

date 14/09/09
to Districts
re IRB Qualifications
from Tim Marsden

memo 

Hello Districts,

As you are aware there will be changes to the lifeguard pathway and qualifications framework. These improvements directly affect the current IRB Crew and IRB Driver qualifications. For information on where the IRB qualifications now sit on the **SLSNZ Lifeguard Pathway** see the final page. Below is a table outlining the difference between the old IRB qualifications and the new ones. Additional information follows this table.

Qualification Title (old)	Details of Current Award (old)	What will it be called?	How will the award be phased in? What are the release dates?	Are there any changes to what I will be learning?	Do I get the qualifications in the same way as previous?
IRB Crewperson Award	Complete a theory test. Complete series of practical tests including: Swim (to complete, no time limit is set). Communications Crewing E.g. Launching, return to shore. Rescue techniques and care of patient.	IRB Crewperson Module	Available after September 30th For those that already have begun training continue with old method. Anyone starting training after Sept 30th will begin under the new format. Old prerequisites still apply.	Made up of 2 units: 1. Crew an IRB 2. Demonstrate and explain the factors involved in set up and close down of an IRB hull.	No crew content in SLA anymore Candidates complete a workbook over instruction period Can be completed in conjunction with Senior Lifeguard Award - IRB Driver, but if candidate does not pass their Crewperson Module they will not be able to continue with their SLA - IRB Driver.
IRB Driver	Surf Lifeguards 16 Years + Complete a theory test. Complete series of practical tests including: Swim (to complete, no time limit is set). Communications. Set Up and Close Down of an IRB. Engine knowledge. E.g. Reinstatement Driving E.g. Launching, returning to shore, solo Rescue techniques and care of patient Complete instruction record during training.	Senior Lifeguard Award – IRB Driver	Available after September 30th For those that already have begun training continue with old method. Anyone starting training after Sept 30th will begin under the new format.	Yes, All education around crewperson responsibilities have been omitted The Crewpersons Module is a prerequisite to this award Old prerequisites still apply for this season, additional prerequisite of the Radio Operators Qualification next season. Made up of 2 units: 1. Drive an IRB 2. Demonstrate and explain the factors involved in the set up and close down of an IRB engine.	No, You must now: Complete a workbook related to Units as well as Attend and pass an IRB Examination.

There are two parts to the changes, firstly changes occurring this season and secondly those that will occur the season after.

The changes for the IRB qualifications for **this** (2009/2010) season are:

- A defined boundary between the competencies/tasks of a crewperson and a driver.
- An interim workbook that is to be completed by the crewperson and driver candidates (1 workbook each)
- The IRB instructor workbook no longer needed, changed to the Instructor Resources

The changes for the IRB qualifications for **next** (2010/2011) season are:

- Introduction of a **New Manual** and **externally produced workbooks**
- Tweaking of existing resources to match the new manual e.g. page numbers etc.

To gain the IRB Crewpersons Module lifeguards complete the training, crewpersons workbook, and pass the examination.

To gain the Senior Lifeguard Award – IRB Driver, lifeguards must now also complete a Radio Operators Qualification as a pre requisite. This pre requisite does not take effect until the end of the 2009/2010 season.

The pre requisites for the IRB Crewperson and SLA-IRB are as follows:

IRB Crewperson Module

Minimum Age: 14 years

Pre-Requisite Awards: Surf Lifeguard Award (currently refreshed)
Current member of a SLSC

Senior Lifeguard Award – IRB Driver

Minimum Age: 16 years

Pre-Requisite Awards: Surf Lifeguard Award (currently refreshed)
Radio Operators Qualification
Current member of a SLSC
IRB crewperson module (can be completed concurrently if 16 years of age)

OK, so I currently have my IRB Crew and/or Drivers Award is there anything I need to do to keep them/it?
No, you do not need to do anything to keep either award. Just refresh each season as usual.

*I gained my IRB Drivers Award under the **old** system and want to gain the Senior Lifeguard Award – IRB Driver what do I do?*

You must complete any of the prerequisites that you don't already have (usually only the Radio operators will be missing).

I don't have the Radio Operators Qualification a pre requisite for the Senior Lifeguard award IRB, can I begin my training?

Yes you can begin the training. However, after July the 1st 2010 you must have all prerequisites by the time you attend the **exam**. This season you can attend the exam without the Radio Operators Qualification.

Can I complete both the IRB Crewpersons Module and the Senior Lifeguard Award - IRB Driver at the same time?

