Circular 068:09:13

To: Club Captains
   Chief Instructors
   SurfGuard Registrars
   Trainers
   Powercraft Officers
   District Officers
   Club Presidents
   Club Secretaries
   Assessors
   Junior Coordinators
   Aquatic Sports Executive

Cc: Regional Officers
    State Officers
    Club Presidents
    Club Secretaries
    Assessors
    Junior Coordinators
    Aquatic Sports Executive

From: Darren McLeod – Director, Lifesaving Services
Date: 25 September 2013
Subject: Lifejackets in IRB Operations
Action: Communicate to all members

For additional details on this Circular please contact:
Lifesaving Operations on 03 9676 6930 or email lifesavingoperations@lifesavingvictoria.com.au
Circulars are available at www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au/circulars

Effective 1st October 2014, SLSA have mandated the wearing of certified lifejackets in IRBs at all times. (Lifesaving, Competition and ALL IRB training).

All lifesavers operating inflatable rescue boats (IRBs), both in frontline lifesaving operations and in competition, must wear certified lifejackets from 1 October 2014. Members are encouraged to implement this sooner, and we encourage the wearing certified lifejackets effective immediately, or as soon as can be properly implemented. LSV is working to secure grants to assist in allowing this to be implemented as soon as possible in all clubs and services.

Certified lifejackets must meet the SLSA specification; most notably the safety standard that underpins the specification – Australian Standard:4758 Personal Floatation Devices - Level 50 or International Standard:12402:5 Personal Floatation Devices - Level 50]

Both IRB driver and crewperson/s are to wear a certified lifejacket [AS:4758 or ISO:12402 - Level 50] (worn correctly; zipped and clipped up as applicable and in the correct size) at all times when in an IRB on the water.

The IRB crewperson may only remove the certified lifejacket when exiting the boat to perform an in-water rescue. Where practical, the lifejacket must be put back on upon re-entry to the IRB.

Further Information
SLSA Bulletin 03/13-14 Mandatory Wearing of Certified Lifejackets in IRBs – Lifesaving and Competition