



SURF LIFE SAVING®
NORTHERN REGION



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

SURF LIFE SAVING NORTHERN REGION

CONTENTS

General Manager's Report	2
Chair's Report	4
Minister's Report	5
Life Members	6
2025 Season Key Statistics	8
2025 Season At A Glance	9
Who We Are	10
Who We Are & SLSNZ Strategic Plan	12
Where We Are Heading & FY2025 Achievements	13
Patrol Assets By Location	14
Club Reports	16
Facilities Report	34

LIFESAVING SERVICE DELIVERY 36

2024-25 Operational Season Overview	38
Paid Lifeguard Of The Year	42
DHL Lifeguard Of The Year	43
Lifesaving Key Statistics	44
Search and Rescue Services Notable Callouts	46
bp Rescue Of The Year	50
Yamaha Club Of The Year	51
Toyota Financial Services Coach Of The Year	52
Developing Surf Official Of The Year	53
Aon Surf Sport Official Of The Year	54
Search and Rescue Services Awards	56

LIFEGUARD TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT 58

Training And Development	60
--------------------------------	----

COMMUNITY EDUCATION 62

Annual Report 2024-25 Community Education	64
---	----

MEMBER SERVICES 70

2024-25 Member Services Season Overview	72
Events: Participation And Breakdowns	73
Volunteer Development	74
Pool Rescue Championships	75
Northern Regional Junior Championships	76
Northern Regional Championships	77
Northern Regional IRB Championships	78
Development & High Performance	80
Northern Region International Representatives 2025	80
2024-25 Event Attendance Numbers	82
Junior Surf Regional Numbers & Participation	84
Rookie Finishing Schools	85
Club Development	86
Youth Development	88
Wāhine On Water	90

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 92

Directory	94
Independent Auditor's Report	96
Statements	98

Life Memberships and Distinguished Service Awards	114
Service Awards	115
Our People	116
Awards of Excellence Winners List	118
Acknowledgements	120

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT



There are challenges in every season, and yet there is always much to be proud of. Surf Life Saving in the Northern Region has continued to deliver a professional, proactive, and highly effective service, one that is evolving to meet the needs of a growing population and an increasingly dynamic coastal environment.

The workload 2024–2025 season was unprecedented. Across 110,000 hours, our services across the region assisted 410 people to safety, responded to 673 first aid incidents, carried out 104 searches and undertook a remarkable 23,723 preventative actions – a significant increase that reflects our ongoing focus on proactive lifeguarding, helping prevent incidents before they occur.

Our SAR Squads also responded to 74 after-hours callouts – a reduction on previous years, thanks in part to new approaches like the after-hours observational patrols launched at Bethells Beach, a promising model that may well be rolled out more widely.

The key metric however, is rescues. Across the past season, our surf life guards performed 313 rescues – all of whom were safely delivering back to their friends and whānau. Were it not for our services, the drowning toll across the past season would have been much higher.

Before we celebrate the 2024/25 season, I'd to acknowledge the tragic drownings across the region this past summer. While our surf lifeguards did everything they could in every single one of these incidents, it's a sobering reminder of how dangerous our coastlines can be, bringing sharp focus to our cause. As an organisation, we are committed to honouring every incident like this with humility, and by seeking out every possible learning to better protect our communities. Our thoughts remain with the whānau, the clubs, and everyone impacted.

While our people are at the heart of this movement, having the right facilities makes a huge difference – and it's been a landmark year for club infrastructure.

- Kariaotahi's new build is progressing well, set to be ready to open the season
- A new observation tower will soon rise at Baylys Beach
- All going to plan, Mangawhai Heads should be back in their upgraded clubhouse by mid-season,
- with projects at Bethells Beach, Ōrewa and Ruakākā all expected to break ground within the next 12 months.

These upgrades are more than just buildings. They're a commitment to safety, service, and most importantly, the future of our coastal communities; they're the place "where it all begins" for the next generation.

And that next generation looks bright, bolstered by growing Junior Surf programmes across the region and a strong participation at our sports events. Northern Region programmes are robust, with the multiple National High Performance athletes, crews, coaches and world champions within the regions membership, a testament to that fact.

As demand for our services grows, our clubs and members remain unwavering in their commitment to protecting their communities. We look forward to strengthening and growing the Surf Life Saving legacy together.

Zac Franich

General Manager

Surf Life Saving Northern Region



CHAIR'S REPORT



Surf Life Saving Northern Region has continued to thrive, thanks to our committed membership. Their dedication, alongside strengthened governance and shared values, ensures our movement remains unified, effective, and ready to meet growing demand.

While we rightly celebrate those in the red and yellow uniform on the beaches – our incredible surf lifeguards and surf sport athletes, we must also acknowledge the vast, committed community behind the scenes who make that possible: administrators, committee members, health and safety teams, operational support crews, finance and facilities volunteers, powercraft and gear stewards, coaches, and parents and whānau who give hundreds of hours to support our movement.

