

Coromandel Local Lifesaving Committee - Approved Minutes

Thursday 13th November 2025 – 7.00pm
(Microsoft Teams Online)

Attending (Staff & Independents)	Attending (Club Delegates)
Chaz Gibbons-Campbell – LM (CGC)	Online
Hiria Kayes - CSL (HK)	Stella Reid – Pauanui (SR)
Nick Wagstaff – CE IRB (NW)	Macayla Lock – Pauanui (ML)
	Gabriella Hughes – Tairua (GH)
	Sandi Lowe – Hot Water Beach (SL)
	Lauren Young - Whiritoa (AW)
Fergus Reiger (LLC BOP Chairperson/Rookies Update)	Charlie Toumadj – Onemana (CT)
	Grace Westenberg – Whangamata (BN)

Apologies (Staff & Independents)	Apologies (Club Delegates)
David Cooper – LSO (DC)	Taimania Hinds – Hot Water Beach (TH)
Maddie Scown – CE SLA (MS)	Jack Sewell – Onemana (JS)
Brianna Norris - NLC (BN)	Maddie Schnackenberg – Waihi Beach (MS)

Time	Discussion	Who
19:00	<p>Welcome & Apologies Chairperson for this month’s meeting is Stella Reid.</p> <p>Apologies from Taimania, Jack, Maddie and David Open with Karakia</p>	CGC SR
19:05	<p>Previous Minutes 11 October 2025 Motion to accept the previous minutes. Moved: NW Seconded: GW</p>	TH/SR

Time	Discussion	Who
	<p>Nick - suggested a more targeted and strategic approach, recommending that the groups identify specific problems to solve (e.g. powercraft pathway issues, intermediate guard development, advanced pathways).</p>	NW
	<p>Fergus - agreed and noted that priorities may differ between Coromandel and Bay of Plenty. He suggested each group discuss their priorities internally and determine which courses they want to focus on.</p>	FR
	<p>Stella - is the issue low demand or simply needing to generate more interest</p>	SR
	<p>Fergus - Neither - were oversubscribed both JGS and ILGS. Action for Coro LLC is to discuss and decide which courses they want to prioritise as a group and then Coro/BOP meet with ER/Avan</p>	FR
	<p>Chaz - Will prepare a discussion paper within 1–2 weeks detailing the courses offered, associated costs, and where regional committees can influence course delivery, focusing on Junior Guard, Intermediate Guard, and development workshops. He highlighted the need to assess local requirements using life saving capability matrices and outlined options to manage funding, including user pays contributions or sponsorship. Once the paper is ready, the team can review it to make informed decisions on course priorities and budgets for the 2026/27 season.</p>	CGC
	<p>Sandi - Recalled a previously successful IRB drivers and crew weekend in Raglan that drew 50–60 participants from across regions, Included a theory exam and produced a significant number of qualified drivers while also serving as a valuable networking opportunity for clubs. Ran for about six years but was eventually discontinued likely due to funding constraints. Suggested revisiting a combined or regional approach.</p>	SL
	<p>Nick - Agree with Sandi’s reflection - original IRB weekend was discontinued not only due to budget but also because member behaviour sometimes became unruly. Looking forward, see an opportunity to revive a similar regional program across clubs with accommodation and surf conditions (e.g. Raglan, Piha, Muriwai, Karekare). The focus would be on designing a structured, engaging experience that maximises volunteer development and powercraft training while ensuring participants feel connected and motivated, aligning with the broader goal of improving course impact and value.</p>	NW

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	<p>Chaz - highlighted the value of regional development days, noting past successes in qualifying many IRB operators at Raglan and the current decline in IRB refresher participation. He suggested running local development days that culminate in a regional exam day to certify participants, coordinating with chief examiners.</p> <p>Nick - budgeting for these activities, either regionally or via club OpEx funding, is important, and emphasised the need for strong club engagement to ensure resources are well used.</p> <p>Action: Chaz - to prepare and provide discussion paper to LLC in 1-2 weeks Review LS capability matrices</p> <p>Coro LLC - decide course priorities at the next meeting based on need and available budget</p>	<p>CGC</p> <p>NW</p>
19:15	<p>Recruitment Drive Update</p> <p>How has the National Recruitment Campaign (NRC) gone for each club?</p> <p>Waihi Beach - minimal, next to none come through. Low numbers this year in terms of LG pathway and camps. Look at doing a summer kick off - engage with a few schools and community. Campaign hasn't done anything for us really. Support the idea of engaging schools to promote lifeguarding, noting past success connecting with local colleges and running programs that, while only a small percentage of participants became active lifeguards, still provided valuable community skills. There were planned initiative to have a lifeguard drive to schools to deliver presentations and engage multiple schools in the region, but it didn't proceed due to time constraints and lack of someone to coordinate the effort. Despite the challenges, there is a strong opportunity for collaboration with Coromandel clubs and local schools.</p> <p>Whiritoa - their JS coordinator successfully generated some interest for a "fossil lifeguard camp" over summer, which aligns with the usual number of younger participants. No younger kids are qualifying for SLA this January for the first time in several years. Reached out to older LGs within the NRC target age bracket (25-35), many were interested in</p>	<p>NW</p> <p>LY</p>

