



**SUNSHINE BEACH
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC**

ACTIVE MEMBERS HANDBOOK

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FORWARD

No one is a born surf lifesaver. Surf lifesaving is a learned skill. It takes a committed individual to undertake the theoretical and practical study needed to gain the basic award of the Bronze Medallion. But the rewards of this investment are truly worthwhile – knowing that you have the expertise to help others and maybe save a life!

Alan Whelpton (AM) Past President, Surf Life Saving Australia

MISSION STATEMENT

“Sunshine Beach Surf Life Saving Club will provide and promote a surf lifesaving service in a fun and safe environment which will enhance the recreation lifestyles of our community and its members”

SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA

Surf bathing became popular around 1902 but as popularity increased the inherent dangers of the surf became more apparent and experienced surfers were frequently called upon to help rescue the unsuspecting public. So began the first lifesaving groups. As a result the NSW Surf Bathing Association was formed on 18th October 1907 and in 1991 it was renamed to become Surf Life Saving Australia. Surf Life Saving Australia has evolved into an organisation known throughout the world for its voluntary humanitarian service.

VIGILANCE AND SERVICE

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Collectively all members who have joined Sunshine Beach Surf Life Saving Club are known as Active members because they have chosen to be actively involved in surf lifesaving activities in some shape or form; whether it is to participate in patrol duties or just to help out at Nippers occasionally as a nipper parent.

Actual membership categories are based on the awards that members gain, their age and their involvement in the club (see next page).

Registration

Membership includes insurance coverage and affiliation with both Surf Life Saving Queensland and Surf Life Saving Australia. Please contact administration to confirm fees for the current season.

The lifesaving membership term runs from August 1 until July 30 each year. Renewals are required as soon as possible from 1st August to ensure your insurance remains secure.

Membership forms are available from the Club website:

www.sunshinebeachslsc.com.au or Club reception.

All applications must be approved by the Management Committee and fees must be paid prior to participation in any club activities including training courses. Be sure to keep admin updated with any changes to your details, including your driver's license and blue card details.

Obligations

All Active members are expected to participate in the Surf Rescue Appeal and other fundraising efforts. If you are a participant of a specific group within the Club, such as Nippers, Seniors competitors or Masters competitors you may also be expected to attend to fundraising duties for that section. All members must abide by SLSQ & SLSA policies and Codes of Conduct and adhere to Sunshine Beach Codes of Conduct and policies. Checkout the Actives noticeboard and the club website for more information regarding policies, Codes of Conduct, etc.

In return for your support and commitment you gain like-minded friends, have the opportunity to learn new skills, use club facilities (see page 15) and are welcome at all club social functions. Active members also get a 10% discount on drinks at the Supporters Club bar and a 20% discount on meals in the Surf Club restaurant.

If you choose to become a lifesaver you can also access the gym, use Club equipment and join in fitness training sessions and surf lifesaving competitions.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Most newcomers commence their membership as an Associate (such as parents of junior members) or a Probationary member who becomes an “active” when they have completed the appropriate training.

If you are, or have previously been, a member of another club you will need to complete a clearance/transfer form so that Sunshine Beach SLSC can have access to your lifesaving records. NB: Active Reserve and Long Service status is not automatically transferred and must be applied for in writing.

Active Senior

- 18 years or older
- Holds a Bronze Medallion
- Encouraged to gain additional awards to support patrol duties
- Is assigned a patrol team and rostered duties
- Must complete an annual proficiency assessment

Active Junior

- 15—17 years old
- Holds a Bronze Medallion
- Encouraged to gain additional awards to support patrol duties
- Is assigned a patrol team and rostered duties
- Must complete an annual proficiency assessment

Active Cadet

- 13 - 15 years old
- Holds a Surf Rescue Certificate
- Is assigned a patrol team and rostered duties and provided with on the job training under the supervision of the Patrol Captain
- Must complete an annual proficiency assessment

