

## Who may compete?

To be eligible to compete, a member needs to be of the membership categories as per the current SLSA Competition Handbook.

Members wishing to compete in Under 14 events at any time of the year must be a proficient Surf Rescue Certificate holder and complete the required patrol hours.

## Who shall do patrols?

Clubs may require all or any membership categories to do patrols (as per their club constitution); however at the very least the following categories of members must do patrols if they wish to compete:

- Active, Under 19, Active Reserves, Under 17 and Under 15 members who wish to compete in "open" carnivals. (Masters competitors must complete patrols as per their membership category e.g. Active, Active reserve, Long service)

It is SLSA policy that members involved in Support Operations (e.g., helicopter, offshore rescue boat, radio commands, etc.), should have these hours credited to their club (personal) patrol hours. The patrol/operation log books of these services may be called on to verify these hours.

**Members who are lifeguards, helicopter crew or beach inspectors are not exempt from patrol hours.**

## Patrol Hour obligations for State and National Championships

All members who wish to compete at any State or Australian Championship must be financial, proficient and carry out their rostered patrol duties for the club for which they are competing.

As per the SLSA Bulletin number 03/04-05, "Recognition of Patrol Hours for Competition", a member will be credited with and recognised for all beach patrol hours completed, irrespective of where those hours are completed.

The practical aspect of this resolution is that a member may patrol for one club and compete for another. However the constitution (and by laws) of the club that determine the club patrol obligations for that membership category must be satisfied for that club, prior to being entered for competition. For more information please refer to SLSA Bulletin number 03/04-05, "Recognition of Patrol Hours for Competition", available on the SLSA web site – [www.slsa.asn.au](http://www.slsa.asn.au).

The minimum number of personal patrol hours must not be less than twenty-five (25) hours for the preceding calendar year, i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2007, to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007. The minimum requirement for Active Reserve members must not be less than 12 hours for the preceding calendar year, i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2007, to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007.

The minimum requirement for new members, members re-joining a club (was not a member of the association during the previous season), or members returning after a leave of absence must not be less than four (4) hours patrol before competing in a State or Australian Championships. *Refer to minimum patrol hours chart over the page.*

Patrol hours shall only be calculated on the following personal hours completed by the competitor:

- Rostered
- Substitute for other members (these hours will be credited to the member who is actually doing the patrol - *NOT* the member for whom the substitution is being done).
- Voluntary patrols (provided not in default as per Club Constitution)
- Water Safety for Juniors; and
- Volunteer Specialist Services (e.g., helicopter, jet boats, radio commands)

All patrol hour verification will be from SLSA Patrol Log Books.

**Penalty patrol hours shall not be used as personal patrol hours for competition purposes.**

New Members joining after 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2007, and prior to the closing date of entries must fulfil a minimum of four (4) hours patrolling.

Members joining or returning during the period of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007 are required to complete patrol hours in accordance with the following table:

Joining/returning during 2007	Min. patrol hour requirement (Active and Under 15)	Min. patrol hour requirement (Active Reserve)
January 2007	25	12
February 2007	24	12
March 2007	20	12
April – September 2007	16	8
October 2007	12	8
November 2007	8	4
December 2007	4	4

Surf Life Saving New South Wales reserves the right to identify members from some, or all entries, and ask the respective Branch to examine the eligibility of these members.

Where Clubs consider they are disadvantaged by the minimum patrol hour requirements, they may make an application in writing for a reduction of the patrol hour requirement through their respective Branch to Surf Life Saving New South Wales on an annual basis only.

Members with less than the foregoing prescribed patrol hours, without suitable explanation, are ineligible to compete at the New South Wales Surf Life Saving Championship events and will not be entered in the draw of events.

If clubs have in their respective Constitutions, Rules and By-Laws a requirement that members who are in default of a specific number of patrol hours are suspended from club privileges and activities, then that club requirement must be applied to members being entered in the New South Wales Surf Life Saving Championships.

## Late Proficiencies

After 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007, any member (except Junior Activities) who seeks to complete a proficiency check and be eligible to enter in any carnival including Branch,

NSW Country, NSW Interbranch, NSW State and the Australian Championships (including IRB Championships), must apply in writing to the State Director of Lifesaving Services, clearly identifying the reasons why they did not complete the proficiency check by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007. The SLSNSW Director of Lifesaving Services may consider the request and deny approval, or endorse and forward the details to the SLSNSW Director of Surf Sports who will consult with the SLSNSW Director of Lifesaving Services when considering each request.

**Only Surf Life Saving New South Wales may give permission to conduct a late proficiency for competition purposes.**

For Junior Activities, this is endorsed automatically on a yearly basis. Late proficiencies, with SLSNSW permission, may be completed up to the closing date of SLSNSW State Championships entries, after which no late proficiencies will be approved for the purpose of entry into any SLSA competition under any circumstances.

## Who shall be exempt from patrols?

A club may give special consideration for full or partial exemption from patrol obligations to members who fall into any of the following categories:

- Principle Club Office Bearers, e.g., President, Club Captain, Chief Instructor, Secretary, Junior Activities Officer.
- Life Members. (*Automatic full exemption - SLSA Rules and Regulations*).
- Long Service Members. (*Automatic full exemption - SLSA Rules and Regulations*).
- Active Reserve Members. (*Automatic partial exemption - SLSA Rules and Regulations*).
- Members carrying out duties in other areas such as instruction, offshore rescue boat, aerial services, support services and similar areas of active surf life saving.
- Members on special Association assignment, i.e., members of representative teams, instructional teams, etc.
- Members holding office in the Association at Branch, State or National level.

Such exemptions must be constituted by the club, and individuals who meet criteria should be noted in club Minutes, and endorsed by the respective branch. When applying for exemptions, which are not automatic under SLSA Rules and Regulations, copies of all relevant documents, e.g., extracts from Constitutions and/or Minutes of Club General Meeting should be attached.

**All exemptions must be applied for annually and submitted for approval by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007.**