



Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club Community Engagement Strategy

ASK ME HOW TO STAY SAFE AT THE BEACH



Proudly supported by the Lions Club of
Wyoming East Gosford Centennial



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Acronym	Term
CCC	Central Coast Council
OBSLSC	Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club
SLS	Surf Life Saving
SLSA	Surf Life Saving Australia
SLSCC	Surf Life Saving Central Coast
SLSNSW	Surf Life Saving New South Wales
UniMelb	The University of Melbourne



Our club

Ocean Beach Surf Life Saving Club (OBSLSC) has played an important role in the safety and wellbeing of beachgoers on the Central Coast since its founding in 1922.



The changing environment

The 2025 National Coastal Safety Report [1] reveals that **239 lives were lost** in coastal environments.



154 drowning deaths, **21% above** the 10-year average.



All of these drownings occurred **outside of the flags or patrol times**.

Additionally, the Australian Water Safety Strategy 2030 [2] highlights that localising water safety strategies and aligning partnerships are vital to help prevent drowning.



Our Initiative

In response to these reports, **OBSLSC has created this Community Engagement Strategy** as a local initiative to help reduce coastal drowning. This plan combines two of our clubs award-winning club programs:

OBSLSC Taking it to the Beach:

A black spot community education program, where lifesavers met with beach goers to discuss local coastal dangers.

Uni-Melb/SLSA Research:

Research aimed at evaluating the impact of participatory beach engagements on safer behaviour at unpatrolled beaches.



By integrating these programs OBSLSC has created **'Ask me how to stay safe at the beach'**, a community engagement strategy that builds on our club's proven record of success.



Our Engagement Goals

Aim: To proactively reduce coastal drowning by giving beachgoers the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to stay safe.

Our strategy is to:



Share Clear Information:

Help make complex ocean conditions easier to understand and share life-saving strategies.

Help our community to develop actionable safety plans that are relevant to their beach-going habits. Including:

1. Understanding the purpose of beach safety flags
2. Learning how to spot dangerous rip currents
3. Knowing what to do in an emergency



Engage Everyone:

We will tailor our engagement strategies to be relevant for all coastal visitors (domestic and international) including different generations, cultures, and geographic areas.

Our strategy is, to not only reach out to long-term residents and tourists, but also specific, often overlooked groups such as recent immigrants, non-English speakers, religious groups and teenagers.

Using culturally sensitive and relevant messages, we want to make sure everyone, no matter their background, can stay safe at the beach.



Encourage Real Engagement:

Our approach is based on the Uni-Melb and SLSA research [3] findings that real engagement, where people can ask questions and get personalised advice from a trusted source, leads to a deeper understanding of risk and safety strategies and is more likely to change a person's behaviour.



Build a Resilient Community.

By giving surf lifesavers better communication tools and training, we aim to create a network of informed citizens who can not only protect themselves but also become advocates for safety among their friends and family. This helps the whole community become more resilient to coastal dangers.



Use Resources Wisely.

By building on our existing community engagement programs, we can leverage our strategic partnerships and thereby avoid starting a new program from scratch. This ensures our resources are used efficiently to have the biggest impact.



Our plan:

Research [3], [5], [6], [7] has shown that behaviour change takes time, experience, and capacity and that respecting what is important to an individual is the best way to partner with members of the public.

Our engagement approach is based on the trustworthiness of the SLS brand [4]. Our surf lifesavers, in their iconic red and yellow uniforms, will engage with our community in a two-way beach safety conversation. Their proactive and friendly approach will build a positive connection with beachgoers, with the surf lifesaver seen as a helpful resource.

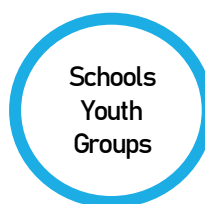
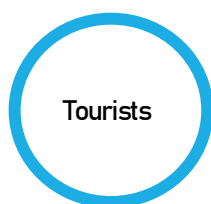


The program's design will constantly evolve and improve based on community feedback. We will use data from surveys and on-the-ground interactions to ensure the program stays relevant and responds to the community's changing needs and concerns.



Our Stakeholders

To ensure the success of our strategy and to reach as many people as possible we are working with a variety of stakeholders. The active involvement of each group is essential for creating a complete and effective safety network. Our stakeholders include, but are not limited to:



Stakeholder Group	Interests	Needs	Technique
Residents and Tourists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staying safe at the beach. Understanding local dangers. Having a fun, risk-reduced experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive safety information. To feel confident to approach lifesavers to ask questions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face-to-face conversations. Digital content. Interactive activities, like spotting a rip.
Central Coast Council (CCC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting public safety goals. Lowering emergency response costs. Promoting the region as a safe tourist spot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the Local Government Act. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measurable results to justify spending. Clear alignment with the council's strategic plan. Professional reports on project progress.



Stakeholders (continued)

Stakeholder Group	Interests	Needs	Technique
SLSCC and SLSNSW	<p>Working together on safety initiatives.</p> <p>Promoting a consistent message across the region.</p> <p>Sharing resources and volunteer support.</p>	<p>Alignment of Branch and State safety goals.</p> <p>Amplify education impact.</p>	<p>Sharing resources.</p> <p>Joint training sessions.</p> <p>Cross promotion of key safety messages and events.</p>
UniMelb and SLSA	<p>Researching and developing an effective community engagement model for drowning prevention.</p> <p>Publishing peer-reviewed findings.</p>	<p>Reliable data and a place to test ideas.</p>	<p>Ongoing collaboration on research.</p> <p>Data analysis and refining the program to ensure it is based on science.</p>
Local Schools & Youth Groups	<p>Providing safety education to young people.</p> <p>Empowering students to be safety ambassadors.</p> <p>Fulfilling health and safety curriculum requirements.</p>	<p>Fun, age-appropriate and meaningful content.</p>	<p>School presentations.</p> <p>Interactive workshops to convey engaging youth water safety content.</p> <p>Sharing existing material.</p>
Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities (CALD)	<p>Providing relevant and accessible information to diverse communities.</p> <p>Social welfare.</p> <p>Being a trusted source of information.</p>	<p>Thoughtful, culturally sensitive approach that goes beyond traditional messaging.</p>	<p>Co-hosting events.</p> <p>Outreach at cultural festivals and events.</p> <p>Providing access to materials in multiple languages.</p>
Local Media	<p>Reporting on community safety issues and local efforts.</p> <p>Human interest stories.</p> <p>Providing valuable community information.</p>	<p>Timely, compelling stories, semi-regular reporting to keep water safety front of mind.</p>	<p>Partnerships for seasonal safety segments.</p> <p>Press releases.</p> <p>Providing opportunities for interviews with surf lifesavers.</p>



Our Alignment

Our strategy follows the five Australian Community Engagement Principles, in line with the **IAP2 spectrum of public participation framework** [8]. Each level represents a different way to involve our community from simply giving them information to making them a key part of the decision-making process.