Active Reserve

- Holds a Bronze Medallion
- May be granted to a member who has satisfactorily completed eight (8) years of patrol duties and club obligations.
- Must apply in writing for this status and gain approval from Management Committee
- Is expected to complete at least 20 hours of patrols per season
- Must complete an annual proficiency assessment

Long Service

- May be granted to a member who has completed 10 years active service or 8 years active service plus 4 years active reserve service upon application in writing to the Management Committee
- Holds a Bronze Medallion
- Exempt from patrol duties, unless wanting to compete (see Surf Sports)

Award Member

- Must be 18 years or older
- Must hold an SLSQ qualification such as Radio Operator, Apply First Aid or Surf Rescue Certificate
- Is assigned a patrol team and rostered duties
- Must complete an annual proficiency assessment

Observer

- Must be 18 years or older
- Must hold an observers award but registered as an Associate
- Is assigned a patrol team and rostered duties
- Must complete an annual proficiency assessment

Life Member

- Life Membership may be awarded to members who have given 15 years exemplary service to lifesaving including patrol duties and club obligations.
- Only awarded at the AGM with Club Council approval following recommendation by the Executive Committee.
- Holds a Bronze Medallion
- Exempt from patrol duties, unless wanting to compete (see Surf Sports)

Roving

- Not a membership category but may be granted to a member who cannot commit to rostered duties due to work commitments or extenuating circumstances after application in writing to the Management Committee
- Holds a Bronze Medallion
- Is expected to complete a minimum 45 hours of patrols per season
- Must complete an annual proficiency assessment
- Must contact the PC before turning up for a patrol; if you turn up and are not required you may be sent home

Past Active

- Past Active may be awarded to a member who has given service to the club in previous seasons and who wishes to remain a member but cannot continue to participate in patrol duties
- Must apply in writing for this status and gain approval from Management Committee
- Must be 18 years or older
- Holds a bronze medallion but unable to remain proficient

Associate

- Must be 18 years or older
- May hold an SLSQ qualification for Nippers activities such as age manager or water safety (SRC)
- Nippers water Safety officers must complete an annual proficiency assessment
- Does not participate in patrol duties

Junior Activities (Nippers)

- Nippers is for children from 5 years old (@ 1st Oct) to 13 years old
 - Nipper activities are focussed on fun and surf education. U11 - U14 nippers can also compete at carnivals up to State level and U8 - U10 nippers can try out carnivals just for fun.
 - Nippers is held on Sundays 7.45 - 9.30am approx (Sep - Mar)
- See the club website for more info: www.sunshinebeachslsc.com.au

TRAINING COURSES

Bronze Medallion/Certificate II Public safety & Aquatic Rescue

Prerequisites - Must be 15 years of age and must be able to swim 400m freestyle in a pool in under 9 minutes.

The course includes: Surf Awareness Surf skills; CPR; Board rescue; Tube rescue; Radio operations; General fitness; Basic First Aid; Carries and supports, and; Patrol operations.

Training is held twice a week for 3 - 4 hours a session and runs for 6 - 7 weeks.

This is a very practical course and candidates are expected to attend and actively participate in every session. Each session targets a different area of training and missing sessions will cause delays for the whole squad. Consequently, candidates who miss more than two sessions may not be permitted to continue.

Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC)

The surf rescue certificate is the minimum requirement for patrol duties. It is also required for water safety duties for junior activities (Nippers). Prerequisites - Must be 13 years of age and must be able to swim 200m freestyle in a pool in less than 5 minutes.

Training includes: Surf awareness; Surf skills; Emergency care; Resuscitation; Tube & Board rescues, and; Patrol operations.

Training is held twice a week for 3 - 4 hours a session and runs for 6 - 7 weeks. This is a very practical course and candidates are expected to attend and actively participate in every session. Each session targets a different area of training and missing sessions will cause delays for the whole squad. Consequently, candidates who miss more than two sessions may not be permitted to continue.

