



Bulletin: Surf Sports Manual 37th Edition - October 2021

Title:	Surf Sports Manual 37 th Edition October 2021
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Department:	Sport
Audience:	State/Territory Surf Sport Directors and Managers, Club Secretaries & Presidents, Branches, Officials, Coaches and Competitors
Summary:	This Bulletin details changes to the SLSA 37 th Edition Surf Sports Manual (SSM) following Board approval for U15 aged competitors who turn fifteen during the season, and gain a Bronze Medallion, to participate in selected older age team events. The changes take effect from the date of this Bulletin.

Background

Following member representations that gaining the SLSA Bronze Medallion is the base award that qualifies a person to be a fully trained patrolling member, and after careful consideration and recommendation by the Sport Advisory Committee, the SLSA Board has agreed that U15 aged competitors who turn fifteen during the season, and gain a SLSA Bronze Medallion, may participate in the older age surf sports event divisions, as noted below:

- All U17 Team events with the exception of competing on a surf ski.
- Open and other age IRB events as a patient or handler (provided that the IRB crewpersons award, and requisite training and coach sign offs are obtained).
- U17, U19 and Open age Surf Belt Race events as a Handler (only).

Please note that this approval **does not** extend to participation in any U17 or older age individual events.

A further minor change has been clarifying the number of teams that are permitted in the Champion Patrol Surf Teams event.

These changes are summarised in this Bulletin and come into effect from the date of this Bulletin.

The 37th Edition SSM (January 2021 Revision) can be accessed within the Members Portal Document area of the SLSA Website at:

https://members.sls.com.au/SLSA_Online/modules/login/index.php

There is no printed manual published. However, the SSM may be downloaded and/or printed from the above link.

The "SLSA Publications App" available via the Apple and Android App Stores has been updated to reflect these changes.



Summary of Changes

Changes have been made reflecting the publication for the 37th Edition Manual, including publication dates, ISBN, Table of Contents, and Table of Figures.

In addition, changes have been made to the various Sections of the SSM as detailed in the following subheadings:

Section 1 - Safety

- Section 1.1** It is clarified that a log (including written notes, photographs and/or recordings where applicable) of responses to all rescues, emergencies or major incidents is to be maintained for reference.
- Section 1.3** More specific Safety Assessment references have been made to the SLSA website members portal (refer www.slsa.asn.au) and specific SLSA Apps.
- Appendix A** A specific reference has been added to the Event Safety Guide to the SLSA website members portal (refer www.slsa.asn.au) and to specific SLSA Apps.
- Appendix E** Ocean Contingency Options – Major Competition Event Prioritisation Table – The position of the Lifesaver Relay has been moved from D to B2 reflecting the increased importance of the event to clubs. Added the Beach Run event as it is a simple event to conduct.
- General** Wording in this section has been reviewed and updated to be consistent with current lifesaving terminology and practices.
- General** Minor editorial alterations have also been incorporated that do not alter competition or the rules of events.

Section 2 – General Competitive Conditions

- 2.3.4 (a)** Added wording to allow U15 members who turn 15 during the season and obtain the SLSA Bronze Medallion to participate in U15 and U17 age team events with the exception of competing on a ski. In addition, U15 members who turn 15 during the season and obtain the SLSA Bronze Medallion are eligible to be a handler in all Belt races, and with the relevant IRB, training, and endorsements, are eligible to compete as a patient or handler in IRB competition.
- 2.3.6 Note 5** Added wording to clarify that U15 age competitors with a proficient Rescue Certificate are eligible to participate in U17 to Open age March Past events refer (Section 10).
- 2.3.6 Note 6** Added wording to enable U15 aged members who turn 15 years of age during the season and obtain the Bronze Medallion to be eligible to participate on U17 team events (with the exception of competing on a ski) and as a handler in all Surf Belt events (refer Section 4).
- 2.3.6 Note 7** Added wording to enable U15 age members who turn 15 years of age during the season and obtain the Bronze Medallion and the relevant IRB awards, training and endorsements to be eligible to participate in IRB competition as a patient or handler (refer Section 3).
- 2.3.11 Note 3** Amended wording to detail that, with the exception of March Past (refer Section 10), IRB events as a patient or handler (refer Section 3), or as a Belt Race handler (refer Section 4), U15 age competitors shall not be permitted to compete in Open age individual or team events even if they turn 15 during a season and are eligible or obtain the Bronze Medallion.



- 2.14** Added a note to refer to Section 3 for the number of competitors permitted in the Champion Patrol Surf Teams Race.

Section 3 – Lifesaving Events

- 3.3.2.4 (c)** The minimum age of IRB patients has been reviewed and is now a minimum of fifteen years of age as at the date of competition provided that the competitor holds a proficient SLSA Bronze Medallion, their IRB Crewpersons award, has logged twenty (20) hours specific in-water IRB competition crewing training, and is endorsed by a currently accredited SLSA Coach – IRB Events Elective.
- 3.3.2.4 (d)** The minimum age of IRB handlers has been reviewed and is now a minimum of fifteen years of age as at the date of competition provided that the competitor holds a proficient SLSA Bronze Medallion and hold IRB Crewpersons award.
- 3.5.8 (a)** A note has been added detailing that the Referee, taking into account safety aspects, the conditions, and fairness to teams, may exceed the competitor numbers detailed in Section 2 and conduct the Surf Teams race as a straight final. Alternatively, the Referee may conduct the Surf Teams with heats and finals to determine the placegetters in the race.

Section 4 – Swimming Events

- 4.4.2 (b) (i)** A note has been added to enable U15 age members who turn 15 years of age during the season and obtain the SLSA Bronze Medallion to be eligible to participate as a handler in all Surf Belt events.

Section 6 – Surf Ski and Surf Board Events

- 6.1 (e)** A change to the note has been made detailing that U15 age competitors who obtain a Bronze Medallion are permitted to participate in U17 age team events with exception that they cannot compete on a ski until they are in the U17 age category.

Section 8 – Multi Discipline Events

- 8.1 (e)** A note has been added detailing that U15 age competitors who obtain a Bronze Medallion are permitted to participate in U17 age team events with exception that they cannot compete on a ski until they are in the U17 age category.

- General** Minor editorial alterations have also been incorporated that do not alter competition or the rules of events.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Should further information be required please contact the events team at:

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