Yes, you must be at least 16 years of age, have the prerequisites for both, complete both workbooks, both written tests at the exam, and all of the exam tasks for crew and driver. If you do not successfully complete the Crewpersons Module you will be unable to complete the Senior Lifeguard Award IRB Driver.

Specific Information for Instructors:

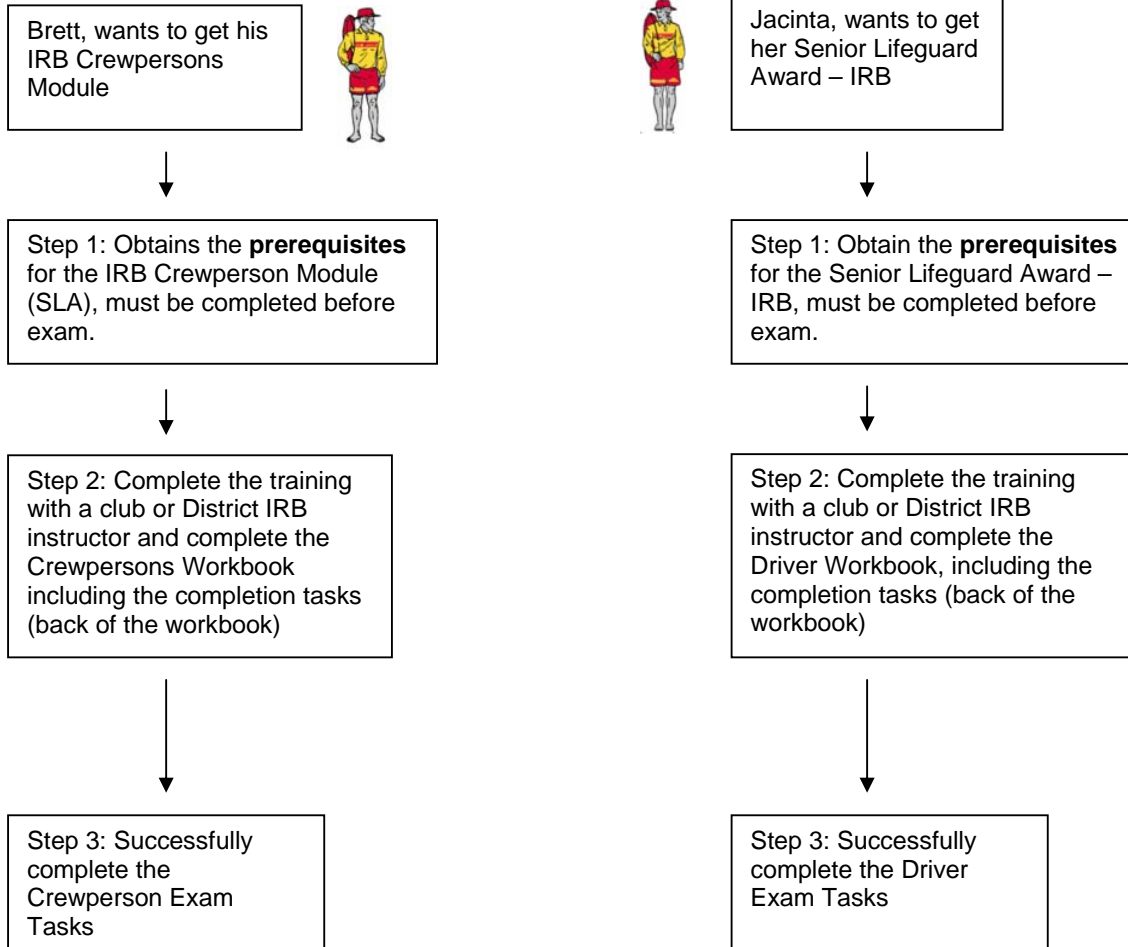
After the 30th of September the old IRB instructor Workbook will no longer need to be used. The workbook will be replaced by the IRB Instructor Resources. The Instructor Resources contain lesson plans that can be used and also gives details regarding the examination tasks. As an instructor you must do the following:

- Check the answers in the Candidate Workbook are correct (using the candidate workbook answers, this may be done at the end each lesson (advised) or at the end of all instruction).
- Sign off each Candidate Workbook (evidence gathering).
- Assist the candidate to complete all of the tasks that are conducted during the examination (task completion).
- Fill out an **Examination Registration Form** and **Instruction Record** and send them to your district once candidates are ready to attend the examination.

