



Circular 3721

Released July 2022

SLSNSW Skills Maintenance (Proficiency Check) Requirements for 2022/23 Season

Attention: Branch Presidents, Directors, CEO's and Support Staff, Surf Club Management Committees, Staff and Members

Actioned by: CEO's and Support Staff, Surf Club Management Committees, Staff and Members

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Summary	This Circular aims to outline the requirements for the 2022/23 Skills Maintenance (Proficiency Check) requirements that are above and beyond the requirements outlined in SLSA Circular 77/21-22
Action	Clubs and Branches are required to complete the 2022/23 Skills Maintenance (Proficiency Check) requirements by 31 st December 2022.

Background

The outlined 2022/23 Skills Maintenance (Proficiency Check) Requirements Circular (Circular 77/21-22) was released by SLSA on the 10th June 2022. The outlined requirements listed within this Circular outline the additional requirements that are to be undertaken by all Clubs and Branches across NSW.

Skills Maintenance Webpage

The [SLSNSW Skills Maintenance \('Proficiency'\) webpage](#) has been updated to include links to all the member skills maintenance resources available, including the latest SLSNSW Skills Maintenance Circular. It also includes answers to some FAQs and provides information for members interested in supporting their club's education team to deliver skills maintenance sessions.

COVID Impact

Rescue Breath and First Aid Training

Following the advice of the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC), training and assessment activities undertaken during First Aid and CPR courses will revert to pre-covid conditions from 1st September 2022.

Specifically, members will be required to demonstrate rescue breathing techniques on manikins and not simulate such skills to the side of the manikin as previously allowed during the pandemic.

Spinal Management Skills Maintenance for Bronze Medallion

The Spinal Management component of Bronze Medallion Skills Maintenance in the 2020/21 and 2021/21 season was held over to 2022/23 due to COVID-19.

All returning members need to have completed this requirement by 31st December 2022.

Advanced Resuscitation Operators

Following the release of the new *Advanced Resuscitation Techniques* ('ART') award in 2021, there are now three different levels of training held by 'Advanced Resuscitation Operators' on patrol and several training gaps that cannot be addressed through annual skills maintenance.

To reduce the level of risk associated with the training gaps and help ensure that Surf Life Saving remains the peak water safety and rescue organisation in Australia, the national Lifesaving committee and Board have agreed that all members patrolling as an 'Advanced Resuscitation Operator' must have the SLSA 'ART' award on their SurfGuard Records **by the end of June 2024**.

We recommend that members with only an *Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate* ('ARTC') award aim to renew/obtain their First Aid award and the new 'ART' award in 2022 in lieu of completing skills maintenance for advanced resuscitation.

NSW Specific Requirements

Supplementary Learning for Patrol Captains and Patrol Vice Captains

SLSNSW have for the past three (3) seasons been requiring members who wish to hold the position of Patrol Captain and Patrol Vice Captain to undertake the Supplementary Learning for Patrol Captains training program.

SLSNSW are strongly encouraging clubs to have their Patrol Captain and Patrol Vice Captains undertake the Supplementary Learning for Patrol Captains training program prior to the 2022/23 season as part of their skills maintenance requirements.

The Supplementary Learning for Patrol Captains training program is available in the SLSA Members Area and will refresh your Patrol Captain skills. It features real life scenarios, practical advice and takes just 20 minutes to complete.

In this program you will learn how to:

- Be better prepared as a leader and set up your patrol more effectively
- Improve your patrol's active supervision
- Streamline your role allocation and respond faster to emergencies.

At the end of this session, your certificate of completion will be automatically generated and recorded in SurfGuard.

Members can find further information on this supplementary training at: [Patrol Captain Supplementary Learning Link](#)

Powercraft Skills Maintenance Requirements 2022/23 Season

SLNSW have deemed that for the 2022/23 season that there will be an in-depth skills maintenance requirement for all powercraft awards following the past two seasons that have seen abbreviated requirements.

The indepth skills maintenance requirements for the relevant powercraft awards are outlined below:

IRB Crew	IRB Driver	RWC
1. Proficient BM	1. Proficient BM	1. Proficient BM
2. Parallel running	2. Parallel running	2. Parallel running
3. Figures of eight	3. Figures of eight	3. Figures of eight
4. Response to signals	4. Response to signals	4. Response to signals
5. Negotiation of Surf	5. Negotiation of Surf	5. Negotiation of Surf
6. Demonstrate victim rescue	6. Demonstrate victim rescue	6. Demonstrate victim rescue
7. Demonstrate ability to carry out a victim lift, exit, carry and lay	7. Demonstrate ability to carry out a victim lift, exit, carry and lay	7. Awareness of:
8. Awareness of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Powercraft Code of Conduct• Awareness of Rescue Watercraft Access Area Signage• Awareness of Pre and Post Operations Procedures	8. Awareness of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Powercraft Code of Conduct• Awareness of Engine Roll Over Procedure• Awareness of Rescue Watercraft Access Area Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Powercraft Code of Conduct• Awareness of Capsize Procedure• Awareness of Rescue Watercraft Access Area Signage• Awareness of Pre and Post Operations Procedures

Recording Skills Maintenance

Both the SLSA Assessing app and SLNSW Skills Maintenance Cards may be used to record skills maintenance this season.

SLSA Assessing App

The SLSA Assessing App currently helps members administering and assessing skills maintenance sessions to reduce their paperwork burden. It also supports award proficiencies appearing in SurfGuard quicker.

The criterion within the app will align to the national Skills Maintenance for the 2022/23 season from early July 2022.

Endorsed Delegates, Assessors and Facilitators already using the SLSA Assessing app will be happy to see that their suggestions from last season have resulted in several app enhancements this year.

They can visit the [SLNSW Assessing App webpage](#) to access training resources on how and when to use the app, tips from other members, and answers to FAQs.

On this webpage they will also see the option to provide more enhancement suggestions for SLSA as needed.

SLSNSW Skills Maintenance Cards

This season, an editable PDF version of this season's SLSNSW Skills Maintenance Card will be available on the [SLSNSW Member Training Resources webpage](#) and in the SLS Members Area Document Library (SLSNSW Organisation Level) for Assessors, Facilitators and Endorsed delegates to use electronically or print on demand.

A limited number of cards will also be posted to branches for distribution.