



# Circular- Rescue of the Month 2017

<b>Title: Rescue of the Month</b>
<b>Document ID: 42 16/17</b>
<b>Department: Coastal Safety</b>
<b>Audience: Clubs, Support operation services, State &amp; Territory centres, Australian Lifeguard Services</b>
<b>Summary: lifesaving personnel national recognition program</b>

Lifesavers and Lifeguards provide an essential service to communities throughout Australia. Many exceptional rescues and first aids performed each year are over and above normal duties and showcase excellence in lifesaving training, skills and procedures.

The SLSA board endorsed the implementation of a *National Rescue of the Month* (ROTM) commencing in December 2013. The program expands similar successful recognition programs currently being run by SLSNSW and SLSQ.

The 'Rescue of the Month' aims to recognise excellence in lifesaving and service delivery, measured against industry best practice and operating procedures. It is not to encourage unnecessary risk, neglect safety considerations or Standard Operating Procedures.

The program is designed to:

1. Increase the recognition and promotion of lifesavers, SLS clubs, ALS lifeguards and support operations services after an incident.
2. Increase the number of worthy Meritorious Awards

State/Territory centres will award a ROTM. These monthly winners will automatically become nominated for the National Rescue of the Month. The National ROTM will be awarded to recipients at a quarterly ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra.

The ROTM is a **separate** recognition program to the SLSA Meritorious Awards. Members, Clubs and Support Operations Services and Australian Lifeguard Services may nominate to both programs separately using the relevant nomination form.

## Nomination Process

Clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and support operations services are to nominate using the Rescue of the Month nomination form available on the SLS website or member portal.

Clubs, Australian Lifeguard Service and support operations services are to send the completed nomination form to their Branch/Region or State/Territory centre.

All nominated rescues/incidents must be performed inside the designated time period i.e. a rescue/incident that occurs in November is only eligible for the November award etc. (see nomination schedule for due dates).



There are five (5) key areas assessed as part of the Judging Criteria:

Criteria	Weight
1. Application of Skills and Resource Utilisation	35%
2. Procedures Followed	25%
3. Environmental Conditions	20%
4. Potential Outcome	15%
5. Media Capture / Communication	5%

These criteria will be used to determine Branch, State/Territory and National Rescue of the Month winners



NOMINATION SCHEDULE							
PERIOD	NOMINATION PERIOD ENDS	BRANCH ROTM	STATE/TERRITORY ROTM		NATIONAL ROTM		
		Nominations Close (To Branch or ALS Manager)	Nominations Close (To State)	State Winner Announced	Nominations Close (To SLSA)	Winner Announced	
2016	December	31 December	6 January	13 January	20 January	20 January	27 January
2017	January	31 January	3 February	10 February	17 February	17 February	24 February
	February	28 February	3 March	10 March	17 March	17 March	24 March
	March	31 March	7 April	14 April	21 April	21 April	28 April
	April	30 April	5 May	12 May	19 May	19 May	26 May
	May/June	30 June	7 July	14 July	21 July	21 July	28 July
	July/Aug	31 August	8 September	15 September	22 September	22 September	29 September
	September	30 September	6 October	13 October	20 October	20 October	27 October
	October	31 October	3 November	10 November	17 November	17 November	24 November
	November	30 November	8 December	15 December	22 December	22 December	2 January
	December	31 December	5 January	12 January	19 January	19 January	29 January
<b>Parliamentary Friends of SLS (Federal) presentation</b>							
	9 Feb 2017	15 June 2017	7 Sept 2017	30 Nov 2017			
	Oct Nov Dec	Jan Feb March	April May/June	July/August Sept			

## Eligibility

- Rescues, First Aids (or other lifesaving actions) conducted during or outside of patrol hours, year round, on or off the beach.
- All nominees are to be current members of SLSA, employees of Australian Lifeguard Service or a support operation service.
- All Club nominations are to be received by the Branch/Region/State or Territory on or before the applicable closing date.
- No late correspondence will be entered into. Late nominations **will not be eligible** for the State/National Rescue of the Month, but can be recognised by the Branch or State/Territory independently or nominated to the SLSA Meritorious Awards program if appropriate.
- Branches/Regions may make only one (1) nomination to State centre per period, as per schedule.
- States/Territory may make only one (1) nomination to SLSA per period, as per schedule
- All nominations are to be received on the official 'SLSA Rescue of the Month Nomination Form'. This can be downloaded from the member portal library or obtained by contacting the SLSA or your State/Territory Office
- States/Territory reserves the right to nominate any outstanding rescue/incident in addition to any Branch/Region nomination, inside the designated time period.
- SLSA and the States/Territory reserve the right to promote details of rescues and the nominated rescuer(s) internally and externally in promotion of SLS services/clubs/members and the Rescue of the Month program.
- Nomination for the 'award' serves as agreement to the conditions as stated above.

## Judging

- The State/Territory ROTM judging panel/method shall be determined by the State/Territory
- The SLSA National ROTM judging panel shall be the determined by the Board appointed Chair of Lifesaving
- The selection of a winner is final and there will be no correspondence entered into.

## Recognition / Winners

- Clubs/Services shall be the award recipients for winning nominations
- Branch winner ROTM – State/Territory & Branch branded Citation.
- State/Territory ROTM – State monthly winners shall be recognised via a citation for the Club + any additional methods as determined by the State/Territory. State ROTM winner is not awarded a Branch level citation.
- State/Territory – May choose to award a Rescue of the Year award, however there is no National Rescue of the Year award
- National ROTM – Citation & medallion plus award ceremony in Canberra.