

# NEWSLETTER

## WINTER 2020



**President:** Mr Les Mole  
**Deputy President:** Mr Rod Welford  
**Secretary:** Mrs Carolyn Asher

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Treasurer:** Mr Stephen Kay  
**Directors:** Mr Colin Harris, Mr Russell Green  
& Mr James McClelland

### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As I pen this message to our members, we are in transition from COVID-19 lockdown. The cautious road ahead will certainly present us with an entirely new set of challenges. Hopefully by the end of the winter period, we can reset our activities, and live together in an environment that has some compass of certainty.

Our state headquarters has limped through the past few months, with some staff working from home. Hopefully, we have provided our volunteers, members and staff with whatever support we could muster, just to get through the Coronavirus pandemic.

Our planning, conferences, workshops and meetings have been in disarray, however the Board has continued to remain connected, and I'm confident that we can re-surface with a determined vision for the future.

There will be many personal experiences and unintended experiences that we will be able to share, when this dreadful virus has run out of oxygen, and we can't wait to catch up with you all again soon.

Stay safe!  
Les Mole, President



Click here to  
view our  
COVID-19  
Information

### KEY DATES

**30 June 2020 :** Nominations Close – Board of Directors

**5 June 2020 :** RLSSQ re-commences public courses

**Late June (date to be confirmed) :** Trainers Workshop – New Pool Lifeguard Units & Suction

**6 July 2020 (Two Weeks) :** Cert IV Swimming Pool & Spa Service – Sunshine Coast

**31 August 2020 (Two Weeks) :** Cert IV Swimming Pool & Spa Service – Gumdale

**September 2020 (date to be confirmed) :** Annual General Meeting

### LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I hope you and your families are remaining well during this exceptional situation we find ourselves in.

You may have seen a number of updates from Royal Life Saving as we have taken a leadership role in the aquatic industry across Australia. We have:

- Issued a [position statements](#) for those with qualification expiring
- Provided four industry papers (refer to the most recent [here](#))
- Participated in or led industry meetings
- Have released a [new chapter in the GSPO](#) for dealing with COVID-19 matters.

Royal Life Saving Queensland operations have mostly been paused and our facilities placed into caretaker mode since 23 March 2020. Many staff in the aquatic industry have been stood down which has created financial and emotional difficulties for everyone.

Nationally the Royal Life Saving team have been working hard to deliver materials to help keep people engaged with water safety and lifesaving, this includes fun worksheets for our younger members and online learning materials. We have created a page on our website with dedicated resources to download specifically target for children. I encourage you to have a look, use, and share these resources with friends and colleagues - there will be many people looking for things to keep them and their families occupied while they are either social distancing or isolating.

More than anything, I encourage you to keep engaging with the Society and each other, look out for the updates from the team here, give the online materials that will be published a go and keep in touch with your local contacts.

Please also give a thought to the mental health and wellbeing of others and consider how social distancing/isolation may be affecting them.

Finally, I want to send thanks to our members who are helping us through this situation in many ways.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and please all stay safe.

Paul Barry  
Executive Director

### COVIDsafe

The Australian Government has created an app called 'COVIDsafe' (one word). Whilst participating in Royal Life Saving activities, we strongly recommend and encourage you to download this app and have it running in the background on your smart phone. It can be accessed at [this link](#).



# TRAINING UPDATE

## Position Statement: Pool Plant Operator Training

With the release of the [Water Quality Guidelines for Public Aquatic Facilities by the Queensland Government](#), we have released a [Position Statement](#) to outline the qualifications that pool plant operators should gain to remain adherent to the risk level of their facility. This statement can be found using the QR code below.



