



Christmas Newsletter

Yes the unofficial record of what's been happening at your club



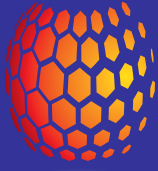
NEW LIFE GUARDS

November 19th gave us 6 new lifeguards – from the left Heather Martin, Tania Ahrens, Gretchen Gulick & Tony Wilson. Not pictured yet are Vanessa Price and Mollie Farrell.



Friday 2nd of December was a great event for many members of our club. Ruakaka Primary came dressed in red and yellow colours and had a competition to dress up their jandals. Maddy Doar organised a Mufti day at Kamo Intermediate and then took to the streets of Kamo after school to collect for SLSNZ. Heather Martin championed Jandal Day at Pompallier and

NZ SURF so far, we have raised \$380,000 for National Jandal Day - which is a fantastic response! Unfortunately we won't have the final amount for a while as the money from businesses, schools etc is still being deposited and counted. We plan to make payments to clubs as soon as this is finalised which is likely to be mid January.



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*Back Row from Left: Andrew Wright, Andrew Forsythe, Paul Turner, Tony Wilson
Front Row from Left: Neil Campbell, Selina Gordon, Maysha Ahrens, Helen Robinson*

MEET THE COACHES

Our club is very fortunate to have eight coaches this year. Not only does this make for a better experience for your child, it means the coaches can share the workload and have a guilt-free Sunday off when they need it. Coaches are club members just like you. They either have children participating in Jr. Surf or they have graduated from the Jr. Surf programme recently. They are supported by the Jr. Surf Coordinator, the lifeguards, and all sorts of resources including excellent training courses.

If you are interested in becoming a coach, please contact Kathleen Forsythe (The lady that makes announcements at the start of the sessions with a Canadian accent).

Your coaches are:

T Group Coach: Neil Campbell and Helen Robinson

A Group Coach: Tony Wilson and Selina Gordon

B Group Coach: Andrew Forsythe and Andrew Wright

C Group Coach: Maysha Ahrens and Paul Turner

MEMBERSHIP FORMS AND FEES

Thanks to all those who have completed their Membership forms and paid your fees. If you would like a form emailed or posted to you then please let Debs know and she can organise that. The bank account details for any internet payments are: ASB Whangarei 12-30990549127-00. Please details what the deposit is for and your family name.

REGIONAL LIFEGUARDS

Yes, we have our Regional Lifeguards back again this Summer staying in the clubhouse and providing lifeguard services across the peak period of summer during the weekdays. They started Monday 19 December...

FURNITURE REQUESTS

If any of you have spare couches or furniture that would be helpful at the club, we would appreciate your donations. We are looking for more (tidy condition) sofas. See Debs for more details.

Ruakaka Surf Life Saving **Gala Day**

Saturday 7th January 2012
9:00am - 1:00pm

**Bring the family to Ruakaka Beach
 for a fun day of activities...**

Sandcastle Building Competition
Kids Treasure Hunt (Big Dig)
Lifesaving Demonstration
5km Fun Run/Walk 9am
(Duathlon + 500m swim) 9am
Family Beach Races
+ IRB Rides
Food and Drinks



Neil Campbell has put up his hand up again Wow - to organise the Gala and will need your support. Thanks to those who have already signed up to help at Junior Surf at the weekend. You can also email Debs on surfpatrol@xtra.co.nz if you are available to help or Neil directly on nacampbell@gmail.com . We are offering two different shifts from 8am-11am which will include setup and 11-2pm which will include packup. Of course you are welcome to cover both! If you have any ideas or anything special you can offer for this event then please let us know.

NEW LIFEGUARD TRAINING GROUP

On 6th November we had 19 show up to train as lifeguards this season. This number has swollen to 25 young people and parents who are keen to contribute to our community and safer beaches as well as challenging their own levels of personal fitness. Gretchen Gulick, teacher of 22 years and recently requalified as a lifeguard is guiding this group to achieve the qualification requirements. She is supported by Tony Wilson (also requalified) and other lifeguards of the club. We appreciate them taking on the challenge. Gretchen coached Junior Surf C Group last year and has been an inspiration. *Great Effort Guys - Paula (President)*

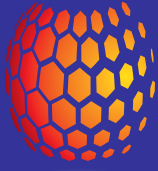
WAIPU COVE JUNIOR SURF SPORT CARNIVAL

The second Northern Region Junior Surf inter-club carnival for the 2011-12 season will be held at Waipu Cove on Saturday 14th January 2012. This is a participation carnival. More information about the event can be found at <http://www.slsnz.org.nz/Events/CompetitionSummary.aspx?ID=558&CompetitionID=1211&FilterView=5> or go to the Surf Lifesaving website and look it up under Events.

