



**SURF LIFE SAVING  
QUEENSLAND**



# **Proficiency Bulletin 2013/2014 Season**

## SLSQ Proficiency Bulletin 2013/2014 Season

### Things you need to know before you do proficiency

Any member patrolling as a Bronze Medallion holder MUST hold the Certificate II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue) PRIOR to commencing patrols and undertaking proficiency for the 2013/2014 season. To check that you are eligible to commence patrols or do your proficiency, check your awards list using Lifesaving Online. You are looking for a line that states Certificate II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue). If you are a Bronze Medallion holder and cannot see this line in your awards list, please contact your Club immediately.

If you are going to do your proficiency somewhere other than your own club, you must notify your Club Captain/CTO/ Administrator and nominate which club you will be doing your proficiency with. If the club you nominate to do your proficiency with is not within your own Branch then you will need prior approval from your Branch Director of Lifesaving.

If you undertake proficiency outside of Queensland, you will still be required to complete any additional Queensland requirements before patrolling in Queensland (e.g. pool swim, if you only completed a board rescue then you will need to complete a tube rescue and vice versa, etc).

### New signals introduced

The following two International Life Saving (ILS) signals were introduced during the 2012/2013 season.

#### Submerged patient missing



This is the most serious signal of all. A swimmer is missing and presumed submerged. Other lifesavers on shore should immediately fix the position of the lifesaver sending the signal and initiate an appropriate response.

The signal is created by raising both arms to form a cross above the head (which creates the nickname of Code X).

#### All clear/okay



This signal is used by a lifesaver to indicate that no help is required in performing the rescue and that the patient is stable. Other lifesavers should continue to observe and monitor the situation as the situation may deteriorate.

Lifesavers trained in Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue may also use this signal to indicate that they are fine after performing an entry into the water from height or over rocks. The signal is created by touching the middle of the head with the fingertips of one hand.

## Clarification of clothing to be worn when operating an IRB

SLSQ has set the following clothing requirements, when operating an IRB, for the safety of the members operating the IRB in case they fall out of the boat and to also increase the identification capability in an emergency of IRB crews:

### Water safety during junior activities and water safety requirements:

- Both IRB Crew and Driver must wear an orange cap AND orange water safety rash shirt
- This requirement is as per current SLSQ Patrol Operations Manual Section No: LS0017

### During Patrol

- Both IRB Crew and Driver must wear the red and yellow patrol rash shirt/patrol shirt AND red and yellow cap
- This requirement is as per current SLSQ Patrol Operations Manual Section No: LS0014

### During IRB training and IRB Proficiencies

- Both IRB Crew and Driver must wear a high visibility rash shirt/spray jacket/singlet/vest and a life saving cap (in any colour – must not be a patrol cap)

## Patrol reminders

Interchangeable hazard signs are used in conjunction with either the red swimming prohibited flag or the yellow caution flag. The hazard signs indicate to the public the reason the beach is closed or why the yellow caution flag is flying. If the red flag is flying (beach closed), the red and yellow patrol flags must be taken down or removed.

Vehicles play an important part in getting our equipment on and off the beach as well as some being used to extend for roving patrols. As with driving a vehicle on the road, certain rules need to be followed when using these vehicles around the clubhouse, on the beach and occasionally on the road. Members who have not completed the appropriate SLSQ vehicle award should not operate the vehicle at any time. Vehicle award holders who are still on their 'P' plates must display them on the vehicle whilst driving. Those with automatic only licences must not drive Club/Branch/State vehicles which are manual transmission.