This group of people often commit more hours than those of us on patrol, and it's that deep dedication that keeps our movement running smoothly. Our effectiveness doesn't happen by accident. It happens because our systems, our support structures, and our people are doing the mahi.

This year also saw the continuation of our focus on cohesion and performance through Kapa Kotahi as we work to embed collective values and behaviours across the organisation and move to a higher trust, less bureaucratic model.

Governance is about improving how we work together and support frontline delivery. It's about ensuring our movement is fit for purpose, sustainable, and unified in its priorities.

The Northern Region covers a vast expanse of coastline, with our services and clubs heeding the call of their communities, with this demand increasing year on year. The support we receive from Central Government, Northland, Auckland and Waikato councils, along side our committed funders, is invaluable to ensuring we can keep our beaches safe – we simply cannot thank you enough.

I'm incredibly proud to represent this organisation and remain committed to it—knowing that the people driving Surf Life Saving across the region are among our country's finest, and together, we're shaping an exciting future.

Michael Barker

Chair

Surf Life Saving Northern Region



MINISTER'S REPORT



As the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the extraordinary work and commitment demonstrated by the surf lifesaving clubs in the Northern Region.

Keeping people safe across our beaches continues to demand a high level of expertise and unwavering dedication from many. I understand that collectively, Northern Regional surf lifeguards have put in more than 61,000 volunteer hours to keeping the public safe – an average of 39 hours per active member. This has supported over 166,000 beachgoers at 24 patrol locations throughout Northern Region.

I want to extend my gratitude to volunteers for delivering a wide range of services on the region's beaches and coastlines. In the Northern Region, volunteers participated in 74 after-hours Search and Rescue squad operations, took 23,723 preventative actions, attended to 673 first-aid incidents, participated in 104 searches, and assisted 410 people to safety. Through your tireless efforts, 313 lives were saved. Your generous commitment of time and hard work ensure our beaches are a safe and enjoyable place for all.

One of my key Ministerial priorities has been valuing volunteers and lifting the profile of volunteering. I was pleased that members' contributions were recognised in the Surf Life Saving Northern Region Awards of Excellence.

As we celebrate your remarkable contributions, we are also looking forward to 2026: the International Year of the Volunteer. This initiative will be shining a spotlight on the important work that you and other volunteers do and recognises the support and impact you have on our community.

I want to thank all staff and volunteers, whose dedicated work makes the foundation for surf lifesaving clubs to operate. Your commitment to ensuring the safety of both our local communities, and the many national and international visitors at our beaches will be essential as we approach the summer season.

Thank you for making the decision to help and protect New Zealanders.

Hon Louise Upston

Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector



LIFE MEMBERS

Muriel Brown*	1957		Dennis Cooksley	2006	Mairangi Bay
A. Pearce*	1961		Robert Ferguson	2008	United North Piha
Albie Veart*	1962		Murray Bray	2008	Piha
John Chapman*	1976	Ōrewa	Dick (Richard) Pocock*	2010	Mairangi Bay
Abbie Day*	1977		Gareth Neilson	2011	United North Piha
Eddie Millar*	1978	Red Beach	Wayne Franich	2012	Ōrewa
Bob Rogers*	1978		Stephen Pye	2012	Karekare
Bert McCarthy*	1979	Ōrewa	Patricia Reid	2012	Muriwai
Jim Ferguson*	1980	United North Piha	Warwick Bell	2013	Mairangi Bay
Denis Black	1981	Piha	Christopher Parsons	2013	United North Piha
Malcolm Beattie	1986	Sunset	Johnny Clough	2013	United North Piha
Roger Curtice	1989	Piha	Jim Coe	2013	SLS Kariaotahi
Bob Harvey	1990	Karekare	Mark McCarthy	2014	Ōrewa
Ross Malyon	1992	Red Beach	Stephen Smith	2014	Sunset
Noel Kay	2000	United North Piha	Stephen Butler	2015	United North Piha
Ian Hill	2003	Muriwai	Pat Olsen	2016	Red Beach



John Chapman	2016	Ōrewa
Grant Morrison*	2017	Mairangi Bay
Jonathon Webber	2018	Piha
Faron Turner	2020	Ōrewa
Joanne Hobson	2020	Sunset Beach
Henry Backhouse-Smith	2020	Bethells Beach
Michelle Newton	2021	Red Beach
Nicola Howes	2022	Whangārei Heads
Mason Dray-Hogg	2022	Bethells Beach
Lindsay Hill	2022	Whangārei Heads
Rob Howes	2022	Whangārei Heads
Ian Godfrey	2022	Waipū Cove
David Godfrey	2022	Muriwai
Dave Comp	2023	Bethells Beach
Damian Molloy	2023	Muriwai
Kevin Moran	2023	Muriwai

