



Surf Life Saving Australia - Circular

Title:	Nominations, Chair of Lifesaving
Document ID:	Circular 35/24-25
Audience:	Presidents & Secretaries States Territory Centres, Branches & Clubs SLSA Directors, Advisors, Committee's, Chairs, SMG's and Interested Parties
From:	Peter George AM Head of Mission
Date:	22 November 2024

Summary

Nominations are invited from suitably qualified and experienced members for the Surf Life Saving Australia honorary position of Chair of Lifesaving.

This position will be for a 3-year term (i.e. June 2025 to May 2028).

Nominations must be submitted online [CLICK HERE](#). All nominations must be endorsed by your club and state centre.

Appointment of this position will be made by the SLSA Board. A Nominations Committee chaired by an independent Director of SLSA and confirmed by the SLSA Board will determine the suitability of all nominations by applying the approved Position Description and provide recommendations/rankings based on the skills profile of each candidate. The Chair will advise the Board of the committee's recommendations/rankings of all nominations. All applicants should be available for interview if required between

Overview of Responsibilities and Obligations

Members interested in nominating for this position shall carefully read the SLSA Constitution, SLSA Regulations which outlines the makeup of the Committee (2.5), Policies and the attached position description to confirm his/her eligibility, willingness, capability and capacity to fulfil the important responsibilities associated with this role. It should be noted that this position does not sit on the SLSA Board.

Interested persons are encouraged to discuss the roles and expectations (in confidence if desired) with Peter George AM, Head of Mission by emailing: peter.george@sls.com.au

Please refer to the Lifesaving Committee Terms of Reference for a full listing of responsibilities, skills and qualifications required.

All documents are available on the SLSA Members Area in the document library

Surf Life Saving Australia

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Surf Life Saving Australia Position Description

CHAIR, LIFESAVING

Reports to:	Chief Executive Officer
Operational Report:	Manager Coastal Safety
Appointed By:	Surf Life Saving Australia Board
Term of Office:	3 years (June 2025- May 2028)
Consultation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SLSA President• SLSA CEO and Executive Team• Chairs of Sport Learning and Development• Manager Coastal Safety - Surf Life Saving Australia• National SLS Advisory Committees and subcommittees across lifesaving, learning, development and sport• Surf Life Saving State and Territory representatives
Purpose:	The purpose of this role is to provide national leadership for lifesaving activities to support effective decision making at all levels of SLSA. The Chair role is responsible for supporting and informing the overall strategic development, growth and management of SLSA lifesaving operations to meet SLSA strategic priorities.
Responsibilities:	<p>Funding, Planning and Reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide input into the development of SLSA strategic priorities and business plans• Identify and inform strategic and business development opportunities, grants, contracts and partnerships that position SLSA strategically and financially• Undertake programs or provide advice to the SLSA Board, President, CEO, and GMCS as requested. <p>Leadership and Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In collaboration with the SLSA Manager Coastal Safety appoint SLSA National Lifesaving Advisors, Working Groups and Committees to provide high quality and informed technical input into the various operational areas of lifesaving• Engage in high quality member consultation by chairing the Lifesaving Advisory Committee• Provide leadership and advice to SLSA's broad range of lifesaving stakeholders including state/territory directors and national/state/territory staff• Promote a culture of continuous improvement, including a commitment to quality customer service within SLSA lifesaving. <p>Lifesaving Operations, Training and Education, Water Safety, Drowning and Injury Prevention, Emergency Management, Organisational Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborate, consult and liaise with state/territory SLS entities, SLSA directors, to develop and promote best practice operational standards, consistency and adherence to national policies, procedures and guidelines• Foster and facilitate collaboration across the SLS lifesaving movement• Support the development, review and continuous improvement of all SLSA lifesaving resources, ensuring alignment across all areas of operations• Support the delivery, review and continuous improvement of lifesaving education frameworks and pathways• Promote and support organisational development activities• Support the collection, analysis and interpretation of data from relevant entities and sources to inform evidence-based decision making• Support the development and delivery of recognition and meritorious awards programs to promote excellence in lifesaving across the movement• Support the development and streamlining of SLS lifesaving, sport, education and development activities into a cohesive framework

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the delivery of nationally significant projects for lifesaving. <p>Representational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represent SLSA's membership on lifesaving matters ensuring members views are well considered in the organisational decision-making process. Chair National SLSA Lifesaving meetings and forums.
Selection Criteria	
Qualifications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Member of SLSA with experience across a range of lifesaving operational functions essential. Tertiary qualifications and/or equivalent relevant experience in the areas of emergency management, community development, injury prevention, general management, or public policy are desirable: Graduate qualifications in the area of business, operations or a related field are also desirable:
Knowledge & Experience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Strong understanding of the role of governance and management layers in delivering organisational outcomes: Knowledge of emergency management principles and the emergency management arrangements in Australia: Experience in negotiating and sourcing funding from external organisations including government, donors and commercial entities: Knowledge and understanding of SLS philosophies, principles, lifesaving activities, programs, policies and procedures: Strong understanding of issues that affect SLS on a national level.
Skills & Attributes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Strong leadership competencies – able to positively influence a broad range of stakeholders who may have contrasting priorities: Ability to cultivate productive working relationships, facilitate and develop partnerships, value diversity and develop people: Ability to influence through written and oral communication and interpersonal skills: Ability to show initiative, prioritise and meet commitments and deadlines: Analytical skills to assess a broad range of evidence and communicate findings to influence decision making: