

BY- LAW

NO. 10

ISSUE: Club Awards and other forms of Member Recognition

COMMENCED: 11/3/2010

LAST UPDATED: 9/9/2021

PROVISIONS:

General

1. The matters to be taken into account in relation to the various club awards and other forms of member recognition will be as detailed in this By-law.
2. Subject to the Constitution, the Executive Committee can at any time vary the details relating to any Club award or other form of member recognition, including instigating and terminating such awards and other forms of recognition.
3. The matters to be taken into account for recognition of long service, patrol service and other matters determined by the SLSA shall be in accordance with relevant SLSA rules and regulations and or other By-laws as may be applicable.
4. (a) Unless otherwise indicated, all awards or other forms of member recognition will be determined by the Executive Committee. If after considering the relevant guidelines applying to any particular award, the merits of two or more members cannot be distinguished, the award may be presented on a shared basis. Subject to the constitution and provided individual award requirements are met, the Executive Committee has the absolute discretion to approve any award for any financial member.

(b) Subject to meeting any guidelines for individual awards, any financial member may nominate and be nominated for a club award.

Awards Panel

5. (a) The Awards Panel shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Executive Committee for the following awards –

- (i) Club Honour Blazer
- (ii) Club Person of the Year
- (iii) Young Club Person of the Year
- (iv) Scholarship Award
- (v) Prominent Service Awards

(b) The panel shall consist of a minimum of 3 members of the club chosen by the Executive Committee. As far as practicable the members should be representative of the broader membership within the senior section of the club. Members of the Executive Committee cannot be members of the Panel.

(c) All nominations received from members for the awards referred to in 5(a) shall be referred to the Panel for its consideration. The Panel may also make its own nominations for any of the relevant awards.

(d) If a member is nominated for a particular award referred to in 5(a), the Panel may, if it considers it appropriate to do so, recommend the member for another award referred to in that clause.

(e) The Panel is to ensure the guidelines in this By-Law relating to the awards referred to in Clause 5(a) are met when recommending a member for any award.

(f) The Panel can determine its own process for dealing with award nominations and may make its own inquiries of members in order to satisfy itself of the merits of any particular nomination for an award.

(g) The Executive Officer may provide or arrange for the provision of administrative support to the Panel.

(h) A member of the Panel may be present at an Executive Committee meeting to answer any questions the Executive Committee may have prior to its consideration and voting on any recommendation.

Life Membership

6. Life membership may be awarded to a member who demonstrates distinguished or special service for the Club.
7. In determining the extent and quality of any distinguished or special service, the Life Membership Panel is to have regard to –
 - How long the person has been a member of the Club
 - Whether the person has served on the Executive Committee

- Whether the person has undertaken any other roles within the Club and for how long that service was undertaken
 - Whether the person has taken on additional responsibilities for the Club and for how long
 - Any service rendered which can reasonably be considered to be in excess of the requirements of any elected or official position the person has performed
 - Any other matter considered relevant by the Life Membership Panel.
8. The member's commitment to fair play, respect for other members and adherence to the rules of the Club and SLSA governing bodies is also to be taken into consideration. In this regard, the Life Membership Panel is entitled to take into consideration any previous disciplinary action at Club or higher level against the member.
9. While a member's competition record for the Club can be considered, it will not be given the same weight as the matters referred to in 6 & 7.
10. The matters referred to in 7 are not mandatory and are of equal importance when determining a member's overall record of Club membership.
- Note: The procedure to be followed for the nomination of members for life membership is set out in clause 24 of the Club Constitution.

Gordon Jones Honour Blazer

Gordon Jones had a long running association with the Club in his capacity as a local councillor and Mayor of Warringah. He was a staunch supporter of the Club and he felt it important to recognise the efforts of club members by donating an annual Blazer for the person considered to have made an outstanding contribution to the Club throughout the season. His son Darren, also a local councillor and Mayor of Warringah has continued the tradition set by his father of donating the annual jacket. The Blazer is considered the most prestigious annual award presented by the Club.

11. A major award presented to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the club during the course of the season.
12. The following matters are taken into account when determining the recipient –
- The person's contribution to club related activities which includes but is not limited to lifesaving, training, competition, administration, coaching, duties as an official, performing any role within the club and participation in club events and social activities,
 - Whether the person has represented the club at meetings or on committees involving Sydney Northern Beaches SLS, NSW SLS, SLSA or any other external bodies,

- Any other matters the Awards Panel and or Executive Committee considers relevant

Distinguished Service Award

13. An award to recognise members who have provided both sustained and conspicuous service to the club at any time during their membership of the club.
14. The award will be presented to any member (not including Life Members) who has served the club at the requisite level in various aspects of club related activities which includes but is not limited to lifesaving, training, competition, administration, coaching, duties as an official, performing any role within the club and participation in club events and social activities,
15. A maximum of 2 distinguished service awards will be issued in any one season. The Honours Panel shall be responsible for identifying and recommending members for the award to the Executive Committee.