Benny Larsen	2023	Ōrewa
Mark Johnston	2023	Ōrewa
Shane Edwards	2023	Sunset Beach
Tara Coe	2024	Kariaotahi
Jackie Grant	2024	Mairangi
Trevor Keinzley	2024	Ōrewa
Dave Shanks	2024	Ōrewa
Leif Neilson	2024	United North Piha
Rick Stolwerk	2024	Waipū
Nick Devcich	2025	Bethells Beach
Andy Shaw	2025	Karekare
Allan Roberts	2025	Muriwai
Bryce Pearce	2025	Muriwai
Shane Armitage	2025	Muriwai
Peter Brown	2025	Piha

*Deceased



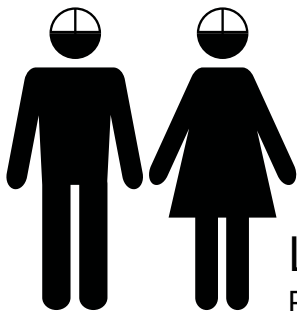
2025 SEASON KEY STATISTICS



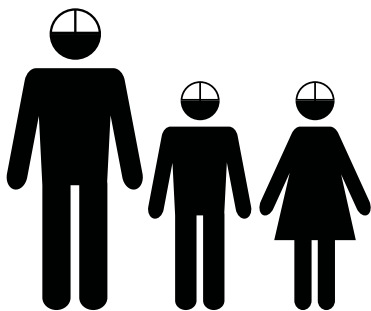
295^{NEW}
FIRST AID
AWARDS GAINED



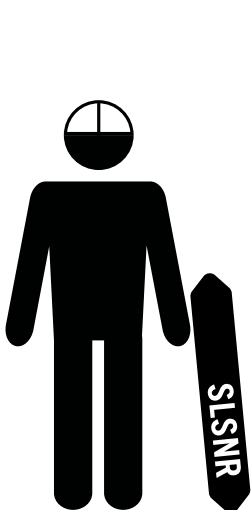
24
PATROLLED
LOCATIONS



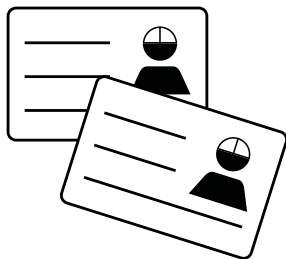
290
^{NEW}
LIFEGUARDS
PATROL SUPPORT



2223
U14 MEMBERS
PARTAKING IN
JUNIOR SURF



1560
ACTIVE
LIFEGUARDS
PATROL SUPPORT



3314
ACTIVE
MEMBERSHIPS



12,025
TOTAL NUMBER
EDUCATED
IN 2024

2025 SEASON AT A GLANCE



112,870

TOTAL HOURS

104



SEARCHES

313

RESCUES



LEADERSHIP

DEVELOPMENT

247



74

CALLOUTS



673

FIRST
AIDS



23,723

PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



166,156

SAFETY
INTERVENTIONS

ASSISTS

410



WHO WE ARE

Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) is the organisation tasked with preventing beach and coastal drowning for the millions of people living in the upper North Island of New Zealand. Our iconic lifeguards are a treasured symbol of beach safety, and a time-honoured sight along New Zealand's coastlines.

SLSNR consists of 18 clubs that fly the flag for safe coastal use and beach recreation, from Raglan north to Cape Reinga on the west coast, and back down the east coast to Auckland. Our single, simple purpose is to protect the region's communities in the water, on our beaches, and along our coastline.

The surf lifesaving movement in New Zealand has evolved in recent years as the movement's role and impact continue to grow. Today's lifesavers provide support to the public through a vast array of valuable services, many of which are recent developments.

Our lifeguards are primarily found "between the flags", where they have a long, proud history of providing formal supervision to beachgoers at 25 patrol locations throughout Northern Region. Their presence on patrol has traditionally been from Labour Weekend in late October through to April the following year, but the patrol season continues to expand as the way we use our coasts in our region evolves.

On patrol, lifeguards work closely with the public to help them avoid the many dangers present on our beaches, but they are still regularly required to respond to a wide array of emergencies at, or near the beach, and to rescue people in difficulty in the water all year around. Their emergency training and resources mean lifeguards are frequently asked to assist in responding to on-beach or near-beach first-aid incidents, ranging from jellyfish stings and sprained ankles, through to more serious incidents like cardiac arrests or vehicle accidents.

Our lifeguards also contribute a critical element to New Zealand's Search and Rescue (SAR) efforts, being called out for on-water or near-beach SAR duties around our coastlines and flooding response throughout the year, ensuring a 24/7 rapid response to coastal and water-related emergencies.

Outside of our patrolled beaches, SLSNR also provides formal event-safety services to commercial entities and the community, ensuring those events and other forms of organised coastal recreation have access to lifesaving skills and services.

