



LIFE SAVING VICTORIA

Clubhouse of the Future

Development Guidelines

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Introduction

Since the early 1990's it has been apparent to club and state lifesaving administrators that members and the community have an expectation that a lifesaving clubhouse will be much more than an appropriately located structure, housing the barest and most essential lifesaving equipment and related patrol support infrastructure.

A successful response by LSV and supportive coastal managers will lead to increased membership, broader access and more environmentally aligned constructions.

It is now commonly accepted that the number of extreme weather events will increase and equally Victoria will experience a rising number of hot summer days in the years to come – the clubhouse of the future must be constructed with this changing environment in mind.

NB. This document refers to those clubs aiming for an active membership of 60-80 ie. excluding nipper and associate members.

Clubhouse of the Future

Key Initiatives

The clubhouse of the future should be developed on the basis of five key initiatives:

1. *Capacity to cater for the needs of a growing volunteer lifesaving membership.*

A membership committed to providing the optimum life saving service. A membership wanting to participate in the active aspects of the lifesaving movement from the competitive aquatic sports to the more recreational beach appreciation pursuits. A facility that is able to meet the growing expectations of the community and the club membership through increased services, access and parking.

2. *Have a sense of an open, welcoming environment.*

This could include the introduction of kiosks and cafés to allow for public interaction not specific to lifesaving matters. Training rooms for members would be fitted out to also cater for community use at times when not being used by lifesavers.

Both of these aspects will assist clubs to raise funds for life saving purposes and engage with the broader community.

3. *Aesthetically the clubhouse design will assimilate with its local coastal environment.*

This design will ensure the clubhouse and facilities are a local feature capable of standing up to the rigors associated with its location.

Materials used will be leading edge in terms of their sustainability and durability.

4. *Reduction in environmental impacts is a priority.*

From the use of water tanks and solar systems to recycling as appropriate, all new sustainability issues need to be considered.

5. *The clubhouse will facilitate collaborative community education and schools based programs.*

In the design features, the clubhouse should include areas that enable education and school groups to utilise the benefits of the space and location to run programs for their students and candidates.

Other Considerations

In addition to the five key initiatives, LSV aims to introduce new concepts to ensure the club/volunteer network is nurtured in the years to come. These concepts include:

- catering for the sister club relationships between coastal and bayside clubs
- strengthening the association between patrolling and sporting/recreational activities of the organisation
- separation of activities ensuring a safe and secure environment for all clubhouse users in line with best practice child protection standards

Equally, ensuring the facility has the capacity to contribute to the fundraising aspects of the club is a priority.

Applying Initiatives and Considerations to Clubhouse Design

Proof of Concept: Seaford Life Saving Club



Lifesaving Operations Design Specifications:

The design of a lifesaving facility needs to take into consideration many issues including:

- Proximity to the beach/area that needs to be patrolled
- Average and peak public attendances at the beach
- Proximity to populated areas
- Tourism recognition and commercial development options
- Ease of access and egress
- Club membership
- Aquatic environmental conditions, including seasonal variations
- Display of honour boards, historical memorabilia etc.
- Designed to enable mixed use opportunities for education and school group
- Supports capacity to provide additional other services, including kiosks and cafés
- Environmental impact
- Access to parking
- Proximity to public transport, pedestrian and bicycle routes
- Use of materials



Samples of positive change (Seaford):

*Robert Simeoni Pty Ltd Architects
design for Seaford Life Saving Club*

Photo www.travelvictoria.com.au/seaford/photos/

Patrol and Observation Room(s) > 24 sq m

1. Observation room >12 sq m

An elevated room from which the lifesavers have an unobstructed view of the area under their observation, not solely the area between the red and yellow flags.

The room should have the following attributes:

- Be able to house a minimum of two persons in a seated or standing position all day comfortably.
- Have very high visibility across the entire observation area taking into consideration beach characteristics such as dunes, groins, jetties and piers
- Have protective safety glass or similar to the front and to the sides
- Have shade to protect the lifesavers from the sun
- Be artificially cooled
- Be no less than 12 square meters in size, not including space required for access or egress such as stairs

Observation room >12 sq m (Cont.)

