

2025-26 Skills Maintenance Requirements for each Award

Eligibility for Skills Maintenance

- If you have completed Skills Maintenance for an award within the **previous two seasons**, you can simply complete the **annual Skills Maintenance** this season for that award.
- If you have **not completed Skills Maintenance in an award for three or more consecutive years**, you will need to undertake an **in-depth Skills Maintenance** or be **retrained**, depending on the award and how much time has passed.

If this applies to you, please contact the **Chief Training Officer** (details below) to discuss how you can be reskilled.

SKILLS MAINTENANCE RECORD KEEPING

Clubs are required to submit to the branch/regional office:

- A **Master Attendance Sheet**, (plus another sheet for IRB Drivers and Crewpersons) **all candidates must have signed the Master Attendance Sheet** as proof of attending on the specific date; and
- Award proficiency assessment Form 14, signed by the club CTO with the names of all endorsed delegates/assessors from that date listed in the comments box.
- Pool swim document (where required);
- Skills Maintenance record sheets; and
- Evidence of completion of theory paper (either hard copy or online completion certificate print out or eLearning completion report).

• COMPLETING SKILLS MAINTENANCE OUTSIDE OF OWN CLUB

- Queensland members undertaking Skills Maintenance outside of their own club but within their own branch must advise their Club Captain/CTO/administrator and nominate which club they will be doing Skills Maintenance with.
- Club members wishing to do Skills Maintenance outside of their own branch or interstate will need prior approval from the Branch Director of Lifesaving and must also advise their Club Captain/CTO/administrator and nominate which club they will be doing Skills Maintenance with.
- Queensland members who **undertake Skills Maintenance outside of Queensland** will still be required to complete any additional Queensland requirements before patrolling in Queensland.

Skills Maintenance (Proficiency Check) Requirements for 2025/26 Season

ONLINE THEORY COMPONENTS

Skills Maintenance Online Theory is to be completed by all patrolling members regardless of awards held. The knowledge required to complete the questions is contained in the online learning Skills Maintenance modules. The online component is broken up into two sections: interactive online training (short video) and theory assessment questions.

Members are required to complete the skills maintenance theory component online, as assessment marking and record keeping is automated and reduces the burden placed upon SLS trainers and assessors. If a member is unable to complete this component online, they should speak with their club training officer.

Bronze Medallion, Surf Rescue Certificate and Resuscitation (first Aid Award if member does not hold Bronze/SRC and/or ART) award members must complete the following:

- Watch a video update outlining changes to skills maintenance requirements, as well as any changes to SLS procedures or ANZCOR guidelines (approx. 3 minutes).
- For states that will be introducing Lifesaving CPR, two eLearning module outlining Lifesaving CPR techniques (approx. 20 minutes).

Advanced Resuscitation Techniques and **Advanced Resuscitation Techniques [AID]** award members must also complete the following:

- Complete an eLearning module outlining changes to ART delivery for Lifesaving CPR with particular emphasis on leadership and team management (approx. 10 minutes).

Age Managers and Age Manager Assistants

- Watch a video released this season by the National Development Chair relating to the changes which have occurred within their area. (approx. 8 minutes)

PRACTICAL COMPONENTS

Aquatic Rescue Pathway Awards

The Lifesaving Committee previously approved a three-year cycle for skills maintenance for both the Surf Rescue Certificate and Bronze Medallion. This season, the Skills Maintenance practical **will focus on the introduction of Lifesaving CPR**

Bronze Medallion (BM) and Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC)

1. Run-Swim-Rescue (timed)

100m Run – 100m Swim in 3:30 minutes or less

- The run distance to be taken from waist deep water, e.g., the run is from a flag, around a marker and to waist deep water. The swim component is to a marker 100m from waist deep water.
- The **swim leg is conducted with a rescue tube attached to the rescuer. The use of fins is optional and permitted.**
- Patients will be waiting in the water in line with the 100m marker. Rescuer secures the conscious patient with the tube. The timed component of the Run-Swim-Rescue finishes at this point.
- Rescuer swims 100m to return to the beach with the patient.
- Rescuer assists the patient to the water's edge.