Community Education continues to be a huge part of our purpose and is an important building block in New Zealand's Drowning Prevention Strategy. You will find lifeguards in classrooms, marae, tertiary institutions and public events, on beaches, and more recently online – educating people of all ages on critical water-safety competencies throughout the year.

Surf lifesaving also offers more than 15 surf sport disciplines for its members to take part and compete in, through formal and informal sport-and-recreation pathways and frequent large-scale sporting events. These pathways allow thousands of athletes from six to 60-plus to play, learn, and compete on the water and beach, right up to an international level.

Underpinning all of this is our role in supporting clubs and shaping strategies to ensure our organisation and our member clubs are relevant to their communities and continue to offer attractive volunteering opportunities.

In the changeable landscape of volunteering, SLSNR works closely with its members to ensure they are well-placed to deliver to their future aspirations alongside our continuing role of providing governance, leadership and advocacy for our member organisations.



WHO WE ARE & SLSNZ STRATEGIC PLAN



OUR VISION

**No-one drowns
at the beach
in Aotearoa,
New Zealand.**

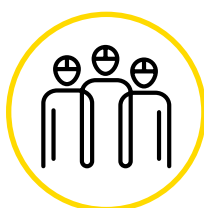
OUR PURPOSE

To save lives, develop and support great New Zealanders, and ensure the safety of our communities at the beach and in the water.

OUR VALUES

- **COLLABORATION**
- **INTEGRITY**
- **FUN**
- **WELLBEING**
- **RESPECT**

SLSNZ STRATEGIC PILLARS



KAPA KOTAHI

One Team -
18,000 strong.



SUPPORT

Grow the capabilities of all our people and ensure structure supports strategy.



LEADERSHIP

Advocate on behalf of our Members; Prioritise health, safety & wellbeing; Reflect the Communities we serve.



RESILIENCE

Enhance our reputation, brand and long-term planning to build a sustainable future.

WHERE WE ARE HEADING & FY2025 ACHIEVEMENTS



Building on who we are and following extensive engagement with our Club leadership, we have co-created a view of what we want to achieve in the future.

Guided by our Vision, Purpose, Values and 4 Strategic Pillars, and with significant input from our Clubs, Members, Staff, Management, National Committees, Volunteers and Board, a number of initiatives were agreed on that we believe will be critical to our ability to achieve our aspirations.

These initiatives have been integrated into a co-ordinated Programme of Work, that we call 'Arotahi', which is a Te Reo Māori word meaning 'to look together, steadily in one direction'.

This Programme is being delivered over a 3-year period and is a practical roadmap of how we will deliver our Strategic Plan. In keeping with our central strategic pillar – Kapa Kotahi – One Team, we are working on these initiatives alongside and in consultation with our Volunteers and wider Membership.

This Programme of Work is planned, resourced, scheduled, funded, communicated, integrated, delivered and interwoven with our day-to-day operations.

WELCOMING

- ☞ Welcoming just under 300 new lifeguards to the movement, our first positive inflow since the Covid-19 pandemic.

FUNDING

- ☞ Lifting our funding for club operating expenses by close to 30%.

NEW ROLES

- ☞ Introducing new roles such as our first ever Kaihautū Māori and National Infrastructure Manager.

FINANCIAL SURPLUS

- ☞ Creating a stable financial footing with a significant improvement in the Balance Sheet and our first financial surplus in a number of years.

PARTICIPANT SATISFACTION

- ☞ An average 38% lift in participant satisfaction scores across our three major national sport events – Aon New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships, Oceans: Festival of Junior Surf Lifesaving, and bp New Zealand IRB Championships.

REBUILD AND REFURBISHMENT

- ☞ Welcoming a three-fold increase in capex funding to support the club rebuild and refurbishment pipeline.

REDUCE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN

- ☞ Introducing an improved, transparent club-Opex allocation methodology that is needs-based and designed to reduce administrative burden.

ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

- ☞ Establishing a national Search & Rescue team with the mandate and resources to support our 42 squads.

PATROL ASSETS BY LOCATION

LOCATION	SAR SQUAD	IRB	RWC	ATV	FIRST AID	RESCUE BOARD
Far North						
Baylys						
Whangārei Heads						
Ruakākā						
Waipū Cove						
Mangawhai Heads						
Te Arai						
Pākiri						
Omaha						
Tāhwharanui						
Wenderholm						
Ōrewa						
Red Beach						
Long Bay						
Mairangi Bay						
Takapuna						
AMRC (Mechanics Bay)						
Muriwai						
Bethells						
United North Piha						
Piha						
Karekare						
Kariaotahi						
Sunset						
Raglan						



↑ Baylys



↑ Far North



↑ Whangārei Heads



↑ Ruakākā



↑ Waipū Cove



↑ Mangawhai Heads



↑ Te Arai



Pākiri



Omaha



Tāhwharanui



Wenderholm



Ōrewa



Red Beach



Long Bay



Mairangi Bay



Takapuna



AMRC (Mechanics Bay)



Muriwai



Bethells



United North Piha



Piha



Karekare



Kariaotahi



Sunset



Raglan





CLUB REPORT FAR NORTH

The 2024–2025 season was a year of pride, growth, and commitment for Far North Surf Rescue. One of our standout achievements this year was receiving a Certificate of Achievement (Operational) at the 2024 New Zealand Search and Rescue Awards in Wellington, national recognition for the dedication and professionalism demonstrated by our lifeguards and callout squad.

