

Circular 1559



SLSCC RWC Course Expression of Interest

Audience: Club lifesaving Directors, Club Education Directors

Date: Wednesday 22nd February 2023

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SUPPORT OPERATIONS RESCUE WATERCRAFT OPERATORS

Rescue Watercraft (RWC) operators are part of the support operations group of Surf Life Saving Central Coast whose core objectives are;

1. Incident Response – the provision of coordinated response assets with dedicated command and control during and out of the surf season, including out of hours call outs.
2. Surf Sports – the provision of power craft water safety support during nominated carnivals.
3. Community Education – supporting SLSCC community educators to develop lifesavers of the future.

Operators are posted to one of five locations across the region from where they will deliver core services such as rostered patrols, water safety, incident response and support community education programs.

RWC operators will be called upon by Branch and State Duty Officers to take command of onwater activities and are also expected to work with minimum supervision, in all weathers throughout the season, responding to call outs throughout the year.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Expressions of interest are being sought from experienced life savers to undertake Rescue Watercraft (RWC) training.

Induction will take place on Saturday 20 May with a resumption of training from Saturday 17th June 2023 and run for 12-15 weeks (weather depending). To be considered for this course those interested should meet the following criteria;

Essential Skills:	Required Experience:
Be at least 18 years of age with demonstrable leadership skills and experience	Be of a mature character with the ability to work unsupervised and independent but accepting of direction from others (D.O.'s & Police)
Current and valid NSW Driver's License	Minimum 1-year experience towing a trailer and reversing a trailer.
Current proficiency of Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate	Sound knowledge and experience of Oxy viva and Defibrillator operation.
Current proficiency of First Aid Certificate. (HLTAID009, 010 and 011)	This will be delivered during the course as part of the program. Cost met by SLSCC.
Current proficiency of SLSA Bronze Medallion/Certificate II	Minimum 80% SLS Club Patrol attendance in each of the previous 2 seasons leading up to the RWC course.
Non-award - proficiency of Spinal Management	Demonstrable history of spinal management skills maintenance.
Current Silver Medallion IRB Drivers Certificate	Minimum 2-year experience driving a SLS IRB in the seasons leading up to the RWC course.
Radio Operators Certificate	Experienced and capable user of radio communications equipment.
Silver Medallion Basic Beach Management (Patrol Captain)	Minimum 1 season as Patrol Captain or Vice-Captain with SLS club endorsement.
Current SSV Induction	Demonstrated SSV capability on differing beach environments towing IRB trailer.

ROLE SUMMARY

Position Title	Rescue Water Craft (RWC) Operator
Paid/Voluntary	Voluntary
Commitment	Minimum 4 X 5 hour shifts per season in addition to the provision of 24/7 callout response to emergencies.
Working with Children Check (WWCC)	Yes - Voluntary
Reports to	Manager RWC Operations (or their delegate)
Direct reports	Nil

The role of RWC Operator is a branch wide, broad ranging one and the RWC Operator is expected to be a competent solo operator. Operators will have rostered patrols allocated to them each season at a particular RWC location. Operators will also assist SLSCC Surf Sports by providing water safety at carnivals and other nominated events.

Operators can be called out to assist people in all types of weather and sea conditions, often in adverse conditions, sometimes at remote locations.

Rescues are often performed close to the shoreline whether rocky and/or sandy, inside the surf zone and frequently away from beach patrols with little immediate support. Operators will be relying on their training, radio communications and the rescue equipment, carried on the RWC, until support arrives.

Operators must be self-sufficient, responsible, mature and reliable, they must also work effectively in a team, with surf patrols and IRBs and also where a multi-agency response is required. Operators are expected to, maintain a reasonable level of fitness, have exceptional communication skills and maintain their operational skills and training as surf lifesavers.

Entry into the SLSCC RWC group is through a selection procedure whereby prospective candidates are deemed to have met, or are able to demonstrate they possess, the skills and qualifications required to undertake RWC operator training. The successful RWC Operator is a person with a mature character, high degree of commitment, dedication, experience and knowledge in Surf Life Saving.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Read and understand the role summary along with above criteria and if you believe you meet the requirements and are able to attend the induction day (mandatory) a minimum of 80% of training whilst achieving competency, then complete the Support Operations Training Application Form, explaining how you meet the role requirements and submit the completed form by email to rwcmanger@slscc.com.au. Applications will be accepted up to COB on Friday 31st March 2023.

After the submission window is closed all applications will be checked against the members Surf Guard record prior to submission to the SLSCC BoLS. At SLSCC BoLS club endorsement is sought and BoLS members may endorse or decline applications to proceed to the training stage.

All applicants will be notified of the result by no later than Friday 21st April 2023 for induction on Saturday 20 May 2023.

Please note that the induction day is considered mandatory attendance and is the gateway into the course, there will be no exceptions to this.

This position requires an operator to interact with children and therefore a Working with Children Check (WWCC) is mandatory. Successful applicants will be expected to obtain a WWCC that has been verified in Surf Guard prior to being deemed competent as an RWC operator. The WWCC is nonnegotiable.

Should the number of course ready applicants exceed the available training places you may be offered a place on a following course.

Should you have any questions you are encouraged to speak with an experienced operator to ascertain more about the role.

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