

Surf Officials Leadership Group Minutes

Date: 17 Dec 2014

Venue: Phone Conference, Ph: 0800 452 934, Pin: 961 244 0879

Time: 7pm

Attendees:

Alistair Thorpe (AT)	Appointed
Wayne Franich (WF)	Appointed
Ross Merrett (RM)	Appointed
Debbie Hutchings (DH)	Appointed
Dave Shanks (DS)	NSC Representative
Mike Lord (ML)	Sport Manager
Craig Gledhill (CG)	Appointed

Apologies: Johnny Clough (JC) Appointed

Invited:

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1. Surf Officials Level 2 Course

RM and ML explained the changes to made to the SOL2 course held recently. Below is a summary of the changes. The main content and learning objectives have not changed but the way the course was run changed to be more in a logical sequence to the actual job. The assessment remains the same for the course and process for assessing.

- Changed from a 2 day course into a 1 day course
- Taken out some theory info and added in more practical 'doing' on the course.
- Added in practical planning exercise for an actual event
- Used I-Pad's for starts and finishes exercises
- Main roles of SO 2 and how that links in with SO1
- Updated of Competition safety manuals
- Update on competition appeal committee process to align with Surf Sports Competition Manual.
- Discussed specific case studies from recent events
- Update on risk management and how this works in with our current events
- Timetabling activity – Inclusion of updated spreadsheets for programmes and timing.

Comments

- WF. Recommended this course material should form part of the SO refresher/briefing information. DH. Noted it is very important especially with the Competition Safety material to have updates on this for officials.
- DS. Need to know the expectations of the Level 2 assessments
- DS. Should the officials that apply for L2 be selected rather than be a given entry onto the course. Question was based around if they were actually officiating on the beach and should we spend time and money on them.
- DS. Require a database of official's involvement during the events. ML to talk to the RPSM around the process and what the best way is to capture this.
- WF. Can we look to introduce the official's books to track their involvement in events.

Recommendations

- Have the information from Level 2 course changes sent all level 2 officials so they are up to date with current information. Any future changes to courses should be communicated to existing qualified officials to maintain updated level of knowledge. Information from courses to be made into simple refresher type over views for the start of each season for officials.
- Send updated L2 and L1 course content overview and assessments to officials for their information.
- For future SOL2 course we require candidates to be selected onto the course through the Regional Staff or a selected group or they note their current involvement in events on their application for the course.
- Talk to the Regional Staff around the process and what the best way is to capture the involvement of Surf Officials at events throughout the season.

2. Surf Officials Level 1 Assessments – Key changes

ML explained the changes to the L1 assessment sheets to clarify the actual assessment requirements and make the assessment form more usable for assessors.

Recommendations

- Send updated L1 assessments to officials for their information.

3. Work Plan – Attached

WF talked through each work plan item.

Comments

- DS. Should #1 L3 course under the title pathways be put higher than #2 International development opportunities. ML the development opportunities is higher due to timing and is part of the agenda tonight to seek guidance on this. The L3 course content is still high on the priority list but it will also take time and input from this group and hopefully be pulled together for next season.
- DH. There are some real risks with regards to the knowledge around the competition safety and application of a missing person at sea process. WF. The missing person at season process is lifesaving and they need to take the lead on the application of training for this. DS. The officials role is simple with regards to clearing the water so do we need to know the process. RM. The process is a shared responsibility of those on the beach and Arena Referees are in a position of leadership and need to understand their place in the process. DS. There is still concern over the crossing of the roles between and ER/AR and the ESO. RM. The competition safety manual runs on a SIM's model and can scale up or down as the situation happens so at some stage the AR or ER may be in charge of the situation until the ESO can get there or a higher qualified person who take control. There will still be reactive elements to the situation that need to be controlled while we start to form a coordinated approach to the incident.
- AT. Look at technology to assist with officiating and look at ways to reduce official's needs.
- A discussion was held around the need to move to enforce a standard ratio's for officials to athletes for events. CG. Are there penalties for not having officials – process for dealing with this needs to be established. DS. There is a process in NR to deal with this and some clubs are currently on notice.
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Recommendations

