

SLSQ Policy

Title: High Visibility Clothing Policy	Division: Member Services
Policy No: MS13	Version: 2
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Introduction

Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) is committed to ensuring all aquatic based training and events are conducted to the highest standards; whilst ensuring the participant's safety remains paramount at all times. This policy defines the requirements for all person's participating in ocean or open water-based surf lifesaving events and training held in Queensland, to wear high visibility garments - lycra/long sleeve rash shirt/singlet/stinger suit/buoyancy vest.

Purpose

This policy supplements SLSA Policy and Procedures to clarify the requirements relating to the wearing of high visibility clothing during patrol, water based events (competition) and water based training in Queensland.

Application

This policy applies to anyone who participates in surf lifesaving ocean or open water-based activities endorsed by SLSQ. This includes members from a club outside of Queensland or members of the public who participate in a Queensland based event. High visibility garments must be worn in all ocean based events, with the exception of beach events, march past, first aid competition, reelmen in Belt races (linesmen are not exempt). High visibility garments will not be required for pool based events.

Definitions

1. Patrol Operations are defined in SLSQs Patrol Operations Manual and Patrol Service Contracts.
2. Surf lifesaving ocean-based events are defined in the surf sports manual.
3. Junior Activities refers to weekly nipper education programs conducted on weekends and or any sport/ educational training mid-week

Legislative Framework

Work Health and Safety Act 2011, QLD; Work Health and Safety Regulation, QLD: Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011, Com

Policy

Table 1 – High Vis Requirements

EVENT TYPE	HIGH VISIBILITY LYCRA CLOTHING	SWIMMING CAP	CAP & LIFEJACKET
Surf Sports (Competition)	Mandatory	N/A	Club Cap
Sanctioned Events	Mandatory	Recommended	N/A
Ocean Swims	Mandatory	Mandatory	N/A
Junior Activities Program and Junior Sport Training (Nippers)	Mandatory	N/A	Club Cap or Hi Vis Cap Mandatory
Member Training (Sport)	Mandatory	N/A	N/A
Member Training (Lifesaving / Award)	Mandatory	N/A	Club Cap or Hi Vis Cap – Mandatory
IRB Patrol	Mandatory (Long sleeve yellow Patrolling rash shirt or Patrol shirt)	N/A	Quartered Red and Yellow Cap – Mandatory Red and Yellow Lifejacket Mandatory
IRB Training (Award)	Mandatory (Long sleeved)	N/A	Club Cap or Hi Vis Cap – Mandatory Lifejacket Mandatory
IRB Training (Sport)	Recommended (Long sleeved)	N/A	Club Cap or Hi Vis Cap – Mandatory Lifejacket Mandatory
Water Safety IRB operations	Mandatory (Long sleeve orange rash shirt)	N/A	Orange Cap – Mandatory Red and Yellow Lifejacket Mandatory
Water Safety - general duties	Mandatory (Long sleeve orange rash shirt)	N/A	Orange Cap – Mandatory

In all forms of IRB patrol operations, training and competition it is compulsory for drivers, crew and patients to wear high visibility (conspicuous colour) SLSA approved level 50 Australian Standard (AS4758) lifejackets or Type 2 (AS1499-1996) lifejackets. High visibility garments shall not be worn over the top of lifejackets. During competition, to assist with judging purposes the driver will be provided with further identification corresponding with the turning buoys.

For board riding events to assist with judging purposes all competitors will be provided at the event with different coloured high visibility garments.

The wearing of high visibility garments during all award training, competition training and all junior activities is mandatory. For these club training activities members are permitted to wear any one (1) of the five (5) approved colours as per SLSA Water Safety Procedure 1.1 (section 2.3) May 2014.

SLSQ will adopt the identical colour that has been identified by the SLSA Water Safety Policy and Procedures. The colour will be strictly enforced, and variations of the identified colour are not permitted.

The colour that is permitted for use in Queensland for Patrolling Operations is:

Fluorescent Yellow (PMS #13-0630 TN 'Safety Yellow')

The colour that is permitted for use in all Queensland Surf Sport competition is:

Fluorescent Pink (PMS #16-2130 TN 'Knockout Pink')

The colour that is permitted for use in all Queensland Water Safety based activities is:

Fluorescent Orange (PMS# 15-1360-TN 'Shocking orange')

*Please note that the PMS (Pantone Matching System) is the international authority on colour and is not a specific manufacturer code.

Note: Exemption maybe granted by the State Sport Committee for use of a different Hi Visibility colour where competitors are competing in a National Series and the National sponsor is supplying the Hi Visibility garment.

The competition & training garments can be purchased from a supplier of the Club's choice, provided the supplier can create an exact match of the colours required above. Long sleeve options are also permitted.

Sponsorship is permitted on a competition & training garment provided it follows the existing SLSA policy (5.8) regarding SLSA Competition Sponsorship (Surf sport and Junior Activities only). For reference, the garments will come under the category of "Lycra Singlet's/Full Costumes". There will be occasions when a sponsored competition garment will be provided for an event which may be

one (1) of the five (5) approved colours; in these situations, the supplied competition garment must be worn. If a competitor chooses to wear a rash shirt or other item of clothing, the high visibility garment must be worn as the top layer of clothing.

Consequences

Patrol Operations - This area's Hi-Visibility clothing is subject to Trademarks and Local Government By-Laws and is thus the remit of the State Lifesaving Committee. All requests and approvals shall be made through this Committee.

Surf Sport Competition - If a competitor is not wearing an approved high visibility garment then they will not be allowed to commence any ocean or open water-based surf lifesaving training or competition / event.

Compliance of the garment at the start of the race (wear & tear, fading etc.) will be at the discretion of the Referee.

Water Safety - If Water Safety personnel are not dressed in the approved Hi-Visibility clothing, then the event shall not start until this requirement is met.

Junior Activities – Junior members not wearing approved clothing will not be allowed to commence water based activities. (Training or competition)

Related Policy Instruments

The following documents can be found on the Members Portal (<https://portal.sls.com.au>):

- SLSA Surf Sports Manual and Bulletins
- SLSA Policy 1.01 Water Safety - June 2014; SLSA Procedure 1.01a Water Safety - June 2014
- SLSA Policy 5.8 Competition Sponsorship.