In relation to our Position Statement: Pool Plant Operator Training, our position is that staff working in high and medium risk facilities should complete this course by 31 December 2020. These Include:

- Learn-to-swim pools
- Artificial lagoons with unrestricted access
- Interactive water features
- Water slides
- Pools used by incontinent people
- Wading pools
- Program pools
- Spas
- Interactive water features
- Water slides
- Wading pools
- Program pools
- Spas
- 25M & 50M pools
- Gym pools
- Holidays Park pools
- Hydrotherapy pools
- School pools
- Resort pools
- Motel pools
- Theme park wave pools

## Cert IV in Swimming Pool & Spa Service

The course, CPP41319 Certificate IV in Swimming Pool and Spa Service, will be conducted on the following dates:

### Course 1: Sunshine Coast

Monday 6 July 2020, to  
Friday 17 July 2020

at Sunshine Coast Recreation Centre  
80 Currimundi Road, Currimundi, Qld

### Course 2: Brisbane

Monday 31 August 2020, to  
Friday 11 September 2020

at The Plantation  
1204 New Cleveland Road, Gumdale, Qld

The course is cost \$3,600.00  
10% discount for upfront payment

To enrol, please fill out the [Enrolment Form](#) which  
Can be obtained using the QR code below.



[Enrolment / Enquiry Form](#)



[Course Outline](#)



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS: NOMINATIONS

In accordance with our constitution, this year the positions of President, Honorary Treasurer and a board member are due for re-election. Any two financial members of the Society shall be at liberty to nominate any person to serve in any vacant position on the Board of Directors. Board members are required to be members of the Society.

The nomination shall be in writing and signed by the nominee, and the proposer and seconder and be lodged by 30 June 2020. The nomination may be hand delivered during business hours to our office at the Plantation (1204 New Cleveland Rd, Gumdale Qld 4154), or posted to the address shown below, however nominations must be received by us on or before 5pm on 30 June 2020.

**The Secretary**  
**Royal Life Saving Society Queensland Inc**  
**PO Box 1093, CAPALABA QLD 4157**

All nominations must be accompanied by a citation of no more than 200 words (one page with no pictures).

To be eligible, all nominees must comply with requirements for an officeholder as issued by Queensland Government Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and the Australian Charity and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) in addition to any requirements of our rules and by-laws.

In the event that there are two or more nominations for a role a postal ballot shall proceed of all financial members as at 30 June 2020. Please note that if you have an unpaid debt to the Society you may not be considered a financial member. When ballot papers are circulated, the citation of each nominee will be included, with each citation edited to be in a similar format and font.

The counting of ballot papers will be conducted by an external law firm and the outcome of the ballot will be announced at the Annual General Meeting which will be before 30 September 2020.

You can download a nomination form from our website home page or by using [this link](#).



## EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Each month we recognise an employee for their continued outstanding work and efforts to reach and exceed our core values of safety, respect, integrity and teamwork.

### March

For the month of March our employee of the month is **Naomi Dawes-Gwynne**.

With a significant change in the operating model of our business as a direct impact of the pandemic Naomi has displayed a willingness to adapt to change and stepped up to ensure continuity of operations during this difficult time. In addition she has also displayed leadership within the team by assisting in coordination of workflow and delegation of tasks.



Naomi has always had a strong focus on the development and mentoring of junior staff and has continued to keep this focus despite continuous change around her.

Naomi's on going support of our number one objective of drowning prevention and water safety education and training is at the core of all tasks she completes and her strong work ethic is admirable in the current environment.

### Nominate

We highly value your feedback on our employees. If you believe an employee has given you exceptional service or is deserving of recognition of their continued work in the Society, please contact us on (07) 3823 2823 during regular business hours and let us know. Alternatively, please fill out the Online Nomination which can be found at the following [link](#).



## RLSS FACILITY UPGRADES

Whilst our facilities have been closed due to COVID-19, we are taking this opportunity to undertake some maintenance and improvements to our facilities. We were also very pleased to have been successful in the receipt of two grants to update our two facilities as follows:

### Brisbane City Council

Access and Inclusion Grant for the following items:

- Shade Sail for Activity and 25M Pool,
- Pool hoist, sling and chair for indoor pool

### Moreton Bay Regional Council

COVID-19 Community Infrastructure Revitalisation Grant for the following items:

- Revamp amenities in the Olly Pool, and
- Paint Pool Decks

Once we eventually re-open, all members are invited to come and have a look at the work we have been undertaking and how good our facilities are looking.

Royal Life Saving would like to acknowledge and thank Brisbane City Council and Moreton Bay Regional Council for their support.



