

Circular 3734

Released October 2022

Confirmation of Patrol Hours for Competition (calendar year 2022)

Attention: Branch Presidents, Directors of Surf Sports, Directors of Lifesaving, Members

Date: 10 October 2022

Contact: Phil Ayres
SLSNSW Chief Operating Officer
payres@surflifesaving.com.au

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| Summary | This circular clarifies the requirement of patrolling members to complete minimum patrol hours in order to be eligible to participate in Surf Sports Competitions in 2022 and 2023 |
| Action | Members should ensure they meet the required levels by 31 December 2022 to be eligible for competition in 2023 (ie 2023 SLSNSW State and SLSA Aussies, in addition to IRB and Pool rescue events), and as revised in subsequent years. |

Previously the SLSNSW Board determined that the patrol hours requirement for members participating in surf sports events (SLSA Policy 5.04 as amended for SLSNSW members -SLSNSW Regulation 5.c) would be reduced due to the potential impact of COVID-19 (restrictions and illness) may have on a member's ability to complete the required patrol hours.

Patrol hours for the purpose of competition eligibility are calculated on a calendar year basis. The SLSNSW Board in consultation with the State Council has determined that due to the impact of COVID-19 being present in the first half of 2022, reduced hours for competition eligibility will remain in place for the 2022 calendar year. This means eligibility for all 2023 Championships where minimum patrol hours are a requirement, will be calculated on the reduced levels from the 2022 Patrol year, as has been the case for the past two patrol years (see table below). The standard patrolling member will require 15 patrol hours during calendar year 2022.

From 1st January 2023, the SLSNSW Board has confirmed the requirements as noted in the SLSNSW Regulation 5.c will be reinstated. This will mean members will need to accumulate patrol hours to those levels stated in the policy, ie 25 hours for the standard patrolling member (see table below) for Championship eligibility in season 2023-24.

The SLSNSW Board has also foreshadowed an amendment to Regulation 5.c, whereby Accredited Surf Sports Officials will be added to the list of roles undertaken at clubs where patrol hours exemption can be applied for 5.c.ii and 5.c.iii. This Regulation will be considered for ratification prior to the end of the year and will be advised to members at that time. For clarity any change in this regard **will not** apply for 2022 patrol hour requirements but will apply in subsequent years.

Patrol Hour Requirements Summary

| | Patrol Hour Requirement Covid-19 Reduction (calculation commences 1 January 2022 – concludes 31 December 2022) | Patrol Hour Requirement SLSNSW Standard Requirement as per Regulation 5.c (calculation commences 1 January 2023 – concludes 31 December 2023) |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Active Member | 15 hours | 25 hours |
| Reserve Active | 7 hours | 12 hours |
| Exemption – Active Member | 9 patrol hours + 6 service hours + 15 hours total | 15 patrol hours + 10 service hours = 25 hours total |
| Exemption – Reserve Active | 3 patrol hours + 4 service hours = 7 hours total | 5 patrol hours + 7 service hours = 12 hours total |