



Western Australia

REWARD AND RECOGNITION FRAMEWORK

March 2026 v4.0

CONTENTS

Reward and Recognition Overview	3	Nipper Athlete of the Year.....	16
Recognition Award Matrix	4	Nipper Club Achiever.....	16
Coastal Bravery Awards	6	Nipper of the Year.....	17
SLSWA Life Membership	7	U14 & U15 Surf Sports Age Champions.....	17
SLSWA Sporting Hall of Fame.....	7	U14/U15 Athlete of the Year	17
SLSWA AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE		U14/U15 Lifesaver of the Year.....	17
SLSWA Surf Lifesaver of the Year.....	8	Youth Official of the Year	17
SLSWA Volunteer of the Year.....	9	Youth Club Achiever of the Year	18
SLSWA Young Lifesaver of the Year	9	Youth of the Year	18
SLSWA Young Volunteer of the Year.....	10	Gold Level Youth Leaders Program.....	18
SLSWA Club of the Year (Reg Trigg OBE, Memorial Trophy) ..	10	SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA SERVICE CERTIFICATES	
SLSWA Patrol Club of the Year (IT Birtwistle Trophy)	11	Officiating, Coaching and Age Manager Service	19
SLSWA Woodside Nippers Club of the Year	12	Training, Assessing and Facilitating Service	19
SLSWA Woodside Nippers Program Volunteer of the Year.....	12	Long Service Award.....	20
SLSWA Age Manager of the Year.....	13	National Patrol Service Certificate.....	20
SLSWA Coach of the Year.....	13	SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA AWARDS	
SLSWA Trainer of the Year.....	14	National Medal.....	21
SLSWA Assessor of the Year	14	Surf Life Saving Australia Honours.....	21
SLSWA NOMINATED AWARDS		Surf Life Saving Australia Meritorious Awards.....	21
SLSWA Bernie Kelly Medal	15	SLSA National Innovation of the Year Award.....	22
SLSWA Support Operations Volunteer of the Year.....	15	The Order of Surf Life Saving.....	22
SLSWA Official of the Year	15	SLSA Hall of Fame	22
SLSWA Athlete of the Year	15	SLSA Rescue Medal.....	22
SLSWA Young Athlete of the Year	15	ILS Citation.....	22
SLSWA Surf Sports Team of the Year	16		
SLSWA NIPPER AND YOUTH AWARDS			
Nipper Surf Sports Age Champions (U10-U13).....	16		

REWARD AND RECOGNITION OVERVIEW

Purpose

The purpose of this Reward and Recognition document is to provide a detailed description of the award, the selection criteria, due dates, judging panel, presentation and nomination process. This document can be used to:

- increase the awareness of available recognition awards
- outline the requirements and criteria of awards
- provide concise award information and presentation details.

Nomination Forms

For the **Coastal Bravery Awards**, nominations can be done online at www.coastalbraveryawards.com.au/nominate anytime throughout the year.

All **other awards** that require nominations, will have forms available when the related Circulars are released unless otherwise stated.

Nomination forms must contain the following to be considered:

- typed and accurate information as requested
- selection criteria addressed
- all supporting documents (Photo, Surfguard print outs etc.) are attached to the nomination form
- nomination form has been verified for accuracy by Club and State and submitted by due date

Award Dates

Each award has a specific due date to align with internal events and comply with external schedules. Due dates have been selected to ensure nominations are submitted and progressed through SLSWA (and/or National) before the cut off date.

- SLSWA set their own due dates for their specific awards.
- Awards with ongoing due dates allow for nominations to be submitted any time throughout the year.

Submission

All nominations submitted to SLSWA must be endorsed by the respective Club. Personal details within the nomination form will be kept confidential.

SLSWA may use the information from the nomination to promote the award and recognise the winners utilising various media platforms.

Information from the nominations may also be used for SLSWA Awards that progress to National SLSA Awards.

Endorsement

The endorsement process requires club officials to verify the accuracy of information provided in each nomination.

This document outlines awards issued by SLSWA and references SLSA awards. Further information on SLSA recognition programs is available online via the SLSA Recognition and Appreciation Framework: <https://www.manula.com/manuals/slsa/slsa-recognition-and-appreciation-framework/1/en/topic/introduction>

Clubs may also offer their own recognition and appreciation awards; for details, contact your local club.

Presentation

SLSWA present three major award events annually:

The **Surf Life Saving WA Awards of Excellence** recognise the achievements and contributions of members and clubs across a range of categories and areas of surf life saving. A number of the award category winners go on to represent Western Australia at the annual Surf Life Saving Australia Awards of Excellence.

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The **Surf Life Saving WA Nipper & Youth Awards** acknowledge and celebrate the commitments and successes of the movement's younger members across some of the key areas of surf life saving.

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The **Coastal Bravery Awards** presented by Surf Life Saving WA, celebrate and recognise those who display selflessness and bravery whilst endeavouring to save the life of another on the West Australian coast. These awards are open to members of SLSWA, emergency services personnel and the broader WA community.

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Awards not presented at any of the above, will be awarded at appropriate forums.

RECOGNITION AWARD MATRIX

The Matrix below outlines the available SLSWA awards and provides the type of acknowledgement, at which event it will be presented, circulation and closing dates for the awards.