Throughout the season, we continued to support our community by ensuring our surf lifeguards and Search & Rescue callout squad were well prepared and refreshed for duty. We received valuable support from Surf Life Saving New Zealand to help upskill our teams, and made the most of training opportunities whenever conditions allowed.

Far North Surf Rescue continues to support the local Ahipara community in other ways, including helping at community events. This year, the club was involved in Matariki celebrations, providing volunteers to support events run by the Disabled Surfers Association New Zealand, volunteering at Movie in the Park, pool guarding at the local kura, and providing first aid responders for local events.

This year also saw growth in our capability and depth. The addition of a new side-by-side vehicle has improved our response mobility along the coastline. We have increased interclub interaction helped build knowledge-sharing and strong regional relationships. We are especially proud of our younger guards, who stepped up and embraced new responsibilities and leadership opportunities. Our Junior Surf Programme once again played an important role in developing confidence, surf skills, and future lifeguards from within our own community.

A major highlight this year was hosting the 30th Anniversary of the 90 Mile IRB Classic, a celebration of endurance, teamwork and Far North tradition. We also supported several candidates to achieve their Surf Lifeguard Award and IRB crewperson qualifications, strengthening the long-term resilience of our patrols.

Our progress this year reflects the dedication of our volunteers, the support of whānau, and the strength of our community. Thank you to everyone who contributed to another successful season.

Vicki Rehu
President, Far North Surf Rescue

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



24 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



10
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR

IRB & RWC
OPERATORS



6

17 IRB
CREWPERSONS



13 ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



15 SURF
FIRST AID



4 ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



1543
TOTAL
HOURS



6
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



1
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



5
RESCUES



2
SEARCHES



4
ASSISTS



579
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



2547
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

BAYLYS BEACH

The 2024/25 season was another busy one to add to the history books! Many projects have been on the go – the new patrol tower, the new Rescue Water Craft (RWC), the new Junior Surf trailer, water safety for events, Taoho presenting a water safety session at the Waikarā marae, our Junior Surf program, IRB racing, the Bethells Beach exchange, and training for Project Jonah.

For our small club to get involved in all of these activities is simply impressive. The team behind the scenes, from lifeguards, parents, coordinators and our committee. A huge amount of effort goes into making this club tick along.

I wanted to make a special acknowledgement to Jo Bradley. Jo joined the committee with no kids involved in the club, and took on the role of Treasurer role. This role got busier and busier, and I would hate to think how many hours Jo has put into keeping our finances in top-top shape for no cost at all. Thanks, Jo! A big thanks also to Leesa and our Junior Surf crew. This program has continued to grow from strength to strength with the time and effort Leesa has put in.

It's great to see our little club continue to grow and punch well above our weight. We do as many, if not more preventative actions – 380 over our 3-month season – when compared to the usual 5-month season of some other clubs, showing that we are making an impactful difference with our service to the community.

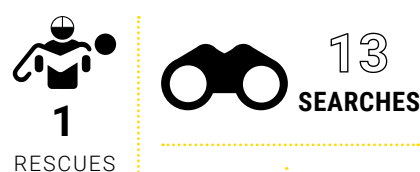
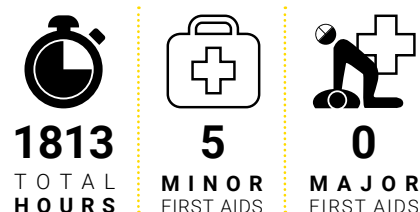
Finally, a big thanks to our sponsors – we wouldn't be able to do it without them. Here's to another great season.

Kyran Gillespie
Club Captain
Surf Life Saving Baylys Beach

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



SEASON AT A GLANCE





CLUB REPORT WHANGĀREI HEADS

The 2024/25 season once again affirmed our Club's strong commitment to keeping Ocean Beach safe and serving our community with professionalism and vigour. Over the summer period, our volunteer lifeguards contributed approximately 4,990 patrol hours, achieved 670 preventative actions and carried out an estimated 4,770 safety interventions, while recording zero rescues during patrol hours.

A highlight this season was the outstanding performance of new team members: our Paid Lifeguard Service awarded Megan Middlemass the "Outstanding First Season" recognition, reflecting the calibre and drive of our growing patrol team.