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	<p>returning but had practical barriers, such as young children or busy work schedules.</p> <p>Whangamata - no one came through the NRC but noted that interest is coming from their new club initiatives. We do have a few people expressing interest for December/January exams. Surf club in Dunedin teamed up with school and did module as part of PE programme. Looking at something like this.</p> <p>Onemana - no new people showed up to our open day, only existing members and families. Low participation numbers from their LG course.</p> <p>Pauanui - ran open day over labour weekend. No new people, previous clubbies came - nothing yet from NRC. Usually see influx of interest just before season starts. We did reach out to local school to advertise NRC but didn't hear back.</p> <p>Tairua - didn't participate in NRC. Most of our recruiting done through our JS programme. LG numbers stayed pretty consistent. Open day planned in February towards end of season.</p> <p>HWB - similar to everyone else. Bit of a struggle, maybe a handful of young 16/17 year olds coming through.</p> <p>Chaz - first year running a NRC, targeting 25-35 demographic. Feedback to NRC co-ordinators what we actually need, i.e. material to take and promote to schools, a team visit to local schools to promote SLSNZ, whether teachers could deliver some theory content to connect students with local clubs. NRC will be annual and possibly targeting different demographics or refining the approach based on this year's feedback.</p> <p>Interest from LLC how Tairua/Gabby develops LG programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tairua fosters junior surf participants into LGs by engaging them in the "A Squad" (around 13-14 years old) and integrating SLA content during summer. • Participants transition seamlessly into the LG programme around April, with multiple IRB and lifeguard camps throughout the year, building friendships, cohort cohesion, and long-term commitment. 	<p></p> <p>GW</p> <p>CT</p> <p>SR/ML</p> <p>GH</p> <p>SL</p> <p>CGC</p> <p>GH</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camps are overnight, engaging, and structured. Half the camp focuses on learning, half on social bonding. • Gabby manages the logistical and administrative side through her paid role, preparing resources, drafting emails for parents, and handling organisation so volunteers can focus on delivery. She provides pre-drafted emails for post-camp communication, which instructors can quickly personalise and send. • The JS programme runs intensively for three weeks (Monday–Friday) over summer and also functions as a holiday programme, drawing up to 200 participants, including holiday families, helping feed future lifeguards. • Gabby has built a library of programme resources over the last two years and is happy to share them with other clubs. This model is highly effective in producing 12–15 new lifeguards per year and in sustaining IRB training engagement. 	
19:40	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>No correspondence submitted.</p>	
19:41	<p>Lifesaving Update</p> <p><u>Lifesaving Update</u></p> <p>Recent Rescue: Highlighted a rescue at Whiritoa to illustrate that LS services are forever in demand and we are getting busier. A reminder of the importance of clubs being rescue ready, teams are inducted and prepped, and equipment ready to go.</p> <p>Incident Learnings: Noted issues during the rescue with club equipment setup. Comms issues relating to radios and radio network - these have been escalated to Max Corby for resolution.</p> <p>Patrol Activity: So far this season in Coromandel, over 1,800 patrol hours, 64 PAs, nearly 2,500 members of public involved in those. , one major first aid case, no rescues, no searches, and 25 people assisted to safety. A few patrols were under or</p>	CGC