Inform: Our strategy's foundation is to provide clear, evidence-based information. We will do this through various channels, including direct face-to-face conversations on the beach or in the community and easily accessible digital content, like short, informative videos. The goal is to raise awareness of beach safety and ensure a basic level of understanding for all beachgoers.

Consult: The program is specifically designed to encourage two-way engagements. We will actively ask for community feedback to ensure the program is relevant and meets their needs. This will be done through a mix of online and in-person surveys to get local insights. By listening to what the broader community already knows and what they want to learn about beach safety, we can improve our educational content and approach.

Involve: This strategy goes beyond simply asking for opinions by actively involving key community partners in the program's design and delivery. For example, we have worked directly with Central Coast multicultural organisations to make sure our messages and outreach methods are right for their specific communities. By involving these groups, we have built trust that ensures the program is both accessible and culturally sensitive.

Collaborate: Our strategy is built on a collaborative model, with a core partnership with UniMelb and SLSA. This collaboration is not just about sharing resources; it's about jointly developing and improving the engagement model based on academic research [3], [5], [6], [7] and real-world experience. This makes sure the program is both scientifically sound and highly effective.

Empower: The highest level of engagement is empowerment. The ultimate goal of our strategy is to move past simply telling people what to do. Instead, we want to empower beachgoers with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to make their own safe decisions, whether that's knowing not to swim in a dangerous spot or understanding how to help someone in trouble without risking their own safety. This strategy will help build community resilience and creates a lasting impact far beyond a single interaction.



Project Timeline

Our timeline outlines the key milestones for the program:



Concept Development and approvals:

1. Presentation to, and acceptance of, our community engagement strategy to the OBSLSC Executive.
2. Creation of our 'Community Engagement Strategy'.
3. Development of a 'program outline' for lifesaver training; sourced educational materials and the resources needed for the pop-up space activation.
4. Submission and approval of a SLSNSW Special Event Application to run the program at various locations around the Central Coast. This application is to be applied for annually and provides insurance coverage for our community engagement team.
5. Confirmation by CCC on the process for booking space to engage directly with our community through [Central Coast Council | Bookable](#)

Funding our strategy

The Lions Club of Wyoming East Gosford Centennial funded the creation of this Community Engagement Strategy through the provision of a \$5,000 grant to OBSLSC.

The OBSLSC executive approved financials for resourcing the program. This budget covers a range of expenses, including the beach cabana, buggy, the creation and printing of promotional materials (e.g. signs, postcards), the cost of training materials, and logistics for community events.



Community outreach:

This stage involved discussions with existing key partners, identification of new partners, and the building of relationships to help us to determine community needs and plan joint events. Examples of these partnerships include: CCC, The Benevolent Society, Mosaic Multicultural Connections, A Splash of Colour Swimming, community groups such as Probus, Lions and Rotary and local schools.

Launch: September 2025

Our funding partners, the Lions Club of Wyoming East Gosford Centennial, were invited to the launch of our 'Ask Me' pop-up program at Ocean Beach.

Operational phase:

At the start of the surf lifesaving patrol season, our engagement team commenced our program on the beach during patrolling hours. The aim was to trial the set up and introduce our community engagement concept to our lifesaving and beachgoing community.

Program delivery is continuing throughout the 2025-26 patrolling season at both patrolled and unpatrolled locations, as well as at community events. Data including participant and lifesaver feedback and the number of community bookings requested is being collected.

Growing the team:

Growing our team is crucial to the success of the program. Opportunities to be involved in the program are being offered to surf lifesaving members from Ocean Beach and other interested clubs. As an incentive to participate in the program, for time spent delivering our program (during patrolling hours), each lifesaver educators' hours of engagement will be recorded in Surfguard.

Going forward:

We will continue to promote our program and explore new locations and community groups to engage with.

A mid-season assessment will be undertaken, including analysing feedback from participants and the lifesaver engagement team as well the number of community activations requested.



Launch with funding partners



Engaging community



Program Evaluation

The measurement of the program's success will be attained by using a mix of thorough data analysis and qualitative feedback, to get a complete picture of its impact.

Process Evaluation: This analysis will help us assess the program's effectiveness in real-time, find any gaps, and give us a clear idea of what's working and what needs to be improved.

Data collected will include:

- The number of face-to-face interactions by lifesavers
- The completion rate of surveys
- The number of community partners we successfully engaged with

Outcome Evaluation: Measuring the immediate impact on people who take part in the program.

Note: The post session surveys are based on the post program assessments undertaken by the UniMelb research.

These surveys have been designed to measure:

- Whether the engagement was enjoyable
- How much knowledge was gained
- Any improvements in safety awareness



This will help us to understand the educational impact and whether our brief conversation led to a clear increase in a person's understanding of coastal dangers and a willingness to continue to engage with local lifesaving members. The data will also highlight any gaps in knowledge that may arise requiring more focus during our engagements. Additionally, the survey undertaken by the lifesaver engagement team will assist in identifying whether the program is well resourced, easy, and enjoyable to deliver.

Impact evaluation:

The final measure of success will be a participant reported change in beach-going behaviours and the long-term goal of a drop in coastal incidents in targeted areas. This will be a multi-year effort tracked through drowning statistics and ongoing data collection and backed up by feedback from participants. The program's success will be defined by its ability to create a lasting culture of safety and resilience in the Central Coast community.



Engaging our Community

Face-to-face interactions:

These direct conversations are the heart of the program. Qualified surf lifesavers will be a visible presence on the beach and at community locations and events, talking to individuals and small groups. These chats are designed to be short, friendly, and conversational. Our program invites people to **ask lifesavers how they can stay safe at the beach**, providing a personal touch to beach safety. This style of engagement encourages conversation and enables surf lifesavers to assist participants to develop their own beach safety plan.

Digital content:

The plan will use social media to reach younger people and a wider audience using the 'Ask Me' approach. We will create short, engaging videos and other content for platforms like Instagram and TikTok featuring commonly asked questions and their answers.

This content will be delivered during identified peak drowning periods and include seasonal reminders about specific dangers, such as the importance of supervising children and rips. An example of this would be the use of an 'Ask a Lifesaver selfie frame' where people can ask a question on social media and receive an answer.



Selfie Frame

Local partnerships:

Teaming up with local community groups, schools, and cultural organisations is vital for expanding the program's reach beyond the beach itself. By working with these groups, we can reach people who might not regularly visit patrolled beaches or who have communication barriers. For example, partnering with local community groups has led to beach safety workshops for CALD parents and attending a multicultural festival. We have received invitations to speak at Rotary, Lions and Probus clubs, and at places of religion.