Radio Operators Certificate (ROC)

Prerequisites – Minimum age is 13 years. Radio Operators become Award members and are considered to be “active” because they do patrols. The ROC is a half day course and does not involve any water skills.

Topics include: SLSA radio systems; Pre / post patrol checks and Radio Maintenance.

Other Awards

There are many other awards available that allow you to patrol the beach in varying capacities such as Beach Management, Apply First Aid, Powercraft Awards and Training Officer & Assessor Certificates.

Please contact the Chief Training Officer if you would like more information about any of these awards or what is required to obtain them.

PATROLS

Hours

Patrols commence on the first weekend of the September school holidays and finish at the end of the May long weekend. Members are assigned to a team with whom they patrol all season. Patrols work in shifts from 7.00am - 12.00pm & 12.00pm - 5.00pm on Saturdays, Sundays and all Public Holidays throughout the season. During the Christmas period patrols work 7.00am - 12.30pm & 12.30pm - 6.00pm.

Patrol obligations

Patrolling the beach is the underpinning priority for members in any Surf Life Saving Club. Patrols have priority over and above all other club activities including surf sports events. Active bronze medallion holders have an obligation to fulfil all their patrolling duties. SRC holders must do at least five full patrols in their first year as an Active Cadet and full patrols in subsequent years. If you cannot attend a rostered patrol you must find a substitute (someone who is willing to swap a shift with you). If you have problems completing your patrol obligations please discuss this with your PC. If necessary the Club Captain can work with you to find a solution; be pro-active, don't rely on someone contacting you because you couldn't fulfil your role, speak up beforehand.

Finding a substitute

There is a sub list pinned to the actives notice board where you can record your details if you are looking for substitute. Use the list to find someone whose shift you could accommodate and give them a call to see if they are willing to swap. They must hold the same awards as you and don't forget to let both Patrol Captains know about the swap. Do not rely on someone calling you to arrange a swap; it is your responsibility to ensure someone covers your patrol shift. You can access patrol member contact details by going to the protected pages of the Club website. You will need a password (call administration) then go to: www.sunshinebeachslsc.com.au and click on the Patrols page under Lifesaving. As you will see this page contains a lot of useful information and is for patrol members only so please keep the password secure.

Uniform

Club swimwear, patrol shorts and patrol shirt must be worn and a patrol cap secured on the head at all times. Club swimwear can be purchased from reception. A red surf lifesaving hat is provided and sunglasses are highly recommended. Generic caps are not part of the uniform. If you prefer a cap you can purchase a red surf lifesaving one from reception for \$15.00. The uniform projects an image of professionalism and one the public looks to for assistance. It must be neat, clean and highly visible.

You are expected to take good care of your uniform and will be charged for a replacement item if you lose something. Uniform items that have suffered wear and tear should be given to administration so a replacement can be issued.

Sunscreen is provided by the club and located in the patrol trailer. You may also like to wear your own personal whistle; used to attract the attention of swimmers, etc.

Your patrol uniform can only be worn while on patrol or at an SLSA approved activity; no exceptions.

Duties

Prevention, Recognition, Rescue, Recovery

Patrol members must turn up ready to patrol at least 15 minutes before the rostered start time to help with set-up or hand-over and you must sign-on in the patrol attendance log before you commence any activities to ensure you are covered by SLSQ insurance.

The Patrol Captain is in charge of all beach operations including overseeing training and Nippers activities and their instructions should be followed promptly. Your PC should brief you on all activities planned for your shift and assign you to a duty in the event of an incident. You are expected to listen to instructions from your PC and fulfil all patrol duties as are reasonably requested of you.

It is important that you become familiar with the Patrol Operations Manual (POM); this is the governing document for all patrol activities. You can view the POM on the SLSQ website: www.lifesaving.com.au click on the Resources button under Member's hub.

