



2009/10 Rookie Program



Information for the Rookie Coordinator



Rookie Program

Why?

The Rookie Program is developed to provide a smooth transition for 13 and 14 year olds from nippers to senior lifesaving by exposing them to their first patrol in controlled conditions.

Who is the program for?

13 and 14 year olds

Eligibility

- Financial Member of an affiliated Hunter Surf Life Saving Club
- A member of either the U/13 or U/14 age groups within that club
- Have begun training for their Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) or has completed SRC
- Have a Patrol Buddy, who is a proficient Certificate II – Bronze Medallion holder
- Be willing to participate in HSLs Rookie Events as required or directed
- All Rookies must want to learn and have fun 😊

What does the program involve?

- A minimum of 25 patrol hours
- Gain as a minimum their SLsA Surf Rescue Certificate when turning 13
- Attending HSLs Rookie Events as required or instructed
- Complete HSLs Rookie Passport and activities in the Passport

Passports

- The passport is a record of Rookies run/swim/runs, patrol hours, activities, competitions, club commitments and events
- Rookie Coordinators to request Rookie Passports from HSLs Support Officer
- Rookie Coordinators are to issue each Rookie with a Rookie Passport
- The passport is to be completed by the Rookie and their Buddy regularly



Requirements

Requirements of the Club/Rookie Coordinator

- Each Club must have a designated Rookie Coordinator (the Club's Youth Development Officer may also like to take on this role).
- The Rookie Coordinator will be responsible for the overall organisation of the Program within their Club.
- The Rookie Coordinator needs to ensure that all Rookies are present on their induction day (simply a gathering of all Rookies – to receive their material, understand the requirements, and meet their buddy).
- During the initial implementation of the Program, it will be imperative for Branch to liaise closely with the Club/Rookie Coordinator. When the Program is up and running, a monthly check will be conducted by Branch with the Club/Rookie Coordinator to monitor progress.
- The Club needs to ensure that the Rookies are entered into both the patrol log and SurfGuard.

Requirements of the Rookie

- Each Rookie must first approach a Buddy. This Buddy will be the Rookie's mentor during patrols and the season in general. A few things to note on the Buddy:
 - Each Rookie must first clear their choice of Buddy with the Rookie Coordinator to ensure that the Buddy is a responsible, senior patrolling member.
 - The Rookie must approach their potential Buddy – not the Rookie Coordinator – to help build leadership skills and take responsibility.
 - The Rookie must ensure that they can attend enough of their Buddy's patrols in order to satisfactorily complete the Program.
- The Rookie must ensure that before any activities are carried out within the Program that the front of their Rookie Passport has been correctly filled out with their details, their Buddy's details, and their Clubs/Rookie Coordinator's details.
- The Rookie must ensure that their Passport is carried on them at all times whilst on patrol, and is correctly filled out at the completion of their patrol.



Requirements of the Buddy

- The Buddy needs to be a senior patrolling member of the same Club as the Rookie.
- The Buddy must be proficient in Certificate II – Bronze Medallion.
- The Buddy's main aim is to slowly introduce the Rookie into the common practices of being a patrolling member of the Club.
- The Buddy must be able to make themselves available as a mentor for the Rookie during the season. A genuine care for the Rookie is needed from the Buddy.
- There are a number of tasks in the Rookie Passport, on the Patrol Checklist pages, that the Buddy may like to assign to the Rookie for each patrol. In addition, should the Rookie perform or be assigned to additional tasks not noted, they can be detailed in the "Comments" section on the same page.

To Complete the Program

- All 13 year old Rookies need to: (Surf Rescue Certificate Training)
 - Have completed a minimum of 25 patrol hours
 - Gained the SLSA Surf Rescue Certificate
 - Have completed a minimum of 5 run-swim-runs
 - Complete the Rookie Passport
 - Attend Rookie Events

To progress to the second year of the Program.

- All 14 year old Rookies need to: (Bronze Medallion Training)
 - Have completed a minimum of 25 patrol hours
 - Have completed a minimum of 5 run-swim-runs
 - Complete the Rookie Passport
 - Attend Rookie Events
 - Have each "Activity" in the patrol checklist ticked off at least twice over the whole season

To graduate from the Program.



Other Rookie Activities

Challenge Day

- A Challenge Day will be held towards the end of this season.
- This day is for **all** Rookies from **every** Club to come together in one place, put what they have learnt from their patrolling experience to good use in competitions whilst ultimately, having fun.
- There will be eligibility criteria to be able to attend the Challenge Day i.e. minimum number of patrol hours completed, however these will be determined throughout the Program and will be communicated to the Rookie Coordinators beforehand.
- The Challenge Day will be centred on having fun, as opposed to competing.
- At the end of the Challenge Day there will be a BBQ.

Rookie of the Year

A "Rookie of the Year" will need to be nominated by each Club/Rookie Coordinator toward the end of the season. Branch will then determine a Branch "Rookie of the Year", who will have their award presented to them on the Branch Presentation Night.

Further Information

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Rookie Coordinator Checklist

Completed √	Action Item	Due Date
	Advise HSLs Rookie shirt sizes and numbers	
	Advise HSLs on Rookie Passport book numbers	
	Organise Rookie Training Program (Theory & Practical timetable)	
	Issue Rookies with Training Program	
	Meet with Chief Instructor to select suitable Buddys	
	Advise Rookies of suitable Buddys. Rookies are to ring and ask Buddy to be a Mentor and complete 'Patrol Buddy' Application in the passport.	
	Advise Club Captain of which Patrols the Rookies need to be rostered on for and entered into Surfguard.	
	Complete Rookie and Buddy Details spreadsheet and email to HSLs Support Officer. HSLs will be sending a letter to the Rookie Buddy's congratulating them and explaining their position from the CEO of HSLs.	
	Organise an induction meeting to: ~Congratulate Rookies on passing their Surf Rescue Certificate ~Present them with their uniforms and passports ~Rookies and mentors to meet ~Hunter Support Officer to attend if club requires	
	Informal graduation ceremony	