Mosaic Multicultural Connections
and Central Coast Council
Collaboration



Engaging Community

On-site promotion:

During the surf lifesaving season our engagement tent will be manned by available trained surf lifesavers during patrolling hours. This space activation will include the highly visible sign that says, 'Ask Me How to Stay Safe at The Beach.'

Additionally, we will display a sign that links to the Beach Passport app, creating a seamless link to additional digital resources.

During peak drowning periods the engagement tent can also be deployed to nearby known blackspots.

Our engagement program can also be booked by external organisations for local events such as Central Coast Council's 'Light up the Lake Festival'.



Engaging our community



Light up the Lake Festival



Engaging with seniors in our Silver Salties program.



Media outreach:

Working with local media outlets, including radio stations and newspapers, is crucial for advertising the OBSLSC 'Ask Me' program. We will provide timely press releases, arrange interviews with program leaders, and promote semi-regular seasonal safety segments to make sure the message reaches a wide audience all year long.



Interview with Coast FM



Targeting Audiences

Targeted 1:1 and Small Group Interactions:

Lifesavers will invite people to engage in a brief (approximately 10-minute) safety chat.

Customised Lessons:

The conversations will be tailored to the audience, covering topics that are most relevant to their age, cultural background, interests, and level of beach experience. Our talks include practical demonstrations and questions to gauge existing knowledge.

The engagement will be tailored to meet the needs of specific audience segments; examples are outlined below:

- **Residents and Frequent Visitors:** The focus will include local risks, the importance of swimming between the flags, beach safety strategies including identifying and negotiating rip currents, how to safely assist a person in trouble in the water and how to access further information.
- **Tourists:** The focus will include a guide to local risks, the location and operating hours of patrolled beaches, beach safety strategies including identifying and negotiating rip currents, how to safely assist a person in trouble in the water and how to access further information.
- **Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities (CALD):** OBSLSC has developed partnerships with the 'Benevolent Society', 'Mosaic Multicultural Connections', and 'A Splash of Colour Swimming' to co-host events where lifesavers can interact in a culturally sensitive manner. A language resource to aid communication has been developed. Further partnerships will be explored.
- **Teenagers:** Engaging teenagers on beach safety requires creative, peer-relevant, and interactive strategies. In recognition of this, OBSLSC, in consultation with their club youth, are developing a 'Community Engagement led by Youth' sub plan. See the end of this document for the draft sub plan.

Interactive Tools:

The lifesaver will assist participants to identify existing rips or use a 'rip identification' prop to make the lessons engaging and memorable. Examples of types of flotation can also be added.



Our Activations

In the early stages of our program OBSLSC has already attended a series of events including:

- Beach Safety Broadcast, Coast FM, September 2025.
- Light Up the Lake, Memorial Park, The Entrance, November 2025.
- Marine Family Fun Day, Terrigal Rotary Park, November 2025.
- Mosaic Multicultural Connection, Central Coast Multicultural Day, October 2025.
- Mosaic Multicultural Connections, Family Playgroup, November 2025.
- Australia Day 2026: Pearl Beach.
- Australia Day 2026: Memorial Park, The Entrance.
- A Splash of Colour participant graduations, various dates.



Digital and Social Media

OBSLSC recognises the importance of digital and social media engagement to help us meet the aims of our program.

We are exploring the following platforms:

Instagram/TikTok clips: Featuring surf lifesavers demonstrating ocean conditions, rip currents or answering beach safety questions.

Facebook posts: Our club will provide upcoming beach safety community engagement events information and beach safety tips. During peak holiday seasons, we will actively share existing social media messaging promoting the 'stop, look, stay alive' message.

Advocacy Partnerships: Collaborate with local water safety advocates/influencers from various communities to amplify the safety message.





Draft Community Engagement Led by Youth (CELBY)

Background

Every year young people lose their lives to drowning. From the age of 20 the number of drowning deaths rises dramatically. Building knowledge and awareness of beach safety before this high-risk period is vital to reducing young-adult drowning. The 2025 national drowning statistics [9] reveals that young people are drowning more than 50km from their home, away from the environments they are familiar with. We need to equip young people to 'stop, look and stay alive.'

So how do we do this?

Our plan is to make beach safety something young people actually care about, something they will pay attention to. We aim to do this by making beach safety education fun, creative, and peer-led - i.e. delivered and run by people their own age.

Our Program Goals

- Help young people learn how to stay safe at the beach.
- Give surf lifesaving youth the confidence to be effective beach safety leaders.
- Create a mentor system where older youth lifesavers help guide younger ones.

Rookie Community Engagement Challenge

This challenge is designed for Nippers moving into the Rookie Lifesaver program (U13-U14). Ideally, older youth lifesavers run the session, but anyone who's passionate can get involved.

Using the acronym 'DECIDE' teams will create their own campaign to help stop teenage drowning:

Discover: Who's at risk, why it happens, and when it's most likely to happen.

Explore: How teens behave around water, the good and the bad.

Create: Design a campaign that connects with young people.

Implement: Figure out what tools/resources you need to make it happen.

Deliver: Plan where, when, and how you'll launch it.

Evaluate: How will you know if it worked.



CELBY continued

Tips for running the program:

- Use the National Drowning Report and National Coastal Safety Report to find the latest stats.
- Think about your group.
 - Who will work well together?
 - Does anyone need support to be involved?
- Keep it fun: bring food, drinks, music.
- Collect ideas in whatever way works best, e.g. post-it notes on the wall, an online tool like Trello or Miro.
- If someone has a great idea, back them up and help them make it happen.
- Talking about drowning can sometimes be heavy. Know who the support person in your club is and where to go if someone feels upset.

Examples of Teen Beach Safety Campaigns

Pop-up Stand: Set up at a youth festival, skate park or youth space with a lifesaver, free snacks, beach trivia, and fun competitions (e.g. 'best wipeout story').

Chill Club Sessions: Run by older teens who have trained as lifesavers. Keep it relaxed by providing snacks, music and beanbags, while chatting about real experiences, such as why people ignore the flags.

Social Media Videos: Create funny, dramatic, or eye-catching 15-30 second beach safety clips. Share the best ones on TikTok, Insta, or at school events.

T-shirt or Swimwear Slogans: Run a design competition with phrases like:

- Respect the Flags.
- Peer Pressure? Meet Ocean Pressure!
- Waves Don't Play Fair.
- Suns Out, Flags Up.

Street Art: Work with teen artists to create a mural showing hidden dangers like rips. Launch with a Q&A session with lifesavers, plus music and food to draw people in.