Whilst on patrol let your PC know if you need to leave the beach and ask permission if you wish to go for a swim or take a rescue board out, to hone your skills, so your PC knows where to find you and workloads can be redistributed. NB: You cannot do other training e.g. ski paddle, whilst on patrol.

All members should rotate around from the tower to the waters' edge, etc roughly every 30 minutes. Surveillance of the water and beach is mandatory at all times.

Waters' edge: While there is anyone in the water between the flags a patrol member must be on the waters' edge with a tube. If you are at the waters' edge it is recommended that you wear a bum bag. A bum bag contains: pocket mask; sun block; pad and pen; whistle; gloves.

Tower: No reading of newspapers, magazines, etc while in the towers.

Arena: The arena is usually set up between the flagged area and contains first aid, oxygen, defib, water, ice, etc.

ATV: The All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) can only be driven by a licensed driver who has completed an ATV operators accreditation and should only be used for patrol purposes. The speed limit is 5km per hour between the flags and 20km per hour in unpopulated areas. All beach goers have right of way. No more than 2 people are permitted in the ATV except in emergency circumstances and only with extreme care.

IRB: The Inflatable Rubber Boat (IRB) can only be driven by a qualified driver and the crew should also be qualified. Joy riding is not permitted. IRB training on patrol is permitted, but only under the guidance of a qualified trainer and provided your PC approves. Patrol members using the IRB must keep an eye on all swimmers and stay in radio contact.

Set up & Pack up

All patrol gear is transported to and from the beach in either the patrol trailer, towed by the tractor, or in the ATV. Only licensed drivers with a tractor operators accreditation may drive the tractor.

Set up check list:

- Sign-on correctly in the Lifesaving Patrol Attendance Log book
- Check all gear is operational – boards, tubes & fins, flags, water, ice, first aid, oxygen, defib, spinal board, stifneck collars, sunscreen, blackboards, signal flags and radios.
- Sink the flag pyramids all the way into the sand and ensure all arrows are pointing the right way. The black & white checked flags should be about 30m out from the red and yellow flags. Make sure there is a condition flag in an obvious position and fill in the details required on the blackboard to help keep the public safe.
- Put boards, tubes and fins at the waters' edge on either side of the patrol flags.
- The arena should be set back from the waters' edge.
- Advise your PC of any non-functioning equipment and all gear that is operational.
- IRB on the beach – check fuel, radio and fill out the IRB Log book, mark with 6 witches hats and an IRB sign. Removed the IRB trailer from the beach.
- First Aid Room – clean and tidy, oxygen available. Defib operational - know the location of each Defib unit.
- ATV – check fuel and all equipment – radio, rescue board, tube, spinal board, first aid, defib and oxygen in soft pack.
- Check the spare signage EG: beach closed, rips, stingers, etc.
- Test emergency evacuation alarm – make sure the public know it is a test only.

Pack up check list:

- Remove all equipment from the beach. Everything needs to be brushed down or hosed off before it is stored away. Check with a seasoned member if you are not sure where things go.
- Empty rubbish bins.
- Turn off radios, place on charge, hang bags and harnesses to dry, record any damage in the log book.
- Wash down the IRB and leave it ready for an out of hour's emergency – fuelled ready to go. Complete the IRB log book.
- Thoroughly clean the ATV. Re-fuel. Return oxygen and defib to the First Aid room.
- Tidy the First Aid room. Make sure everything is in the correct place and lock the door.
- Check that the member's area of the club house is clean and tidy.
- Sign off correctly in the Lifesaving Patrol Attendance Log.

Log Books

The Patrol Attendance Log, Lifesaving Patrol Log and Incident Report Log are legal documents and must be completed and filled out correctly. All first aid treatments must be recorded in the Lifesaving Patrol Log book, regardless of how minor the treatment is. Treatments that require an ambulance call out must also be recorded in the Incident Report Log.