Club Person of the Year and Young Club Person of the Year

16. An award recognising significant involvement during the course of the season by a member in multiple aspects of club related activities including the level of support provided to other members.
17. Club related activities includes but is not limited to lifesaving, training, competition, administration, coaching, duties as an official, performing any role within the club and participation in club events and social activities,
18. The Club Person of the Year Award will be awarded to a member who is in any age category older than Under 23s. Any member who is in the Under 23 or younger age groups shall be eligible for the Young Club Person of the Year Award. Junior activity members will not be eligible except for those who hold their SRC. Eligibility for either award will be based on the member's age as at 30 September in the current season.

Meritorious Award for Lifesaving or Bravery

19. An award (not necessarily annual) to recognise members who have been instrumental in saving a life or who have participated in a rescue or attempted rescue and, in relation to the bravery award, in circumstances where their own safety has been at a heightened level of risk. The events giving rise to consideration for the award are not restricted to the surf or beach related activities.

20. The following matters can be taken into account when determining the recipient –
- The actions of the person(s) saved or contributed to the saving of a life
 - The actions of the person(s) were above or beyond the normal call of duty
 - The person(s) undertook the actions as a volunteer and not as part of the person's employment
 - The person(s) has put their life in potential danger to save the life or to perform the rescue.
 - The actions of the person(s) occurred in circumstances which were dangerous or out of the ordinary (e.g. late or early in the day when lifeguards or patrols are not on duty)

Prominent Service Award

21. An award to recognise members who have provided prominent service to the club during the course of the season in any club related activities.
22. A maximum of 5 prominent service awards will be issued in any one season.

Patrol and Lifesaving Awards

23. Where applicable the following general matters apply and or will be taken into account in respect of all patrol and lifesaving awards -
- (i) the member must be a financial member of the club
 - (ii) the member's total number of patrol hours completed for the season not including any penalty patrol hours
 - (iii) the patrol hours must be completed for Freshwater SLSC unless prior approval from the Director of Lifesaving is given to count patrol service completed elsewhere such as at another club or life saving service
 - (iv) the number of "no shows" recorded for the member during the season with greater weight being given to those who have no such entries on their patrol record
 - (v) the number of exemptions from patrol service granted during the season with greater weight being given to those who have no such entries on their patrol record
 - (vi) the number of lifesaving awards the member has completed
 - (vii) the overall contribution the member has made to the club throughout the season in other roles such as trainer, carnival official, administration and training

- (viii) the member's competition results throughout the season but only if a determination cannot be made based on the other matters listed above.
24. In reviewing the matters outlined in clause 22, greatest weight will be given to (ii), followed in order by (iv), (v), (vi), (vii) & (viii).

Patrol Person of the Year

25. The award is open to all membership categories. The matters referred to in paragraph 23 will be used to determine this award.

Rookie Patrol Person of the Year

26. The award is for members who have completed their first patrol season or less after gaining their bronze medallion award. The matters referred to in paragraph 23 will also be taken into account when determining this award.

Youth Patrol Person of the Year

27. The award is for cadet and active junior members who are proficient in either the Surf Rescue Certificate or the Bronze Medallion. The matters referred to in paragraph 23 will also be taken into account when determining this award.

100% Patrol Achievement

28. Awarded to any member who has completed 100% of their rostered patrol hours, including any substituted patrols that have been reciprocated.. Members who have any missed patrols will not be eligible.

Patrol of the Year

29. If a club patrol competition is run in any season, the rules applicable to that competition will be used to determine the patrol of the year. If a competition is not held, then the following matters will be taken into account –
- the patrol with the least number of no-shows as a percentage of the total number of members on the patrol. This aspect is to be given the greatest weight in determining the award;
 - the patrol that has gained the most number of awards (not including units of competency) as a percentage of the number of members on that patrol;
 - the total hours performed by the patrol over the course of the season;

- the accuracy of patrol information, statistics and related information into the surf lifesaving app or other forms of record keeping;
- whether patrol members have had to attend to any major incidents during the season, including the quality of their response to such incidents.

