



SURF LIFE SAVING®
NEW ZEALAND

Date: 1st September 2017

To: All Clubs, Club Instructors, Examiners, Chief Examiners, SLS staff

From: Belinda Slement, SLSNZ Member Development Manager

Subject: Changes to the IRB Crewperson's Module

Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ) wishes to inform all members of the introduction of changes to the IRB Crewperson's Module for the 2017/18 season.

SLSNZ is in the process of introducing IRB Crewperson Module as a requirement of IRB operationally duties i.e. while on patrol. While an IRB Crewpersons Module is not currently a requirement of IRB operations while on patrol, it is expected that this will become a requirement, possible for the 2018/19 season, in support of our obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

In order to effectively bridge any possible skill gaps, the course content for the IRB Crewpersons Module has been modified to better reflect the current practices and needs of our patrol operations. A discussion paper was circulated to all IRB Chief Examiners, Local Lifesaving Committees and relevant SLSNZ staff for consultation.

Feedback was received and a pilot of a newly structured crewperson's module was delivered in April 2017 that sees the new module being delivered by a club instructor in the space of one day, concluding with an examination. The exam can be organised within the club but must be examined by a refreshed IRB Examiner.

A number of elements have been removed from the module including the candidate workbook requirement for all crew. Clubs can now order hard copy IRB manuals individually from SLSNZ. Given the reduction of content from the candidate workbook, a new version for Drivers only will be available online via the SLSNZ website.

Also removed from the module is some elements of the IRB hull set-up, which has been re-worded to assist the driver rather than completing the full set-up, fuel mixing and ratios and multiple patient pick-ups.

Newly added to the module is the recovery of a flipped IRB and re-boarding an IRB from the water.

Please see the following page for an overview of the module content and delivery.

All of the new material for teaching this revised module can be found in our updated IRB Instructors resource [here](#) on our website.

All current IRB Examiners will receive a copy of the updated IRB examiners manual detailing the new exam assessment information. These will be distributed at regional examiner and instructor briefings or via regional IRB Chief Examiners.

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IRB Crewperson's Module Overview

IRB Crewperson's Module	
Award Purpose	Training crewperson in IRB patrol operations
Delivery model	Minimum 1 day including exam
Assessment	Theory Exam and Practical Examination conducted by current IRB Examiner
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IRB Instructors Resources• IRB Training Manual
Candidate Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the module, candidates will be able to:</p> <p>Theory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the features of an IRB hull• Describe the minimum equipment needed for an operational IRB• Describe safety procedures for refuelling a fuel bladder <p>Practical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aid driver in IRB set up• Refuel a fuel bladder• Clip fuel bladder in IRB• Remove an IRB from a trailer with driver aid• Launch an IRB• Adopt the crewing position• Navigate broken waves• Navigate unbroken waves• Assist in directing driver during surf navigation• Re-boarding the IRB• Identify hazards to driver• Recover a flipped IRB• Perform a single person rescue• Remove an unconscious patient from an IRB with driver aid• Replace an IRB on a trailer with driver aid• Aid driver in IRB close down

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Suggested
teaching sequence

1. Hull features and set up
2. Crewing position (dry land)
3. Fuel safety
4. Refuelling procedures
5. Removing from and replacing IRB on trailer
6. Navigating broken waves
7. Navigating unbroken waves
8. Launching an IRB boat
9. Re-boarding an IRB
10. Assisting driver in navigation
11. Single person pick up
12. Removal of unconscious patient from IRB

Note: This is a practical module that should be taught in a series of progressing steps as the candidate's ability and confidence dictates.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

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