Public relations

Your patrol uniform stands out on the beach making you highly visible and the public will watch your every move. You may be asked a variety of questions: What are the orange buoys out there? Where is a good place to eat? Are there any sharks here? You will be surprised at what they expect you to know. If you don't know the answers just say so.

One of your key jobs is to help educate people about safety at the beach. If someone is doing something unsafe talk to them politely, explain that what they are doing is not safe and try to educate them in the correct way.

Try not to gather in groups of more than 3 people as a group can be intimidating for a member of the public to approach for assistance. A lot of club fundraising comes from the general public; they will put their hands in their pockets if they see a job well done. Lifesavers have a high profile and must be seen to be doing the right thing. The public like to see lifesavers training, especially rescues and resuscitation scenarios, this kind of training is highly recommended.

Dealing with Media

Any dealings with the media should be directed to your Patrol Captain. Lifesavers are only to make comment if approval is given by both Sunshine Beach SLSC and SLSQ. Media can be persistent; please be considerate and polite – even if they are hassling you for a comment. Avoid saying “no comment” as this will make them more determined. Simply introduce them to your PC who will then direct them to the appropriate person.

Volunteer recognition

As a token of appreciation patrol members may enjoy a drink on the house (don't forget to change out of your uniform first) after patrol; a pot of house beer, a glass of house wine or a soft drink for adults and a soft drink for U18's. Patrol members are also entitled to a 30% discount on meals at the Surf Club restaurant if they dine after patrol. Individual and team achievements are reported regularly in the club newsletter and annual awards are bestowed on outstanding members at the Club Annual Dinner, usually held mid June.

All club members are valued for their contributions to surf life saving; volunteers are the backbone of our club. It is not easy to capture all the wonderful things our members do. If you notice a good deed or act of volunteerism that is over and above the norm please let administration know so that those concerned can be acknowledged for their efforts.

Personal Injury

It is your responsibility to disclose any injuries that you have that may impair or hinder your ability to carry out lifesaving duties. Your workload or duties can be altered until you are fit to resume normal activities. However if you are on workers compensation you will not be able to participate in any lifesaving activities until you can provide a clearance from your doctor. For all enquiries contact the Club Captain.

PROFICIENCIES

The “proficiency” is an annual assessment of competency. If you hold one or more of these awards; BM, SRC, ARC, Defib, ROC, OBS, IRBC, SMIRBD, OFA (CPR component) you will need to attend a proficiency. BM & SRC holders will be required to do a pool swim first and every patrol member and water safety officer must complete a workbook (you can now do this on-line - contact admin for details). You will also have to demonstrate a range of skills related to each award that you hold. An award gained after June 30 does not require a proficiency in the year that it was attained.

Proficiencies dates are set prior to the start of the season and all members must be proficient by 31st December each year. Details are advertised in the Club newsletter and on the Actives noticeboard. Members who do not complete their proficiency by December 31 are not permitted to participate in any further patrol or surf sports activities for the season.

GEAR & EQUIPMENT

Club gear may only be used by members who have the appropriate awards to do so.

Lifesaving Equipment

Rescue boards, body boards & rescue tubes can all be used by patrol members while on patrol under the supervision of your Patrol Captain. Patrol members can also borrow this gear out of hours to hone their skills - see the Gear Steward or Club Captain if you wish to do this.

ATV (All Terrain Vehicle), IRB (Inflatable Rubber Boat) & Tractor

These vehicles can only be used by those who have completed the appropriate accreditation and who hold a current drivers licence. Only qualified IRB drivers with a marine license are permitted to drive the IRB and only qualified crew or members in training under a qualified trainer may participate in IRB activities.

The ATV and IRB are for patrol and emergency use only.

Competition Surfcraft

Please talk to the Board & Ski Officer or Surf Sports Officer if you would like to borrow any competition craft so that you can be allocated a specific item suited to your needs.

Reporting Damages

Please inform your Patrol Captain and/or the Gear Steward if you damage an item or if you notice any damaged gear so that it can be repaired.

