

# Minutes – Lifesaving Operations Council Meeting

**VENUE:** Life Saving Victoria State Centre  
**DATE:** Thursday 11 March 2021

## 1) Welcome, Attendance and Apologies Remotely Accessing

Jennarose Sheehan, Darren McLeod, Lucas Welsh, Evelyn Lyons, Darrel Gill, Justin Taylor, Alex Schwarcz, Sue O'Rourke, Kev (VBLSLSC), Simon Wilson, Micah Spedding, Margaret Hewett, Aidan O'Rourke, Peter McDonnell, Phil Hughes, Nicholas Wood, Jas Lawrence, Mark Scotland, David Rylance, Justin Taylor

### Delegates

Dominic Santullo (Altona LSC), Catherine Paulsen (Carrum SLSC), Madeline Breen (Fairhaven SLSC), Rhys Bartlett (Inverloch SLSC), James Carew (Lorne SLSC), Peter Bellion (Port Melbourne LSC), Alex Walton (Williamstown SLSC)

### Non-delegates

Stephen Griffiths (Carrum SLSC), Terry Dobel (Gunnamatta/ Pt Lonsdale SLSC), James Coutie (Pt Lonsdale SLSC), Nick Vouk (South Melbourne LSC), Geoff Thompstone (Jan Juc SLSC), Flynn Thompson (Lorne SLSC), Alison Porter (South Melbourne LSC)

### Lifesaving Operations Council Executive

Katrina Antony (Director – Training & Assessment), Simon Wilson (Council Representative Chair), James Carew (Council Representative), Grace Lightfoot (Lifesaving Services Representative Service Efficiency & Standards Officer), Catherine Paulsen (State Training & Assessment Supervisor), Davina Jackson (State Resource Research & Development Officer), Hugh Day (State Emergency Management Officer)

### State Officers, Lifesaving Operation Officers and Training and Assessment Officers

James Quine (Training Strategy & Communications Officer), Hamish McKendrick (State Gear & Equipment Officer), Catherine Paulsen (Kingston Training & assessment Officer), Tim Mason (Surf Coast Training & Assessment Officer), Terry Aslanidis (Bass Lifesaving Operations Officer), Alex Walton (Bayside Lifesaving Operations Officer), Nick Giblin (Geelong Lifesaving Operations Officer), James Quine (Port Phillip Lifesaving Operations Officer)

### Staff

Andy Dennis (General Manager - Public Training and Pool Safety), Liam Krige (Manager Lifesaving Operations), Todd Richards (Manager Lifesaving Policy), Hayley Colville (Lifesaving Services Coordinator), Jane Gordon (Comms Coordinator)

### Apologies

Keegan Clarke (Waratah Beach SLSC), Warren Cook (Inverloch SLSC), Kane Treloar (Director Lifesaving Services)

## Welcome – Simon Wilson (Chair)

Provided a welcome to the Life Saving Operations Council Meeting to the volunteers and staff.



## 2) Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Confirmation of the minutes from the last Council meeting held on Thursday, 8 November 2020

**Moved** – K. Antony

**Seconded** – J. Carew

**Carried**

## 3) Executive & Staff Updates

### Liam Krige – General Manager, Lifesaving Services

Liam gave a verbal recap and a presentation on last year's activity and a snapshot of this season's activities. He also discussed what was next for lifesaving services team and these include resourcing review equipment, seasonal reviews, state emergency management plan review, lifesaving services review and 21/22 season plan and strategy. Please refer to the presentation.

### Katrina Antony – Director, Training & Assessment

Katrina provided an overview of the Volunteer Training Updates (please refer to presentation). In her presentation she highlighted the following key areas/topics:

- Training Delivery – New Awards
  - Outstanding Awards
  - Skills Maintenance
- Highlights & What's Next – Training Options, Pathways and Resources
  - Training Planning and Delivery
  - TAF Communication and Support
  - IT

Katrina also gave an update on the LSOC Strategic Plan for T&A (please refer to presentation) and thanked the volunteers and staff that worked on getting everyone current.

**Question:** How much of the online content is repeated in the practical session?

Katrina: You will complete your online component with powerpoint presentations and when you attend the practical component you may see some of the same powerpoint slides in your e-learning. The reason for this is the tutor cannot tell if the learner has done the e-learning themselves or they may have had their brother/sister etc. do it for them and they understand the learning online. Moving forward it will be the practical component and not online.

**Question:** How do we access the TAF professional development through MT? Can we have D9 recorded on Surfguard?

Katrina: A paper will be circulated soon

**Question:** What is involved in the patrol captain training?

Katrina: I have not seen the content yet but am certain it will be called the Patrol Captain Award. They are looking at a September rollout.

**Question:** What courses are coming up for assessors?

Katrina: At this point there are no courses that are coming up for assessors. We still have several assessors who started their courses last year and have not completed it. Happy to take note of this and investigate it further. LSV cannot run this course internally as it is not on their scope anymore so LSV would have to outsource it. We can run training courses internally but not assessor courses internally.

**Question:** Can people who started the assessor upgrade still finish it or was there a time limit?

Katrina: Please send an email to Volunteer Training with who those members are and they can follow it up.

