Volunteer Leadership
An online program supporting volunteer leadership

About the program

Volunteer Leadership is an evidence-based online learning program for all Surf Life Saving leaders, no matter their experience.

Drawing on Self Determination Theory and the science of motivational leadership, the program focuses on developing the interpersonal leadership capabilities required to better support volunteers, satisfy their needs, and provide a positive volunteering experience at Surf Life Saving.

Program structure

Designed in collaboration with researchers associated with The Institute of Management Psychology, the program consists of a 90-minute web-based learning experience structured into three short modules:

1 Leadership in Surf Life Saving

2 Inspiring, retaining and engaging volunteers

3 Interpersonal skills

Learning is facilitated through interactive content such as videos, scenarios, reflection activities and the creation of an Action Plan to support the application of learning post-program.

Who should complete the program?

Anyone with a responsibility for leading volunteers! Evaluation has shown that the program is equally effective for all Surf Life Saving leaders - regardless of their age, gender, level of educational achievement, length of membership at SLS, and/or prior leadership experience.

SLS encourages all volunteer leaders to complete this module to work towards creating a shared leadership language across the organisation.

89%
used what they learnt with their volunteering teams

97%
recommended the program be rolled out across SLS

> " *Has made me take a step back when analysing and looking at situations - how to navigate them and how what I say and do will impact the people around me. Lots of growth in this area.*
>
> **Office/Executive Member, Online Leadership Program Alumni 2023.**
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> *I've been able to get more balance in my management style. Team members have been able to provide specific feedback which may not have been forthcoming had changes not been implemented.*
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> **Patrol Captain, Online Leadership Program Alumni 2023.** "

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