

SLSQ Policy

Title: High Visibility Clothing – Surf Sports Competition	Department: Sport
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Introduction

Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) is committed to ensuring all surf sports events and training is run at the highest standard whilst ensuring the safety of competitor's remains paramount at all times. With this in mind SLSQ has implemented a policy requiring all competitors in ocean or open water-based surf lifesaving events held in Queensland to wear a high visibility garments - lycra/rash shirt/singlet/stinger suit/buoyancy vest.

Purpose

This policy supplements SLSA Policy and Procedures to clarify the requirements relating to the wearing of high visibility clothing during surf sports events and training in Queensland.

Application

This policy applies to anyone who competes in a surf lifesaving ocean or open water-based event endorsed by SLSQ. This includes members from a club outside of Queensland or members of the public who compete in a Queensland based event. The high visibility garments must be worn in **all** ocean based events, with the exception of beach events, march past, first aid competition, reelmen in Belt races (linesmen are not exempt). High visibility garments must also be worn in all open water events conducted or endorsed by SLSQ. High visibility garments will not be required for pool based events.

EVENT TYPE	HIGH VISIBILITY LYCRA VEST OR SHIRT	SWIMMING CAP	SURF RESCUE UNIFORM
Surf Sports (Competition)	Mandatory	N/A	N/A
Sanctioned Events	Mandatory	Recommended	N/A
Ocean Swims	Recommended	Mandatory	N/A
Junior Activities (Nippers)	Recommended	N/A	N/A
Member Training (Sport)	Recommended	N/A	N/A

Member Training (Lifesaving / Award)	Recommended	N/A	Club Cap or Hi Vis Cap – Mandatory
IRB Training (Sport / Award)	Recommended	N/A	Club Cap or Hi Vis Cap – Mandatory Lifejacket Mandatory
Water Safety	N/A	N/A	Cap – Mandatory Rash Shirt - Mandatory

Definitions

Events defined as surf lifesaving ocean-based events are defined in the surf sports manual.

Legislative Framework

Work Health and Safety Act 2011, QLD; Work Health and Safety Regulation, QLD: Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011, Com; SLSA Policy 1.01 Water Safety - June 2014; SLSA Procedure 1.01a Water Safety - June 2014 SLSA Policy 5.8 Competition Sponsorship.

Policy

In all IRB training and competition it is compulsory for drivers, crew and patients to wear high visibility (conspicuous colour) SLSA approved level 50 Australian Standard (AS4758) lifejackets or Type 2 (AS1499-1996) lifejackets. High visibility garments are not to be worn over the top of lifejackets. To assist with judging purposes the driver will be provided with further identification corresponding with the turning buoys.

For board riding events to assist with judging purposes all competitors will be provided at the event with different coloured high visibility garments.

SLSQ strongly recommends the use of high visibility garments during all club competition training activities and all junior activities. **For club training activities members are permitted to wear any one (1) of the five (5) approved colours as per SLSA Water Safety Procedure 1.1 (section 2.3) May 2014.**

SLSQ will adopt the identical colour that has been identified by the SLSA Lycra Clarification Circular (46/11-12). The colour will be strictly enforced, and variations of the identified colour are not permitted.

The colour that is permitted for use **in competition** is:

“Fluoro Pink” (PMS International colour code 806C*)

*Please note that the PMS (Pantone Matching System) is the international authority on colour and is not a specific manufacturer code.

The garments can be purchased from a supplier of the Club's choice, provided the supplier can create an exact match of the colours required above. Long sleeve options are also permitted.

Sponsorship is permitted on a garment provided it follows the existing SLSA policy (5.8) regarding SLSA Competition Sponsorship. For reference, the garments will come under the category of "Lycra Singlet's/Full Costumes". There will be occasions when a sponsored garment will be provided for an event **which maybe one (1) of the five (5) approved colours**; in these situations the supplied garment **must** be worn. If a competitor chooses to wear a rash shirt or other item of clothing, the high visibility garment must be worn as the top layer of clothing.

CONSEQUENCES

If a competitor is not wearing a high visibility garment then they will not be allowed to commence any ocean or open water-based surf lifesaving competition or event.

Compliance of the garment at the start of the race (wear & tear, fading etc) will be at the discretion of the sectional referee.

Related Policy Instruments

The Surf Sports Manual and bulletins outlining any updates to the manual can be found on the Members Portal at: <https://portal.sls.com.au/wps/portal/member>