

In 2015, SLSA commissioned a national review of sport and recreation in Surf Life Saving. The review process included research and consultation to understand the attitudes, perceptions and requirements of SLSA's members and the public in terms of sport and recreation pathways and programs.

At the board meeting on Saturday 27 February 2016 the board noted the recommendations of the review and sought additional feedback from members via the Club President on the two important themes emerging from our discussions.

To this end I ask you to consult with your members and respond to the following questions by Thursday 24 March, 2016 to inform final progress of the Review.

1. Name of Club: *Open Field*
2. Name of respondent: *Open Field*
3. Email: *Open Field*
4. Mobile: *Open Field*

Proficiency Patrol Requirements

The Sport and Active Recreation review identified feedback that the Proficiency and Patrol Hour Requirements - Competition Eligibility (Policy 5.4) should be reviewed. Many feel the existing competition eligibility policy is too prescriptive in requiring all surf sport participants to complete a series of requirements to compete; join a surf lifesaving club, obtain a surf rescue certificate, complete annual lifesaving proficiencies each year and complete a minimum of between 16-25 patrol hours.

The review findings have identified that while lifesaving qualifications and the service element should remain as part of championship competition eligibility, there may be an opportunity for a broader definition of service to be introduced allowing clubs to work with their members as they see fit ensuring the club remains compliant at all times with their lifesaving service level agreements.

The SLSA Board at its February meeting confirmed it is supportive of patrol hours being recognised for competition eligibility. However, we seek additional feedback on the following:

1. Do you support a review of Proficiency and Patrol Hour Requirements - Competition Eligibility (Policy 5.4) with a view to broadening the definitions of "service", thereby allowing clubs to determine what service they require from their members in order to attain club endorsement for competition entries?
 - i. *Yes*
 - ii. *No*
 - iii. *Indifferent*

2. Should patrol hour recognition (or “service recognition”) including associated recognition as outlined in Policy 5.4 be decided by: (Select one)
 - A. *Club*
 - B. *Branch*
 - C. *State*

3. Should additional criteria of service (other than patrol hours) be included in the exemption list for patrol hour / service recognition/eligibility?
 - iv. *Yes*
 - v. *No*

4. If yes please nominate your top 2 suggestions of what forms of service should be recognised.
 - i. *Open Field*
 - ii. *Open Field*

Recreational Membership

The review recognised that there were strong opportunities to build coastal recreation programs that provide a non-competitive physical activity outlet for existing members, provide a new entry point into surf life saving membership and can be offered to non-member groups on a commercial basis. Doing so would help create more sustainable revenue and membership pipelines for SLS entities, attracting people who may become surf lifesavers. The concerns raised about a potential recreation offer were less about the programs themselves, and more about what offering them would mean to the surf lifesaving culture and community, and the difficulties in making those changes.

The review proposed to formally recognise recreational membership within the SLSA membership structure to provide clubs with a clear framework to leverage recreation opportunities if they wish to.

5. Does your club support the establishment of a recreational membership based on the above?
 - i. *Yes*
 - ii. *No*

6. Do you believe it would have a positive impact on membership of your club?
 - i. *Yes*
 - ii. *No*

7. If yes could you identify the top 2 opportunities?

- i. Open Field*
- ii. Open Field*

8. Do you believe it would have a negative impact on membership of your club?

- i. Yes*
- ii. No*

9. If yes could you identify the top 2 concerns?

- i. Open Field*
- ii. Open Field*