AWARD NAME	DATE OF CIRCULATION	CLOSING DATE
COASTAL BRAVERY AWARDS		
Gold Medallion for Exceptional Bravery	Ongoing	March
Silver Medallion for Bravery – Citizens Award	Ongoing	March
Silver Medallion for Bravery – Lifesavers Award	Ongoing	March
Silver Medallion for Bravery – Emergency Services Award	Ongoing	March
Bronze Medallion for Courage – Youth Award	Ongoing	March
SLSWA AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE		
Life Membership	May	Ongoing
Sporting Hall of Fame	May	Ongoing
Surf Lifesaver of the Year	March/April	April/May
Volunteer of the Year	March/April	April/May
Young Surf Lifesaver of the Year	March/April	April/May
Young Volunteer of the Year	March/April	April/May
Lavan Club of the Year (Reg Trigg OBE, Memorial Trophy)	March/April	April/May
Patrol Club of the Year (IT Birtwhistle Trophy)	March/April	April/May
Woodside Nippers Club of the Year	March/April	April/May
Woodside Nippers Program Coordinator of the Year	March/April	April/May
Age Manager of the Year	March/April	April/May
Coach of the Year	March/April	April/May
Trainer of the Year	March/April	April/May
Assessor of the Year	March/April	April/May
Support Operations Volunteer of the Year	March/April	April/May
Official of the Year	March/April	April/May
Athlete of the Year (Open)	March/April	April/May
Youth Athlete of the Year	March/April	April/May
Bernie Kelly Medal	March/April	April/May
Surf Sports Team of the Year	March/April	April/May
Age Manager of the Year	March/April	April/May
Lifeguard of the Year	March/April	April/May

AWARD NAME	DATE OF CIRCULATION	CLOSING DATE
SLSWA NIPPER AND YOUTH AWARDS		
Nipper Surf Sports Age Champions	August	March
Nipper Surf Sports Champion	August	March
Nipper Club Achievers	August	March
Nipper of the Year	August	March
U14 Surf Sports Age Champions	August	March
U15 Surf Sports Age Champions	August	March
U14/U15 Athlete of the Year	August	March
U14/U15 Lifesaver of the Year	August	March
Youth Official of the Year	August	March
Youth Club Achievers	August	March
Youth of the Year	August	March
Gold Level Youth Leaders Program	August	March
SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA SERVICE CERTIFICATES		
Officiating, Coaching and Age Manager Service Award	Ongoing	Ongoing
Training, Assessing and Facilitating Service Award	Ongoing	Ongoing
Long Service Award	Ongoing	Ongoing
National Patrol Service Certificate	Ongoing	Ongoing
SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA AWARDS		
National Medal	Ongoing	March & August
Meritorious Awards	Ongoing	June
Surf Life Saving Australia Honours	January	July
National Innovation of the Year Award	December	August
The Order of Surf Life Saving	Ongoing	Ongoing
Hall of Fame	December	Ongoing
Rescue Medal	Ongoing	Ongoing
ILS Citation	Ongoing	Ongoing

COASTAL BRAVERY AWARDS PRESENTED BY SLSWA

The Coastal Bravery Awards presented by Surf Life Saving Western Australia (SLSWA) are SLSWA's highest recognition for acts of bravery. They have been developed to formally recognise those who display selflessness and bravery, whilst endeavouring to save the life of another, on the Western Australian coast.

The Coastal Bravery Awards consist of five awards at three levels which recognise the acts of individuals or groups. The Awards are distinguished by the age of the recipient at the time of the act, the capacity in which the recipient was acting (personal, organised or professional) and the degree of selflessness, bravery and courage displayed.

Gold Medallion For Exceptional Bravery

Awarded to any person who performs a conspicuous and selfless act of exceptional bravery in circumstances of extreme peril.

Silver Medallion For Bravery – Citizens Award

Any person or persons who perform(s) a conspicuous and selfless act of bravery on the West Australian coast.

Silver Medallion For Bravery – Lifesavers Award

Any member or members of Surf Life Saving Western Australia, who perform(s) a conspicuous and selfless act of bravery on or off the West Australian coast.

Silver Medallion For Bravery – Emergency Services Award

Any member or members of a recognised Emergency Response Unit who, in the fulfilment of their duties, performs a conspicuous and selfless act of bravery on the West Australian coast

Bronze Medallion For Courage – Youth Award

Any person or persons under the age of 16 who performs a life saving act demonstrating courage on the West Australian coast, or any person or persons under the age of 16 who used the skills learned through their participation in surf life saving to perform an act demonstrating courage away from the West Australian coast.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Coastal Bravery Awards presentation

Judging panel: SLSWA Coastal Bravery Awards Selection Committee



For further information and to lodge a nomination, please visit <https://www.coastalbraveryawards.com.au/>

SLSWA LIFE MEMBERSHIP

SLSWA Life Membership recognises those individual members whose volunteering has rendered a distinguished, sustained and conspicuous service to SLSWA over a period of at least nine years.

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

The following nomination guidelines shall be followed for SLSWA Life Membership:

- Candidates are to be nominated using the appropriate form by two members of SLSWA. Nominations are to be sent to SLSWA.

JUDGING PROCESS

- The SLSWA Australian Honours and Awards Committee will review nominations for SLSWA Life Membership.
- The Panel will provide a recommendation based on the information presented to the SLSWA Board.
- Formal acknowledgment of recipients of SLSWA Life Membership will be announced by the President.

HOW TO NOMINATE

- The nomination must establish and argue the case for Life Membership envisioned by the proposer and seconder.
- The proposer is to summarise the nominee's personal achievements that have impacted on Surf Lifesaving in Western Australia.
- It is important that the nomination is specific to the nature of the individual's achievements apart from that of a group.
- The nomination should provide substantive evidence to support the claims.
- Authoritative sources should be used to validate claims.

Note: A list of roles that an individual has held is insufficient in demonstrating the significance of that individual's service. SLSWA may return a nomination to the proposer for further details if it feels that a lack of detail may be prejudicial for the nominee.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Australian Honours and Awards Committee

SLSWA SPORTING HALL OF FAME

Induction into the SLSWA Sporting Hall of Fame is a prestigious honour bestowed upon individual athlete, teams and coaches affiliated with Surf Sports in Western Australia.

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

The following nomination guidelines shall be followed for SLSWA Sporting Hall of Fame:

- Candidates are to be nominated using the appropriate form.
- Nominations are to be sent to SLSWA.

JUDGING PROCESS

- The SLSWA Sporting Hall of Fame Committee will review nominations for SLSWA .
- The Panel will provide a recommendation based on the information presented to the SLSWA Board.
- Formal acknowledgment of recipients of SLSWA Sporting Hall of Fame will be announced by the President.