The Club's operational focus remained on prevention – early recognition of risk, proactive guidance of beach users, and timely first-aid interventions. In 2024/25 our volunteers recorded just three assists and six first-aid incidents, reflecting a strong emphasis on keeping our beach users safe before emergencies escalate.

This season we also invested in capability-building: in April we hosted a joint IRB Crewpersons training session with Waipū Cove Surf Life Saving Club, with 22 lifeguards upskilling to become IRB crew-ready for emergency response. This season also saw WHVSLSP return to the IRB Racing fold, attending the National IRB Championships at Waipū Cove.

Committee renewal and fresh ideas strengthened our governance and volunteer engagement. Thank you to all retiring committee members for their service, and welcome to the new members who bring enthusiasm, new perspectives and drive.

Looking ahead to the next season, we remain committed to investing in training, resilience and community connectivity, and building on the prevention-led culture that has delivered such strong results this year. This work culminated in WHVLS being awarded the London Trophy at the SLSNZ Awards of Excellence, for qualifying the most surf life guards per capita - a strong benchmark for us to continue.

On behalf of the Committee and Patrol Team, thank you to all our club members, volunteers and supporters for another excellent season of service.

Lindsay Hill
President, Whangārei Heads
Volunteer Surf Life Saving Patrol

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



59 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS

31
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR



8
IRB & RWC
OPERATORS



44 IRB
CREWPERSONS



21
ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



36
SURF
FIRST AID

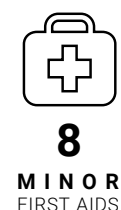


11
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



4990
TOTAL
HOURS



8
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



4
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



5
RESCUES



3
SEARCHES



12
ASSISTS



670
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



4770
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTATIVES



CLUB REPORT RUAKĀKĀ

This season has been one of growth, resilience, and strengthened community connection for Ruakākā Surf Life Saving Patrol. From Labour Weekend through to Easter, our surf lifeguards have been active across all weekends and public holidays, ensuring the safety of beachgoers and responding to emergencies with professionalism and aroha. We've seen 4,056 patrol hours, 5 rescues, and countless preventative actions that keep our beach safe and welcoming.

Our Junior Surf Team with the wonderful Junior Surf Committee and supportive parents continue to build on their strong programme. Junior Surf numbers continue to flourish, and this is reflective of all the wonderful coaches, managers, and parents who volunteer their precious weekends to our budding future surf lifeguards.

I would like to recognise Connor Guest for being awarded Paid Lifeguard of the Year, at the Toyota Financial Services SLSNR Awards of Excellence. This is the second year in a row that a Ruakākā surf lifeguard has won this award. We are very proud of you, Connor.

One of our proudest moments this season was our event to celebrate our 65th anniversary with our members past and

present. It was wonderful to see both old and new meet and reminisce, and the evening even inspired a few of our former guards to rejoin our patrol ranks once again.

Over the past year, we've tackled funding pressures, equipment upkeep, and coastal unpredictability—thanks to strong teamwork and vital support from Surf Life Saving New Zealand, SLSNR, and our wider community.

We are working hard on our new build and are currently working our way through the consenting process. This is an immensely exciting development, and I acknowledge Nigel Taylor and Ian Palmer who have been working extremely hard behind the scenes to move the project along and secure funding, respectively.

As we look to the 2025-26 season, we are excited for what's ahead as we look to strengthen our volunteer base, upgrade essential lifesaving equipment, expand beach education programmes, and deepen our partnerships with our local community, schools, and Iwi.

To our surf lifeguards and all our volunteers, ngā mihi nui. Your courage, dedication, and service are the backbone of Ruakākā. To our supporters: thank you for believing in our mission. To our community: this beach is yours, and we're honoured to protect it.

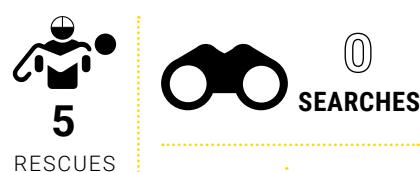
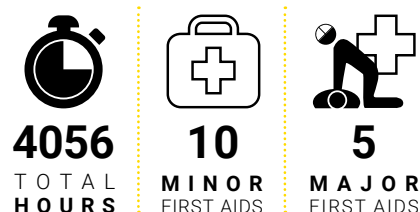
Noho ora mai.

Tania Ahrens
President, Ruakākā Surf Life Saving Patrol

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



SEASON AT A GLANCE





CLUB REPORT WAIPŪ COVE

Signing off our constitution was a significant milestone this past season, and special thanks must go to Jaine Curran, who has worked tirelessly to achieve this significant step forward for the club. In addition to being our club Treasurer, Jaine has worked extremely hard and pushed both our accountants and auditors to make sure the past season's financial reports have been delivered on time, a massive effort.