Media Contacts:

Radio interviews (particularly on peak holiday weekends).

- ABC Central Coast <https://www.abc.net.au/listen/live/centralcoast>
- MMM Central Coast <https://play.listnr.com/station/mmm-centralcoast>
- Coast FM [Coast FM 963 | A Better Music Mix • Classic Hits](#)

News contacts:

- NBN News <https://www.nbnnews.com.au/tag/umina-beach/>
- Coast Community News <https://coastcommunitynews.com.au/>
- Daily Telegraph <https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/central-coast>
- ABC News (Umina Beach 2257) <https://www.abc.net.au/news/topic/umina-beach-2257>
- Mirage News (Tag Umina) <https://www.miragenews.com/tag/umina/>
- Central Coast Australia <https://www.centralcoastaustralia.com.au/>
- Central Coast Chronicle <https://centralcoastchronicle.com.au/about/>
- Central Coast Newspapers
<https://www.facebook.com/centralcoastnewspapers/>
- Love Central Coast <https://www.lovecentralcoast.com/ocean-beach>
- NSW Central Coast Incidents
<https://www.facebook.com/nswccnewsandincidentalerts/>



Appendix:

Appendix 1: OBSLSC CEP 'Ask Me' Program Delivery

Appendix 2: 2025-26 SLSNSW 'Ask Me' SE0625 Approval

Appendix 3: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Booking Form

Appendix 4: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Participant Feedback

Appendix 5: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Lifesaver Feedback

Appendix 6: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Language Resource



References:

- [1] National Coastal Safety Report 2025, Surf Life Saving Australia.
[SLSA NCSR 2025 by SLSA – Issuu](#)
- [2] The Australian Water Safety Strategy, Australian Water Safety Council.
[AWS_Strategy2030_Web_7_24.pdf](#)
- [3] Brian R. Cook, Peter Kamstra, Nicholas Harrigan, Jasmin Lawes, Robert Brander, James Bond, Tom Kompas, Normative learning generates behaviour change: The case of drowning prevention, International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, Volume 114, 2024, 104942, ISSN 2212-4209.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2024.104942>
- [4] [SLSA Recognised as Australia's second most trusted charity](#)
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[Preventing drowning at unpatrolled beaches](#)
- [6] Kamstra, P., Cook, B. R., Lawes, J. C., & Calverley, H. (2023). Engaging beachgoers for drowning prevention: the spillover effects on non-participants. Environmental Hazards, 22(5), 437-455.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/17477891.2023.2189088>
- [7] Peter Kamstra, Brian R. Cook, Jasmin C. Lawes & Hannah Calverley (2023) Engaging beachgoers for drowning prevention: the spillover effects on non-participants, Environmental Hazards, 22:5, 437-455.
<https://DOI: 10.1080/17477891.2023.2189088>
- [8] [Engagement Institute – the Home of Engagement Professionals](#)
- [9] National Drowning Report 2025, Royal Life Saving/Surf Life Saving Australia.
[National Drowning Report 2025 by SLSA - Issuu](#)



Acknowledgements

The Ocean Beach Community Engagement Strategy is proudly sponsored by the Lions Club of Wyoming East Gosford Centennial.

We thank as well, our community partners, SLSA, Uni-Melb and SLSNSW for their advice, support and guidance.

This document was authored by Louise Lambeth with the assistance of Isobel Lambeth and Teri Waite.



Our Activation

Document Review / Update			
Name	Organisation	Title/Role	Date



Appendix:

Appendix 1: OBSLSC CEP 'Ask Me' Program Delivery

Appendix 2: 2025-26 SLSNSW 'Ask Me' SE0625 Approval

Appendix 3: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Booking Form

Appendix 4: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Participant Feedback

Appendix 5: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Lifesaver Feedback

Appendix 6: 2025-26 OBSLSC CE Language Resource



program delivery

'ASK ME HOW TO STAY SAFE AT THE BEACH'

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

Only 6% of Australia's mainland 11,000 beaches are patrolled, and most of those are patrolled only seasonally. Patrols rarely cover early mornings and evenings when many people choose to swim, and the supervised flagged area may only cover a tiny percentage of the length of the beach. A recent study documented why beachgoers swim at unpatrolled beaches. The reasons included proximity to their home or holiday accommodation and because the location is quieter and less crowded than patrolled beaches.

So, while most Australian beachgoers know they should swim between the flags, many choose not to, or simply don't have the option. This can have fatal consequences. Surf Life Saving Australia's National Coastal Safety Report reported that 75% of the 1301 coastal drowning deaths over the previous decade occurred more than 1km from a surf lifesaving service.

The 2025 National Coastal Safety Report reveals that:



239 lives were lost in coastal environments.



154 drowning deaths, 21% above the 10-year average.



All of these drownings occurred **outside** of the flags or patrol hours.



OCEAN BEACH SLSC

This program has been developed in response to research undertaken by A/Prof Brian Cook and Dr Peter Kamstra from the University of Melbourne, supported by SLSA.





THE SET UP:

This set up is suitable for a variety of locations; beach, parks, events, shopping centres etc.


















The resources you will need will depend on the location.

TIP: Check the SLSNSW Special Event form in the Community Engagement Plan for potential hazards. If you identify any additional hazards notify your club safety representative ASAP.

TIP: Are there any members under 18 participating? Is the event outside the members normal patrolling commitment or at a different location? Remember to complete a SLSNSW Child Safe Activity Planning Guide.



Resources Checklist:

-  Community Engagement Plan
-  SLSNSW Special Event form
-  Buggy
-  Invitation A-Frame
-  Rip corflutes
-  'Ask a lifesaver' selfie frame
-  Cabana
-  Table
-  Chair
-  Thankyou/Research invitation
-  Pen and paper
-  Hat
-  Sunscreen
-  Water
-  Food
-  First aid kit
-  Surf rescue tube



READY? LETS' GO!

The aim of this program is to build on people's existing knowledge and understanding of beach safety. This will help beachgoers develop strategies to stay safe at the beach, including what to do if they or someone else needs help.

Education goals:

1. The safest place to be is between the red and yellow flags.
2. Rip currents:
 - a. How does a rip current form?
 - b. How to identify a rip current?
 - c. How does a rip current behave?
3. What you should do if you are caught in a rip current.
4. How to safely assist someone in trouble in the water.

Invite: The invitation A-Frame sign is designed to encourage people to approach.

Tip: Be open to engaging with passers-by – a friendly smile, greeting or a wave helps to create connections.

Share:

- 🌊 Your first name
- 🌊 Your club role
- 🌊 The purpose (a community service to help people learn how to be safe at the beach)

Ask initial discovery questions.

