

BY-LAW NO. 17

SUBJECT: EQUIPMENT USE AND MAINTENANCE

COMMENCED: DRAFT - DECEMBER 2019

LAST UPDATE: ENDORSED AT GENERAL MEETING 28 DECEMBER, 2019 WITH AMENDMENTS TO 6(b), (d), (e) & (f)

DEFINITIONS: This By-Law refers to equipment such as craft, surf boat, IRB craft, patrol vehicle, 4 WD vehicle, trailer and tractor

1. Craft

- (a) Craft owned by the Club or its Members shall be stored under the direction of the Board of Surf Sports;
- (b) Members shall not use other Member's Craft without prior approval of the owner;
- (c) Members shall not use Club gear without prior approval of the Board of Surf Sports, Board or Ski Captains, Patrol Gear Steward, Director of Surf Life Saving or the Chief Training Officer;
- (d) The Ski and Boards shall never be launched or brought in near the marked surf bathing area or buffer area, nor where bathers are likely to be encountered.

2. Surf Boat

- (a) The Surf Boat shall not be used for any purpose other than Surf Life Saving and for instruction in rowing, except with the permission of the Board of Surf Sports;
- (b) Members shall not use the Surf Boat unless it is in charge of a suitably qualified person. Such Member shall be responsible to the Board of Surf Sports for the conduct of the crew and the manner in which the Boat is used while it is under their control;
- (c) The Surf Boat and gear shall be housed in a storage area provided for that purpose and securely locked up, or a designated place approved by the Board of Surf Sports. A Member last in charge of the Surf Boat on each occasion shall be responsible for its return to the storage area and shall report to the Board of Surf Sports in writing any damage or loss of gear that may have occurred;
- (d) No more than a boat crew of five (5) or less than that number shall be taken in a Boat unless under special circumstances;
- (e) The Surf Boat shall never be launched or brought in near the marked surf bathing area or buffer area, nor where bathers are likely to be encountered.

3. Surf Rescue Vehicles (including ATV/SSV and 'back-up' 4WD Ute)

- (a) Surf Rescue Vehicles shall be driven by qualified personnel, approved by the Director of Surf Life Saving and/or the Patrol Captain;
- (b) General safety and maintenance checks (in accordance with manufacturers guidelines) should be carried out on a regular basis, especially before the commencement of Patrols. This includes checking lights, tyre pressure, brakes, steering, fuel and oil levels and that all rescue equipment is fastened safely;

- (c) Operators must be at least 17 years of age and shall:
- (i) hold a Driver's License - Provisional or Open (for provisional license holders 'P' plates must be displayed as per Queensland Transport Regulations);
 - (ii) be a financial member of the Club;
 - (iii) be a proficient SLSA Award holder;
 - (iv) have completed an SLSA vehicle induction.
- (d) Where the vehicle is being used to conduct roving or surveillance Patrols, it is mandatory to have a minimum of one (1) Bronze Medallion Holder and at least one (1) of the following on board: Senior First Aid Certificate or Advanced Resuscitation Certificate;
- (e) SLSA prohibits the carrying of passengers except where a vehicle is suitable for that purpose e.g., two designated seats;
- (f) Patrol members shall have a good knowledge of the basic lifesaving equipment that the vehicle carries and where the equipment is stored;
- (g) Sunshine Coast Council Ordinances on beach operations shall always be observed, particularly with regard to speed limit and the coastal dune areas;
- (h) A vehicle shall not exceed 20km/hr, and in particular, the speed limit in heavily populated areas and between the red and yellow flags is 5km/hr;
- (i) Headlights and hazard lights shall be operating at all times whilst the vehicle is operating;
- (j) An amber flashing light shall be fitted to the vehicle and "on" whilst the vehicle is operating. An audible reversing beeper must be fitted to the vehicle;
- (k) The following rescue/safety equipment shall be carried on the vehicle:
- Oxygen Equipment
 - First Aid Equipment
 - Rescue Board
 - Rescue Tube
 - Two (2) operational radios in waterproof pouches at all times
 - Flippers
 - Defibrillator
 - Blanket
 - Loud Hailer
- (l) Any modifications including roll bars, carry racks and storage containers must adhere to manufacturers guidelines and carried out in consultation with the manufacturer or dealer;
- (m) All vehicles and trailers are to be removed from the beach immediately after Surf Club tasks are done, e.g., towing boat to water for training, setting up patrol on beach etc;
- (n) The Club shall gain council/police permits for all club vehicles being used on the beach. Council permits are to be clearly displayed on the vehicles.

4. Power Boat Rescue Craft (IRB)

- (a) The IRB Captain shall:
 - (i) be responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep of all powered surf rescue craft and equipment;
 - (ii) at all times ensure that the craft is ready for Patrols and adequate fuel is on hand;
 - (iii) in consultation with the Director of Surf Life Saving, be in charge of all powered surf rescue craft operations;
 - (iv) have a craft in attendance at the buoys on all occasions that surf events or tests are being held.