Over the winter and again thanks to Jaine, with support from Kath Manning and Gordon French, we received notification from Surf Life Saving New Zealand that the club will be reglazed next month, an expensive but very necessary project. Dean has been busy applying for many grants and again been brilliantly successful: we now have new junior boards on order and a new 30kva generator. Thank you to all involved, we would be lost without you.

My congratulations to all finalists in the SLS Northern Region Toyota Financial Services Awards of Excellence held on Saturday 26 July. Well Done! It is no easy task getting down to the final three from 18 clubs in our region. Congratulations to Kath, who won Duty Officer of the Year, and Gordon, who won Peer Support Officer of the Year.

Our Search & Rescue squad continues to work in the background and prepare for any

upcoming events. Congratulations to Tim and Kath, our newest RWC operators, while Jake regularly attends the Ruakākā SAR trainings.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all committee members for their sterling work over the past 12 months. Our club has been very well represented by these members at committee level, within our community and at regional and national level. What an awesome job our junior surf coordinators, have done over the past season, you are stars. From me, a big thanks to Kath as Club Captain, Administrator, Chief Instructor, and Co-coordinator of the SAR squad with me. Kath has been chosen again to represent Northern Region nationally on a SAR Working Group and once again be a mentor for bp Leaders for Life. Well done and thanks again Kath.

With Mangawhai out of action, we'll again host paid lifeguards covering Waipū Cove, Mangawhai, and Te Arai this season—busy but rewarding times ahead. We're also welcoming Waikuku Beach SLSC as part of a new exchange, with plans to visit their Christchurch club in early 2026.

I for one am looking forward to patrolling starting, helping with the Rookie Camp in November, Junior Surf kicking off in December, and having a lot of FUN over the upcoming summer.

Go Waipū Cove!

Rick Stolwerk
President, Waipū Cove Surf Life
Saving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



80 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



39
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR

IRB & RWC
OPERATORS

17

48 IRB

CREWPERSONS

18

ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



28 SURF
FIRST AID



10 ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



5405
TOTAL
HOURS



24
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



7
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



4
RESCUES



6
SEARCHES



11
ASSISTS



612
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



4922
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

MANGAWHAI HEADS

This season at Mangawhai Heads Volunteer Lifeguard Service was marked by resilience, progress, and strong community support. Our patrol teams delivered 680 preventative actions, safeguarding over 5,400 beachgoers and reducing rescues through vigilance and education. We also advanced training efforts, with 15 new lifeguards certified, multiple IRB and first aid qualifications earned, and strong participation in development camps—reflecting our commitment to safety, professionalism, and growth.

This has been a pivotal year in progressing the return to our clubhouse. Slip repairs have now been completed, enabling building repairs to begin. We are confident we will reopen our club for the 2025/26 season — a major milestone after 2–3 years of disruption. This outcome has been possible through tireless work and collaboration with Surf Life Saving New Zealand and Surf Life Saving Northern Region, the Kaipara District Council, Northland Regional Council, local MP Grant McCallum, insurers and contractors, Earth Stability Ltd, and our wider Mangawhai community and supporters.

My sincere thanks to our Board, Administrator Vickie Match, and David Wheatley for their relentless work behind

the scenes.

Alongside this, we have secured consent for a long-term boat ramp and seawall project to protect the clubhouse and support emergency vehicle access. Fundraising for both building repairs and this long-term infrastructure continues.

We are pleased to confirm that a 33-year lease arrangement has been promised for our site, recognition of our vital role in coastal safety and our connection with the community. We also enhanced our Search & Rescue response capability with upgrades to our Alamar Crescent SAR base and boat storage.

Junior Surf remains the heartbeat of our future, with 140 children and 30 coaches building skills, confidence, and beach awareness. This season saw nine alumni and two parents earn their Surf Lifeguard Award, highlighting the strength of our mentoring pathways, alongside strong carnival results at Northern Region Champs and Oceans 25'.

This season has proven once again that Mangawhai Heads Volunteer Lifeguard Service is built on community strength, shared responsibility, and a deep commitment to service. We have protected thousands of beach visitors, grown new leaders, strengthened our SAR capability, and made major strides toward returning to our home.

Jess Costello
Chair, Mangawhai Heads Volunteer Lifeguard Service

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



71 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



43
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR



IRB & RWC
OPERATORS
19



51 IRB
CREWPERSONS



19 **ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE**



33 SURF
FIRST AID



5 ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



4266
TOTAL
HOURS



33
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



1
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



13
RESCUES



6 SEARCHES



31
ASSISTS



680
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



5436
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

OMAHA BEACH

Omaha Beach Surf Life Saving Club had a very positive and successful 2024/2025 season culminating in winning Club of the Year at the SLSNR Awards of Excellence. What an honour for our members, who work tirelessly for the club in all volunteer areas, surf lifeguarding, sport, juniors, IRB, education, training, coaching, administration and cooking sausages.