Examples:

- 🌊 Is everyone in your group here? (especially important if there are children present)
- 🌊 Where are you from? (local, visiting, overseas)
- 🌊 What type of beaches do you like to visit?
- 🌊 Who do you normally go with?

Transition question: Are you aware of any recent drowning incidents or deaths?

Explain:

- 🌊 Drowning is preventable yet many people unintentionally drown.
- 🌊 The National Drowning and Coastal Safety Report reveals that drowning deaths are occurring outside patrolled areas or hours.



READY? LET'S GO! (CONTINUED)

- 🌊 Rip currents are the number one hazard related to coastal drowning.
- 🌊 This beach safety chat will only take 10 minutes.

Encourage: People to share their own knowledge and ask questions.

Build: On the information shared.

Adapt: Tailor the information so it is relevant to the person's interests and beachgoing behaviours.

Tips to encourage life saving conversations:

- 🌊 Allow the conversation to flow, do not follow a script.
- 🌊 Ask questions instead of delivering facts. Confirm right answers, redirect wrong answers. Imagine yourself as someone who is asking them to reflect on their perceptions and behaviours instead of telling them what to do and why.
- 🌊 Encourage questions
- 🌊 Listen to shared stories – where applicable, refer to these during your talk.

Tip: During the engagement share your own experiences and expertise that demonstrates the points you are making and discussing.

Fact: You are not a walking encyclopaedia ... it's completely okay if you don't know the answer to a question!

Tip: You can encourage the person to search for an answer. Remind them to check the information found is from a reliable source.

Tip: For participants with low English, you may need to shorten and adapt the talk. Use actions to demonstrate points, for example point to areas on the beach to help explain what you are talking about. Speak slowly using simple, everyday language that is easy to understand. People who do not speak English will often understand you; they just may not be able to verbally communicate back what they want to. It's important to cover: Staying between the flags, learning to swim (especially floating) and calling for help. If needed, consider using a translation App.

The following sections are a guidance for the education component. You may share additional information if this information is sourced from official surf lifesaving educational resources.



THE RED AND YELLOW SAFETY FLAGS

Ask:

- 🌊 Where do you like to spend time at the beach?
- 🌊 What do you like to do?
- 🌊 Did you know that surf lifesavers assess the surf conditions prior to setting the flagged area and will move the flags in relation to changing conditions?



Education goals for participants:

- 🌊 Patrol captains assess the conditions on the day and place the flags in the safest place (looking for known local hazards, rip currents and surf conditions).
- 🌊 The patrol continues to monitor the surf conditions and will move the flagged area if conditions change.
- 🌊 Surf lifesavers are happy to have a chat and answer questions.





WHAT CAUSES A RIP CURRENT AND HOW CAN YOU SPOT ONE?

Background:

Rip currents are the number one cause of coastal drowning.

Ask:

- 🌊 Do you know what causes a rip current?
- 🌊 Have you ever seen a rip current?
 - ~ What did you see?
 - Or...
 - ~ Do you know the signs of a rip current?

Education goals:

What is a coastal rip current and how does it form?

- 🌊 When waves break across a surf zone, they push water towards the shoreline.
- 🌊 Once that water reaches the shoreline, it has to find a way to get back out to sea, so it often flows into deeper channels where waves are not breaking and away from shore. These deeper channels are rip currents. They will not pull you down, they only move water offshore and are completely normal.

One of the best ways to spot a rip current is to look for dark gaps between the breaking waves – almost like a dark/deep path going through the lighter coloured water. Other signs can be a choppy water surface between waves, and churning clouds of sand in the water beyond the surf zone.

Tip: Use the corflute rip signs to explain the rip current and its movement.

The key signs to show them are:

- 🌊 Deeper and/or darker water
- 🌊 Fewer breaking waves
- 🌊 Sandy coloured water extending beyond the surf zone
- 🌊 Debris or seaweed
- 🌊 Significant water movement (a rippled surface)





WHAT CAUSES A RIP CURRENT AND HOW CAN YOU SPOT ONE? (CONTINUED)



Tip: Rip currents can change shape and location quickly. The easiest way to spot one is to look for where the waves are breaking consistently then look to each side where there are fewer or no breaking waves. Those areas are rip currents. Rips can also be found next to headlands or structures like a jetty.

Fact: Rip currents can be hard to see. The more you practice the easier it becomes. Observing from a higher point is helpful. Take the time to **STOP, LOOK, STAY ALIVE.**

Activity: If there are rip currents present encourage the participant/s to look for one.



NEGOTIATING A RIP CURRENT

Background:

A rip current will not pull you down. Panic and exhaustion are the main cause of rip current drowning.

Ask:

- ≈ Have you ever been caught in a rip current? If they are happy to share the story with you ask:
 - ~ What did that feel like?
 - ~ What did you do?

Education goals:

Rip currents will not pull you under the water, they are really just taking you for a ride instead.

If you are caught in a rip current, stay calm and float to conserve your energy.

- ≈ Raise your arm and attract attention from lifesavers, lifeguards or surfers.
- ≈ Don't be embarrassed to ask for help (sometimes a lifesaver needs rescuing too!).
- ≈ Float and wait to be rescued (the rip current may return you to an adjacent sandbar).

- ≈ If you have the ability and are not tiring, move towards the breaking waves, they will help return you to shore.
- ≈ Reassess your situation, if what you are doing isn't working, try another option.
- ≈ Never attempt to swim directly back to shore, against the flow of the current. You will lose and start to feel panicked.

Tip: A rip current will slowly lose its power once it moves past the breaking waves.

Fact: Lifesavers, lifeguards and surfers purposefully use a rip current to get beyond the breaking waves.

Activity: Use the corflute signs to demonstrate water movement and ways to escape.

Activity: Point out the calm water where people, who are often afraid of the waves, choose to enter the water because it looks calmer. **Ask:** 'What area have they entered?' **Answer:** The rip current.





HOW TO SAFELY ASSIST SOMEONE IN TROUBLE IN THE WATER

Background:

It is often bystanders (i.e. members of the public, friends or family) who become the first responder to those in trouble in the water. Tragically, it is not uncommon for the bystander rescuer themselves to get into trouble or drown while trying to rescue someone in distress.

Bystanders, especially surfers, perform many rescues, providing a significant and valuable service to the community. The initial actions of a bystander are often what saves lives, however many are not trained or experienced in water-based rescue or the provision of first aid and CPR. This lack of knowledge and experience places both the rescuer and the person being rescued at risk of drowning.

Ask:

- ≈ Have you heard of bystander drowning? This is the most likely safety scenario you will experience especially at an unsupervised waterbody/aquatic location. Knowing what to do can and has saved lives.
- ≈ What would you do if you saw someone in trouble in the water?

