



Circular

Title:	SLSWA Powercraft Uniform Policy
Date:	29 June 2023
Document ID:	13, 2023/2024
Department:	Member Services
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Audience:	Directors of Lifesaving, Powercraft Officers, Powercraft Operators, Patrol Captains, Club Powercraft Trainers
Summary:	The SLSWA Board of Directors have endorsed policy that establishes the minimum uniform requirements for powercraft operators that are members of affiliated clubs in Western Australia. This policy precedes all other national or state-based policy or reference material issued in powercraft manuals.
Action:	Directors of Lifesaving / Powercraft Officers to ensure relevant members adhere to the minimum requirements of the SLSWA Power craft Uniform Policy.
Attachment:	SLSWA Powercraft Uniform Policy

The SLSWA Board of Directors has endorsed a SLSWA Powercraft Uniform Policy. This Policy is endorsed to ensure members are provided with a clear and consistent direction to items of uniform that must be worn when operating a SLS powercraft and to maximise the use of uniforms distributed to clubs and members through the available funding or grant programs.

The SLSWA BeachSAFE fund, the Woodside Lifesaver Support Program and the DHL Patrol Uniform program ensure that SLSWA clubs and members have access to appropriate pieces of uniform to wear when operating powercraft equipment during authorised activity. While it is acknowledged there may be known references to minimum or recommended powercraft uniform in previously issued national or state policy, procedures, circulars, and training reference material this policy precedes all other references or directions.

Action Required

Club Directors of Lifesaving, Power Craft Officers and Patrol Captains are requested to ensure this policy is broadly communicated within the club environment and complied with during authorised lifesaving and training activities. Primarily this involves a strong commitment to ensuring that whenever WA based members are operating a powercraft during authorised activities each member has access to the minimum uniform requirements outlined in the policy and are always wearing the uniform appropriately and a when a powercraft operational.

For any questions relating to the policy, implementation, or compliance, please contact Dom Cowdell, Lifesaving and Education Development Officer via phone (08) 9207 6666 or via email dcowdell@slsa.com.au.

James O'Toole
Chief Executive Officer

Title	SLSWA POWERCRAFT UNIFORM POLICY
Revision Number	1.0
Commencement Date	01 July 2023
Next Review Date	Ongoing
Reference Policy	All operators of Surf Life Saving Powercraft must operate these assets when appropriately attired in minimum required uniform. This policy precedes all other reference material in national or state issued Powercraft manuals.

PURPOSE

This policy establishes the minimum uniform requirements of power craft operators and crew members in Western Australia.

SCOPE

This policy specifies the minimum uniform requirements for all Surf Life Saving Western Australia (SLSWA) members operating the Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) or Jet ski (RWC) during activities that have been authorised by the member’s club or SLSWA.

The scope of activities include training, club water safety, beach patrols, water safety at special events (e.g., surf sports events, abalone patrols, community water safety) and emergency response tasking (marine search and rescue).

This policy does not apply to athletes competing in Surf Sport events. In this instance members should comply with the current version of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual.

PROCEDURE

1. Minimum Uniform Requirements

		Required
IRB	Operator/Driver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Patrol Shorts or SLS Spring suit (short leg/long arm) or Wetsuit steamer (Long leg/long arm) as provided by SLSWA. • Yellow Surf Rescue Rash Vest. • Approved Level 50 PFD - SLS Branded. • Wide brimmed or peaked cap with the red and yellow quartered patrol cap. ** quartered cap can be worn over the peaked cap or as a standalone Item. This uniform item is optional during training activity only.
	Crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Patrol Shorts or optional non SLSWA branded black wetsuit (not provided by SLSWA). • Yellow Surf Rescue Rash Vest. • Approved Level 50 PFD – SLS Branded. • Wide brimmed or peaked cap with the red and yellow quartered patrol cap. ** quartered cap can be worn over the peaked cap or as a standalone Item. This uniform item is optional during training activity only.

		Required
Jet ski (RWC)	Operator and *Crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLS Spring suit (short leg/long arm) or SLS Wetsuit steamer (long leg/long arm) as provided by SLSWA. • Yellow Surf Rescue Rash Vest. • SLS approved Level 50 PFD – SLSWA Branded. • Approved helmet (yellow) – Gath Gedi Yellow Matte with Ribbed Peak.

* **RWC Crew** – Only qualified RWC Operators may act in the position of a crew person.

2. Approved Gear and Equipment

A range of brands and product in each category are approved and listed by SLSA for use in SLS operations. The list of each is available via the Gear and Equipment List available from the SLS Member Portal (https://members.sls.com.au/members/document_library).

Personal items of equipment that are not branded within the SLS branding guidelines are not to be worn in favor of approved SLS items, especially club branded wetsuits, rash vest, or helmets.

3. Example of Approved Items

Examples of SLSWA approved PPE readily available and/or issued to clubs or individuals include.



L50 PFD
(Woodside Branded preferred)



Helmet – Gath Gedi
Yellow Matte with Ribbed
Peak



Steamer Wetsuit Design
(Red / Yellow design with
yellow arms can continue to
be worn as previously
provided by SLSWA)



Spring suit Wetsuit Design
(Red / Yellow design with
yellow arms can continue to
be worn as previously
provided by SLSWA)



Red/Yellow Rashie
(Woodside branded
preferred)



Broad Rimmed Hat
(Woodside Branded
preferred)



Peaked Hat



SLS Red / Yellow quartered cap



**** For RWC Operators** – SLSWA has introduced the Red Ronstan Rtech 10 branded Wind Jacket as approved optional PPE which if voluntarily adopted is to be worn underneath the PFD.