IRB Driver of the Year Award

30. An award not necessarily presented annually to the IRB driver considered by the Director Lifesaving, in consultation with other proficient IRB drivers, to have made the greatest contribution to the club throughout the season. The award is to be determined by the IRB drivers engaging in a secret ballot with each driver having one vote only.

SLSA Service and Related Awards

31. The club may make application on behalf of members to relevant lifesaving organisations for the following SLSA Service and related awards –

- (i), 25, 50, 60, 70, 75 & 80 year service pins and certificates
- (ii) 10 year Patrol Service Award
- (iii) 15 year National Patrol Service Award
- (iv) Any other SLSA Service or Patrol service related award if the Executive Committee is of the view the individual circumstances warrant the application being made.

32. Members who achieve 75 years membership of the club may be presented with a framed club cap in recognition of the achievement.

Competition Awards

33. The following list of competition awards will be issued each year:
- Most Outstanding Swimmer Award
 - Most Outstanding Board Paddler Award
 - Most Outstanding Ski Paddler Award
 - Most Outstanding Rower Award
 - Most Outstanding Beach Competitor
 - Most Outstanding Surfboard Rider Award
 - Most Outstanding Life Saving Competitor Award
 - Most Outstanding Masters Competitor Award
 - Most Outstanding March Past Competitor Award
 - Most Outstanding R&R Competitor Award
 - Most Outstanding Competition Team of the Year Award (teams defined in accordance with SLSA Surf Sports Manual)

In determining outstanding performance, the following factors are to be taken into account –

- Whether the member(s) has represented the Club at State or Australian level though not necessarily having made State or Australian finals or won medals at either championship
- Whether the member(s) has represented the Club during the season on a consistent basis at any or all of the following carnivals –
 - NSW Premiership or equivalent
 - those held in other branches
 - local, including branch championships (but not including junior activities carnivals)
 - commemorative or other special events

34. If two or more competitors in any particular discipline (or two or more teams in respect of the team award) are considered to be equal in terms of outstanding performance, the following matters will be taken into account in determining the recipient of the award –

- Whether the member(s) has completed at least 25 patrol hours (not including penalty patrols) during the competition season
- Whether the member(s) has put themselves forward for team events at carnivals and willingly competed in team events when selected
- Subject to any relevant allowance being made for other training commitments, place of residence/work and work and or study commitments, whether the member(s) has participated in organised Club training activities on a regular basis
- Whether the member(s) has provided guidance or assistance to other members, including any formal or informal coaching duties.
- The member's commitment to fair play, respect for other members and general assistance offered in the relevant competition area.
- The member's participation in club related activities over the course of the season.

35. In respect of awards for March Past and R&R, coaches will be deemed to be competitors.

36. In determining nominees for any competition award, other club members may be consulted including the Director Lifesaving, coaches and fellow competitors. Recommendations for the awards will be made by the Surf Sports Panel to the Executive Committee.

Scholarship Award

37. This is an annual award designed to assist younger members in their careers after leaving school. The scholarship is presented to assist the

recipient to purchase equipment, books or other materials for their employment and or tertiary study.

38. The following matters will be taken into account when determining the recipient –
- Whether the person had fulfilled his her Club patrol obligations
 - The person has recently finished school and has commenced a new apprenticeship or tertiary education
 - The degree to which the person has assisted and or represented the club in competition, training activities, club functions, Australia Day carnival, Masters Carnival, Bennett Board Carnival, Barney Mullins Swim, patrol and lifesaving functions, training and assessment and other approved Club activities
 - Any other matters the Executive Committee considers relevant.
39. The amount to be awarded each year for the scholarship shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Don Lees Honour Blazer

In 1966 the junior activities club was established at Freshwater surf club. It was associated with the Freshwater SLSC but was a separate club in all respects. The junior club awarded long serving members with Life memberships for their service and contribution to the club.

In the years after 1966, after many junior clubs were formed around Australia, Surf Life Saving Australia decided that these clubs should be part of the existing surf life saving clubs. At this point the Freshwater junior club became part of the Freshwater SLSC. Accordingly the life memberships to the junior club were no longer possible.

Don Lees established an Honour Blazer to replace the life memberships. Don was a Life Member of the Club and was instrumental in initiating and maintaining the involvement of the Club in the annual City to Surf Fun Run. The award is one of the most prestigious awards in the club.

