

# Minutes – Lifesaving Operations Council Meeting

**VENUE:** Ian Potter Room  
Life Saving Victoria State Centre  
200 The Boulevard, Port Melbourne

**DATE:** Thursday, 8 February 2018 - 6:30 pm

## Before the Meeting - 6.00pm – 6.30pm

To assist delegates, staff from Lifesaving Operations and Training along with volunteer members of the LSOC Executive will be available to answer any of your questions or discuss current lifesaving issues. Refreshments will be available too

### 1. Preliminaries

- a. Welcome – Simon Wilson (Chair)  
DMc – Presentation on passing of Jim Stott  
In recognition of Jim Stott's Services, the LSO Council held for a Minute Silence
- b. In attendance

### Delegates

Ross Mariner (Apollo Bay), Neill Blake (Aspendale LSC), Katrina Antony (Barwon Heads 13<sup>th</sup> Beach SLSC), Catherine Paulsen (Carrum LSC), Angela Montebello (Elwood LSC), Darrell Gill (Port Melbourne LSC), Hamish Mckendrick (Portsea SLSC), Bill Johnson (Torquay SLSC), Kane Treloar (Williamstown S&LSC), ,

### Proxies

Alison Porter (South Melbourne), Gordon Porter (South Melbourne LSC), Geoff Thompstom (Jan Juc SLSC), Jenna Rose- Sheehan (Kennett River SLSC), Matthew Perrott (Portsea SLSC) Darren McLeod (Seaford LSC), Robert O'Brien (Waratah Beach SLSC)

### Remote Access

Scott McKenzie (Port Campbell SLSC), Michael Artz (Warrnambool SLSC), Adam Lipszyc (Point Leo SLSC), Danielle Taylor (Mordialloc LSC), Ian Powell (Port Fairy SLSC), Neil Dyson ( Port Fairy SLSC)

### Executive

Darren McLeod (Director Lifesaving Services), Simon Wilson (Council Representative/ Chair), Kane Treloar (Lifesaving Services Representative), Hugh Day (Lifesaving Services Representative), Alison Porter (State Resource Research & Dev Officer), Katrina Antony (State Training and Assessment Supervisor)

### State Officers/ Training & Assessment Officers

Phillip Hughes (Geelong Training & Assessment Officer), Katrina Antony (Western Training and Assessment)

### Apologies

Dominic Santullo (Altona LSC), Lloyd Thomas (Bonbeach LSC), Michael Barbarino (Mordialloc LSC), Sally Porta (Rosebud & McCrae LSC), Bree Ambry (Sandringham LSC), Justin Taylor (Seaford LSC), Bianca Pardo (Sandringham LSC) Murray Colvin (Gippsland T&A Officer), Stephanie Reindel (Kingston T&A Officer), David Rylance (Director – Training & Assessment)



**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on Thursday, 9 November 2017**

**Mover:** Catherine Paulsen

**Seconder:** Kane Treloar

**Carried**

**3. Executive Updates**

**a.** Darren McLeod – Director, Lifesaving Services

DM: Thanked clubs for their patrols so far and for extra patrolling efforts over the month and over the mid-week heat waves. Your services are much appreciated by all.

Preventive Actions: 34900

First Aid: 722

Minor: Up 64 from 16/17

Major: Up 12 from 16/17

Rescues: 256

Attendance. 1.32 million

Drownings - 25 reported drownings in Victoria from 1 July 17 - 1 Jan 18, with 14 drownings having occurred in Victoria since the start of Summer (Highest in 10 Years)

LSV and Woolamai are conducting a review into the recent Woolamai drownings.

**Patrol Audit**

Discussion at the LSOC Executive lead to the decision that the 2017/18 patrol Audit will not include a Competition. Inspections will be reverted to an audit and information will be as based in the circular and circulated report. As the Audit does not cover competition, no points are to be allocated.

KT: On behalf of the LSOC Exec, all prize money allocated will be turned over to the 18/19 season, so clubs do not miss out on these funds, DM confirmed the majority of the funds will be carried forward (there are some costs in conducting the audit).

**Action:** Circular to be realised 14<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Bayside LOO:**

Ash Presser resigned after work opportunities in Regional Victoria. Those that are interested are encouraged to submit application

**Action:** EOI sent Feb 14<sup>th</sup> via Circular

**Radio Network:**

Site surveys at clubs and MSAR services completed at end of December. LSV have small number of radios that are currently being tested on the new network which will occur in next 4-6 weeks.

