



Lifesaving Policy for patrols during Covid restrictions

Current Situation

- Greater Sydney is in lockdown with no persons allowed to travel more than 5KM unless for reasons specified in the health order.
- LGAs of concern currently have stricter restrictions
- The current Delta strain is highly transmissible, Daily numbers are still around 1200 per day.
- SLSNSW and Sydney Branch have advised that we limit the number of patrolling members on the beach.
- Survey results from a subset of members have identified that about 80% of members are doubly vaccinated and 35% of members don't feel comfortable patrolling with unvaccinated people.

Overview

With the current situation and the increased number of infections in the community, the risk of catching Covid while on Patrol has been assessed to be potentially higher than what the Board of Management would like to see. The standard controls as stated by the public health order (masks, social distancing, etc) are ok in most situations, however during rescues or when in the water wearing a mask or social distancing is not possible

The Board of Management has carefully considered their responsibility to ensure the safety of its employees and its members. The following is a summary of the requirements and controls for Bondi Surf Club Lifesaving from the 18th Sept to 30th October:

1. Vaccination
 - a. Double vaccination will be a requirement to patrol.
 - b. Members will be required to provide proof of vaccination prior to attending patrol.
 - c. Please email a copy of your vaccination certificate to the office, they will keep a record on Surfguard. Your certificate will be deleted and not retained.
 - d. You can choose not to disclose your status.
2. Patrol
 - a. As per SLS NSW guidelines, patrols will be limited to a maximum of 6 people. (PC, ARTC, IRBD, IRBC, 2xBM). No SRC or members under 16.
 - b. Your PC will be contacting you if you will be required to patrol.
 - c. If you don't feel comfortable with doing patrols during these restrictions please tell your PC.
 - d. Additional members may be called if additional support is required.
3. PPE
 - a. Masks to be worn at all times (should be removed for rescues and in water activity)
 - b. Additional PPE will be available (Cleaning, Gloves, sanitiser etc)



4. Who needs an exemption?

<5km from the club	>5km from the club	In an LGA of concern
No exemption is required	Exemption from SLS NSW required. Link to exemption form	See point 5 below

5. Members in LGA of concern

- a. Members who reside in LGA of concern will only be permitted to attend if their skills are required to meet our minimum patrol obligations.
- b. PC to discuss with Club Captain prior to completing exemption process
- c. Will need to apply for a [Service NSW permit](#) and [SLS NSW exemption letter](#).

6. Patrol change over

- a. The morning and afternoon shifts will not have any contact.
- b. Afternoon PC will meet the morning PC for handover (following COVID safety procedures)
- c. Afternoon patrol will meet and be briefed at the clubhouse before proceeding to the beach
- d. Morning patrol will depart the beach at change over ensuring that there is no cross-over with afternoon patrol

7. Further information can be found in the [Bondi Covid Operations Procedures](#) document.

We understand everyone's circumstances are different and that vaccination is a personal decision. If a member does not, or cannot, meet the requirement to provide vaccination evidence and would like to discuss their situation, please contact a member of the Board of Management. Similarly, members who cannot be vaccinated against COVID-19 for medical reasons are encouraged to get in touch. If you have any questions or concerns about any of the lifesaving matters raised in this communication, please speak to me directly.

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