

## 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:** 11 October 2009

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

### 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 may 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	Period End	Nominations Close (at Branch and to NSW Lifeguard Manager)	Nominations Close (at State)	State Winner Announced
October*	Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
November	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
December	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January
January	Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
February	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
March	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
April	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May
May - September	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October

\*Note: Due dates at Branch and State for October are in line with November due dates.

**Criteria**

There are six (6) key areas assessed as part of the judging criteria (refer to nomination form for weighting):

1. Application of Skills
2. Environmental Conditions
3. Procedures Followed
4. Utilisation of Resources Available
5. Potential Outcome
6. 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).

## 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.

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

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS IN BRIEF BULLET POINT FORMAT**

<b>Section 1</b>	<b>APPLICATION OF SKILLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Were the skills used correctly and appropriately as per SOP's?</i></li> <li>• <i>Did the rescue / incident require advanced technical skills?</i></li> <li>• <i>Was there optimal use of skills within the available personnel?</i></li> </ul>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Was the incident around rocks, cliffs, or other precarious situations?</i></li> <li>• <i>What was the size of the surf, temperature, time, visibility, weather, and other environmental conditions at land or sea?</i></li> </ul>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>PROCEDURES FOLLOWED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Was the safety of the rescuers involved appropriately assessed?</i></li> <li>• <i>Was there appropriate leadership, chain of command, good scene management, paperwork completed, follow-ups etc?</i></li> </ul>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>RESOURCE UTILISATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Were communication links used appropriately?</i></li> <li>• <i>Were other services and members of the public used appropriately?</i></li> <li>• <i>Was the correct equipment utilised appropriately?</i></li> </ul>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>POTENTIAL OUTCOME</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Would the outcome have been the same if the rescuers hadn't intervened?</i></li> </ul>
<b>Section 6</b>	<b>MEDIA CAPTURE – COMMUNICATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Were opportunities maximised in terms of media exposure?</i></li> </ul>

**REFERENCE INFORMATION – DO NOT SUBMIT**

**Due Dates:**

Period Start	Period End	Nominations Close (at Branch)	Nominations Close (at State)	State Winner Announced
1 October	Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November
1 November	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December
1 December	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> December	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January
1 January	Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February
1 February	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
1 March	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April
1 April	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May
1 May - September	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October

**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?	