HOW TO NOMINATE

- The nomination must be completed on the appropriate form available from SLSWA.
- There is a different form for an individual, team and coach.
- The essential criteria represents the minimum standard required.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Hall of Fame Committee

SLSWA SURF LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises active patrolling members who have made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving frontline services. It is aimed at active surf lifesavers undertaking lifesaving duties and who can be presented as an identifiable “ambassador” for Surf Life Saving.

Note: Nominations in this category should primarily focus on the delivery of frontline lifesaving services at a club level. While service delivery at a regional or state level (e.g. through abalone patrols or as a member of the Woodside Jet Ski team) can also be considered, if the focus of the nomination is on these broader services, the nominee should instead be recommended for the Support Operations Volunteer of the Year category.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria is to be answered under the following headings (400 words maximum per question) for the period of May 1 to April 30 of the given season, unless stated otherwise.

1. Tell us about the member being nominated.

Consider the following in your response:

- Outline the nominee’s history and experience in lifesaving operations at your club.
- Highlight key positions, roles, or responsibilities they hold and any new skills they have acquired.
- Mention any additional contributions beyond lifesaving, such as involvement in Nipper or Youth activities, training, or general club activities.

2. What has been achieved?

Consider the following in your response:

- Describe specific actions or initiatives the nominee has taken to improve lifesaving operations.
- Explain how they identified and addressed challenges and introduced innovative solutions.
- Provide examples of measurable or visible improvements resulting from their contributions.

3. What impact has this had, and for whom?

Consider the following in your response:

- Explain who benefited from the nominee’s efforts and how their contributions made a difference.
- Describe how they demonstrate leadership, teamwork, and positive behaviours within and outside the club (e.g. to members of the public, stakeholders and other clubs).
- Highlight how their work aligns with and promotes the values and mission of Surf Life Saving Australia.

INTERVIEW – Finalists only

Finalists may be invited to participate in an interview, including follow-up questions. Interviews may be conducted via Microsoft Teams.

Winners of the SLSWA Lifesaver of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Surf Lifesaver of the Year**. SLSWA will submit the nomination for this.

Award sponsor: SLSWA

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Lifesaving Advisory Committee

SLSWA VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

This award will recognise a member who has demonstrated achievements in a range of different areas of a club or surf lifesaving service organisation throughout the year or who has shown demonstrated outstanding service to the organisation at large. The nominee would clearly demonstrate that they have a positive attitude and be a role model and ambassador for the organisation.

A nominee may be a volunteer in any area of surf lifesaving, including but not limited to:

- Club activities
- Coaching
- Nipper Activities
- Training/Assessing
- Active patrolling
- Officiating
- Carnivals
- Administration
- State/National Activities
- Organisational leadership
- Safeguarding
- Fundraising/Grants/Sponsorship

Note: Applications focused on a single area may not be considered if that area is recognised in other award categories (e.g. Lifesaver, Coach, Official, Trainer or Assessor of the Year).

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria is to be answered under the following headings (400 words maximum per question) for the period of May 1 to April 30 of the given season, unless stated otherwise.

Club/Nominator

1. Describe how the nominee has demonstrated commitment to Surf Life Saving across the organisation.
2. Describe the nominee's major achievements and positions, held at Club and/or State level for the current season.
3. Describe a challenge the nominee has overcome that has made a significant impact or positive cultural difference to their club or the organisation.
4. Describe a key change/improvement that the nominee has brought/made to their club or the organisation in the past three years.
5. Why is the nominee worthy of the award?
6. Any relevant additional information.

Nominee – maximum one page

- a. What gives you the greatest satisfaction in being a volunteer in Surf Life Saving?
- b. Describe your future ambitions in the areas of club, State, National and in the community.

INTERVIEW – Finalists only

Finalists may be invited to participate in an interview, including follow-up questions. Interviews may be conducted via Microsoft Teams.

Winners of the SLSWA Volunteer of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Volunteer of the Year** award. SLSWA will submit the nomination for this.

Award sponsor: SLSWA

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Honours Committee

SLSWA YOUNG LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises active patrolling members, aged 15-21 years, who have made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving frontline services. It is aimed at active young surf lifesavers undertaking lifesaving duties who can be presented as an “ambassador” for Surf Life Saving.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection Criteria (400 Words Maximum per Question) – please answer the selection criteria under the following headings for the period of May 1, to April 30 of the given season, unless stated otherwise.

1. Tell us about the member being nominated.

Consider the following in your response:

- Outline the nominee's history with Surf Lifesaving, including years of involvement and progression.
- Highlight key skills they have developed, and leadership qualities demonstrated.
- Describe how they have influenced others, overcome challenges and upheld positive values.

2. What has been achieved?

Consider the following in your response:

- Detail new roles, responsibilities, or initiatives undertaken this season.
- Explain the motivation, planning and execution of any programs or innovations.
- Describe any challenges faced and how success was measured or evaluated.

3. What impact has this had, and for whom?

Consider the following in your response:

- Quantify the number of people or groups affected by their efforts.
- Explain the specific improvements or benefits

resulting from their contributions.

- Highlight the broader impact on the club and the wider community.

INTERVIEW – Finalists only

Finalists may be invited to participate in an interview, including follow-up questions. Interviews may be conducted via Microsoft Teams.

Winners of the SLSWA Youth Lifesaver of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year** award. SLSWA will submit the nomination for this.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Lifesaving Advisory Committee

SLSWA YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises and rewards outstanding achievements and contributions of members, aged 15–21 years, at a local/state level, to their club and member development.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria is to be answered under the following headings (400 words maximum per question) for the period of May 1 to April 30 of the given season, unless stated otherwise.

1. Outline contributions and achievements relevant to club and member development at club, regional and state levels.
2. Detail how the nominee demonstrated actions and behaviour befitting a positive role model.
3. Outline contribution to delivering programs/activities or assisting in the delivery of programs/activities that have contributed to the development of club members.
4. Detail future ambitions at club, regional and state levels.
5. Any relevant additional information.