40. An award (not necessarily annual) which is similar in status to life membership of the junior activities section. The matters to be taken into account for this award will include-
- The person has been associated with the junior activities section of the Club for at least 8 years, and or
 - The person has served on the Junior Activities Committee for at least 6 years, and or
 - The person has contributed to the junior members and the junior activities section of the Club in an outstanding way.
41. Nominations can be made by any person associated with the junior activities section or any member of the Club. Nominations are to be

considered by the Junior Activities Committee and if a 75% affirmative vote of that Committee agrees, a recommendation for conferment of the award is to be made to the Executive Committee which shall support or reject the recommendation.

John Cahalan Award for Junior Activities Member of the Year

John Cahalan was a foundation member of the junior club and occupied a number of executive positions on the junior club committee.

42. A major Club award presented annually to a junior activities member for outstanding participation and commitment to junior activities. The matters to be taken into account for this award will include –
- Whether the member has attended regularly
 - Whether the member has shown an interest in not only their own age group but also younger junior activities members
 - Whether the member has assisted with training and encouraged others
 - Whether the person has helped with the beach set up and or pack up on Sunday mornings
 - Whether the member has participated in all club activities such as fund raising and attended all relevant club functions.
43. Age managers shall nominate members for the award. All nominations will be reviewed by the Junior Activities Committee who will determine the recipient of the award.

Cathy Crozier Award

Cathy was an age manager who regarded all the children in her age group as if they were her own. Easy going and relaxed in nature, Cathy carried out her role with no fuss and always ensured the children came first whether at carnivals or on Sunday at Freshwater. Cathy loved the social life of the Freshie community, working tirelessly behind the scenes and enjoying the fruits of that work at the functions. Cathy was an age manager for four years from 1999 Cathy passed away during the 2002/2003 season after a short battle with cancer.

44. Presented annually to any person involved in the junior activities, including committee members, age managers, junior activities members or parents. The matters to be taken into account for this award include –
- Whether the person undertook their duties, participated in the activities or assisted with the activities in way that set a good example to others and which engendered a relaxed atmosphere free of stress
 - Whether the person demonstrated they undertook their duties, participated in the activities or assisted with the activities consistently with a view to promoting the junior activities members as the primary focus

45. Nominations are to be made to the Chairman of Junior Activities by any person associated with the junior activities section of the club or any member of the Club. The recipient is determined by the Junior Activities Committee.

Kay Priday Encouragement Award

Kay Priday was a foundation member of Freshwater Nippers when it was a separate junior club in 1966. Kay served in the role of Registrar for a number of years and played an active role in various administrative, social and support functions at the club for many years. Kay also undertook official duties at Branch level.

46. This is to be presented annually to a male and female junior activities member from each of the Under 8 to Under 14 age groups inclusive. The matters to be taken in account for this award will include –
- Whether the member has participated regularly on Sunday mornings in both land and water events
 - Whether the member has attended carnivals
 - Whether the member has shown an interest in the Club.
 - Whether the relevant Age Manager believes the member will continue with the Club in the future
47. Junior activities members who receive other awards or medals (including club medals for making State finals) for competition are ineligible for the award.
48. Nominees are to be determined by the relevant Age Managers and confirmed by the Junior Activities Committee.

Perc Stirling Award for Outstanding Sportsmanship

Perc Sterling was born in Orange, orphaned at an early age and served in both World Wars in the Royal Australian Navy. After the war he eventually settled at Balgowlah. His granddaughter Sue and husband Bob had three sons who became the centre of his life. His great grandsons – Ben, Luke & Jono – all joined Freshwater Surf Club as nippers and Perc was at the beach every weekend encouraging them and their friends in their lifesaving pursuits and competition. He was always encouraging to those children who always did their best no matter where they placed in competition.

49. This is to be presented annually to a junior activities member who displays outstanding sportsmanship consistently throughout the season or who has displayed an act of outstanding sportsmanship during the season at Sunday morning activities and or any carnival.

Age managers shall nominate members for the award. All nominations will be reviewed by the Junior Activities Committee who will determine the recipient of the award.

Sam Kiely Award for Most Outstanding Beach Competitor

Sam Kiely was a former Freshwater nipper who went on to become an outstanding beach sprint, flags and relay competitor in the senior section of the club, winning 4 gold and 5 silver medals at the Australian championships and numerous State & Branch medals. He went on to coach both senior and junior members of the club.

50. Awarded annually to the competitor judged by the Junior Activities Committee to be the most outstanding beach competitor for the season.

Grant Coates Award for Most Outstanding Water Competitor

Grant Coates was a former Freshwater nipper who went on to become an outstanding all round water competitor in the senior section of the club. He has won numerous Australian, State & Branch medals in open and Masters Competition. He has also coached and mentored many young competitors in both the senior and junior sections of the club.

