

53rd Annual Report

Shoalhaven Heads

Surf Lifesaving Club Inc.

2019 / 2020



President Report – Shoalhaven Heads SLSC

As always a big thankyou to committee members and volunteers who again this year work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the club continues to run smoothly.

Season 2019 / 2020 was another successful season for Shoalhaven Heads Surf Lifesaving Club (SLSC), once again our dedicated group of lifesavers could keep our beach fatality free. A great example of proactive lifesaving and water edge patrolling that we only 2 rescues within the patrolled area.

This season has thrown up a number of challenges. Bushfires , floods , beach erosion and a pandemic all had an impact on the season that has passed and still impacts how we operate today. COVID 19 brought an early end to the patrolling season. We have ben unable to hold our presentation days , we plan on holding these celebrations closer to the season start.

Bushfires and floods limited the number of tourists who visited our beach over the Christmas / New Year period. The bushfires and COVID19 impacted one of our biggest fundraisers being the Shoalhaven Heads Fishing Club charity day. The event was unable to be held meaning we missed out on important donations. Fundraising will be challenge for the club over the next few seasons , with the above factors and a downturn in economic activity activity will mean our supporters and businesses who we rely on for donations will have less available funds to share around.

Patrols at Shoalhaven Heads SLSC were scheduled for a massive 1377 hours to be completed by only 30 patrolling members at the start of the season, reinforcing our commitment to providing a safe beach for the community of Shoalhaven Heads and their visitors.

Training continues to be a focus for the club. Congratulations to all those members of who earnt awards this season. Thank you to the trainers and assistant trainers who volunteer to assist to train these squads.

Thanks to Mollymook SLSC for assisting with training with our new IRB Crew and Drivers over the last 12 months.

Congratulations to Eva Douglass who won the Female Cadet lifesaver of the year. Eva has progressed through the club's nipper program , she successfully gained her bronze medallion two seasons ago and has been actively involved in patrolling , water safety and has held committee positions.

Our junior lifesavers (nippers) continue to grow. Thank you to all the parents who volunteer their Sunday mornings to provided education , water safety and surf knowledge. This year the nippers programme was interrupted significantly after the Christmas Break with bushfires , floods and COVID19. The season was cut short as a result. We look forward to welcoming all the families back at the start of the coming season.

Our nippers and cadets continued their participation in the take Take 3 for the Sea clean up days during the season , they learnt about the impact that rubbish has to the ocean and to the beach.

This year two long term members of the club are both taking a step back. Michael Janos has been an active patrolling member , trainer and committee member for over 10 years. Thank you Michael for all you have done over the past years. Hopefully we see on the beach again in the near future.

On Patrol at Shoalhaven Heads 2019/2020

CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

Season 2019 / 20 was a disrupted but still successful season for Shoalhaven Heads Surf Lifesaving Club (SLSC), once again our dedicated group of lifesavers kept our beach fatality free. A great example of proactive lifesaving and water edge patrolling, that we only had 3 rescues within the patrolled area.

Patrols at Shoalhaven Heads SLSC were scheduled for a massive 1377 hours, to be completed by 30 patrolling members, an increase of 6 patrolling members on the previous season; achieving 1241 hours, considering we did not patrol for the entire season.

It was a very demanding season, firstly with the bushfires, placing IRB crews on standby, to respond to evacuation calls to other coastal villages, and then, the uncertainty of the Pandemic.

The club was called to assist NSW Police Service in a search and rescue in hazardous conditions over 2 days. Unfortunately, the search did not have a favourable outcome; also, one of our patrolling members was injured and hospitalised while responding to the call out, highlighting what we do is not without personal risk to ourselves to protect others.

Patrol Actions

- Preventative Actions – 50
- Rescues (using a rescue board) – 1
- Rescues (using rescue tube) – 1
- First Aid – 10 - One first aid case was a spinal injury requiring the attendance of NSW Ambulance Service.
- Beach Closures – 3
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Additional patrolling members, coming from 2 bronze medallion squads this season, which was a much-needed boost to our patrols during the season, highlights the need for ongoing training.

The future of the club relies on training and member retention. We need to understand what our members look for in return for their commitment to patrolling. The club has is still under pressure from the NSW State Centre to increase the number of patrols completed by Shoalhaven Heads SLSC.

A huge thanks to all who gave up time on Christmas day to ensure we met our patrol obligation and kept our beach safe.

This season has seen a return of high absenteeism and a distinct lack of commitment, from some patrolling members with a total of 280 hours in absenteeism which is extremely high considering patrols were suspended due to the COVID-19.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every one of you, the members who did commit to patrolling and ensuring our beach remained safe and fatality free. Our beach is very challenging at times and Shoalhaven Heads Surf Lifesavers should be very proud of what they do week-in week-out and are without peer.