**Question:** Can we have a TAO meetings soon?

Katrina: Yes there is one scheduled every two months and they should be in the calendars which will be circulated.



#### 4) General Business

Simon welcomed Hayley Colville who joined the team in December and is the new Lifesaving Services Administration Coordinator

##### Communications Update

Jane Gordon joined LSV from ESTA and gave a presentation on LSV Channel Configuration (please refer to presentation). Within Jane's presentation the following was discussed:

- Channel Configuration in its Current State 2020-2021 season
- Desired State 2021 – 2022 season
- Suggested patching arrangements

Todd and Jane played an audio clip to the council, to give them an idea of what a comms operator deals with on a daily basis and the many calls they may need to juggle at any given time.

##### IT Systems & Support Update

Todd Richards gave an IT Systems update on the following (please refer to presentation):

- LIMSOC updated user interface has been released
- Interest received in LSV applications
- Highlights on the Clinical Advisory Group

The council would also like to thank the Clinical Advisory Group for all their hard work they have done and the time they have spent working behind the scenes.

##### Media Update

Natalie Fortuna who is LSV's new Media Communications Manager gave a update on the Media space within LSV (please refer to presentation). Natalie highlighted that media and communications are expanding as LSV and there is more support to facilitate media at a club and state level and gave some statistics from the season.

**Question:** Does the media need to ask permission first before publishing photos/videos on social media?

Liam Krige: When you sign up as a volunteer with LSV part of that is agreeing to photo permission, however if a volunteer has an issue with a photo/video please let the media team know.

#### 5) Questions/Open Forum

**Surfguard** – The primary database that is used by members and administrators to store information such as membership details, awards, patrol records, proficiency dates and competition entries etc. and if Surfguard is inaccurate, it makes it hard to run Lifesaving operations effectively and the concern is there seems to be a lack of understanding and its uses by LSV employees such as:

- Started using an excel spreadsheet on the LSV web site as the “database of record”
- Failed to keep the spreadsheet up to date and free of errors
- Indicated that Surfguard is “just a database”
- Told people that Surfguard is “being phased out”
- Deleted people's awards in Surfguard and
- Issued training/assessing awards in Surfguard to people who have not trained or assessed in the award

Some Area Officers and Senior Training have expressed concerns over these matters and matters and would like the LSOC Executive to address the issues and report back to LSOC on these matters and the planned future of Surfguard, Accelerate and Member Training.

Katrina Antony – The LSOC Executive have not had a meeting since the question was raised and therefore it has come straight to the LSOC meeting but please let us know what awards have been deleted because LSV will have to go back to SLSA.

Andy Dennis – Micah is looking into a one-off list of award queries from Surf Coast. All other matters have been taken offline and are currently back with the Committee of Training and Assessment, before then going back to LSOC Executive.



**Question:** The new by-laws, are only permitting a maximum six (three terms) yea for a state officers including TAO and LOO roles. Is this going to be retrospective and are they permitted to have a state officer role lower than a director's level role with this new interpretation of the by-laws?

Katrina Antony explained that the retrospective question is correct and you can also nominate for a higher position than a TAO.

**Question:** Do the council members in attendance believe that the by-laws need to be revisited because of the impact it may have the lifesaving operations going forward?

Katrina Antony: The LSOC Executive have expressed their views to the board, but the by-laws have been voted on and stand as they are. The LSOC Executive will continue to advocate on the council's behalf and hope to address those concerns of state officers at the next review.

Hugh Day: The executive sit very clear on their thoughts of the by-laws and the collective thoughts of the council were taken to the board, however moving forward we need to start thinking about succession planning and not losing the great skills people have and find other ways to use those skills.

Katrina Antony: If a TAO wanted to apply for the position again and go further than the tender that they have, if no one nominated for the position, the position will be declared vacant at the AGM and then you will be able to nominate, and it will go to the executive for approval. You can no longer nominate from the floor but can send in a nomination.

**Question:** There have been three near misses involving jet skis and a incident where a jet ski clipped swimmers coming out of St Kilda and sped through the exclusion zone past South Melbourne & Port Melbourne LSC. What is being done to prevent incidents like this close by our lifesaving clubs?

Liam Krige: In terms of a national viable solution, it is outside our jurisdiction but LSV will continue to push our thoughts and any solutions and feedback we have out there.

Phil Hughes: There is a lot of work going on for the State Boating Regulations regarding jet skis. If members are concerned and believe there is immediate danger, please ask them to phone 000. There is also under the Marine Safety Act and owner onus, if members wish to and not put themselves at danger can take videos of incidents, specifically showing location, vessel information etc. that can be passed on to the water police and the water police can issue an infringement onto the owner of the vessel.

**Question:** Can LSV look into partnering with an open water swimming organization to educate or inform open-water swimmers of the risks of swimming outside of no boating poles. LSV could possibly support this message with give-away branded Fluro swim floats.

Liam Krige: It is a very valid point, and we need to support our external stakeholders and hold discussions with specific people in within the areas about safety concerns. There are a number of ideas and solutions but cost and maintenance is also a factor.

**Meeting closed 8:48pm**

