



Circular - Rescue of the Month 2019

Title: Rescue of the Month
Document ID: Circular 37/18-19
Department: Coastal Safety
Audience: Clubs, Lifesaving Services, State & Territory centres, Australian Lifeguard Services
Summary: Lifesaving personnel national recognition program

Lifesavers and Lifeguards provide an essential service to communities throughout Australia. Many exceptional rescues and first aids performed each year are over and above normal duties and showcase excellence in lifesaving training, skills and procedures.

The SLSA board endorsed the implementation of a National Rescue of the Month commencing in December 2013. The program expands similar successful recognition programs currently being run by SLSNSW and SLSQ.

The 'Rescue of the Month' (ROTM) aims to recognise excellence in lifesaving and service delivery, measured against industry best practice and operating procedures. It is not to encourage unnecessary risk, neglect safety considerations or Standard Operating Procedures.

The program is designed to:

1. Increase the recognition and promotion of lifesavers, SLS clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and lifesaving services after an incident; and
2. Increase the number of worthy Meritorious Awards.

State/Territory centres will award a ROTM. These monthly winners will automatically become nominated for the National ROTM. The National ROTM will be awarded to recipients at a quarterly ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra.

Note: The ROTM is a separate recognition program to the SLSA Meritorious Awards. Members, Clubs, lifesaving services and Australian Lifeguard Services may nominate to both programs separately using the relevant nomination form.

Nomination Process

Clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and lifesaving services are to nominate using the ROTM nomination form available on the SLS website or member portal.

Clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and lifesaving services are to send the completed nomination form to their Branch/Region or State/Territory centre.

All nominated rescues/incidents must be performed inside the designated time period i.e. a rescue/incident that occurs in November is only eligible for the November award etc. (see nomination schedule for due dates).



There are five (5) key areas assessed as part of the Judging Criteria:

Criteria	Weight
1. Application of Skills and Resource Utilisation	35%
2. Procedures Followed	25%
3. Environmental Conditions	20%
4. Potential Outcome	15%
5. Media Capture / Communication	5%

These criteria will be used to determine Branch, State/Territory and National Rescue of the Month winners



RESCUE OF THE MONTH NOMINATION SCHEDULE

PERIOD		NOMINATION PERIOD ENDS	BRANCH ROTM	STATE/TERRITORY ROTM		NATIONAL ROTM	
			Nominations Close (To Branch or ALS Manager)	Nominations Close (To State)	State Winner Announced	Nominations Close (To SLSA)	Winner Decided
2018	December	31-Dec	7-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan
2019	January	31-Jan	8-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	22-Feb	28-Feb
	February	28-Feb	8-Mar	15-Mar	22-Mar	22-Mar	29-Mar
	March	31-Mar	5-Apr	12-Apr	19-Apr	19-Apr	26-Apr
	April	30-Apr	6-May	10-May	17-May	17-May	24-May
	May/June	30-Jun	8-Jul	12-Jul	19-Jul	19-Jul	26-Jul
	July/Aug	31-Aug	9-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	20-Sep	27-Sep
	September	30-Sep	7-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct
	October	31-Oct	4-Nov	8-Nov	15-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov
	November	30-Nov	2-Dec	6-Dec	13-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec

Eligibility

- Rescues, First Aids (or other lifesaving actions) conducted during or outside of patrol hours, year round, on or off the beach.
- All nominees are to be current members of SLSA, employees of Australian Lifeguard Service or a lifesaving services.
- All Club nominations are to be received by the Branch/Region/State or Territory on or before the applicable closing date.
- No late correspondence will be entered into. Late nominations **will not be eligible** for the State/National ROTM, but can be recognised by the Branch or State/Territory independently or nominated to the SLSA Meritorious Awards program if appropriate.
- Branches/Regions may make only one (1) nomination to State centre per period, as per schedule.
- States/Territory may make only one (1) nomination to SLSA per period, as per schedule.
- All nominations are to be received on the official 'SLSA Rescue of the Month Nomination Form'. This can be downloaded from the member portal library or obtained by contacting the SLSA or your State/Territory Office.
- States/Territory reserves the right to nominate any outstanding rescue/incident in addition to any Branch/Region nomination, inside the designated time period.
- SLSA and the States/Territory reserve the right to promote details of rescues and the nominated rescuer(s) internally and externally in promotion of SLS services/clubs/members and the ROTM program.
- Nomination for the 'award' serves as agreement to the conditions as stated above.

Judging

- The State/Territory ROTM judging panel/method shall be determined by the State/Territory.
- The SLSA National ROTM judging panel shall be determined by the Board appointed Chair of Lifesaving.
- The selection of a winner is final and there will be no correspondence entered into.

Recognition / Winners

- Clubs/Services shall be the award recipients for winning nominations.
- Branch winner ROTM – State/Territory & Branch branded Citation.
- State/Territory ROTM – State monthly winners shall be recognised via a citation for the Club + any additional methods as determined by the State/Territory. State ROTM winner is not awarded a Branch level citation.
- State/Territory – May choose to award a Rescue of the Year award, however there is no National Rescue of the Year award.
- National ROTM – Citation & medallion plus award ceremony in Canberra. This ceremony will be held quarterly by SLS Parliamentary Friends. SLSA will notify winners of the ceremony details closer to the date.