Education goals:

There are ways you can safely assist someone in trouble.

If you see someone in trouble:

- ≈ Signal to the person in trouble that you have seen them. This will help to keep them calm.
- ≈ Call out to alert others nearby (on the beach or in the water, surfers are a wonderful resource in a drowning situation).
- ≈ Immediately call or direct someone to call 000 (a drowning person may need advanced life support), stay on the line, don't hang up.
- ≈ Keep your eyes on the person in the water and mark the spot if they disappear.



HOW TO SAFELY ASSIST SOMEONE IN TROUBLE IN THE WATER (CONTINUED)

Tip: Before you enter the water discuss what you and your group will do if there is an emergency.

Can you accurately describe where you are to emergency services?

- 🌊 Where are you on the beach (north, south, middle)?
- 🌊 Is there a landmark or natural feature nearby?
- 🌊 Do you know your GPS or What 3 Words coordinates (you can find these on access pathway signage or on the Emergency Plus APP).

Activity: Scenario: If you see someone running into the water in a panic, they may be going to help a loved one in trouble. **Ask:** What could you do to support them? **Answer:** Give them flotation, let them know you will call 000, keep tracking them, alert others on the beach. Knowing someone else is helping will assist the person to remain calm.

Tip: Take a form of flotation with you every time you go to the beach and throw it to someone you see in trouble (boogie board, noodle, beach ball etc).

FLOTATION SAVES LIVES

NOTE:

If you think someone is in trouble do not hesitate to call 000. It **DOESN'T** matter if the person manages to return to shore safely as emergency services can stand down. It **DOES** matter if emergency services are delayed.





ENDING YOUR PRESENTATION

Tip: At the end of the talk, you can mentally check the education goals off to make sure there was nothing important you missed that is relevant to your discussion.

Using the acronym FRIENDS have you covered:

- F** ~ Flags
- R** ~ Rip current formation
- I** ~ Identify a rip current
- E** ~ Example of a rip current
- N** ~ Negotiating a rip current
- D** ~ Do they know how to assist someone safely?
- S** ~ Survey

Ask if there are any further questions?

Tip: You can always ask a lifesaver or lifeguard questions.

Further learning: Scan the Beach Passport QR Code (located on the back of the A-Frame).

Encourage them to share information learnt with family and friends.

Thank them for participating.

Ask: Are they willing to provide feedback?

Activity: Give them the survey postcard to complete at a convenient time.

Note: Encourage completion of the survey after their beach visit.

DISCLAIMER:

This program is designed to be a free community service. If you are offered money as a thank you, politely decline and refer the person to your club or the Surf Life Saving Foundation.



Application for SLS Involvement in a Special Event

This form must be completed, where SLS Members are Involved In any activity and identified as Surf Lifesavers, outside such NORMAL Club/SLS carnival activity. These events outside normal Club/SLS activity would include but not be limited to:

Endurance events, triathlons, marathons, displays, picnics (fun days), provision of first aid, club activity days, overnight camps and all other events that include a water safety component.

This application form is for ALL special events, both conducted by an SLS entity and events where the SLS entity provides a service to an external organization.

- Please print clearly.
- Please attach additional information if space is not sufficient.
- Save the application as a new file once complete
- Send the form to your branch for approval, who will then send it onto SLSNSW.

1. Event Details

Name of Event:	Community Education Program - Ask me how to stay safe at the beach.		
Date:	Various Dates	Start Time:	Various
If over multiple days attach details for each day		Finish Time:	Various
Provide a detailed description of the event:	<p>This program is a community beach safety outreach. Qualified lifesavers will man a pop-up style beach safety education cabana and engage with interested members of the public to help them understand beach hazards and develop safety strategies. Each talk takes around 10 minutes. At the end of the talk participating people will be asked if they would like to provide feedback on the talk. If so, they will be given a post card with a QR link to a survey. They may also choose to scan the Beach Passport QR code for optional further learning.</p>		
Location: (include details if multi-location event)	<p>The program will run at Ocean Beach, at unpatrolled areas (for example but not limited to Pearl Beach and Ettalong), and can also be set up at parks, events, shopping centres, schools and other locations on request.</p>		
Are public roads to be used:	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN		
Has the event been held before?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN		
Number of Persons Attending		Number of people participating or being serviced	Unknown
Order and Distance of Legs (if applicable)			
			KM
			KM
			KM
			KM
			KM
			KM
			KM
TOTAL EVENT DISTANCE			KM
Which legs are SLSC Involved in (if applicable)			

2. Details of Event Manager/Organisation

Is this a SLS OPERATED SPECIAL EVENT: YES NO

If a SLS Operated Event, are any SLS Members receiving any remuneration or reward for their involvement:
 YES NO

Is there a jumping castle planned as part of the event (this information is required for insurance purposes):
 YES NO

If the special event is being organized by a third party, (for example a triathlon being run by ABC Pty Ltd) enter their details below.

Event Manager or Organisation:	
Address:	
Name of Contact:	
Address:	
Office Number:	
Mobile Number:	
Email Address:	

3. SLS Level of Involvement

Provide a detailed description of the level of SLSC involvement in the event. (For example, if SLSC members are providing first aid, or water safety or advisory services)	<p>SLS involvement will be in an beach safety education advisory capacity.</p> <p>The education components include:</p> <p>The safest place to swim is between the red and yellow flags</p> <p>What cause a rip and how to identify one.</p> <p>What to do if you need help in the water</p> <p>How to safely assist someone in trouble in the water.</p>
--	---

4. Insurance

NOTE: For events not run by SLS, where SLS services are provided, the event organisation's Public Liability Insurance is applicable. SLS entities should ensure the event organizer has supplied a copy of the PLI Certificate of Currency to the SLS entity. **ALL** special event applications are sent to our insurance provider once the event has been approved by SLSNSW, who may approve or decline PLI cover for the activity at their discretion.

This approval also extends to personal Accident Coverage which only applies to SLS members (ie members of the public participation in SSL events are not coverage for Personal Accident Cover). Additional insurance levies and conditions may apply. Special events **CANNOT** proceed without this insurance approval.

