Life Saving Victoria (LSV) is pleased to release the updated version of the Youth Involvement Program (YIP’s) Handbook. This handbook includes the steps required to start a YIP’s program at your club. With the season fast approaching this is a great resource for club’s to introduce to their membership to engage the 14-18 year old members within their club.

The handbook is now available and can be found here: www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au/yips

About the YIP’s program –

Retention of members aged 14-18 years in lifesaving seems to be a difficult task for Life Saving Clubs across Victoria. The Youth Involvement Program (YIP’s) aims to overcome this retention issue and helps develop and engage our young members.

YIP’s was originally designed by the Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club in 2002 and after great success the program was adopted by Life Saving Victoria in 2004.

YIP’s is a recognition and reward program with points collected for involvement in lifesaving activities. YIP’s encourages participation in all area of club activities. Participants can attain 3 levels of achievement – bronze, silver and gold. The point’s allocation system is clearly outlined in the YIP’s participation handbook.

Clubs decide how they will fund the program. Some clubs charge a yearly fee to cover program and reward costs. For current costs and to order resources, please refer to the YIP’s Resource and YIP’s Rewards Order forms on the LSV website

Starting the YIP’s program at your club is very easy. The YIP’s implementation guide lists all the steps required to be up and running:

- Find out who your members are in the 14-18 years age group. Especially the under 13 and 14’s. Your club Surfguard registrar can provide you with this information.
- Prepare a report on YIP’s and convince the club committee that they support the program at your club.
- Appoint a YIP’s coordinator and mentors to ensure the success of the program.
- Promote the program to the target age group via posters, club newsletter and website and letters to members. Posters can be ordered via LSV.
- Register and order YIP’s resources. Order forms are available in the YIP’s Implementation Guide appendix or via the link above.
• Set up a meeting to launch YIP’s at your club.
• Have fun with the program, keep in touch with the participants and keep the club committee up to date with
  the progress of participants.
• Most importantly, make a fuss of participants when they have attained a YIP’s level. Congratulate them via the
  club newsletter and website and present the award at a club function.
• The steps required to start YIP’s can be found in the YIP’s handbook.

For further information on how easy this program is to administer, please watch the following DVD -
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0ksOq-rjYY&feature=youtu.be

For more information on the Yip’s Program, please contact the Membership and Leadership Development Department
on 9676 6945 or youth@lifesavingvictoria.com.au.