club Captains are required to inform the Branch of any [nominated Club Gear Inspectors for 2023](#) so that correct access to the Gear section of the Operations App can be issued. This will enable them to enter inspection results, which will update Surfguard automatically.

SURFGUARD EQUIPMENT LISTS

Clubs are required to ensure that Gear & Equipment lists on Surfguard, correctly represent the gear and equipment the Club owns. These lists should be checked, alongside the equipment, and corrected where necessary. Branch Gear Inspectors will use these lists when reviewing IRBs, SSVs and radios.

IRB EQUIPMENT

Detailed information has been added to the 2023 SNB Gear Inspection guideline document and it is expected that Clubs refer to this when reviewing IRB hulls, motors and fuel cells.

SIDE-BY-SIDE VEHICLES

Clubs that share an SSV owned by another organisation (ie. Council or ALS) do not need to present it for inspection. Clubs that own SSVs should review the full checklist available from Surfguard.

RADIO EQUIPMENT

Patrol radios should be serviced every season to minimize the impact of the sand and salt. Reprogramming is not required this season, so long as the radios have the current radio frequencies.

A quick way to check is by checking which "Training" channels the radio has programmed. There should be four channels: 58 Train, 66 Train, 67 Train, and 68 Train. Radios that still have training channels of 25 & 26 should be reprogrammed as they will also be missing some other features that have been added since they were last done.

EQUIPMENT GRADING

Equipment will be graded using the following terms. Any equipment that fails inspection should be re-inspected by person that failed for efficiency. Clubs are responsible for ensuring they have the contact details for that Inspector so that they can arrange re-inspections directly with them.

Term	Category	Definition
P = Pass	PASS	Suitable to use for patrol activities (no repairs required).
R = Re-Inspect	FAIL	Item requires repairs but may be passed upon re-inspection. Mark item with a yellow "DO NOT USE" tag, isolate from service until the item has been repaired. When it has passed a re-inspection, remove tag, and return to service.
D = Discard	FAIL	Item is beyond repair (isolate and discard item).

GEAR INSPECTION COMPLETED - NOTIFICATION

Club Captains will be required to formally notify the Branch when they have completed Gear Inspection [via this online form](#) by Sunday 10th September 2023.