5. SLS Club Details

Name of Club	Ocean Beach SLSC
Club Contact Person	Louise Lambeth
Address:	Cnr The Esplanade and Trafalgar Roads, Umina Beach, NSW 2257
Office Number:	4344 2800
Mobile Number:	0431573191 - Louise
Email Address:	office@oceanbeachslsc.com
Other Clubs Involved:	N/A
Water Safety (Person responsible at the event)	
Contact Person	N/A
Office Number:	
Mobile Number:	
Email Address:	
Medical/First Aid (Person responsible at the event)	
Contact Person	N/A
Office Number:	
Mobile Number:	
Email Address:	



6. Number and Age Restrictions of Competitors/Attendees

Approximate Numbers		
Competitors/Attendees	<i>SLSNSW Members ONLY</i>	1 or more SLS Members
	<i>Public</i>	Unknown
	<i>Total (max) entries allowed</i>	N/A
Age restrictions	<i>Minimum (years)</i>	N/A
	<i>Maximum (years)</i>	N/A
Total number of SLSNSW official/members involved in supporting the event		

7. Safety Equipment

Lifesaving Equipment Involved (Please indicate number)			
Helicopter Rescue Service		Jet/RIB/Offshore Rescue Boat	
First Aid Kits	1	Rescue Boards	
Surf Skis		Vehicles	
Radios	1*	IRB's	
Oxy-Viva Units		ATV's	
Defibrillators		RWC's	
Spinal Boards		Other rescue equipment (specify)	1
Other Rescue Equipment:	Rescue Tube for demonstration purposes * Radio only required if attending a coastal unpatrolled area		

8. Number of Stations

Total Number of:	
Stations manned by first aid personnel	N/A
Drink Stations	N/A
Other (please specify):	

9. Child Safe Information

Total Number of:	
Are children or young people under 18yrs participating or Involved in the event?	Potentially
If Yes, please complete a SLSNSW Child Safe Activity Planning Guide (CSAPG) prior to this event. https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/members/resources/slsnsw-child-safe-activity-planning-guide/	

10. Other Non-SLSNSW Persons or Groups Involved

Details of Group		<input type="checkbox"/> Primary School	<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary School
		<input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Group/Other (please specify)
Details of Other			
Number group participants:		Unknown	
Special Requirements:		Nil	
Details of Other Groups Involved:			
First Aid:	N/A	No. of Persons:	
Safety Marshals:	N/A	No. of Persons:	
Radio Communications	N/A	No. of Persons:	
Other (please specify)		No. of Persons:	
Are these persons covered by voluntary personal accident insurance?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	



11. Notification/Permits/Permission

Have you or the event organisers obtained permits or permissions from the relevant bodies; or notified them of the event? (Include details where possible)	
NSW Police Force	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE
Details:	
If No, when?	
Local Government/Council:	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE
Details:	
If No, when?	
Roads and Maritime Services	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE
Details:	
If No, when?	
NSW Ambulance Service	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE
Details:	
If No, when?	
NSW Fire and Rescue	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE
Details:	
If No, when?	
Local Hospital (A&E or Casualty Departments)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE
Details:	
If No, when?	
Other: (Please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE
Details:	
If No, when?	



Consequence by Risk	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Strategic	No stakeholder or lack of public interest, Minor, non-deliberate breach of procedure, contract or regulatory obligations, Little to no cost implications for SLS, No or minimal impact on the environment, No reporting required.	Public and stakeholders uninterested or undecided but accepting of information/decisions, Moderate, non-deliberate, breach of procedure, contract or regulatory obligations, Minimal site impact easily containable, Environmental impact report is required, Regulator imposing a low statutory penalty, Low cost implications for SLS.	Concerns expressed by stakeholders and/or public at regional level and loss of trust and confidence in operations of a particular issue (non-life threatening), Action results from commercial loss (regulator imposing a moderate statutory penalty, moderate cost implications able to be absorbed by SLS, breach of Contract, regulatory or common law obligations that also includes a deliberate breach of procedure, contract or regulatory obligation, moderate cost implications able to be absorbed by the organisation), Moderate, temporary damage to habitat or environment, May incur cautionary notice or infringement notice.	Concerns expressed by stakeholders and/or public at national level by public and loss of trust and confidence in operations on a particular issue, Actions resulting from an impact on the public (the public bringing legal action) not a class action, regulator imposing maximum statutory penalty, major cost implications that the organisation will need to seek additional funding to meet, major breach of Contract, regulatory or common law obligations that impacts on a individual / discrete organisation of the community, Long term or permanent damage to habitat or environment, Penalties or compliance order incurred, Prosecution for minor infringement.	Sustained and widespread concerns expressed by public or stakeholders and/or including all levels of Government leading to a loss of trust and confidence impacting whole of operations, Actions resulting from an impact on the public (the public bringing class action, major cost implications unable to be met by SLS, major breach of contract, regulatory or common law obligations that impacts on a region of the community), Substantial permanent damage to habitat or environment, Serious or repeated breach of legislation or licence conditions, Cancellation of licence, Prosecution for serious infringement
Operations	Injury requiring first aid, Minor skills impact, Minor damage or vandalism to asset, Minimal impact on noncore business operations. The Impact can be dealt with by routine operations, corrective action and training.	Injury or illness requiring medical treatment or becomes a Lost Time Injury, Minor impact to capability, Minor damage or loss <2.5% of total assets, Some impact on business areas in terms of delays, systems quality but able to be dealt with at operational level, process modification and skills development	Injury requiring hospitalisation or an incident requiring specialist medical treatment, Unavailability of core skills affecting services, Damage or loss of <12.5% of total assets, Impact on SLS resulting in reduced performance such that targets are not met. SLS's existence is not threatened, but could be subject to significant review/change to operations.	Single fatality (outside flags), multiple serious injuries, Unavailability of critical skills or personnel, Extensive damage or loss <30% of total assets, Breakdown of key activities leading to reduction on performance, Survival of the project/activity or SLS is threatened.	Single fatality (inside flags), multiple fatalities Protracted unavailability of critical skills/people, Destruction or complete loss of <50% of asset, Critical failures preventing core activities from being performed, The impact threatens the survival of the project or SLS.
Financial (Gain or Loss)	Minor Impact on project budget	1% of project budget	1%-5% of project budget	5%-10% of project budget	Exceeds 10% of project budget
Information	Compromise of information otherwise available in the public domain	Minor compromise of information sensitive to internal departments or specific club	Compromise of information sensitive to SLS's operations	Compromise of information sensitive to SLS's interests	Compromise of information significant ongoing impact

Likelihood	Qualitative	Quantitative	Ratio
Almost certain	Is expected to occur in most circumstances	Has occurred on an annual basis in SLS in the past or the circumstances are in train that will cause it to happen	More than 1 per year
Likely	Will probably occur in most circumstances	Has occurred in the last few years in SLS or has occurred recently in other similar organisations or circumstances have occurred that will cause it to happen in the next few years	Once per year
Possible	Might occur at some time	Has occurred at least once in the history of SLS or is considered to have a 5% chance of occurring in the next few years	1 in 10 years
Unlikely	Could occur at some time	Has never occurred in SLS but has occurred infrequently in other similar organisations or is considered to have a 1% chance of occurring in the next few years	1 in 50 years
Rare	May occur only in exceptional circumstances	Is possible but has not occurred to date in any similar organisation and is considered to have very much less than a 1% chance of occurring in the short term	1 in 100 years