INTERVIEW – Finalists only

Finalists may be invited to participate in an interview, including follow-up questions. Interviews may be conducted via Microsoft Teams.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee

SLSWA CLUB OF THE YEAR (REG TRIGG OBE, MEMORIAL TROPHY)

The Club of the Year award aims to encourage and recognise outstanding achievements in club development that result in surf life saving clubs providing safer beach and aquatic environments for the community. It is acknowledged that clubs achieve many outstanding achievements through their members during each season, and that many of these initiatives are inspirational and different from our core business.

The overall winner of the Club of the Year award receives the Reg Trigg Memorial Trophy, named after Mr Reg Trigg OBE, a former State President, and WA and Australian Life Member, in honour of his dedication and commitment to surf lifesaving.

The process to select the Club of the Year relies on two major elements – the written submission and the interview/presentation – that provide the critical information for the selection panel.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Each selection criterion must be addressed in no more than 400 words. The written submission must not exceed five (5) pages and should clearly and concisely demonstrate achievements against the selection criteria. Scoring penalties may apply to submissions that exceed the word or page limits.

1. Tell us the story of your club.
2. What has your club achieved over the last 12 months?
3. Why have the achievements made a difference at your club, and to whom, and how do you bring the club members on the journey?
4. What are the club's plans for future development and continuous improvement?
5. What is the one lesson that your club can teach and share with all other SLS clubs, both here in Australia and internationally?

When showcasing your club, you may wish to consider the following:

- How does your club support the Surf Life Saving Australia 2030 Strategic Plan?
- What initiatives, programs or events has your club implemented to support its strategic objectives? How were these needs identified?
- How does your club demonstrate sustainability and continuous improvement across governance, leadership, development, community engagement, and the delivery of lifesaving services?
- What challenges or barriers has the club overcome to achieve success?
- How does your club management team model a positive and supportive culture through its behaviours and actions?

INTERVIEW/PRESENTATION – Finalists only

An interview process may be conducted as part of the assessment. Clubs may be required to prepare a **20-minute presentation** outlining their achievements in relation to the selection criteria. The interview also provides the panel with an opportunity to seek clarification or further information on the written submission. Supporting materials, such as presentation slides or notes, may be used. Finalists will be advised of interview details, including timing, if applicable.

Winners of the SLSWA Club of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Club of the Year award**. SLSWA will submit the nomination for this.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Board and Honours and Awards Committee

SLSWA PATROL CLUB OF THE YEAR (IT BIRTWISTLE TROPHY)

The Patrol Club of the Year award recognises a club conducting its lifesaving duties and activity in an efficient and effective manner that is relevant to local beach user needs and activities. The award identifies the club that seeks to undertake strong engagement with local stakeholders and incorporates preventative and behavioural change activity as part of its services.

The I.T. Birtwistle Trophy is awarded to the winner.

Ivor Treherne Birtwistle OBE, embodied the best qualities of those who dedicated their time to surf lifesaving. He was directly involved for over 25 years, holding the Surf Life Saving WA presidency for ten seasons. Such dedication to surf lifesaving led to the Patrol Club of the Year being named in his honour.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Responses to each question must not exceed 400 words.

1. What initiatives have you implemented to engage and motivate patrol members, and what impact have these initiatives had on participation or performance?

Consider the following thought prompts in your response:

- Consider initiatives that actively motivate and involve patrol members (e.g. mentoring, recognition, skill development, leadership opportunities).
- Reflect on how initiatives improved teamwork, patrol member performance and confidence.

2. What initiatives have you implemented, or continued to implement, to deliver a high standard of lifesaving services to the public, and what impact have the initiatives had?

Consider the following thought prompts in your response:

- Use of the risk rating app.
- Engagement of patrolling members.
- How have you met the lifesaving agreement?
- Tailored patrol guidelines to your beach and their rollout to patrolling members.

3. What initiatives have you implemented, or continued to implement, to develop/support patrolling members, and what impact have the initiatives had?

Consider the following thought prompts in your response:

- Training and skills development.
- Development pathways within patrols.
- SRC mentoring.
- Upskilling on patrol.
- Peer support.
- PC meetings to share good ideas.

4. What initiatives have you implemented, or continued to implement, to respond to incidents efficiently, and what impact have the initiatives had?

Consider the following thought prompts in your response:

- First aid bag set-up.
- Patrol room set-up and access.
- ID of different awards.
- Patrol scenarios/training

5. What initiatives have you implemented, or continued to implement, to ensure stats are accurate and timely, and how have you used the stats?

Consider the following thought prompts in your response:

- Analysis of stats and changes you have implemented in response.
- Initiatives to improve the recording and understanding of stats.

6. What other initiatives have you implemented to improve broader lifesaving outcomes in the community, and what impact have they had?

Consider the following thought prompts in your response:

- Assistance to other clubs/regions.
- Interagency partnerships.
- Community education.

INTERVIEW – Finalists only

To support the assessment process, finalists may be required to participate in an interview with up to two club representatives. Finalists will be advised of interview details, including timing and interview criteria.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Lifesaving Advisory Committee

SLSWA WOODSIDE NIPPERS CLUB OF THE YEAR

The Woodside Nippers Club of the Year award recognises a club for their excellent delivery of the Nipper curriculum across four key outcome areas; individual safety, surf awareness, lifesaving and surf sports skills.

Each selection criterion must be addressed in no more than 400 words. The written submission must not exceed five (5) pages and should clearly demonstrate achievements against the selection criteria. Scoring penalties may apply for exceeding word or page limits. Responses must relate to the period 1 May to 30 April of the relevant season, unless stated otherwise.

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. How has your club planned, delivered and monitored the key outcome areas of the Nipper curriculum across the various age groups? *Address each key outcome area with key examples.*
2. What new initiatives, programs or events did your club implement last season in the Nipper area?
3. What additional (club level) elements or initiatives have you put in place to supplement and support one or more of the key outcome areas? *Describe what you did and how it was successful.*
4. How has your Nippers program improved from previous seasons? *Utilise improvement measures including program size, retention rates, performances in competition, member feedback etc.*
5. A primary goal of the Nippers program is creating future lifesavers. Describe the successful strategies that your club has used to prepare and transition your U13 Nippers into the Youth Program?
6. Describe a key challenge that your club had to overcome in relation to the delivery of your Nippers program and how you overcame it (may not be applicable to your club).
7. Describe how the support provided by the Woodside Nippers partnership has contributed to the success of your program. *Key components of the partnership*

include Program promotion, Nipper apparel, club financial support.