- (b) All IRB operations must have one (1) qualified and proficient driver and one (1) qualified and proficient crewperson at all times during patrol operations;

- (c) IRB operators on IRB patrols must wear a yellow patrol wet shirt/patrol shirt and red and yellow cap tied up under their chin and red and yellow type 50 Lifejacket (AS4758)
- (d) IRB Patrols must carry two (2) operational radios (frequencies SLSQ 2 and SLSQ13) in waterproof pouches at all times;

- (e) The IRB is to be on the water's edge during the specified patrol hours and fully operational at all times with a qualified driver and crew in close proximity;

- (f) IRB Drivers must avoid unnecessary operations in close proximity to swimmers/surfers and/or crowded areas. Drivers must maintain a speed no greater than 6 knots, if within 30 metres of swimmers unless it is an emergency;

- (g) The Patrol IRB shall remain on the beach until the completion of the day's patrol and is the last item to be taken off the beach;

- (h) A fully equipped and operational back-up IRB and motor shall be readily available in the clubhouse;

- (i) IRB surveillance patrols shall be conducted regularly during patrol times;

- (j) The designated patrol IRB shall be utilised for patrol purposes only. Additional IRBs shall to be set up for different lifesaving activities;

- (j) No Junior Activities, SRC's or Bronze medallion holders only are permitted in an operating IRB;

- (k) The following regulations shall be adhered to during the operation of IRBs for Training:
 - (i) All new award IRB courses must follow the SLSQ Training and Assessing policies;
 - (ii) For IRB award training for an IRB crewperson course (1) experienced, qualified and proficient driver must operate the IRB at all times;
 - (iii) For IRB award training for an IRB Driver course (1) qualified and proficient IRB driver is to act as the crew person for the trainee IRB driver;
 - (iv) All IRB operators operating an IRB for IRB award training must wear a training cap/club cap tied up under their chin, type 50 Lifejacket (AS4758) and it is recommended that operators wear a long sleeve high visibility garment in any of the SLSA approved colours;

- (l) During IRB training for new awards, proficiencies or patrol, only members who hold an IRB crewperson award or a trainee on the course can be utilise as an IRB patient;

- (m) No junior activities, SRC's or Bronze medallion holders are to be utilise as IRB patients for training under any circumstances;
- (n) Only members who hold the IRB crew award or a listed as a candidate for the IRB crew persons' course can be utilised as a patient;
- (o) All IRB patients for new award training, skills maintenance, patrol, competition and competition training must wear a type 50 Lifejacket (AS4758) with an SLSA approved helmets in club caps colours or high visibility colours;
- (p) The IRB trainer must be on the beach and present at all IRB training session;
- (q) That no IRB award training can be conducted for a member while a member is signed onto patrol under any circumstances. Members who wish to take part in IRB training for an IRB award must not be logged onto patrol;
- (r) Surfcom/LIMSOC shall be advised with the training activity signed on with an additional IRB/s is set up in the allocated training area. An IRB trainer must be present at all times on the beach at the time of training.
- (s) The following points shall be adhered to during the operation of all IRB's for Competition and Competition Training:
 - (i) All IRB operators operating an IRB for IRB competition and competition training must wear a club cap tied up under their chin, type 50 Lifejacket (AS4758)/Type 2 Lifejacket and it is recommended that operators wear a long sleeve high visibility garment;
 - (ii) Lifejackets for IRB competition and IRB competition training must also meet the type 50 specifications but may be in alternative colours;
 - (iii) For IRB competition training coaches are to sign on and off with SurfCom/ Lifesaving Services Coordinator/ Lifeguard Supervisor;
 - (iv) The IRB Launching area sign must be displayed and witches hats or similar must be used to designate the area (training only);
 - (v) All IRB patients for competition and competition training must wear a type 50 Lifejacket (AS4758)/ Type 2 Lifejacket with an SLSA approved helmets in club caps colours.

5. Tractor

- (a) Tractors enable suitably qualified surf lifesavers and members to move essential lifesaving equipment to and from storage areas across difficult and sandy terrain for use both inside and outside of the patrol area;
- (b) This vehicle should be used solely to move equipment on and off the beach, and this includes Patrols, Surf Sports events and Training;
- (c) Operators shall be at least 17 years of age and shall:
 - (i) hold a driver's licence if the vehicle is under 4.5 tonnes; for vehicles over 4.5 tonnes the operator will need to hold a LR or Light Rigid licence. [For provisional license holders 'P' plates must be displayed as per Queensland Transport Regulations];
 - (ii) be a financial member of an affiliated Surf Life Saving Club;
 - (iii) have completed an SLSQ Tractor Operator Induction;

(iv) be wearing an approved patrol shirt and shorts as required for your surf club except in circumstances where the tractor is being used outside operational patrol hours for the Club where the operator will wear a high visibility vest.

6. Trailers

- (a) It is not permissible to carry a passenger on a trailer attached to any vehicle;
- (b) The environment in which **club** trailers operate is particularly harsh, and therefore special attention to their maintenance is required. Salt water in particular is very damaging to virtually every part of a boat trailer so it's important to wash the trailer with fresh water to remove as much salt as possible before it is stored;
- (c) Non-galvanized components should be kept painted to protect against rust and the whole trailer should be inspected regularly to identify rust areas so they can be treated before it becomes a major problem;
- (d) Springs, shackles, and U bolts should be checked during the preseason for damage and security, and such checks should form part of a regular maintenance program, where a maintenance log is kept as required;
- (e) Trailers should also be checked before each use and in the case of surf patrols it is the responsibility of the Patrol Captain or delegate to ensure they are suitable for safe use, e.g., tyres should be inspected for damage and deterioration every time the trailer is used and wheel bearings, rollers and slides must be adjusted properly and be in good condition if damage to equipment is to be avoided;
- (f) Trailers should be used in accordance with government regulations and as such be kept roadworthy at all times.