Telstra working on Transition Plan due end of March – Clubs will be notified when rollout will occur in their area.

**Responsible Use of Lifesaving Equipment – Circular 172:01:18**

Notification was sent to members via Circular regarding use of IRBs and other Lifesaving Vehicles. There are currently exemptions for specific instances, but only during specific activity.

ATV – in no circumstance are ATV's or 4WD's to be used as Emergency response vehicles. These vehicles are to be used at 5 km/h or 20km/h in necessary circumstances, as per the ATV code of conduct

**b. David Rylance – Director, Training and Assessment**

(Presented by Darren McLeod in D. Rylance absence)



Thank you to all Training & Assessment Officers and LSV Staff for their efforts during the season thus far. LSV has been very pleased with the operation of such activities. Members are encouraged to check their awards on their personal Members Portal profile to ensure that they have been updated before entering Competition.

IRB/ BM – not endorsed – members must be competent before in Bronze Medallion prior to commencing IRB Crew training.

RO'B: Decision behind separating BM and IRB Training?  
DMC: SLSA Board decision

LSV position is that IRB training CAN NOT start until BM has been finalised.

#### 4. General Business

##### a. How the new IRB Specifications effect clubs going forward (Kane Treloar)

In 2012, SLSA moved to a single craft designed by SLSA which is then endorsed by the states to have a single model across Australia.

The current issue is that the Zodiac model that was distributed didn't meet size/ specifications for LSV requirements.

Victoria only has only 1 IRB of this standard – Mallacoota SLSC: This matter has been dealt with and is currently being worked through with the club and manufacturer.

SLSA are intending to change the specification and re-issue this change by end of the month. LSV has clear concerns with the time of year that this update is being released.

LSV are continuing to explore what our options are as we want IRB to meet the requirements of the state and its relative services.

Currently in a waiting period to find if Thundercat meets specification.  
Boats that have been ordered are now going to be delivered.

**PH:** Is there a process for clubs to go through with the new specification?

**KT:** The attitude of SLSA is that the Zodiac and Thundercat boats are similar, but ultimately, they don't meet specification.

**HMc:** Who changed measurements?

**KT:** They have been changed by a Naval Architect

**HDay:** This is setting a dangerous precedent if this change is pushed through. It is very concerning to find that the manufacturer has gone out and changed the build of the craft. SLSA has shown that they are willing to bow down to the manufacturer to suit their commercial needs.

**DMc:** When the rest of the country has agreed to the change it does make the situation very difficult.

**HMc:** Has a request been written to SLSA?

**DMc:** We are working with SLSA and our content experts are reviewing the specification. Specification currently under review and will be held until we are comfortable with what has been written.

**AP:** From an OHS perspective, what do other states have and how could we use that to our advantage?

**PH:** Can we go back to original specification?

**KT:** This was proposed but my understanding is that this won't be possible as their crafts are still handmade which leaves an issue with consistency.

**Motion:** LSO Council recommend that SLSA follow their process for dealing with modified and new equipment. Also, LSV given opportunity to provide new feedback.

**Mover:** Hamish McKendrick

**Seconder:** Angela Montebello

**Carried**

**Action:** Kane to distribute SLSA IRB report via Circular



**b. Lifesaving Equipment Approvals (Kane Treloar)**

Since drowning incidents have occurred there have been many manufacturers speaking to Surf/ Bass Coast Clubs to get them to endorse the use of new products. If clubs are approached, they are asked to notify LSV, so we can work through the risk management procedures and protocol before any equipment is considered.

LSV have been approached by private enterprise to sell SEABOB which is an Underwater scooter at a cost of \$45k plus a \$12k/year servicing fee. LSV cannot see this piece of equipment being of use for Lifesaving services in Victoria.

**c. EMV State Control Centre (Kane Treloar)**

During the busy Summer period LSV have had liaisons present at the SCC. Duty officers have spent days liaising with EMV and other emergency services to discuss how our services can be of benefit to other services. After the success of this exposure, all drownings will be recognised and forwarded through to the Emergency Management Commissioner with a brief of events. This is a positive movement to for further recognition in EMV programs.