As this carnival is so close to home, it is a terrific opportunity for those of you who haven't been to a carnival yet, to come and have a go.

Kathleen needs to let SLSNZ know how many U14s are participating and, as always, we need team managers and water safety personnel. Please let Kathleen know if you are planning to attend. You can send an email to: a-k-forsythe@xtra.co.nz or talk to her on Sunday, 8 January at Jr. Surf.





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IRB EVENT

On the 12th of November three IRB crews from Ruakaka competed in round one of the BP Surf series. Women's crew of Liana Bennett, Amanda Gentil and Kayla Gentil came out of the round ranked fourth with a total of 17.3 points. Ruakaka Senior Blue of Chad Cahalane, Haig Mehrtens and Shayna Gentil finished ranked 5th with a total of 9.3 points and Ruakaka Senior Orange (Team Taylor) of Kyle Taylor, Rory Taylor and Briar Taylor ranked 6th with a total of 4 points. The team is heading to Whangamata for the Northern Championships and round two of the series in December.



The Ruakaka IRB team had a successful weekend at the North Island BP Surf Rescue Champs on the 10th and 11th of December. Senior team of Chad Cahalane, Nick Crayton Brown and Kayla Gentil placed fourth in the Single rescue and brought home a bronze medal in Tube rescue. Under 21 crew of Kyle Taylor, Haig Mehrtens and Josie Robinson placed 5th in the Assembly rescue. Womens crew of Liana Bennett, Amanda Gentil and Kayla Gentil placed fourth in Tube rescue and with additional patients of Lea Turner and Josie Robinson, placed fifth in Mass Rescue. The team finished placed 7th out of a total of 22 clubs competing for the weekend.



RUAKAKA RACES

January 5th January 2012

Those of you who took part last year will remember how much fun it was. The lifeguards versus the Jockeys Tug of War left the Lifeguard's as winners despite more jockeys on the other side. A patrol is provided at the Beach in front of the Racecourse so that anyone who wants can go for a swim in the afternoon. We also get the opportunity to take our buckets round the crowds and collect donations from the crowds for the club. This was a very effective way to gain funds for the club.



BLANKET DAY COLLECTIONS

Last year we went through the Ruakaka Campgrounds once a week collecting donations for the Surf Club. So if you are around through the holidays we will send emails with more details about this closer to the time. The kids who helped out last year with the Lifeguards had a blast. The people in the campground are key users of the lifeguard services over the peak of summer. They give generously in appreciation of the club keeping the beach safer over summer. We have been doing this in place of the door to door collections we have done in the past but depending on numbers of people available over summer we may consider this again.

NEW CLUB SHIRTS AND CAPS



New Navy Club Polo CoolDri with stitched club logo (as pictured above)	\$45
New Navy Club Singlet CoolDri with stitched club logo (similar style to pictured above)	\$35
New Navy Club Cap with stitched club logo (as pictured above)	\$25
Existing Navy Club KoolDri T-Shirt with White Screenprinting	\$30

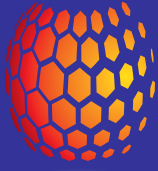
I will keep investigating the Navy Cotton Sweatshirt/Jackets but will take names and sizes for those who are interested to get an idea of volume. These are more likely to be priced at \$55-60 and have the white screenprinting as our KoolDri T-Shirts.

All enquiries to Debs please

BOARD REPORT 4 DECEMBER 2011

Key points covered included:

- President Bob Harvey attended the meeting and outlined his progress on the concept of developing a SLSNZ Foundation. It aims to mobilise supporters of Surf Life Saving to assist build a capital base to underpin SLSNZ activities. The board is currently taking advice and exploring a number of platforms to ascertain which provides the best long term organisational security.
- The Board of Water Safety New Zealand joined the meeting to discuss a more coordinated approach to water safety sector programmes and funding. It was agreed that the CEOs would develop a terms of reference for further discussion.
- "Running with Scissors" reported back on their work to consider commercialisation opportunities for Surf Life Saving in New Zealand. The report provides important independent recognition for the value that Surf Life Saving plays in the New Zealand community and identifies a number of opportunities to leverage the Surf Life Saving brand in this regard. The Board appreciated the attendance and input by SLSNZ Chair Stephen Smith. Following a presentation to staff on 12 Dec work will focus on prioritising and planning implementation.
- The board accepted a report with advice about SLSNZ intellectual property, its protection and use by other parties, for example, advertising that may use SLSNZ images like patrol flags. Potential for licensing arrangements and brand protection were discussed and the board has requested further work be completed in this area.
- Financial reports were presented that show that we are still on track for a year end surplus. Cash flow is still forecast to be tight during the high expenditure months of February and March – the Board asked that mitigation options be developed. It's comforting to note that the organisation is far better positioned than last year to manage this period.
- Despite minor data migration challenges during the installation of the new financial system in November profit and loss, balance sheet and forecast to budget results were produced in record time and staff can clearly see the benefits of the new financial reporting system.. It allows better financial reporting and cash flow forecasting. Importantly, it provides complete transparency reporting for expenditure of grants. This will first be used in the December grant report required for the New Zealand Lotteries Grants Board.
- The Board was pleased to receive an internal communications plan. It was suggested that the communications plan would better sit alongside a broader stakeholder strategy with further work required on this.
- A policy for the disposal of fixed assets was approved. The first asset to be disposed under this policy is to be a rather tired used vehicle!



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- Minutes from Club Chairs meetings in Eastern, Central and Southern were presented along with a running action list from those meetings. It was noted how these forums had improved with robust discussion aimed at supporting improvement of both SLSNZ and regional activities. The next round of meetings is planned for March/April 2012. SLSNR have confirmed that SLSNZ Board representatives are to be invited to attend a meeting of Northern Chairs in mid-December.

- An update on implementation of the Leadership Programme was discussed. Guidance provided that the budgets are to be adjusted to match the Government's Centenary Grant for this programme. We are reviewing the way we bring to market to ensure access across the SLSNZ movement.

- An updated risk management plan was presented that highlights the 6 highest risk items for the organisation along with mitigation activities. These risks are: failure to achieve income targets; exceeding expenditure targets; staff retention, and loss of key institutional knowledge; failure to meet all legislative compliance obligations and not meeting the requirements of POM or a serious health and safety incident at an SLSNZ event or programme. These risks are to be reviewed at each Board meeting and mitigation plans are actively managed to reduce probability or potential impact of each risk.

- Club support payments - This week the first instalment of Club Support Payments will be distributed by SLSNZ to the 67 clubs of the 4 regions. We will distribute just over \$232,000 from Lotteries Grant Board and \$13,800 for Beach Education club hire. There are 6 clubs that have not returned their club agreements and the payment will be held until these have been returned and club obligations have been met. The next instalment is due to be paid in the first week of March 2012.

- An update was provided for the CEO recruitment process. To generate maximum exposure advertising for the position is planned to commence in late December with further advertising in start in the second half of January.

- The Board agreed to a restructure proposal that would see permanent General Manager roles for Club Development and Programmes and Services advertised later in December. A new GM role for Corporate Services will be created to cover financial, fundraising and grant and information. The position of General Manager Business is to be disestablished and replaced with a Sponsorship and Marketing/Branding Manager. The Board is aware of the tremendous efforts being put in by staff as we move into the busy summer season. Pat and the team are always looking at ways to be more effective and efficient to better serve the needs of the clubs and the community and the Board supports initiatives to do this.

- The planned meeting between the SLSNR and SLSNZ Boards was deferred till early 2012 due to current club commitments of the Northern Board. Instead the respective Chairs meet briefly to better understand the positions of the respective organisations.

The Board held a teleconference on 13th December to continue discussions from the last meeting:

- With the increasing use of social media and because of the immediate nature of communication through social media - the ability of public to comment, and the difficulty in moderating content social media poses risks that other forms of media do not. The board adopted a new social media policy which clearly outlines appropriate use of social media applications, in order to ensure that the risk to the organisation is minimised wherever possible.
- We have received an approach from a corporate interested in helping SLSNZ achieve its purpose 'To protect our community in the water' through education to adults in the community.

Next meeting:

- 11/12 February 2012 at Mt Maunganui – NZ Surf League

As you can see it was a full agenda and the Board really appreciates the efforts of Pat and the wider management team who at a very busy time of the season, continue to produce great insights and reporting to support the Board.

As usual, I greatly appreciate your feedback or queries.

As this is my last planned communication before the holidays, on behalf of the Board I wish you a merry and safe Christmas. See you on the beach...

Yours in surf

Michael Bassett-Foss
Chairman
Surf Life Saving New Zealand

Don't get your suit wet santa,
see you at the beach!