PARKING

Parking is available at the front of the club, however active members, including nipper parents are expected to leave their vehicles on the other side of the park whilst participating in Nippers activities or patrol duties. The "prime positions" are reserved for club patrons who bring in much needed funds.

NB: You are not allowed to park at the back of the surf club.

FACILITIES

Sunshine Beach Surf Life saving Club has a number of facilities for the specific use of Active members:

Shower & Changerooms

Changerooms including hot showers and toilets can be found on the ground floor on the southern side of the clubhouse. These are for the use of all Active members but Active members only. Non-members should be directed to the public toilet facilities in the park. Please consider fellow members and keep showers brief and the area clean and tidy. Report any damages to administration. Do not leave valuables in the Changerooms. The Club takes no responsibility for loss or damage of personal items.

NB: Children must be supervised by an adult at all times when in the Actives area.

Kitchen

The southern end of the building also houses a lounge area and kitchen that are available for active members use. Both these rooms are used regularly during the season for training and nipper activities and must be kept clean and tidy.

Gymnasium

The gym is for the use of patrolling members 18 years or older but may be used by Cadets and Active Juniors under adult supervision. The gym can be used from 5.00am to 9.00pm 7 days and is accessed via a pass code. Members must complete a gym use form before they can use any gym equipment. Please see administration for the form and to get the access code to the gym door.

SECURITY

The Actives area of the club can be accessed via the Actives door on the southern end of the building. You will require a pass code to use this door. See administration to get the code. NB: The code is changed regularly. Active members are informed of code changes by SMS. The roller doors are easy to open and close by simply depressing the red button hanging from the top of each door. Please be sure to close the roller doors before you vacate the building. For security purposes no doors are to be left open unattended at any time. Children must be accompanied by an adult when in the Actives area of the Club.

SURF SPORTS

Surf lifesaving is recognised as the most effective surf rescue service in the world and surf sports, the competition arm of the lifesaving movement, helps to keep it that way. Surf sports play a key role in improving lifesaving skills, fitness and motivation.

There are many surf sports events each year in Queensland including club carnivals, regional events, state, national and even international competitions.

Our surf sports program aims to provide opportunities for all patrol members and our Nippers to improve their skills and to actively compete and represent Sunshine Beach SLSC at carnivals.

Training sessions are conducted by both qualified volunteer coaches and paid professionals.

Club members are expected to fundraise to subsidise the cost of paying a professional. Please check with the relevant Section Officer for details of any costs and also for training timetables and remember to check the Club website regularly for training and carnival updates.

All surf sports competitors must fulfil their patrol obligations throughout the season to be eligible to compete at carnivals. SLSC sets a minimum requirement in relation to patrol hours and competition - see the Patrol Operations Manual (POM) for details. At Sunshine Beach SLSC, patrol members who miss 3 rostered patrols without arranging a sub will automatically be suspended from all competition.

The Surf Sports Committee meets monthly and comprises of the Surf Sports Officer, Team Manager, Surf Boat Officer, Open Section Officer, Masters Section Officer, Junior Activities Chairman, Official Liaison Officer and other Officers as determined by the Management Committee.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Youth development focuses on members between the ages of 14-25 years. These members are often referred to collectively as “Cadets” although their membership categories actually include Active Juniors, the younger members of the Active Senior category and Active Cadet members.

Cadets are encouraged to plan and organise events specifically for their own group and to include fundraising activities to help cover the costs of such events. This practise helps to prepare our young members for leadership roles in the club further down the track and also contributes to a strong sense of loyalty and team cohesiveness.

Of course our cadets are also encouraged to be part of the larger organisation and are very often involved in the running of club activities that encompass the entire membership.

Cadet activities have included: Noosa North shore Surfaris, movie nights, abseiling, laser tag, and even a New Zealand ski trip.