## MEMBERSHIP

The Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) is public benevolent institution with Her Majesty The Queen as Commonwealth Patron. The RLSS has a leadership role in drowning prevention in 27 Commonwealth Countries; the Queensland Branch was established in 1905 and is the oldest life saving society in Queensland. Our motto is 'Whomsoever you see in distress, recognise in them a fellow human being'.

By joining the RLSSQ, you are signifying that you desire to be part of a society with royal patronage and for the charitable purpose of drowning prevention.

### Membership Forms

To become a member, please complete the Membership Application form below and forward it to the Society.

- [Membership form for new members](#)
- [Membership form for existing members \(renewal\)](#)

### Register to be a trainer with us

If you are interested in delivering our fantastic range of programs, a member can apply to be a trainer with us. We have two main types of trainers

- A regular Trainer (sometimes referred to as a recreational trainer)
- An workplace trainer (referred to as a Competency Based Trainer)

We have prepared an [information sheet](#) to help explain how to become a trainer.

### Other Membership Options

Rather than joining us directly, you may wish to consider joining one of our affiliated clubs. We have a number of clubs throughout Queensland and each club focusses on different services, they may be recreational clubs, community service clubs, sporting club, etc.

- [Airlie Beach Aquatic Reef Club](#): A youth based recreation club
- [Queensland Lifeguard League Inc](#): A sport club
- [Ithaca – Caloundra City Life Saving Club](#): A beach patrolling life saving club
- [Neptune Royal Life Saving Club](#): A beach patrolling life saving club



If you wish to further your life saving involvement, we suggest you have a look at one of these clubs. Find out more at: [www.joinlifesaving.com.au](http://www.joinlifesaving.com.au)



# TRAINING UPDATE

As you may have seen, the Queensland Government has released its [roadmap for the easing of restrictions](#) which has requirements that we must comply with. A summary of these (in respect to training and assessment services) is outlined below:

- Limit of ten (10) people in gatherings from 15 May 2020
- Access, understand and use the SafeWork tools and resources:
  - [Workplace Checklist](#)
  - [COVID-19 Tool Kit](#)

We are now advising trainers that you may proceed with training and assessment services, providing you operate in a manner that manages the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus. We strongly suggest that you complete a Risk Assessment. You can view a sample Risk Assessment [here](#).

## Student Screening & Recording

Royal Life Saving has created a policy around student screening and recording attendance that will assist you. You can view our Policy here. We have created the following tools to help you manage this risk and comply with our policy:

- [Daily Attendance Register](#) (to keep track of attendance in case reporting to Health is required)
- [Student COVID-19 Questionnaire](#)

You will need to purchase a digital thermometer of a style to take temperature from the forehead.

## Personal Protection Equipment

You will need to have the following to run courses:

- Hand sanitiser (75% alcohol based)
- Sanitiser wipes
- Disposable gloves
- COVID-19 Training
- Surgical Face Masks
- Eye glasses / sun glasses

## COVID-19 Infection Control Training

We require all trainers to have a basic level of knowledge around working safely with COVID-19. You may have completed training with your employer, however, if not the Australian Government Department of Health has created an online learning module for COVID-19 which is free of charge and takes about 15 minutes to complete. The training can be accessed at [this link](#).

## CPR AND COVID-19

Many people are concerned about the risk of transmission of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), but we wish to emphasise the crucial importance of doing CPR for a person in cardiac arrest. The [Resuscitation Council \(UK\)](#) have released a [video guide](#) for out of hospital cardiac arrest and provision of CPR during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please click on the image below to watch the video:

As you will be aware, CPR training includes the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and checking for Danger (to oneself and others). Please carry suitable PPE with you so that in the event of an incident, you are able to undertake first aid with reasonable protection to you. Remember, the [Australian Resuscitation Council](#) say "Any Attempt at Resuscitation is Better Than No Attempt".

Please contact our office during normal business hours on (07) 3823 2823 should you wish to discuss any aspect of this email.