**d. Rhiannon McCorriston – Bass T&A (Simon Wilson)**

**SW:** At the November LSO Council Executive appointed meeting need a resolution to the appointment of Bass Training & Assessment Officer – Rhiannon McCorriston

**Mover:** Angela Montebello

**Seconder:** Ross Marriner

**Carried**

**e. LSOC Briefing Paper (Simon Wilson)**

**SW:** LSOC Exec have detailed discussion about the constant issues that are brought forward to the LSOC and how we can best resolve them. Plan is to ensure that at this point each year the LSOC Exec will deal with common issues. Common discussion points have been:

- Communication with T&A Officers
- Patrol Competition Audit

Process moving forward:

- Survey membership on items
- Working group to review
- Come back to LSO Council for review in May to discuss how we can implement and review items going forward

Expecting information to be circulated in next few weeks.

Delivery key items

- f. How LSOC will engage you with the annual Training & Lifesaving Review
- g. Ratification of appointments of the LSOC Officers

**5. Feedback / Questions / Open Forum**

**a. Marine Licence Reimbursement**

**DMc:** Reimbursements of licences came through TSV. This reimbursement has not been present for the at least the past 5+ years. We can be looking at other opportunities through grants and external sources

**RM:** Can we get discounted licence fee for volunteers?

**Action:** LSV to follow up on volunteer reimbursement



**RoB:** Cost to get IRB drivers can be a deterrent for young members to get their IRB Drivers licence. Many of these members are students and don't necessarily have the financial status to afford it.

**PH:** LSV should become an RTO to cut out external costs so the licence can be placed on LSV Scope. Is it feasible to run course through LSV?

**Action:** To be investigated by LSV

#### **b. LSV Governance**

**KT:** What are the Council Chairs thoughts on Governance review proposed by the Board? There has been discussion as to whether volunteers will be able to have any input into the discussion at the top end.

**DMc:** The Governance Review is being conducted by Thought Post who is currently running a review. Presidents have been forwarded the survey that is being conducted. Peter Williams circulated the state of play as to what the board is looking to achieve. I understand the letter/notification went to the Councils and Club Presidents. The review being undertaken will seek feedback from membership that the Board is performing as it should and to seek direction from the membership moving forward

**KT:** If Presidents are getting survey, it seems that they are only discussing it with the delegates of one of the five Councils. To me that seems to allow for the results to be positively skewed towards a certain outcome.

**Motion:** That the brief on the LSV Governance review provided to Thoughtpost be circulated to all Council Delegates.

**Mover:** Kane Treloar

**Seconder:** Katrina Antony

**Carried**

#### **c. Urgent Maintenance Fund Timeframes (Scott McKenzie)**

**AF:** clubs have been sent report of the audit. All Clubs were sent the Audit reports electronically and via hard copy with a data stick. Next steps are to make sure that clubs are at a standard where they can be maintained. 3.2 million total urgent maintenance for back log standards. We will be targeting high priority buildings first. We received 1.5 million from State Government Funding for. Clubs that have received funding for urgent. The process will occur over a period of 12-18 months to start work on over 30 different sites.

### **6. Ideas Exchange**

#### **Increasing retention through roles and responsibilities - Matthew Perrott (Portsea SLSC)**

*Matthew presented to how Portsea SLSC has been successful with membership retention and roles and responsibilities of members.*

**ROB:** How has the club been so successful with so many roles at the club?

**MP:** We outline the roles and duties very early in the discussion and make it clear that clubs role duties and make sure they have right intentions for the benefit of the club.

**KT:** How does the turnover of positions occur and handover at tasks?



**MP:** Only club committee is voted in. From Portsea SLSC point of view we didn't want a mixture of existing and prospective Committee members running against each other. A discussion would be had to outline that we think the position should be stood down, which then made the voting process at the AGM very streamline.

**Action:** Circulate presentation with the Minutes.

### **Member Recognition Manual**

**SW:** AOE nominations: The manual talks about what members can be nominated for at the Awards Ceremony so will be worth nominating as many worthy winners as possible. Please note that nominations close on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**DMc:** Attention to East-Coast Port Phillip Bay

Clubs that are asked by SUP or kite surfing groups for water safety support of the event/s, if clubs are approached, please let Darren McLeod know and LSV will work through the process. There have been issues with safety in some of the previous events.

### **7. Meeting Close**

8:04pm

### **Next Meeting**

The next Lifesaving Operations Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 17 May 2018.