8. Any relevant additional information.

Supporting Documentation

Proof of the following should be supplied with the nomination.

1. Demonstrated use of the SLSWA Nippers curriculum.
2. Demonstrated compliance with Woodside Nippers Club Agreement requirements.

INTERVIEW – Finalists only

An interview may be held whereby finalists will be asked follow-up questions. Interviews may take place over Microsoft Teams.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee

SLSWA WOODSIDE NIPPERS PROGRAM VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the outstanding achievements and contributions of an individual member at a club level to the Woodside Nippers Program. This could be, for example, a member who coordinates the program, helps with set-up and pack down, provides water safety, coaches a specific skill, or a member who helps with administration duties.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection criteria must be addressed under the headings below for the period 1 May to 30 April of the relevant season, unless otherwise stated. Each response must not exceed 400 words.

1. Outline the achievements and contribution of the individual relevant to the planning, preparation, set up, delivery, and pack up of the club's Woodside Nippers Program.
2. Detail the significance of the contribution in terms of the member's Sunday routine and the hours put in.
3. Detail the member's contribution to the broader Woodside Nippers Program, such as weekday meetings, training, carnival involvement and hours put in.
4. Any relevant additional information.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee

SLSWA AGE MANAGER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises and rewards the outstanding achievements and contributions of an individual member who has managed a group of Nippers and/or Youth within their club.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria is to be answered under the following headings for the period of May 1 to April 30 of the given season, unless otherwise stated. Responses to each question must not exceed 400 words.

1. Outline the achievements and contributions relevant to the planning of the Nipper and/or Youth season, based on the individuals they were working with.
2. Outline achievements and contributions relevant to the specific delivery of the Woodside Nippers Program and/or SLSWA Youth Program to a group of SLS members.
3. Outline achievements and contributions relevant to the monitoring of individual Nipper and/or Youth with the goal of improving that individual's SLS experience.
4. Any relevant additional information.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee

SLSWA COACH OF THE YEAR

This award recognises a member who has made a significant contribution to athlete performance at a state, national and/or international level, to the development of athletes in SLS activities outside of surf sports and to the educational development of other coaches in Surf Life Saving.

****Please distinguish between paid and volunteer activity in your written submission.***

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection criteria is to be answered for the period of May 1, to April 30, of the given season, unless otherwise stated with each answer no more than 400 words.

1. What coaching qualification does the member currently hold? *(Please supply proof where appropriate from either Surfguard or equivalent)*
2. What coaching roles has the member fulfilled during the current season at Club, State, National and International Level?
3. List the competition results attributed to the Coach, where this member was the primary coach for the athlete and/or team, in the current season?
4. Has the Coach been involved in any mentoring and development of coaches, creation of supporting documentation and/or programs in the current season? *Provide examples of where the Coach has shown positive and supportive attitude, behaviour and actions (including whom it has impacted and how)*
5. List where the Coach has undertaken any personal development to improving themselves as a coach in the current season?
6. Provide any further achievements that have not already been covered about this Coach related to coaching surf sports.

Winners of the SLSWA Coach of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Coach of the Year award**. SLSWA will submit the nomination for this.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Surf Sports Advisory Committee

SLSWA TRAINER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises and rewards trainers who have made a significant contribution towards the area of education and awards within surf lifesaving.

Please note: SLSWA reserves the right to make internal nominations for this award, in addition to those received from clubs.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Responses are to be completed in a word document and answer the three questions below (with each answer no more than 400 words) for the period of May 1, to April 30, of the given season, unless otherwise stated.

1. Tell us about the trainer being nominated.
2. What has been achieved?
3. What impact has this had, and for whom?

When showcasing the Trainer, you may want to consider the questions below:

- What relevant positions, roles or responsibilities do they hold?
- Have they done something in response to an identified need or problem?
- Have they done something new or different to achieve results?
- Have they inspired others to think or to do things differently?
- Have they had to overcome any challenges to make a difference or achieve success?
- Do they model positive and supportive attitudes, behaviours and actions?

Winners of the SLSWA Trainer of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Trainer of the Year** award. SLSWA will submit the nomination for the national award.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Education Advisory Committee

SLSWA ASSESSOR OF THE YEAR

This award recognises and rewards assessors who have made a significant contribution towards the area of education and awards within surf lifesaving.

Please note: SLSWA reserves the right to make internal nominations for this award, in addition to those received from clubs.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Responses are to be completed in a word document and answer the three questions below (with each answer no more than 400 words) for the period of May 1, to April 30, of the given season, unless otherwise stated.

1. Tell us about the assessor being nominated.
2. What has been achieved?
3. What impact has this had, and for whom?

When showcasing the Assessor, you may want to consider the questions below:

- What relevant positions, roles or responsibilities do they hold?
- Have they done something in response to an identified need or problem?
- Have they done something new or different to achieve results?
- Have they inspired others to think or to do things differently?
- Have they had to overcome any challenges to make a difference or achieve success?
- Do they model positive and supportive attitudes, behaviours and actions?

Winners of the SLSWA Assessor of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Assessor of the Year**. SLSWA will submit the nomination for the national award.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA Education Advisory Committee

SURF LIFE SAVING WA NOMINATED AWARDS

The following awards do not require club nomination.

Please note: Clubs may be consulted in relation to nominees and are encouraged to put forward individuals who they feel should be nominated.

SLSWA BERNIE KELLY MEDAL

The Bernie Kelly Medal is presented for the most outstanding performance by a competitor, or competitors, in the Open Age competition at the SunSmart WA Surf Life Saving Championships for the current season.

The namesake of this award, Bernie Kelly, is recognised as the first ever West Australian surf sports competitor to win an Aussie title – the Belt Race in 1947.

SLSWA SUPPORT OPERATIONS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises a member who have made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving frontline services during the season, while part of SLSWA Support Operations Groups (i.e., Woodside Jet Ski teams, Drone Patrol, Abalone Patrol and Peer Support Network).