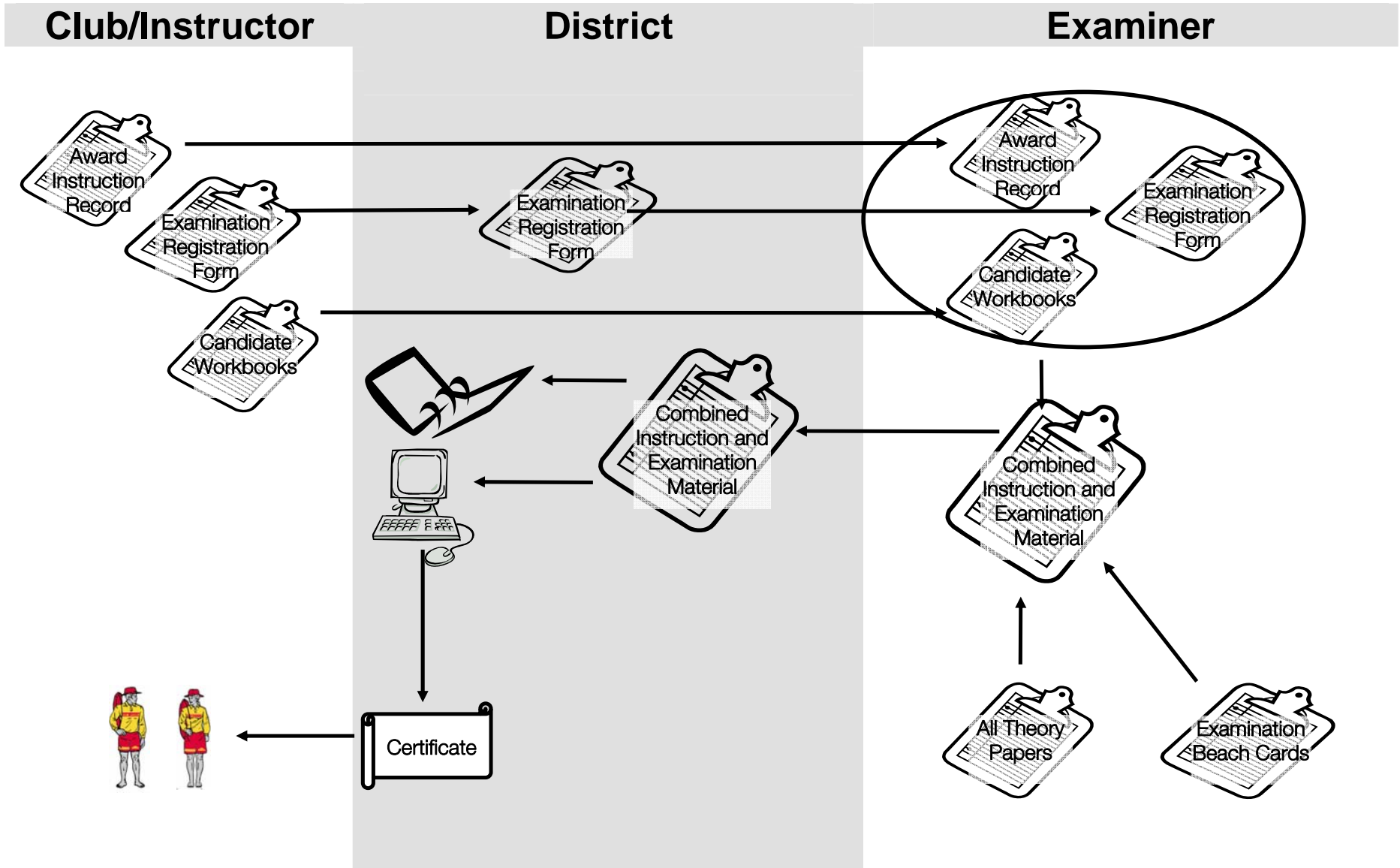
Specific Information for Examiners:

There will be a new Examiners Manual available after the 30th of September. As there will be some candidates still progressing through the old system 'new' exams will only need to begin running once candidates on the new system are coming through. It is important you read the examiners manual thoroughly, however, changes to the document will be minor. There will also be new written tests for both crew and driver candidates.

IRB Crewperson Flow Diagram



Paperwork Process





SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW ZEALAND

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I hope this has answered some of your questions. If you have any other queries regarding either of the IRB qualifications please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Tim Marsden
Lifesaving Development Officer
Surf Life Saving New Zealand

p +64 4 382 7213
e tim.marsden@surflifesaving.org.nz

In it for life

a 202 Cuba St PO Box 9205 Wellington
w www.surflifesaving.org.nz
p +64 4 384 8325
f +64 4 385 4381

SLSNZ Lifeguard Pathway

LIFEGUARD PATHWAY

additional modules

