



WATER SAFETY POLICY - PROCEDURES

6. **SUNDAY MORNING SURF RACE AND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

[Applies to 11am Sunday morning surf race and U15 - Veterans club championships].

1. Water safety supervisor to be Club Handicapper (Sunday morning surf race) or designated person (club championships).
2. Water safety supervisor needs to be at least 18, hold BM as a minimum and be proficient.
3. Water safety supervisor must undertake risk assessment prior to any water component of the proficiency taking place.
4. Water safety supervisor needs to ensure that –
 - Risk assessment documentation completed
 - Rescue equipment is available – can include boards and tubes being used in the event(s) by others
 - Participants confirm that they are ok to participate and that they are not carrying any injuries that may impact on their ability to participate in the proficiency.
 - Participants capable of coping with the conditions
 - Appropriate water safety personnel are present. Water safety personnel must be qualified (SRC or BM) and proficient and competent for the conditions.
5. If the risk assessment indicates a high risk, the training session must not take place.
6. A standardised risk assessment form may be possible but the variable nature and impact of the surf, wind and tide on safety together with the varying levels of competency of the participants means a standardised approach may not be considered appropriate in the event of an accident.
7. If participants already have SRC or BM, water safety supervisor has to ensure that there is at least 1 nominated water safety person for each 12 participants. If some or all participants do not have SRC or BM, the ratio is 1 to 5 (low risk) or 1 to 4 (moderate risk). **If all participants are proficient SRC or BM holders**, the one on one buddy system can be used without a need to nominate water safety personnel. A water safety supervisor will still need to be nominated and a risk assessment completed.
8. For Sunday morning surf race and surf races in club championships, water safety personnel cannot be participants in the race. Depending on the

conditions, it may be appropriate for participants in board and ski races to be nominated as water safety personnel for the event.

9. Subject to minimum patrol requirements being met and the approval of the patrol captain (who is to consider issue based on prevailing conditions at the time), suitably qualified excess patrol members are to undertake water safety for the event(s). Water safety supervisor needs to consult with the patrol captain or lifeguard to determine where the event(s) is to take place.
10. The patrol captain or lifeguard has ultimate authority to determine where the event(s) is to occur. **The patrol captain or lifeguard has responsibility to ensure that sufficient water safety is available for the event(s).** Patrol members undertaking water safety must wear patrol cap and patrol rash vest or other distinguishing patrol gear.
11. If the prevailing conditions result in the patrol captain not releasing patrol members for water safety duties, a sufficient number of appropriately qualified members are to be nominated for the role. Nominated members are not to be participants in the event(s) for which they are providing water safety.
12. Water safety supervisor is to ensure that all completed risk assessment documentation is returned to the club for filing.