Junior Club Captain's Annual Report 2019/2020

The 2019/20 season was a rather successful period of time for Shoalhaven Heads Surf Lifesaving Club. We successfully kept our beach fatality-free, thanks to our incredible patrol members.

Throughout this season two Bronze/SRC courses ran and we were able to welcome many new cadet members;

Bronze: 4

Gold: 1

SRC: 3

Total New Cadet Patrol Members: 7

In so many ways we've seen our cadets grow and accomplish many things. Whether it was receiving awards, achieving personal goals, attending patrol, attending fundraisers/events or helping with the nippers, the cadets have excelled time and time again.

We saw some excellent cadet accomplishments throughout this season with our very own Jaidyn Murphy and Eva Douglass being nominated for Male and Female Cadet of the Year for the South Coast Branch. Upon attending the award day, Eva Douglass was awarded Female Cadet of the Year while Jaidyn Murphy was a close contender for Male Cadet of the Year. We also saw Alannah Mannix receive this year's Young Citizen Award for the Shoalhaven. Leah Dobson also completed her Gold Medallion for Surf Lifesaving.

The interrelation between the Cadets and Nippers has been more prominent this season, with many active cadets spending two hours every Sunday assisting the younger nippers in and out of the water.

Take 3 for the Sea education was headed by Alannah Mannix, with a successful nipper session being held. This session educated our youngest age group of nippers about plastic pollution and allowed them to contribute positively to their community through a 3-minute beach plastic pick up challenge in December last year.

Thank you all, see you next season,

Eva Douglass-Alannah Mannix Junior Club Captains 2019/2020

IRB Captain Report

The 2019/2020 season has been a successful one with no major incidents occurring. Both I.R.B.s were past for service at the beginning of the season along with three motors. With the use of a grant a new motor was purchased and has been operational for the season. Two remaining motors excess to requirements were sold .

Training for crew and drivers is to take place during the latter part of winter season to help ensure as many as members are ready as possible for the season ahead.

Lt Dan.

I.R.B. Captain.

JAC Annual Report 2019/20

With no interest from the membership to fulfil the role of JAC for the 2019/20 season, I took on aspects of the role to ensure our ability to offer a program for the season.

However, for the second year running we had strong parental support on the beach each week which aided a great first half of the season. It was great to see the parent helpers on the beach each week, and mums and dads playing an active role in their child's development.

An immense amount of thanks goes to Sam, Ron, Karl as Age Managers, and also to key parents who assisted and filled in the roles when Age Managers were absent. The success of the season was due to your teamwork and commitment.

Another big Thank you to the Active members on Patrol each week, who assisted when needed, and made sure the beach was safe for our activities.

Another big Thank you to our cadets and other Bronze Holders who assisted with Water Safety each week. Nippers cannot operate without these members and I know they attend each week for the 2hrs which is in addition to their patrolling commitments.

With the addition of the new Nippers Trailer, the use of boards and other equipment was utilised to the fullest, and it was great to see it being used for its' intended purpose.

Unfortunately, Bushfires and Covid-19 meant our season was effectively halved for the season which was unfortunate but necessary.

As this year was my final years as JAC, I wish the new JAC (hopefully we get one) all the best for the 2020/21 season.

Rod Douglass

Registrar Report - Membership

The season consolidated on gains in membership numbers from the previous season with strong season on season retention. Successful pre-season recruitment campaign and ongoing community engagements enabled 2 Bronze Medallion and SRC courses to be run. Active senior patrol members are tight but stable with hard core of members who have many personal demands on their time and still committed to volunteering.

We have 17 cadet members who are actively involved in patrolling, Nippers water safety and assisting with community and PR activities. They have benefitted from positive mentoring in these activities which has resulted in them gaining community recognition for their involvement in community volunteering. (SC Branch Female Cadets of the year in 2018 and 2019, a Shoalhaven Junior Australian of the Year 2020 and many school awards for community support and compassion.)

Nippers membership remained static with families often opting in and out of membership over the years but we are pleased they do eventually return to do patrol awards at 15 so do value the skills Surf Life Saving gives to youth and service in our community.

Sub-Membership Categories							
The figures in this summary are those at 1st July of the selected season (or earlier if elected in the screen 'Registration Season End Settings').							
Sub-Membership Category	Total Members	Male Members	Female Members	Indeterminate Gender	Unknown Gender	2017 Season Total Members	Member Retention (%)
Probationary	3	3	0	0	0	3	100 %
Junior Activity Member (5-13 years)	43	25	18	0	0	52	82.69 %
Cadet Member (13-15 years)	7	1	6	0	0	6	116.67 %
Active (15-18 yrs)	10	5	5	0	0	4	250 %
Active (18yrs and over)	22	16	6	0	0	16	137.5 %
Associate	39	9	30	0	0	34	114.71 %
Life Member	5	5	0	0	0	5	100 %
Total	129	64	65	0	0	120	107.5 %

Publicity and Community Engagement

We take a cross community approach to recruitment publicity to attract members from across the Northern Shoalhaven. We used the new SLSNSW Brand iQ platform to good effect for both senior and junior registrations as it is a good format for sharing across multi-media sources particularly in school and village digital newsletters.