- Send a recommendation to the NLC that the missing person at sea search response should be part of the Lifeguard award. This is a lifesaving activity so should lead by lifesaving. This could be in module form.
- Hold a missing person at sea scenario for officials prior to Nationals. 2hrs, theory and practical. Land and water management of the scenario.
- Deliver regional courses to key members from each club to then provide training to their clubs. Target is lifeguard instructors to deliver the information to their members.
- Recruit more Event Safety Officers and provide training.
- Develop a process for the membership to recommend rule changes on a standard template and develop a process to review and change as required annually. Rules go from member to the NSC and then to Expert groups e.g. Officials/IRB/Surf Boats around the rule changes. Template to cover – rule, interpretation, recommended change
- Send the NSC a recommendation for ratio's for officials per club to be implemented. (NR current ratios are 10/1 for Junior Events and 15/1 for Senior Event. Check with SLSA around official's recruitment and ratios they have)
- Technology needs to be reviewed to assist with officiating and look at ways to reduce reliance on officials and/or assist with their experience at events also.
- Have a set of Binoculars for each arena for officials as part of their arena boxes. Whistles should be standard official uniform.
- DH. Recommended arena and event referee's require new shirts for Nationals.
- The SOLG to establish a SO retirement plan and recognising them using Denis paper as a starting point.

4. Meeting Schedule

- Future meetings
 - Next meeting to be held on February the 4th 2015, 7:00pm, Phone Conference.
 - Face to face meeting to be held on the 21 March 2015, Venue TBC (MRC or Zayne's accommodation as possibilities.)

5. Officials Personal Development Opportunity Subsidy

ML presented a draft plan for a personal development opportunity for official/event volunteers to develop. Officials to apply for a subsidy towards personal development by submitting a personal development plan (PDP) to the SOLG. The SOLG would assess the PDP and area's within sport where we need to upskill members. e.g. Event Safety Officers were raised as a high priority for development and would be very beneficial for the organisation and events. The selection committee to take into account the longevity of the member to be involved for, required skill sets we need to develop and the impact these members could make.

There was concern raised about opening up the applications to all officials and why not just target those we want to develop. ML. it's is still beneficial to know who would like to develop in what area as some will have very little costs associated to them and might be able to be achieved. The selection committee will still have the say in who gets subsidies.

Recommendations

- Selection Committee to be the SOLG. Note if any of the SOLG apply for a subsidy then they will not be able to sit on the selection committee.
- Create an application standard template with some set guidelines for applications. (e.g. longevity, skills sets required, risk area's)
- Set a timeline for the process for the following.
 - Application opened
 - Close applications
 - Selection committee review applications
 - Applications selected and funds allocated
 - Communication to those successful and unsuccessful
 - Reporting process around personal development experience
- It was recommended that the Event Safety Officers be high on the list to be developed.

6. General Business

- Marshalling Water Arena's – AT. Discussion around two marshalling arenas for a three water arena's. Looking to speeding up the process of marshalling. Currently marshals are waiting for things to happen rather than being proactive in the space. RM. Raised that SLSA run this system and sometimes it works really well and other times it is a nightmare. There is a need to have a separate person to oversee the process. ML raised a question around what the actual issues are with marshalling. The hindrance to event is athlete's double-dipping, Aussie's model is age group + opens only. WF. Can we structure the programme to separate individual events on a day or morning with team events separate. DH. There are a number of elements to check around this process and everyone needs to provide their feedback.
- Mark Weatherall resigned from deputy referee for Nationals.

Recommendations

- AT to develop the system and process for two marshal areas to three water arena's then email back to the SOLG for review and input. Key draft things to take into account are:



- Communication on the beach to athletes
- Beach setup
- Paperwork for Marshalls and Recorders and progressing through semi's and finals.
- WF trial this at the ERC's with AT overseeing the system and providing leadership to this space.
- Wayne Franich agreed to take on the Assistant Event Referee role.

7. Next Meeting

Draft Date: February the 4th 2015

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8. Meeting Closed

- 9pm