## References / More Information:

- RLSSQ website [Home Page](#) which has regular update
- [RLSS Advice for Aquatic Centres and Swim Schools](#) (dated 14 May 2020)
- [WorkSafe Australia](#)
- [Department of Education](#)
- [Queensland Government](#)
- [COVIDsafe](#)
- [Department of Education, Skills & Training COVID Updates](#)

## Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation (GSPO)

**New Guideline:** [Managing the risk of COVID-19 in Aquatic Facilities](#)

This new guideline now forms part of the GSPO and provides specific advice to owners and operators of aquatic facilities on how to manage the risk of COVID-19 as they look to reopen their businesses in the near future. Craig Roberts, the National Manager of Operations for RLSSA and Chair of the NAISC, said "This nationally agreed guidance is to be welcomed in these uncertain times, and gives the aquatic industry sector a consolidated and consistent roadmap to managing the risks associated with COVID-19."

Royal Life Saving is providing this chapter of the GSPO free of charge. Download your copy [here](#).



## LIFEGUARD RESPONSE DURING COVID-19

### Lifeguard Response

The role of a Lifeguard is to monitor and supervise aquatic activities. They are tasked with ensuring patrons follow safety protocols to avoid injuries and accidents. Lifeguards are also responsible for responding to any incidents that may occur in a timely manner. However a lifeguard is also required to work in a safe manner, that means not putting themselves at unreasonable risk at all times, including when managing incidents.

### Personal Protection

Lifeguard Kit should include:

- Surgical Facemask
- Gloves and eye protection
- Hand Sanitiser
- CPR Mask (on lanyard)
- Whistle



### Emergency Response

If a Lifeguard is required to respond to an incident, a lifeguard will be required to modify the response to consider the lifeguards personal safety. Consider the following:

- Follow the [ARC Guideline for Resuscitation during COVID-19](#)
- Watch [The Resuscitation Council \(UK\) guide for out of hospital cardiac arrest and provision of CPR during the COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- Consider how you might respond to a spinal injury using one rescuer wearing PPE (gloves and facemask).

We strongly suggest facilities complete (and document) an in-service training session for responding to COVID-19 incidents.

Royal Life Saving can assist run an in-service training session for you. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

### Facility Operation

Facility's must comply and operate in accordance with the Queensland Governments requirements and staged implementation outlined in the [roadmap to easing restrictions](#).



## COVID-19 SIGNAGE

Royal Life Saving can assist you with COVID-19 signage for your facility. Custom design corflute signs (A1 size) with various wording (refer to the examples below) aligned to Queensland Government and facility specific requirements are available at a cost of approximately \$70 each.

Please [contact us](#) for more information.

### DO YOUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Follow the latest advice from the Queensland Government about social distancing:

**Social Distancing**  
Please remember to stay at least 1.5 metres from the Lifeguard

Access to this space may be limited if the number of people exceeds the Queensland Government requirements.

For information about Council facilities and services during this time, visit Council's website at [qld.gov.au/Council/Coronavirus-COVID-19](http://qld.gov.au/Council/Coronavirus-COVID-19)



### DO YOUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Follow the latest advice from the Queensland Government about social distancing:

During Stage 1 the following is permitted:

- Gatherings of up to ten (10) people
- Outdoor, non-contact activity
- Personal training

Access to this space may be limited if the number of people exceeds the Queensland Government requirements.

For information about Council facilities and services during this time, visit Council's website at [qld.gov.au/Council/Coronavirus-COVID-19](http://qld.gov.au/Council/Coronavirus-COVID-19)





## USEFUL LINKS



Life Saving Training  
[www.lifesavingtraining.com.au](http://www.lifesavingtraining.com.au)



Student Portal  
[admin.axcelerate.com.au/learnerPortal](http://admin.axcelerate.com.au/learnerPortal)

Proudly supported by



Australian Government



Online Shop – The Life Saving Shop  
[www.lifesavingshop.com.au](http://www.lifesavingshop.com.au)



[Course Outlines](#)



[National Aquatic Industry Workforce Profile](#)



[GSPO Managing the risk of COVID-19 in Aquatic Facilities](#)



[Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation  
www.guidelines.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.guidelines.royallifesaving.com.au)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Royal Life Saving Society Queensland Inc  
ABN 60 478 008 791  
RTO 5431  
T: 07 3823 2823  
E: [admin@rlssq.com.au](mailto:admin@rlssq.com.au)



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