



FAIRHAVEN SLSC

Patrol Structure

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Overview

Over the last few patrolling seasons, it has become clear to the Lifesaving Operations team at Fairhaven SLSC that we could be doing more to encourage the development of a strong operational culture within each of our patrolling teams, foster a greater level of accountability, and provide an increased level of service to those who frequent our beach. As such, beginning this season, a new patrolling structure will be implemented that seeks to achieve these aims, and position Fairhaven SLSC as one of the premier operational clubs within Victoria.

Broadly, the structure will be split into three separate groups:

- Six core FALCON Teams;
- Six linked teams of specifically allocated active members; and
- A list of 'General Active Members'.

Each of these options will be discussed in further detail below.

FALCON Program

Aims

The aims of the Fairhaven Advanced Lifesaving Contingent (FALCON) Program are to:

- Develop the most efficient and effective patrolling structure;
- Increase the consistency of patrolling services that are provided to Fairhaven SLSC Members and the general public;
- Promote leadership and responsibility for younger patrolling members; and
- Retain this skilled membership through the creation of a welcoming and team-oriented patrolling culture.

Ultimately, this program seeks to strengthen the reliability and uniformity of Fairhaven's operational services, whilst simultaneously creating an environment within which all members have the opportunity for personal and leadership development.

Selection of Members

The FALCON Teams were selected based on an analysis of patrolling experience, awards as listed on SurfGuard and patrolling hours from previous seasons. Additionally, members were afforded the opportunity to opt-in to a FALCON Team of their choosing.



Core Members and Awards

FALCON Teams were modelled on the required awards as dictated by Surf Life Saving Australia. Moreover, it was decided that responsibility should be spread across a number of different individuals within any given team, allowing for greater patrolling attendance and increased flexibility. Each FALCON Team will therefore consist of a minimum of seven members, each allocated to one of the following roles:

- Captain;
- Vice-Captain;
- Patrol Mentor;
- IRB Driver;
- IRB Crew;
- ART Operator;
- First Aid/Spinal Operator; or
- FALCON Member.

The position descriptions for each role can be found in the **Patrol Leaders' Handbook**. It is also important to note that these allocations are subject to change at the discretion of the Patrol Captain – this will ensure that active members have the opportunity to develop their skills across multiple areas.

Expectations and Rewards

Each FALCON Member is required to attend each of their allocated patrols throughout the season. In instances where circumstances prevent this from occurring, the member in question must seek out a suitable replacement and organise a cover/swap.

- **For example, a rostered IRB Driver must find another individual with a current IRB Driver Award to cover their patrol.**

So as to reward this commitment to patrolling at Fairhaven SLSC, FALCON Members who meet their commitments throughout the season will be rewarded with patrolling merchandise and other resources. This will operate in conjunction with the Patrol Recognition Program.



Active Member Patrol Teams

Selection of Members

Members for each of the six patrols were selected based on their registered preferences on the preseason survey or as a result of previous patrolling experience and commitment.

Expectations

Each member is required to complete their rostered patrols, and find a replacement where they are unable to do so.

This option is suited to individuals who would like to commit to a particular patrol team for the entirety of the season, but are unable to meet the commitments or award requirements for the FALCON Team.

General Active Members List

Selection of Members

Members for this patrolling list indicated their preference in the preseason survey.

Expectations

Each member is required to complete the minimum requirement for active membership, that is, a minimum of 16 hours across the patrolling season.

This option is suited to individuals who would like to be active members at the Fairhaven SLSC, but are unable to meet the specific roster of one single patrol team. This alternative is also ideal for competing members who can complete their hours with the added flexibility of tailoring their operational commitments around carnivals and training sessions.