RESCUE OF THE MONTH.



JULY 2021

Club: Manly LSC

Lifesavers and Lifeguards involved: Tom Bedingfield, Jack Watt

Calling on years of board experience, Manly LSC members Tom Bedingfield and Jack Watt acted quickly and decisively to save two stranded ski paddlers in the ocean between Manly and North Steyne SLSC.

Their efforts, which came at around 11am on July 28, 2021, saw the pair awarded the Surf Life Saving NSW Rescue of the Month.

At the time, Tom and Jack were training at North Steyne in light wind when a sudden change in condition created choppy waters – waters that would incidentally knock two ski paddlers off their skis and, in short time, see them lose touch with their skis.

Quickly being blown south by the conditions, Jack and Tom acted swiftly and swam out to them, putting the pair on their own boards and paddling them in – even finding time to rescue the two stranded skis as well.

Tom and Jack made the decision to assist the paddlers back to Manly LSC where they could access other assets if necessary. They gave them warm showers and stayed with them to ensure there was no secondary incidents like hypothermia, shock or secondary drowning.

Both the ski paddlers were shaken and without doubt one was in serious trouble had it not been for the actions the brave pair, Tom and Jack.

As accomplished patrol members and highly respected individuals in the community, they can be very proud of their actions on the day.

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Joel WisemanDirector of Lifesaving
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George Shales OAM
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