



# CIRCULAR

SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY NORTHERN BEACHES

## SLSSNB ANNUAL GEAR INSPECTION – 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025

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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 the 2025-26 season will be on Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2025, as per the SLSSNB Regulations.

### PURPOSE

The annual gear and equipment inspection program ensures all Surf Life Saving patrols have sufficient functional equipment to meet Lifesaving Service Agreement requirements. The program also promotes the management, maintenance and quality of all patrolling gear and equipment, creating a safer working environment for members and enhances rescue capabilities.

As per Surf Life Saving NSW Public Safety Standard Operating Procedures [PSS 3.7 \(July 2023\)](#), all services are required to ensure they maintain a safe environment and meet their responsibilities in regard to gear and equipment inspections.

### PRE-INSPECTIONS

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 unable to be repaired, should be discarded and replaced prior to Gear Inspection.

### RADIO EQUIPMENT

Club's Patrol Radios do not require reprogramming this season. However, Patrol **radios should be serviced** every season to minimize the impact of the sand and salt.

SNB recommends Clubs send ½ their radios away for servicing at a time, so the Club remains “rescue ready”. The remaining radios should be sent once the first batch has been returned.

### INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS

A team of Branch Gear Inspectors will be responsible for inspecting each Club's lifesaving equipment, including conducting radio checks via Surfcom. Clubs are required to provide at least one member to be a part of the Branch Inspection Team. Clubs should advise [the Branch office](#) of who their representative(s) will be as early as possible.

Members should be suitably knowledgeable about the equipment they may be inspecting (ie. First Aid equipment, Oxygen units, IRBs, Boards and Tubes or Radios). Most members with relevant patrolling awards should have the minimum knowledge.

### SURFGUARD EQUIPMENT LISTS

Clubs are required to ensure that Gear & Equipment lists on Surfguard, correctly represent the gear and equipment owned by the Club. These lists should be checked, alongside the equipment, and corrected where necessary, prior to Gear Inspection. The lists will be used on the day by the Gear Inspection team to record results, so it is imperative that they are correct.

The following table shows the minimum items that Clubs must have to be compliant. Clubs that own more than the minimum should ensure all items are listed on Surfguard so that inspection results can be accurately recorded.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MIN QTY
Flags	( <i>Not inspected if owned by ALS or Council</i> ) Red & Yellow patrol flags Black & White quartered flag Orange with Blue stripe signal flags Red & White emergency evacuation flag	2 2 2 1
Signs	( <i>Not inspected if owned by ALS or Council</i> ) “Rescue Craft Access Area” mobile signs “Swimming Not Advised” mobile signs “Beach closed” mobile signs “Blue Bottle” mobile signs “Dangerous Conditions (Beach Closed)” mobile sign	2 2 2 2 1
IRB	IRB Engine Fuel bladder Accessories (knife, tube, etc)	1 1 1 1 ea
Lifejackets	Level 50, SLSA Approved	2
Radios	Programmed to SLSA channels for SNB	4
Patrol Tent	Including poles, pegs and ropes	1
Binoculars		1 pair
Rescue Boards	SLSA Approved	2
Rescue Tubes	SLSA Approved	3
Rescue Fins		2 pair
Defibrillator		1
Oxygen Resuscitator Kit		1
First Aid Room	Stocked as per SNB list	1
First Aid Kit	Stocked as per SNB list	1
Spinal Board		1
Loud Hailer / PA System		1
Emergency Evacuation Alarm	( <i>Loud hailer applicable</i> )	1
First Aid Bum Bag	Stocked	2
Whistle	<i>Recommended 1 per patroller</i>	1
Sunscreen	Min. SPF 30+	1

### OPTIONAL ITEMS

SSV	( <i>Not inspected if owned by ALS or Council</i> )	-
Hemorrhage Kit	( <i>aka Shark Kit</i> )	-
Suction unit	( <i>For use with oxygen resuscitation unit</i> )	-
Spinal Straps		-



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### EQUIPMENT GRADING

Equipment will be graded using the following terms. Any equipment that fails inspection should be re-inspected by the person that failed it 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.

Clubs should be aiming for all gear & equipment to **PASS** inspection on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

Term	Category	Definition
<b>P = Pass</b>	PASS	Suitable to use for patrol activities (no repairs required).
<b>R = Re-Inspect</b>	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.
<b>D = Discard</b>	FAIL	Item is beyond repair (isolate and discard item).

The Branch has detailed information about Gear Inspection available for Clubs in the form of a "guide" that covers specific equipment and includes a list of tasks to be completed by Clubs as well as copies of first aid requirements and estimated arrival times.

The SNB Gear Inspection Guide for 2025 is available to download from the [Gear & Equipment page on the SNB website.](#)