

Circular

Title:	Wetsuit Distribution Campaign
Date:	12 August 2021
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Department:	Lifesaving
From:	Mick Owens, Support Operations Officer Ph: 08 9207 6666 (SLSWA Office Hours Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm) Email: mowens@slnwa.com.au
Audience:	Directors of Lifesaving, Directors of Power Craft
Summary:	Based on stock holdings, SLSWA will continue the distribution of wetsuits to IRB Driver award holders and RWC Operators for the 2021/22 season. Eligibility criteria applies.
Action:	Directors of Lifesaving / Power Craft Officers are requested to leverage this initiative to encourage members to upskill into higher powercraft awards.

Background

During the 2020/21 season, the SLSWA Board of Directors resolved to allocate funds to support a one-off initiative to issue power craft operators with a wetsuit. This included allocation of a new wetsuit to IRB Driver award holders as well as renewal of wetsuits historically allocated to RWC Operator award holders.

SLSWA can now advise that based on available stores, this initiative will be continued for the 2021/22 season. The same eligibility criteria will apply.

Action Required

Directors of Lifesaving / Power Craft Officers are requested to leverage this initiative to encourage members to upskill into powercraft awards. Powercraft are key to lifesaving service delivery and these awards also provide a great pathway opportunity for patrolling members.

For any questions relating to the distribution of wetsuits and related process, please contact Mick Owens (Support Operations Officer) via phone (08) 9207 6666 or via email mowens@slnwa.com.au.



James O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENT

1. Wetsuit design and supplier

- The wetsuits have been designed and supplied by OceanBuilt.
- They are made from synthetic, elastic rubber, known as Neoprene.
- They are 2mm arm and leg and 3mm torso thickness.
- They are all black in colour with key SLSWA branding requirements printed as appropriate.
 (Please note, that an approved yellow rash vest may be worn over the top of the wetsuit, at the discretion of the power craft operator and their respective Club).

Photos of the new wetsuit is shown below:



Preview of the new Steamer and Spring Suit



Preview of the new Spring Suit with SLSWA PFD

2. Eligibility Criteria

SLSWA will distribute wetsuits to active patrolling members who meet the following eligibility criteria as reflected in Surf Guard.

- Financial
 - Members must be a current financial member for the 2021/22 season.
- IRBD award holders
 - Members that were proficient in the IRB Driver award at the conclusion of the 2020/21 patrolling season and did not receive a wetsuit during the 2020/21 distribution are eligible to receive a short leg/long arm spring suit.
 - Members that achieve their IRB Diver award in 2021/22 patrolling season will be eligible to receive a short leg/long arm spring wetsuit.
 - Members that received a wetsuit during the 2020/21 distribution will not be eligible to receive a new short leg/long arm spring wetsuit.
- RWC Operator award holders
 - Members that achieve their RWC Operator award in 2021/22 patrolling season will be eligible to receive a long leg/long arm steamer wetsuit.
 - Members that received a wetsuit during the 2020/21 distribution will not be eligible to receive a new long leg/long arm steamer wetsuit.

- Dual award holders
 - Members that have received a wetsuit because they were an eligible RWC Operator and are also a proficient IRB Driver will not be eligible to receive a second wetsuit.
 - Members that achieve the RWC Operator award in the 2021/22 patrolling season and have already received a wetsuit as part of the distribution outlined in this memo because they were /are an eligible IRB Driver award holder, will not be eligible to receive a second wetsuit.