51. Awarded annually to the competitor judged by the Junior Activities Committee to be the most outstanding water competitor for the season.

Junior Activities Long Service Award

52. Junior activity members who remain in continuous membership with the club from U6 to U14 inclusive may be presented with a framed club in recognition of their commitment to the club. The Junior Activities Committee may, if it considers there are exceptional circumstances applicable, approve the awarding of a framed cap for membership that is less than continuous from U6 to U14 inclusive.

Australian Youth Championship Winners

53. Winners of Australian Youth Championship titles shall be entitled to a club jacket with details of the event won and the year included on the left hand chest pocket or pocket area.

HISTORY OF AMENDMENTS APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

12 Aug 2010

CI 13 amended to alter provisions relating to snr & jnr club person of the year award.
Insertion of cl 17-24 to address various patrol related awards

12 May 2011

CI 11 deleted to remove requirement that winner of club Honour Blazer must be member of executive committee; new CI 11 amended to include service on EC as matter to be taken into account when determining club Honour Blazer winner; new cl 17 & 18 inserted to introduce Prominent Service awards; subsequent clauses re-numbered.

8 Sept 2011

Cl 13 & 14 inserted re distinguished service awards; cl 23 amended re calculation of 100% patrol award; cl 26 amended by insertion of reference to award being for outstanding performance; cl 40 amended to clarify that members who win club medals for being state finalists not eligible for Kay Friday award

13 Sept 2012

Inclusion of cl 4(a) & (b) re general eligibility and power of EC, cl 12 (a) & (b) amended re eligibility and powers of Awards Panel, cl 25 amended re eligibility for 100% patrol award, cl 28 amended by including reference to team of the year; cl 29 amended by inclusion of reference to powers of Surf Sports Panel

12 Sept 2013

Minor amendment to cl 4(b) to clarify any member can nominate or be nominated for any award; Cl 7 amended to provide for nominator of life memberships to be advised of outcome of nomination; Note inserted at end of clause with reference to life member provisions in constitution; minor amendments to Cl 21-24 to correct error in reference to other clauses; Cl 25 amended to clarify that exemption from patrol no longer acceptable for 100% award; Cl 29 re-ordered to emphasise performance aspect of the award.

11 Sept 2014

Cl 28 amended to clarify meaning of team.

11 Feb 2016

Cl 4 amended to refer to guidelines rather than criteria, Cl 10, 11 (Honour Blazer), 12 & 13 (Distinguished Service), 15 & 16 (Club Person of the Year) & 20 (Prominent Service) amended to clarify eligibility for awards

10 Aug 2017

Cl 9 amended by deletion of requirement for Life member panel to advise nominator of outcome of nomination; Cl 14 amended to clarify Honours Panel recommends members for awards; Cl 18 amended by reference to attempted rescues; Cl 35 amended by insertion of reference to competition for club; Cl 39 amended by inclusion of reference to pack up Cl 41 amended to clarify responsibility for approving nominations for award; New cl 46 inserted re winners of Australian youth Championships; miscellaneous changes to correct grammar and references to Director positions.

9 Aug 2018

New Cl 5 inserted re Awards Panel; New Cl 31 & 32 added re SLSA & Patrol service awards; Cl 34 amended by inserting reference to involvement in club activities; re-number of existing clauses to accommodate new clauses.

8 Aug 2019

Cl 10, deletion of incorrect reference to clu 6, Cl 12 inclusion of reference to Awards Panel; Cl 19 amended to clarify heightened level of risk applies to bravery award; Cl 25-27 amended to correct reference to cl 23; Cl 31 amended to make applications for awards discretionary not mandatory; Cl 38 amended to correct reference to Bennet Board Carnival, miscellaneous minor grammatical corrections.

13 Aug 2020

Cl 29 amended by inserting deleting criteria referring to degree of diligence, team spirit and other subjective matters and replacing with objective criteria relating to total patrol hours, accuracy of patrol statistics and attendance at major incidents; Cl 33 amended by deletion of reference to outstanding performance; cl 38 amended by listing fulfilment of patrol duties as first mentioned criteria; new cl 50 & 51 inserted relating to Sam Kiely and Grant Coates Awards; previous cl 50 renumbered to 52.

13 May 2021

Cl26 amended to delete reference to BM being attained no later than 31 January of the preceding season.

9 Sept 2021

Cl 30 amended to indicate IRB award determined by Director of Lifesaving rather than by vote of IRB drivers; new cl 52 inserted re awarding of framed caps for continuous membership of nippers; previous cl 52 re-numbered to 53.