It is aimed at active surf lifesavers, taking into account extended duties over and above their club-based requirements and who can be presented as an “ambassador” for Surf Life Saving. This category may be awarded to an individual or a group of surf lifesavers.

SLSWA OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

This award recognises an accredited surf sports official who has made a significant contribution to officiating at a state, national and/or international level and to the educational development of other officials in Surf Life Saving.

Winners of the SLSWA Official of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Official of the Year** award. SLSWA will submit the nomination for the national award.

SLSWA ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

This award recognises an athlete aged 15 or older who has achieved sporting excellence in Open Age competition, as well as contributed to the area of surf sports within surf life saving during the season. Areas considered may include performance in major competitions or competition series, participation in representative teams, and any other areas where the nominee has made an important contribution to Surf Life Saving.

Winners of the SLSWA Athlete of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Athlete of the Year** award. SLSWA will submit the nomination for the national award.

SLSWA YOUNG ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

This award recognises an athlete from the U17/U19 age group who has achieved sporting excellence in U17 to Open Age competition, as well as contributed to the area of surf sports within surf life saving during the season. Areas considered may include performance in major competitions or competition series, participation in representative teams, and any other areas where the nominee has made an important contribution to Surf Life Saving.

Winners of the SLSWA Young Athlete of the Year Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Youth Athlete of the Year** award. SLSWA will submit the nomination for the national award.

SLSWA SURF SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR

This award recognises outstanding achievement/s by a team with respect to surf lifesaving competitions at international, national and/or state level during the season. Areas considered may include performance in major competitions or competition series, participation in representative teams, and any other areas where the nominated team have made an important contribution to Surf Life Saving.

Winners of this State Award will go on to represent WA at the SLSA Awards of Excellence for the **SLSA Surf Sports Team of the Year** award. SLSWA will submit the nomination for the national award.

Presentation of award: SLSWA Awards of Excellence

Judging panel: SLSWA internal nominations

SLSWA NIPPER AND YOUTH AWARDS

These awards recognise the outstanding achievements of nipper and youth members across the state and are presented at the **Annual Nipper & Youth Awards** event.

NIPPER SURF SPORTS AGE CHAMPIONS (U10-U13)

The Nipper Surf Sports Age Champions will be determined for each gender age group based on performances at the WA Surf Life Saving Nipper Championships (also includes the Nipper Beach Championships if held on alternate date). The winners of each gender age group will be determined by tallying the number of individual gold medals won. In the case of a tie, the determination will then be made based on the number of individual silver medals won and then individual bronze medals won. If still undetermined, team medals will be taken into consideration, with gold considered firstly, then silver, then bronze.

Judging panel: SLSWA internal selection based on criteria

NIPPER ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

The Nipper Athlete of the Year award recognises a Nipper member (U10 - U13) who has demonstrated sporting excellence in surf sports within Surf Life Saving during the current season. Performances at the current WA Surf Life Saving Nipper Championships and the Australian Youth Championships will be considered.

Judging panel: SLSWA internal selection based on criteria

NIPPER CLUB ACHIEVER

This award recognises the outstanding club contributions of one Nipper member (preferably an Under 13 age group member but must be in U10's or above) and their achievement of the outcomes in the areas of individual safety, surf awareness, lifesaving and surf sports skills as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program. A Club Officer will be required to complete and submit a nomination form addressing the criteria below. Nominations will also be used by the Development Committee to determine the Nipper of the Year.

CRITERIA

1. Achievement of **individual safety** outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
2. Achievement of **surf awareness** outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
3. Achievement of the **lifesaving** outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
4. Achievement of the **surf sports skills** outcomes as prescribed in the Woodside Nipper Program
5. Attitude displayed by member e.g., positive, tries their best, team orientated, respectful, role model
6. Level of participation of member – attendance on Sundays, at training, at carnivals
7. Contribution to club

Judging panel: One nomination only per Club

NIPPER OF THE YEAR

Each nominated Nipper Club Achiever will be considered for the Nipper of the Year, which will be determined by the Development Committee and announced at the Awards Ceremony. It is imperative therefore, that clubs ensure they clearly address the criteria for Nipper Club Achiever to give their member the best possible chance of becoming the Nipper of the Year.

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee (from Club nominated Nipper Club Achievers)

U14 & U15 SURF SPORTS AGE CHAMPIONS

The under 14 Surf Sports Age Champions will be determined for each gender age group based on performances at the WA Surf Life Saving Championships (Beach & Ocean events). The winners will be determined by tallying the number of individual gold medals won. In the case of a tie the determination will then be made based on the number of individual silver medals won and then individual bronze medals won. If still undetermined, team medals will be taken into consideration with gold considered firstly, then silver, then bronze.

Judging panel: SLSWA internal selection based on criteria

U14/U15 ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

This award recognises an under 14 or under 15 youth member who has demonstrated sporting excellence in surf sports within Surf Life Saving for the relevant season. Performances in representative teams, at and any other areas where the nominee has made an important contribution to Surf Life Saving. Performances at the current season's SunSmart WA Surf Life Saving Championships and the Australian Youth Championships will be considered.

Judging panel: SLSWA internal selection based on criteria

U14/U15 LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises outstanding patrolling service during the season by a youth member. Only Youth Members in the U14 or U15 age group are eligible for this award. A Club Officer will be required to complete and submit the nomination form which will be made available via Circular.

CRITERIA

1. Attitude displayed by member whilst on patrol e.g., positive, team orientated, respectful
2. Level of participation of member – hours this season to date, roles undertaken

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee (One nomination only per Club)

YOUTH OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

This award recognises and rewards a youth member who has made an outstanding contribution to officiating during the season. The member must be a registered SLSWA Youth Official. Clubs are invited to nominate one registered youth official (U14 – U17) via the nomination form which will be made available via Circular. SLSWA may also nominate youth members for this award.

CRITERIA

1. Attitude displayed by member whilst acting as an Official e.g., positive, team orientated, respectful.
2. Level of participation of member – carnivals attended in the season, roles undertaken.