There are some big benefits of having a Cadet on your patrol; due to their high levels of fitness and enthusiasm these members are often the most adept when it comes to assisting swimmers in difficulty.

If you are lucky enough to share a patrol with any of our young members we encourage you to support their development as lifesavers by sharing tasks and duties and taking the time to get to know them.

These people are the future leaders of our club.

Due to our commitment to the young members of our club we are proud to have been awarded Surf Lifesaving Queensland's Youth Development Club of the Year for 2005/2006 & 2006/2007 seasons.

NEWS & INFORMATION

Newsletter

The Actives newsletter, the "Sea Eagle", is distributed via email every Wednesday during the patrol season and fortnightly over the off-season. Copies are also available on the Club website.

Please be sure to keep admin up to date with your contact details.

Actives Notice board

This is located outside the administration office on the ground floor of the club adjacent to the first aid room. The noticeboard is a useful source of information regarding patrol rosters, training courses, upcoming events and copies of memos and circulars that are issued by the Club, SLSQ & SLSA.

Surf Sports Notice board

This is located directly opposite the Actives notice board and contains carnival information, nomination forms, ads for the sale of sports gear, etc.

Club Website

The Club website is loaded with information:

www.sunshinebeachslsc.com.au

If you can't find what you need here please contact administration so that we can answer your questions and make a note to add relevant info to the site.

SMS

Text messaging is used to remind patrol members of their patrol Commitments and raffle duties. SMS is also be used for urgent messages such as sudden changes to event details. Be sure to let admin know if your mobile phone number changes.

Administration

Phone: 5447 5491 (option 4)

Email: lifesaving@sunshinebeachslsc.com.au

Administration is open from 8.00am till 4.30pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays. If you want to visit the admin office before the Club opens its doors to the public at 10.00am (11.00am during winter) you will need to gain access via the Actives door on the southern end of the building. This is a coded entry door and the code is changed regularly. Active members are informed of code changes by SMS. Contact admin to get the current code.

Reception

Supporters Club reception is kept up to date with most activities that go on in the Actives Club however please remember that the primary role of reception staff is to greet Supporters Club members and guests and they deal with all manner of enquiries. This is where you go to make payments for club services, to pay your membership fees and to purchase club swimwear.

If you need information about anything to do with lifesaving or nippers contact administration.

SLSQ

Sunshine Beach Surf Life Saving Club falls under the governance of the Sunshine Coast Branch of SLSQ. Both Branch and SLSQ head office have easily accessible websites that are well worth a look:

Branch: www.rescuesunshinecoast.com

SLSQ: www.lifesaving.com.au

The Branch website is great for local carnival information and Branch run courses such as Officials training and Coaching qualifications. SLSQ is the place to go for Surf Life Saving policies, member protection information and the Patrol Operations Manual (POM).

WORKERS COMPENSATION

In the event of incurring time off work and/or medical expenses as a result of sustaining an injury during approved and supervised lifesaving activities such as nippers, patrol or at an SLSA sanctioned surf sports event, Active members can apply for workers compensation.

It is extremely important that all incidents are recorded on an Incident Report form and that the Club Captain is informed.

Please see Club Administration to complete a Workers Compensation form. This will be sent to Sunshine Coast Branch where the Branch administrator will handle your case on behalf of SLSQ, your employer. Members on Workers Compensation are not permitted to participate in any lifesaving activities (nippers, patrols or surf sports) until they can produce a clearance from their Doctor.

GRIEVANCES

From time to time an issue may arise that is more than just the grumblings of a member who is out of sorts. If you feel that a policy has been breached particularly if it relates to member protection you are encouraged to report the issue. Sunshine Beach Surf Life Saving Club has a grievance handling procedure and one of the following pathway should be taken:

For patrol related issues first talk your Patrol Captain, if this is not possible or you are not happy with the response then put your complaint in writing addressed to the Club Captain or seek out the Active on Committee for help.

