

Safety & Rescue Plan (Reference: Surf Sports Manual Edition 34 Clause 1.2)

If an emergency arises during Salt SLSC, a competition or training session, correct control and discipline shall be maintained under the direction of the designated Water Safety Supervisor (WSS), Salt SLSC Captain and Junior Activities Coordinator (JAC). If a Patrol is on the beach, the Patrol Captain (PC) has ultimate responsibility under SLSA guidelines.

During an emergency, any member of SLSA entering the water or handling any rescue gear must only do so at the direction of the Water Safety Supervisor, or Patrol Captain and/or under the direction of the Police or emergency authority.

All members not engaged in actual rescue work should assist in maintaining a clear area so that any rescue attempt can be carried out efficiently.

Activation: Designated Water Safety Supervisor (WSS), Salt SLSC JAC (or delegates)

First Aid Sites: Normal Salt SLSC Nipper Day > Patrol Tent.

Water Safety: Under control of Water Safety Supervisor, ratio 4:1 (medium risk) or 5:1 (low risk). On Normal Salt SLSC Nipper Day an IRB and crew are available as is a fully resourced Patrol.

Emergency Vehicles: Salt SLSC ATV vehicle for transport over sand. Ambulances can travel to within 30m of shore line on a paved concourse.

Emergency Services: Normal Salt SLSC Day > requests for emergency service to be made by the Patrol Captain to Surfcom.

Emergency Responses

1. Injury

- Water Safety personnel are to manage basic first aid & reassure the patient
- Water Safety Supervisor to be notified
- Parents to be identified and informed in a calm manner
- If Salt Patrol is on the beach, WSS to notify Patrol Captain who will task first aid resources and request external intervention if warranted.
- Salt Patrol will fill in an Incident Report. If no Patrol, WSS is to fill in an Incident Report

2. Suspected Spinal Injury

- Airway is first priority. Do not panic - access and manage the situation as per your training.
- If patient is not responsive > Extract patient whilst taking as much care as possible and practice DRSABCD whilst keeping the patient in the neutral position
- If patient is responsive > Immobilise & protect the patient and keeping the neck and spine in the neutral position whilst WSS is informed and spinal rescue is organised.
- Note it may be safer to take patient out to deeper water to avoid waves until a collar & spinal board arrive
- WSS to task Spinal Qualified Personnel to take charge of situation and notify Salt Patrol for assistance.
- Parents to be identified and informed in a calm manner
- Age Mangers to clear all water areas and move and account for their group at the back of the beach
- When Salt Patrol has attended, Water Safety to follow all directions
- Patrol will fill in an Incident Report. If no Patrol, WSS is to fill in an Incident Report

3. Swimmer/s (<2) requiring assistance

- As per their training, Water Safety Personnel to practice Recognition, Rescue & Recovery
- Swimmer to be quickly and carefully approached and assistance offered.
- Water Safety Personnel to signal whether assistance is required
- Personnel not involved in the rescue to notify WSS
- WSS is to organise additional resources if required to facilitate rescue.
- Swimmer is to be brought back to shore and assessed as per SLSA guidelines.
- WSS to notify Salt Patrol of any suspected complications and they will take the appropriate action

4. Mass Rescue (>2 swimmers)

- As per their training, Water Safety Personnel to practice Recognition, Rescue & Recovery
- Alarm immediately raised with WSS (two arms raised from the water). WSS to notify Salt Patrol
- WSS to task appropriate personnel with appropriate equipment (IRB / Boards) to attend patients
- No SLSA qualified personnel to attend the rescue situation unless tasked by WSS or PC.
- All water areas to be cleared and children moved to the back of the beach, rolls to be taken
- When Salt Patrol has attended, Water Safety to follow all directions
- Patrol will fill in an Incident Report. If no Patrol, WSS is to fill in an Incident Report
- Club Captain & FNC Tweed Coast Duty Officer to be informed to respond to Operational Stress concerns

5. Lost / Submerged Patient

- This situation may be witnessed or determined as a result of a discrepancy in “Count In, Count Out”. Could be signalled via “Code X” signal from water safety personnel. Immediately alarm must be raised with WSS.
- WSS to notify Salt Patrol immediately
- All water areas to be cleared ASAP by Age Managers and Water Safety Personnel.
- Area patient last seen needs to be marked by WS personnel.
- All children must be moved to the back of the beach as age groups – muster at age flags
- People who last sighted patient to be identified and brought to WSS – it is imperative as much information is collected as possible
- Parents to be identified and informed in a calm manner
- No SLSA qualified personnel are to go into the water or attend the rescue situation unless tasked.
- WSS and Salt Patrol will determine a last known position and the possible influence of known currents
- When this is confirmed, IRB/s and/or boards will be tasked to conduct immediate search at last known position if in water deeper than standing depth
- All available Water Safety Personnel to report to water’s edge near IRB Launch area ready to search if instructed.
- If required WSS/PC/LG will instruct Water Safety Personnel to conduct a line search
- Patient to be recovered to shore as quickly as possible, DRSABCD
- When Patrol &/or Lifeguards have attended, Water Safety to follow all directions
- Patrol will fill in an Incident Report. If no Patrol, WSS is to fill in an Incident Report
- Club Captain & FNC Tweed Coast Duty Officer to be informed to respond to Operational Stress concerns