



# Aquatic Safety Management Services:

## Tips for Clubs and Water Safety Coordinators

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### 1. Pre-event

- Being organised is the key to a successful and stress free day.
  - Make sure the Water Safety Coordinator and all lifeguards have read and understand the Aquatic Safety Management Plan
  - Make sure you have enough lifeguards to run or support the event safely, particular given the forecast conditions on the day
  - Remember, the SLSNZ Event Safety Coordinator is available to answer any questions you have: [event.safety@surflifesaving.org.nz](mailto:event.safety@surflifesaving.org.nz)
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### 2. On the day

- a. Be early: event organisers/directors are often busy and stressed on the day of the event and hard to track down, so be early so you don't get stressed
- b. Find the event organiser/director and have a quick meeting with them to ensure that the safety plan will be followed
- c. Find the medical personnel and have a quick meeting with them to discuss the safety plan, in particular the emergency rendezvous point and communications plan
- d. Make sure you have a register of the lifeguards who are expected to turn up, and sign them in when they do turn up. This ensures you know that you have enough lifeguards to provide safety for the event. Maintaining this register will also make filling out the Patrol Captain's Report Form easier.
- e. All lifeguards should be aware of the "On Water Safety and Emergency Management Plan" section in the Aquatic Safety Management Plan.
- f. During the pre-event briefing to the lifeguards, ensure they are aware of the professionalism that Surf Life Saving New Zealand (your club & nationally) expects.

### 3. Key things to EMPHASISE to lifeguards:

#### Surf lifeguards on Rescue Boards:

If lifeguards are stationary (not paddling) they should sit up on their boards to ensure they have a better view of the participants.



#### Surf lifeguards in IRBs:

Events can be very high profile to the public, and are often held in harbours or waterways which are very different from the beach environment. When driving the IRB, the 5 knot speed limit is to be adhered to at all time – unless it is an emergency.



The IRB Operators should be asked to refresh their knowledge of pages 27 & 28 of the Powercraft Manual, prior to the event.