Time	Discussion	Who
	<p>not staffed - early notice of shortages helps redistribute support.</p> <p>Refreshers: Surfcom actively reporting patrols that do not have refreshed lifeguards and IRB drivers. Six clubs have completed refreshers so far (152 lifeguard, Patrol Support and IRB). Reminder, members need to complete online theory as part of their refreshers. Support available for clubs struggling to sign off refreshers for IRB. Reach out to ER team - have supervisors on deck to help.</p> <p>Radio/Comms: Some issues with radios (mainly the Whangamata repeater); all mobile assets (IRBs, ATVs, towers) should operate on Channel 1. Encourage patrols to check in with SurfCom at the start of the day to confirm setup and readiness.</p> <p>Rosters & Inductions: Rosters are fully published; site inductions will be conducted starting 8th December, leading up to beach operations from 15th December at HWB, Whangamata, Waihi Beach. Gabby will coordinate with club liaisons for site inductions.</p> <p>Fuel Compliance: Bruce (SLSNZ) working with DCG to issue temporary compliance certificates for clubs; ongoing checks to confirm missing items on club compliance lists.</p>	
20:00	<p>CSL Update</p> <p>SLA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 new LGs qualified over labour weekend - held at Whangamata. • Next SLA 13 December at Waihi Beach - not many registrations received but still have a few weeks. <p>IRB Exams and Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 IRB drivers qualified over the labour weekend at Raglan. • Two day training session: 6/7 December, possibly moving to 13/14 December. • Exam - 24 January 2026 <p>IRB development training weekend coming up 6/7 December - no one registered. <i>(Since this meeting I discovered that this course was only advertised in the ER calendar and no where else - now rectified, put on Coro and ER FB pages and SLSNZ calendar).</i></p>	HK

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	<p>There hasn't been much uptake from members or clubs for the two-day IRB Training and Development sessions. These days are designed specifically for new IRB drivers, or those close to sitting their exam who may benefit from a confidence boost and extra time on the water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nick Wagstaff (CE/Waihi Beach) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open to scheduling around school holidays and participant availability. - Emphasised the appeal of a two day event for members, especially if accommodation is available at clubs at no cost. - Suggested running both IRB training and crewpersons module on one day but keeping them separate in separate arenas on the day for clarity and logistics. - Proposed end of January weekend for IRB driver training, potentially followed by an exam. - Recommended using an expression of interest form to gauge participant confidence levels, hours completed, and readiness. - Suggested the Raglan camp could happen before the exam weekend. ● Grace Westenber (Whangamata) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asked whether the event is for already qualified drivers or those seeking their driver award. - Felt that a two day event adds novelty and makes it more appealing as a fun experience. ● Sandi Lowe (HWB): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asked if the proposed event replaces the earlier planned December dates. - Might have a couple for 6/7 December training days and candidates to sit exam on 24th January. <p>IRB Crew Modules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dates: 19 Dec, 8 Jan and 18 Jan - Discussed that Hiria put a google excel sheet together for LLC members so they can put in suitable dates their club would like to run crew modules. 	

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	<p>First Aid Courses</p> <p>ASFA 5-7 December at Waihi Beach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since meeting, now have good number of candidates. <p>SFA Full only - 13-14 December at Pauanui</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full course offered only. At capacity have a waiting list <p>ASFA - 19-21 December at Pauanui</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good numbers, mainly Pauanui clubbies <p>SFA - 30-31 January at Whiritoa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building numbers slowly still plenty of time <p>Have booked a number of Coromandel candidates on Auckland based first aid courses this season.</p> <p>RWC Induction & Exam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11 October (Exam) and 1/2 November two day induction. Low participation numbers but great feedback from instructors/examiners and candidates attending. <p>Rock Instructors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14 December at Whangamata. <p>PC and ITC courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - organised in Auckland at MRC for Coromandel members based in Auckland and Hamilton. This hasn't really been utilised by Coro members. Also run another set of these at Tairua and Waihi Beach this season. <p>Action:</p> <p>Hiria put a google excel sheet together for LLC members so they can put in suitable dates their club would like to run crew modules.</p>	

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20:15	<p>General Business</p> <p>Whiritoa - upcoming special patrols this summer. Will post on Coro facebook page with goggle form.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special Fossil Patrol - 10/11 January - Girls Patrol - Auckland Anniversary <p>Onemana - Identifying weekends when they will need assistance with patrols. Once dates are confirmed Charlie will send them out requesting support from others. Offering fuel vouchers to those who can help.</p> <p>Proposed sending a poll to check availability for a face-to-face meeting in December or January. Confirmed preference for a weekend meeting.</p> <p>Next Meeting due Thursday 11th December at 7.00pm - with Taimania as Chair.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>LY</p> <p>CT</p> <p>HK</p>
20:20	Meeting Closed	All

Action Point	Who	When by
Taimania to confirm her availability as Chair at next meeting on 11th December.	TH	ASAP
HK to send LLC link to national videos.	HK	
Send a poll to check availability for a face-to-face weekend meeting in December or January.	HK	
Hiria send link to google excel sheet that LLC members can put in suitable dates their club would like to run crew modules. IRB Scheduler	HK	<i>COMPLETED</i>
Chaz - to prepare and provide discussion paper to LLC in 1-2 weeks Review LS capability matrices	CGC	
Coro LLC - decide course priorities at the next meeting based on need and available budget	LLC	