- Have a bench that can hold area plans, relevant logbooks and ideally computer equipment
- Have wall space on which area plans can be mounted
- Has lockable storage that can house two way radio communication and public address equipment
- Have a mobile radio or land-line telephone access

2. Patrol administration room (ground floor) > 12 sq m

Preferable

- For administration on each patrol day
 - Patrol rosters
 - Boat logs
 - Incident recording
 - Be no less than 12 square meters in size

First Aid Room > 15 to 20 sq m

All lifesaving clubs have and should have a first aid room with the following characteristics:

1. The size of the room provided should be of appropriate size and configuration for the expected usage of the beach, not smaller than 15m².
2. A small beach with regular visitation rates for hot days should provide a room with a medical examination couch/bed and sufficient room for a lifesaver to apply treatment to a casualty sitting or lying on the medical examination couch/bed.
3. A medium sized beach with medium visitation rates on warm to hot days of 1000 or more should provide a dedicated first aid room of at least 15 square meters which allows access by lifesavers carrying a stretcher.
4. A large beach with large visitation rates on warm to hot days of 5000 or more should provide a dedicated first aid room of at least 20 metres square with two medical examination couches and appropriate access for each.
5. Where more than one medical examination couch is provided, sufficient space should be provided so that treatment of a casualty on one medical examination couch does not interfere with the treatment of a casualty on any other medical examination couch.
6. Where multiple medical examination couches are provided they should be separated by a curtain, which will offer greater privacy.
7. The room should be well lit and ventilated.
8. First aid room temperature should be suitable in assisting with maintaining normal body temperature (18 – 22 degrees celsius).
9. The room should have a washbasin with hot and cold water.
10. The room should have a telephone with a list of emergency numbers posted close by.
11. The room should have a minimum of two electrical general-purpose outlets (GPO).
12. The room should have lockable storage for special medication, items used for external wound treatment.
13. The room should have a workbench for the preparation, or the cleaning and sterilisation, of items used in first aid treatment
14. The room should have flooring that is washable and slip resistant. A drain may be provided to ease the cleaning of spills of materials or body fluids.

First Aid Room > 15 to 20 sq m (Cont.)

15. The room should allow access by casualties requiring assistance including carers to enter and leave the room. This includes cases where casualties are carried into the room on a stretcher or in a wheelchair.
16. The room must be at ground level with double door access on the outside wall of the building with direct access to an ambulance/car bay.
17. The room should be located close to a disability toilet.

Member Change Rooms Inc. Showers and Toilets > 102 sq m

- Male and female (51 sq m male & 51 sq m female)
- Designed to ensure that it provides a separation of activity from all other member and public access areas
- Members with a physical disability (1 male & 1 female bay)
- Space for lockers
- Bench seating
- Baby change facility
- Sanitary napkin disposal
- 4 female and 4 male shower bays
- The number and configuration of change rooms to be in accordance with Building Code of Australia

Storage Areas – Minimum Equipment Requirements > 120 sq m

- Rescue boards, minimum of 5
- Flag Stands x 2
- Patrol Shelter
- Patrol Buoys and anchors x 2
- Rescue tubes, minimum of 3
- Inflatable rescue boat motor and trailer
- Workbench
- Storage cupboards for spares
- Wall space for notices
- Four wheel drive vehicle or all-terrain vehicle
- Two roller/tilt door access/egress to storage at least one of which has direct access to and from the beach

Training Room > 90 sq m

- Lifesaving training and lectures
- Theory and practical CPR and First Aid training (minimum of 6m² for each resuscitation manikin)
- Use of audio visual equipment
- May be multi use for club meetings:
 - Committee
 - Lifesavers
 - “Friends of” Meetings

Training Equipment Storage Room > 6 sq m

- Secure storage for training manikins and consumables
- Oxygen equipment
- Pocket masks
- Spine board

Secretaries Room > 9 sq m

- Secure room for administrative purposes

Kitchen 12-18 sq m

- Sink
- Microwave and/or stove
- Cupboards
- Refrigerator
- Other appliances as required

Accommodation > 85 sq m (includes male & female)

This will not apply to all clubs, but rather those clubs wishing to include bunk rooms in their clubhouses.

- Minimum 20 beds
- To accommodate separate male, female, adult and children mixes

Aquatic Sport/Recreational Equipment Storage > 64 sq m

- Preferably a separate area suitable for boat, board and ski storage
- Access to washing down area with racks
- 1 first aid kit – separate to the patrolling kit
- 2 whistles
- Water safety vests – for coaches and water safety
- 1 rescue tube – separate to patrolling equipment
- 4 witches hats – for area demarcation
- 20 beach flags
- 1 lightweight buoy with a sand anchor
- 1 notice board/ blackboard
- Well-padded and accessible wall racking for craft away from hazards (IRB's, chemicals etc.)
- Minimum of 10 foam nipper boards
- Minimum of 5 racing Malibu boards
- Minimum of 5 racing skis with paddles

General

- Hot water facilities
- Air heating and cooling in training and first aid rooms

Bump Out Storage > 10 sq m

- storage for tables and chair
- space to maneuver without obstruction

External Requirements

1. Driveway access to storage area
2. Driveway access for first aid room
3. Driveway access to beach for rescue boat launch and retrieval
4. Wash down area (external) with running water, drainage
 - For boards
 - Outboard motors
 - ATV's
 - and other patrol equipment