For non-patrol issues, a letter addressed to the Club Secretary (or Junior Activities Secretary) is the first step. Always put your issue down in writing so that you are not misunderstood and your message cannot become misconstrued. The Secretary will take your issue to the Management Committee to be addressed and you will be notified of any procedures that follow.

In the event that more needs to be done you may be referred to a Grievance Officer who will focus on investigating your claim and may call a judicial hearing. If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the hearing you can ask that an independent Judiciary hear your case, and if necessary appeal at an even higher level. Grievances that reach these levels are typically severe in nature, take time to be resolved and the resolution doesn't always work in everyone's favour.

Fortunately most problems can be sorted out quickly if the right people are alerted straight away.

MEMBER PROTECTION POLICY

Sunshine Beach SLSC is committed to the health, safety and well being of all its members and is dedicated to providing a safe environment for participating in surf lifesaving activities. The Member Safety & Wellbeing Policy aims to ensure our core values, good reputation and positive behaviours and attitudes are maintained. It assists us in ensuring that every person involved in surf lifesaving is treated with respect and dignity, in a safe and supportive environment. This policy also ensures that everyone involved in surf lifesaving is aware of his or her legal and ethical rights and responsibilities.

Further information can be found in the Patrol Operations Manual.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN SCREENING (BLUECARD)

In order to protect our members 18 years and under from all forms of abuse, injury, exploitation and violence, SLSA has adopted the policy of the National Council related to the screening of all people who work with children.

Bluecard registration last for 3 years, or for Teachers and Police Officers, for the term of their employment. Please be sure to keep your bluecard up to date and have it with you whenever you participate in lifesaving activities. Renewals can take up to six weeks and if your card expires you will be placed on restricted activities until you have a new one. Bluecard forms are available from reception. Please return your application to the club for processing. If you hold a bluecard that was not issued through Surf Lifesaving please complete an authorization form (available from Reception) which will allow the Club to have access to your details. All Active Club members must obtain this card.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others;
- Be fair, equitable, considerate and honest in all dealings with others;
- Be aware of and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, SLSA standards, rules, regulations and policies;
- Be professional in and accept responsibility for actions;
- Make a commitment to providing quality service;
- Use equipment and facilities for their proper purposes and care for and maintain such facilities and equipment correctly;
- Refrain from anything which may abuse, intimidate or harass others;
- Preserve and protect the standing and reputation of the Association;
- Understand the consequences of any breach of SLSA's Member Protection Policy or Codes of Conduct.

CLUB HISTORY

As early as 1949 an attempt was made by a few members of Noosa Heads Surf Club to start patrols at Sunshine Beach (then known as Golden Beach) however it took until 1970 before a committee was formed to look into the situation and it wasn't until May 1981 that those people, at the persuasions of local identity Marjorie Tripp, agreed to give priority to establishing a beach patrol and then erecting a tin shed to house lifesaving equipment.

Patrols started on Sunshine Beach on the first weekend of October 1981 with 3 members in Patrol no.1, the very first patrol. There were 25 qualified and proficient members and more in bronze squads on the way to bring the number up to 50 members for that first summer season.

Construction of the clubhouse commenced in April 1983 and the official opening was held on March 3rd 1984. Functions at the clubhouse were so popular that extensions were approved after only 18 months.

In 1991 the Sunshine Beach Surf Life Saving Supporters Club Inc was formed and application made for a club license.

Growing memberships forced the club to become computerised in 1992 and Junior Activities (Nippers) began in the 1993/94 season, with 47 enthusiastic members.

Over the years the club has undergone a number of changes and renovations, including a million dollar face lift in 1998; each changed adding to the appeal of what we know and love as the Surf Club today.

From these humble beginnings to date we are proud to state that "no lives have been lost between the flags at Sunshine Beach".



Then & Now...

CLUB DETAILS



Club Logo



Club Cap

SUNSHINE BEACH SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC
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Noosa Heads QLD 4567
Phone: 07 5447 5491
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