



Dear Members,

We are looking forward to getting back to patrolling this season, with the flags planned to go up on Saturday 18 September 2021.

What will patrolling look like this season? While restrictions are currently in place across NSW the patrol season will commence as planned on Saturday 18 September 2021. There is a suite of measures that have been put in place by SLSNSW, Branch and the club to ensure your safety and wellbeing. We encourage you to bear with us while we are in discussions with SLSNSW, Branch and the club have provided you and make informed decisions when undertaking patrols.

Staying safe - we will discuss the clubs COVID-19 Plans at our pre-season meeting.

Some of the measures in place this season to help us to meet Government requirements and stay COVID19 safe include:

- Modifications to the way in which we will be administering first aid and performing resuscitation – we are encouraging self-treatment where possible, advising against performing rescue breaths, and providing PPE (including face shields, masks and other PPE items) for situations where physical contact with patients is unavoidable.
- Providing clear guidelines around the expectations of lifesavers in their interactions with the public – specifically there is no expectation that members will be policing physical distancing on beaches.
- Potentially only having 6 members on patrol at any one time.
- Only members above the age of 16 are permitted to patrol
- Vaccinations are strongly encouraged for all patrolling members
- If you live outside the Port Stephens LGA and need to travel to Port Stephens you need to apply for a Volunteer Travel Request through SLSNSW [Link Here](#)
- You will still need to social distance while you are on patrol

We are working to keep you safe on patrol. We are still having regular meetings with SLSNSW as well as Branch in regards the current restrictions and as when there are any changes to current restrictions.

If you feel uncomfortable patrolling this season, please do let us know as soon as possible to assist with our planning.

I have emailed each member the Vaccine eligibility letter declaration form.

We are committed to keeping all members of the club safe, and we thank you for your support and understanding in these changing times. As Government restrictions continue to change prior to season start, we will endeavour to update you on information as it becomes available.

Kind Regards,
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