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee (One nomination only per Club)

YOUTH CLUB ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR

This award recognises the outstanding club contributions of one youth member (Under 14 – Under 17) in the areas of lifesaving, training, leadership and surf sports. A Club Officer will be required to complete and submit a nomination form addressing the criteria below. Please note, the nomination will be used by the Development Committee to determine the Youth of the Year.

CRITERIA

1. Achievement in **lifesaving** area – hours on patrol to date this season, awards gained this season
2. Achievement in **training** area – assistance provided to training area, training award gained
3. Achievement in **leadership** area – leadership activities undertaken, registered for YLP
4. Achievement in **surf sports** area – club, interclub, coaching, officiating
5. Attitude displayed by member e.g., positive, tries their best, team orientated, respectful, role model
6. Level of participation of member – attendance on Sundays, at training, at carnivals
7. Contribution to club

Judging panel: One nomination only per Club – SLSWA Development Advisory Committee will determine the winner

YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Each nominated Youth Club Achiever will be considered for the Youth of the Year, which will be determined by the Development Committee and announced at the Awards Ceremony. It is imperative therefore, that clubs ensure they clearly address the criteria for Youth Club Achiever to give their member the best possible chance of becoming the Youth of the Year.

SELECTION

The recipient will be selected from Club nominated Youth Club Achievers.

Judging panel: SLSWA Development Advisory Committee (from Club nominated Youth Club Achievers)

GOLD LEVEL YOUTH LEADERS PROGRAM

SLSWA will invite all youth who achieve Gold Level in the Youth Leaders Program (YLP) during the season, to the ceremony. This ceremony will be an appropriate occasion to recognise the commitment of these youth members to the Surf Life Saving movement. Due to the earlier date of the Youth & Nipper Award ceremony, a closing date for completed Gold Level Recording Sheets will be advised via Circular ahead of the event.

SELECTION

SLSWA will invite those who have achieved Gold Level in the Youth Leaders Program.

SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA SERVICE CERTIFICATES

SLSA has established Service Certificates, which are available to members of Affiliated Clubs in recognition of their long service to the various core service deliverables in the movement. These include patrolling, officiating, coaching, age managing, training, assessing, facilitating and sustained contribution to Surf Life Saving.

OFFICIATING, COACHING AND AGE MANAGER SERVICE CERTIFICATES

Recognition of long service as officials and/or coaches and to junior activities as age managers.

These National Service Certificates are issued for:

- 5 years of service
- 10 years of service
- 15 years of service
- 20 years of service
- 25 years of service
- 30 years of service
- 35 years of service
- 40 years of service
- 45 years of service
- 50 years of service

In any of the three categories identified (i.e. officiating/coaching/age manager).

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

People eligible for these awards are:

- Members, whose period of service begins from their initial recognition as the holder of a qualification in the areas of age manager, competition officiating or coaching
- Where the years of membership are not continuous they shall be aggregated
- Applicants must fulfil the active membership requirements for their respective Board of Lifesaving/ Surf Sports/Development and receive endorsement from this board.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications should be made directly through SurfGuard as an assessment request, with the process being finalised at a state level. Clubs are also to provide a completed "Form 116/03 – Application for Officiating, Coaching, , Assessing, Training, Facilitating and Age Manager Service Awards". The Form 116 is available through the SLS Hub document library.

Award sponsor: SLSA

Presentation of award: Club level

Submitted to: SLSWA

TRAINING, ASSESSING AND FACILITATING SERVICE CERTIFICATES

Recognition of long service as trainers, assessors and/or facilitators.

These National Service Certificates are issued for:

- 5 years of service
- 10 years of service
- 15 years of service
- 20 years of service
- 25 years of service
- 30 years of service
- 35 years of service
- 40 years of service
- 45 years of service
- 50 years of service

In any of the two categories identified (i.e. training/facilitating).

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

People eligible for these awards are:

- Members whose period of service begins from their initial recognition as the holder of a qualification in the areas of training or facilitating.
- Where the years of membership are not continuous they shall be aggregated.
- Applicants must fulfil the active membership requirements for their respective Board of Lifesaving/ Surf Sports/Development and receive endorsement from this board.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications should be made directly through SurfGuard as an assessment request, with the process being finalised at a state level. Clubs are also to provide a completed "Form 116/03 – Application for Coaching, Officiating, Assessing, Training, Facilitating and Age Manager Service Awards". The Form 116 is available through the SLS Hub document library.

Award sponsor: SLSA

Presentation of award: Club level

Submitted to: SLSWA

LONG SERVICE AWARD

SLSA has long service awards to recognise members for their sustained contribution to Surf Life Saving. These long service awards are issued for:

- 25 years Long Service
- 30 years Long Service
- 40 years Long Service
- 50 years Long Service
- 60 years Long Service
- 70 years Long Service
- 75 years Long Service

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- The award may be issued after the respective years' membership of SLSA.
- Years of membership shall commence from the date of joining an affiliated club, or a ladies auxiliary or former junior surf lifesaving association, but not earlier than the age to become eligible to obtain SLSA Surf Rescue Certificate, whichever shall be the later date. Where the years of membership are not continuous they shall be aggregated.
- The details of the members qualifying for the award shall include their bronze medallion number or proof of date of joining an affiliated club, ladies auxiliary or former junior surf lifesaving association.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Members can apply for Service Certificates via the "Submit a Form" sub-menu in the SLS Hub portal. Applications will then be processed at a State level.

Award sponsor: SLSA

Presentation of award: Club level

Submitted to: SLSWA

NATIONAL PATROL SERVICE CERTIFICATE

The National Patrol Service Award is available to Surf Life Saving Australia volunteers who are eligible with a minimum of 16 hours each season.