Likelihood	Consequences				
	Minor	Major	Critical	Major	Critical
Very High	Medium 40	High 76	Critical 72	Critical 84	Critical 100
High	Low 24	Medium 44	High 76	Critical 80	Critical 96
Medium	Low 16	Low 28	Medium 52	High 76	Critical 92
Low	Low 8	Low 16	Low 24	Medium 64	High 80
Very Low	Low 4	Low 8	Low 12	Low 16	Medium 68

Risk Level	Risk Acceptance/Tolerability	Strategic Action Plan/Risk Mitigation Strategy
Low (1-8)	Acceptable with periodic review	Manage by routine procedure
Medium (40-68)	Tolerable with periodic review	Exposure to risk may continue provided it has been appropriately assessed, has been mitigated to "So Far As Reasonably Practicable", and is subject to periodic review to ensure that risk does not increase. It would be appropriate that measures to achieve long term further reduction to the risk be considered.
High (72-96)	Tolerable with continual review	Unnecessary exposure to the risk must be discontinued as soon as it is reasonably practicable and continued exposure would only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Risk controls must be applied as part of a documented risk management plan that is continuously reviewed.
Very High (100)	Intolerable without treatment	Exposure to risk should be discontinued as soon as reasonably practicable. Risk controls must be applied as part of a documented risk management plan that is continuously monitored and reviewed.
Critical (22-100)	Intolerable	Exposure to this risk would normally be immediately discontinued except in extreme circumstances. The decision to tolerate risk must be made by the Senior Management Group, the CEO and the Board after being subjected to as much risk management rigour as practical, unless ultra operational needs preclude so.


13. Special Conditions or Comments

Detail any Additional Information or Comments


14. Club Endorsement

Name:	PAUL BEST
Position:	DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
Club:	OCEAN BEACH SLSC
Date:	12/08/2025
Club Obligations:	The club confirms that involvement in this special event will not adversely impact on any patrol or contractual obligations that exist for the club <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Signature:	

15. Branch Notification

Name:	Julie-Ann Fillingham
Position:	Support officer
Branch:	SLSCC
Date:	13/8/25
Signature:	

16. Special Event Permit Reference Number (Admin & Compliance Use Only)

Name:	Jenni Darwin				
Position:	Club Services Manager				
Department:	SLNSW				
Date:	25.08.2025				
Signature:					
Averaging out the risk rating using the completed risk assessment, detail the overall average risk rating					
Special Event Application					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	APPLICATION APPROVED	<input type="checkbox"/>	APPLICATION DENIED	<input type="checkbox"/>	PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION
Special Event Application Approval Number	SE0625	Date Approval Sent:	25.08.2025		



Name of the Event:

OBSLSC Community Education Booking Form

Please complete this form and we will get back to you soon.

Organisation or Group Name:

Contact Name:

First Name Last Name

Email

example@example.com

Phone Number

Country Code Area Code Phone Number

Date of requested event:

Day Month Year

Time's requested:

Please provide details of the event:

How many people do you think will attend the session?

What kind of education are you interested in?

Beach Safety

CPR and Defibrillator overview



Beach Safety Lesson Feedback

Thank you for taking part in our beach safety education session. Please take a few minutes to help us understand the value of our beach safety lesson. If a question is not applicable or you do not wish to answer, please leave blank.

Where did your beach safety lesson take place?

How far did you travel to this beach?

- I live locally (less than 20km)
- 20-50km
- 50-100km
- 100+km
- Interstate visitor
- Overseas visitor
- Other

Where on the beach are you spending your time?

- Between the red and yellow safety flags
- On a patrolled beach but outside the flagged area
- The beach is not patrolled
- Other

What do you typically do when visiting this beach?

- Sunbaking, sand play, relaxing (not enter water)
- Swimming, paddling, wading (enter water)
- Surfing or boogie-boarding
- Snorkeling/Diving
- Wind surfing or paddleboarding
- Fishing
- Walking or hiking
- Beach games (cricket, ball play)
- Picnic
- Other

Do you think swimming between the red and yellow flags is the safest place?

Yes

No

How knowledgeable are you about local beach conditions?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1=no knowledge

10=extremely knowledgeable

If your safety lesson is at a beach, what level of risk do you feel there is?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1=not risky

10=life threatening

Did you find the safety lesson enjoyable?

Yes

No

Other

How likely are you to change your behaviour as a result of the lesson or this engagement?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1=very unlikely

10=very likely

How likely are you to tell others about your experience today?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1=very unlikely

10=very likely

Can you describe how a rip is formed?

What signs would help you to identify a rip?

What would you do if you were caught in a rip?

How can you safely help someone else caught in a rip?

Are you aware of the increase in drowning deaths over the past year?

Yes

No

Have you ever experienced a risky situation on a beach?

Yes

No

What is your age range?

18-25

35-44

55-64

75+

26-34

45-54

65-74

To which gender do you most identify?

Female

Non-binary

Male

Prefer not to answer

What cultural background or ethnicity do you identify with? Leave blank if you prefer not to answer.

Other

Do you have any further feedback? If so, please comment below:



Lifesaver Community Engagement Feedback Form

Please complete this form to help improve our program.

Name

First Name

Last Name

Date you manned the Engagement Tent:

Day Month Year

How long did you spend engaging with the public?

How many people did you engage with?

Where was the Engagement Tent located?

Community Event

Ocean Beach SLSC during patrol hours

Ocean Beach SLSC outside patrol hours

A non-patrolled coastal location (Please specify location below)

Did you enjoy the experience of providing community education?

Yes

No

Somewhat

Was your time recorded in surfguard?

Yes

No

Did you feel confident to engage with the public?

Yes

No (please share why below)

Were there any issues on the day?

What were your visitors interested in talking about?

Do you have anymore feedback?

Where in the World?

Communicating with diverse communities



Use this world map/flag diagram to help identify where people are from.

Multicultural Communities



SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES

Beach and Ocean Safety Fact Sheets

Languages available:

Arabic

Burmese

Chinese-Simplified

Chinese-Traditional

Dari

English

French

German

Greek

Hindi

Indonesian

Japanese

Korean

Kurdish-Kurmanji

Nepali

Persian

Punjabi

Spanish

Swahili

Tagalog

Turkish

Ukrainian

Urdu

Vietnamese

End of Report



Proudly supported by the Lions Club of
Wyoming East Gosford Centennial