2. Signals

Demonstrate knowledge of signals. The demonstration must include the following:

- Beach to water signals
- Water to beach signals

3. Resuscitation (CPR)

For Season 2025/26, Lifesaving CPR will be introduced in QLD.

- The face-to-face training for the new Lifesaving CPR techniques will fulfil the member's requirements for their annual Resuscitation skills update.

Members be aware this will add additional time on your skills maintenance day.

Beach Management/ Award Member Pathway Awards

Qld Observers

- Signals – demonstrate all signals correctly;

#Observers must also complete a proficiency in any other patrolling awards they hold (i.e. Radio, Resuscitation, ART etc.)

Radio Operations (RO)

While there is NO assessable practical radio component this season, clubs are encouraged to have member practice using radio equipment in an operational patrol environment including:

- Pre-operation checks
- Knowledge of local operating channels and uses

- Inter-patrol communications
- Rescue procedures, requests for assistance which include the four P's.

For those who use this award as part of their operation within a SLS communications centre, additional skills maintenance requirements may be included at a local level.

Silver Medallion Patrol Captain

There is no Skills Maintenance requirement for Season 25/26. Current awards will have the expiry date in SurfGuard renewed automatically by SLSA. All members must have completed Skills Maintenance in one of the following awards:

- Bronze Medallion/Certificate II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue);
- First Aid;
- Radio Operator; and
- Advanced Resuscitation Techniques [AID] / Advanced Resuscitation Techniques

Powercraft Pathway Awards

Powercraft award holders will need to demonstrate skills in a 'one off' skills maintenance check this season due to changes to the award delivery. All members must demonstrate proficiency in the associated pre-requisite awards as follows:

- IRB Crew
 - Proficient Bronze Medallion
- Silver Medallion IRB Driver
 - Proficient Bronze Medallion
 - Proficient IRB Crew
 - Hold a current state/territory boat license (where applicable)

IRB Crew (IRBC)

Demonstrate effective and safe crewing practice and ability including:

- Crewing positions
 - Rise Crewing Position
 - Standing Crewing Position
 - Lock-in Position
 - Emergency Punch Position
- Re-boarding the IRB
- Awareness of Powercraft Code of Conduct.

Silver Medallion IRB Driver (SMIRBD)

Demonstrate the ability to apply safe driving practice including but not limited to:

- 1 o'clock wave negotiation
- Parallel running
- Awareness of Powercraft Code of Conduct.
- Hold a current state/territory boat/PWC license (where applicable)
 - Additional state/territory pre-requisites as required.

All IRB operators are encouraged to review the new [9th Edition IRB Manual](#) to gain a better understanding of new content and techniques.

Side-by-Side Vehicle (SSV)

It is not a national requirement to undertake an annual SSV (ATV) proficiency. Instead, a **member's driving license must be checked each year for currency**. Each SLS state/territory centre can manage this process, and this information can be recorded in SurfGuard.

A member who loses their driver's license (whether through cancellation or suspension) must not be driving the SSV. **Provisional drivers** are to **display plates** as required by their state legislative body.

Members must participate in an SSV Operator Induction for each new SSV make and model that they have not driven before. The *SLSA SSV Operator Induction Guide* is available in the SLS Members Area Document Library.

Age Managers and Age Manager Assistants

Age Manager awards expire after 5 years and must be renewed on expiry to manage Nipper activities on the beach. Age Managers need to refer to the Members Area for the expiry date.

Age Managers and Age Manager Assistants will need to undertake an annual update to keep abreast of changes that may have occurred during the season, with each state rules differing slightly. Please refer to your local state/territory.

A member is proficient:

- If they hold a current Age Managers course (completed online)
- If they hold the current working with children check or equivalent requirement for their state/territory (where applicable dependent on age)
- If they have watched the video released this season by the National Development Chair relating to the changes which have occurred within their area. If a member is unable to complete this component online, they should speak with their Junior Activities Coordinator.

You can find additional information here [SLSQ Training Operations Manual](#)

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