These Patrol Service Awards are classified as follows:

- 5 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 10 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 15 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 20 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 25 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 30 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 35 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 40 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 45 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 50 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 55 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 60 year National Patrol Service Certificate
- 65 year National Patrol Service Certificate

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Persons eligible for the National Patrol Service award are:

- Bronze Medallion holders whose period of service eligibility begins from their initial patrol duties as the holder of this qualification.
- Members who hold one or more qualifications in the following award streams – patrolling lifesaver, emergency care or radio.
- In the case of Award members, eligibility for the patrol service award shall commence from the date of obtaining the relevant certificate.
- The person must have personally completed a 100% patrol service relevant to their membership category for that season with a minimum of 16 hours being completed per season.
- Years of patrol service may be calculated from the Surf Rescue Certificate or the years of patrol as an active cadet.
- Definition of a patrol shall include:
 - Rostered Beach Patrol
 - Rostered Powercraft Patrol i.e., Jet Boat, ORB, Jet Ski
 - Rostered Helicopter Rescue Service Patrol
 - Rostered Radio Patrol or Radio Room Duty

Note: You cannot redeem water safety hours as part of the Patrol Service Award unless part of a rostered patrol under the direction of the patrol captain.

A successfully completed patrol must have been undertaken in full accordance with the obligations and regulations of the organisation as well as the club/service concerned. The member must have successfully

completed the prescribed annual skills maintenance for the club/service.

Absences from the club/service for approved leave of absence or other exemption from patrol duty shall not be credited to the acquiring of the patrol service award. However, the credit of years of service can be recommenced when resuming full patrol duty and will then be added to the previous total of 100% patrol years.

If correctly documented and verified by the appropriate officer of a member's club/s, then years of full patrol duty with one or more clubs can be accumulated to arrive at the total of years for the patrol service award.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application can be lodged by either the member, or the member's current club/service via the "Submit a Form" sub-menu in the SLS Hub portal. **Note:** Applications for this award are processed at a national level.

Award sponsor: SLSA

Presentation of award: Club level

Submitted to: SLSA

SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA AWARDS

The following awards are issued through Surf Life Saving Australia and form part of the SLSA Rewards and Recognition Framework. Further details of these awards and how they are considered and presented can be found in the SLSA Rewards and Recognition Framework document available through the [SLS Hub](#)

NATIONAL MEDAL

The National Medal was established by the Commonwealth of Australia in 1975 as one of the original elements of the distinctive Australian system of honours and awards. The medal recognises long service in organisations that protect life and property at some risk to their members. The National Medal is available to Surf Life Saving Australia volunteers and lifeguards who are eligible and proficient with **a minimum of 30 patrol hours each season, who have completed a minimum period of 15 full seasons, from 18th September 1986.**

SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA HONOURS

The SLSA Honours System recognises those individual members whose volunteering has rendered a distinguished, sustained and conspicuous service to SLSA over a period of at least 20 years.

Candidates in the first instance are nominated by the President or two members of SLSA and made via [SLSA online form](#).

SURF LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA MERITORIOUS AWARDS

Meritorious awards are awarded to affiliated clubs and/or their members and/or the public for outstanding deeds of bravery performed during lifesaving operations of SLSA (during and outside of designated patrol hours).

Individual Meritorious Awards

- Silver Medallion • Bronze Medallion • Certificate of Merit

Group or Club Meritorious Awards

The group or club award is issued for rescues of exceptional merit, in which a group of members are involved and where no individuals can be singled out for an award.

- Certificate of Merit with Silver Medallion inset
- Certificate of Merit with Bronze Medallion inset
- Certificate of Merit

Commendation

Commendations recognise outstanding team work, rescue skills, rescue management, individual displays of initiative and resourcefulness, and well conducted rescue activity (e.g., first aid, resuscitation, IRB rescues, board and tube rescues etc.) by members of Surf Life Saving Australia. This recognition award includes rescues or application of lifesaving skills by club members in exceptional circumstances on or off the beach, e.g., resuscitation of a person struck by lightning.

SLSA NATIONAL INNOVATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

A well-researched concept, piece of equipment, program or event which is/has been implemented to improve any facet of Surf Life Saving.

The innovation may have been developed in conjunction with an external body/sponsor but must be owned by a member or group of members of an affiliated SLS club.

THE ORDER OF SURF LIFE SAVING

Available to individual/s or corporations in recognition of their contribution to SLSA as benefactors.

An award in the Order of Surf Life Saving is to be in one of the four categories (Companion, Fellow, Member, Associate) dependent on the size of the financial donation or bequest.

Orders of Surf Life Saving is delegated to the President and/or the SLSA Board.

SLSA HALL OF FAME

The SLSA Hall of Fame is an integral part of recognising the achievements and efforts of members in the SLS movement. Hall of Fame permanently displays, commemorates and recognises members and teams who have achieved outstanding accomplishments and exceptional contributions to the development of SLS in Australia.

Each award is allocated under the following categories:

Surf Lifesaving

Recognising those who have been involved in all facets of surf lifesaving operations. Examples are active patrolling, training, assessment, rescue services and the general support activities involved in beach patrols, search and rescue and surveillance.

Surf Lifesaving – Administration

Recognising those involved in the purely administrative aspects of surf lifesaving. Examples are, but not limited to, club secretaries and treasurers. This category also includes surf sports officials.

Surf Lifesaving – Sport

Recognising those who have excelled in lifesaving sports and/or the coaching and training associated with lifesaving sports.

SLSA RESCUE MEDAL

The SLSA Rescue Medal (SRM) (formerly Rescue of the Month) aims to recognise excellence in lifesaving and service delivery, measured against industry best practice and operating procedures. It is not to encourage unnecessary risk, neglect safety considerations or Standard Operating Procedures.

The SLSA Rescue Medal is assessed twice per year by SLSA with awards presented at forums held mid and end of each year. The presentation of awards may take place at a nationally hosted event or provided to States/Territory for presentation with appropriate representatives within their local area.

ILS CITATION

According to International Life Saving (ILS) the minimum criteria for the ILS citation are:

- Any person who has contributed to the furtherance of life saving and the goals of ILS in a manner of enduring, global importance.

As a member nation, SLSA has the responsibility of nominating and issuing ILS citations to its individual members. In order to ensure that the members who deserve these awards are being appropriately recognised, SLSA has developed the criteria and nomination timeline which can be viewed in the SLSA Reward and Recognition Framework.

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