We have got more involved in community events to increase our Beyond the Flags footprint and we involve club cadets in these to help them gain off beach interpersonal skills.

We are a Take 3 for the Sea Partnership Club and this fits well with Nippers Surf Safe and Surf Aware skills modules as well as being a positive environmental program valued by the Shoalhaven Heads community.

K P in acknowledging CPs achievements at Branch, State and World championships said no competition report had been submitted for inclusion in the annual report.

Committee 2018/19 Dissolved

KP dissolved committee. All positions declared vacant

Election of Officer Positions 2019/20

DW took chair for nomination and election of club office bearers for 2019/20

- Chief Patron -BD nominate C Poulton. WD second .CP accept. Carried
- President - BD nominate K Poulton. RD second. KP accept. Carried
- Vice President - KP nominate M Janos. RD second. KP accept. Carried
- Secretary - MJ nominate T Martin. NP second. TM accept. Carried.
- Treasurer - BD nominate R Douglass. DW second. RD accept. Carried.
- Club Captain - GM nominate D Schofield. KP second. DS accept. Carried.
- Vice Club Captain - DS nominate J Murphy. WD seconded. JM accept. Carried.
- Junior Club Captain x 2 GM nominate A Mannix. TM second. AM accept. Carried.
- MD nominate E Douglass. DM second. ED accept. Carried
- Ordinary Member - MJ nominate G Morrison. KP second. GM accept. Carried.
- JAC - No nomination: Position is vacant to be filled prior to Nipper season start
- Chief Instructor - GM nominate M Janos. KP second. MJ accept. Carried
- Publicity - DW nominate N Pryde. CP second. NP accept. Carried
- Competition Captain - no nomination .
- House Captain - DS nominate L Collings. NP second. LC accept. Carried
- IRB Captain - WD nominate DW. BD second. DW accept. Carried
- First Aid - No nomination. Identify members with prior background if possible
- Radio Officer- M Janos nominate self. DW second. MJ accept. Carried
- Bar Manager - BD nominate T Martin . RD second. GM accept. Carried.
- Social Secretary - No nomination. To be raised at next committee.
- Fund Raising - KP nominate N Pryde. MJ second. NP accept. Carried.
- Gear Steward - BD nominate G Morrison. TM second. GM accept. Carried.
- Registrar - RD nominate NP. DW second. NP accept. Carried
- Child Protection Officer - DW nominates NP. KP second. NP accept. Carried
- Branch Delegate x 3 -M Janos nominate self. DW second. MJ accept. Carried.
- D Schofield nominate self. NP second. DS accept. Carried
- K Poulton nominate self. DS second. KP accept. Carried
- Licensee - KP nominate TM. NP second. TM accept. Carried
- Public Officer - KP nominate self. DW second. KP accept. Carried.
- Uniform Officer - RD nominates K Willett. NP second. KW accept. Carried.

Award Winners – 2019 / 2020

Clubman of the Year	Ron Willett
Junior Clubman of the year	Jorja Poulton
Club All-rounder	Sam Price
Junior Club Allrounder	Eva Douglass
Patrol Person	Mark Adams
Junior Patrol Person	Eva Douglass
Trainer of the year	Karl Poulton
Nipper of the Year- Male	Sean Leech
Nipper of year – Female	Elsie Willett

Congratulations to all those members of who earnt awards this season.

Bronze Medallion	Surf Rescue Certificate
Mark Adams	Hamish Martin
Tasha Adams	Oscar Poulton
Toby Adams	Madison Doosey
Callum De Rooy	
Amanda Simister	IRB Crew Certificate
Edward Simister	Alannah Mannix
Alec Dobson	Jaidyn Murphy
Hugh Dobson	Jorja Poulton
Sharon Justice	Tara Rumble
Advanced Resuscitation	Spinal Management
Leah Dobson	Alannah Mannix
Alannah Mannix	Jaidyn Murphy
Jaidyn Murphy	First Aid Certificate
	Alannah Mannix
Gold Medallion	Jaidyn Murphy
Leah Dobson	

Life Members	Honour Members
Charley Gumley (dec)	Greg Wood
Clyde Poulton	Terry Simister
Noel Walton	Greg Mathers
Tom Gablonski	Denise Belling
Byron Dengate	Peter Raftery
Karl Poulton	Richard Hall
David Schofield	John Pentecost
Wes Davis	Derek Taylor
	Eric Clay (dec)