As a club we have continued to keep in the front of our minds our core purpose which is making sure no one drowns at our beaches. Linked to that is how our club functions as a caring, family-focused, inclusive, fun place to be, so we can ensure we meet that purpose every year. The club continues to be volunteer focussed believing if everyone of us gives a little we can continue to be an amazing club continuing to grow, provide opportunities for all and build enduring friendships.

Providing leadership opportunities for our young people has been a continuing emphasis for our Club. Congratulations to Stella Stanley-Hunt who has been selected for bp Leaders for Life in 2025-26. Stella and Jayden Earley also organised, ran and were the hosts of our club prizegiving, held at the Omaha Golf Club. A fantastic evening.

We have also focused on ensuring we have trained enough IRB drivers and crew persons for the coming season and have

qualified over 12 new crewpersons and five new drivers.

Junior Surf has continued to go from strength to strength with an emphasis on fun, fitness and learning new skills in a safe and supportive environment with empathetic and positive coaches. In Junior Surf Sports, the children outdid themselves, with some incredible results coming from one of the smaller clubs.

Our Senior Sports teams are legendary for their tenacity, enthusiasm and willingness to give every event a go in all carnivals. Their focus on participation and supporting each other is wonderful to see and is inspirational to our younger members.

Work has continued on our feasibility study as the club needs upgrading to meet the demands of a growing community and growing lifeguard numbers as we now patrol Tāwharanui. This has been proceeding well as we ensure members voices are heard and their thoughts factored in to any alterations. We are really looking forward to how this progresses.

Thank you to Jess Broun our Treasurer for your tireless work over the past 5 years, your attention to detail has enriched our club. Our committee works extremely hard for the club, and we must always remember that thank you may only be two small words but their impact is huge. So, THANK YOU!

Linda Crisford
President, Omaha Beach Surf Life Saving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



146 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



53
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR

IRB & RWC
OPERATORS

29



80 IRB



21



ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



56
SURF
FIRST AID



15
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



6566
TOTAL
HOURS



17
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



8
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



1
RESCUES



4
SEARCHES



33
ASSISTS



276
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



5512
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT ŌREWA

Ōrewa Surf Life Saving Club's lifesaving & patrol performance under increasing demand continues to be a source of pride, and this year was a record year for patrol numbers, with younger members stepping up and taking ownership. With more beach users than usual, Ōrewa lifeguards carried out a strong set of outcomes: 15 rescues, 4 major first aids, 41 minor first aids, 75 assists, and 9 searches.

This is the result of the strong commitment of our volunteers, board, committees, instructors, and members: we have put time into the development of new board members, employed more coaches to keep up with our growing junior surf program, and continued engaging with junior surf to recruit parents as surf lifeguards. The success of our athletes, including representation at national and regional levels has helped the club attract talent, improve coaching, and raise its profile.

We continue to upskill our surf lifeguards to be future leaders within New Zealand.

Ensuring competent lifeguard coverage – performing rescues, providing first aid, executing searches, and undertaking preventative actions (warnings, guidance to beachgoers) – are essential public safety services for our community.

We continue to support the community

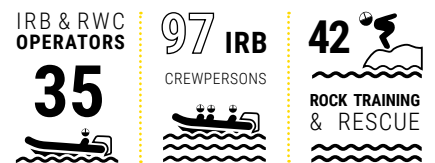
in other ways, collaborating with schools, events, and local institutions. We supported water safety sessions for local schools, conducted event guarding (e.g. for Surf Sounds), and hosted teams such as Silverdale Rugby for training. Our partnerships, such as the Milldale Junior Scholarship programme, has seen the club award scholarships and supported juniors to participate in surf lifesaving. The continued, strong junior surf sessions and scholarships help build a pipeline of future lifeguards and community leaders.

Momentum behind the club redevelopment continues to grow as we building funds and continue to get grants across the line, we are closer and closer to our goal.

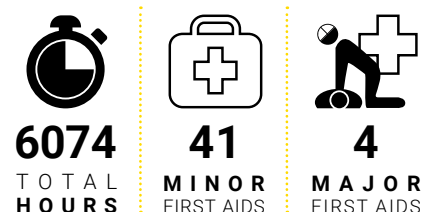
Taking over the club's bar and restaurant operations has created a revenue stream that can support our surf lifesaving services, reduce dependency on grants or donations, and better fund equipment, training, maintenance.

Jon Copeland
Chair, Ōrewa Surf Life Saving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



SEASON AT A GLANCE





CLUB REPORT

RED BEACH

The past season has been another great success and one of progress, constant improvement and amazing achievements by our club. As always, we have had a strong community involvement from the club particularly, in the lifeguarding space, commendable performances from our athletes, and continued growth in many areas of the club. Our capabilities continue to improve with each season.

Our core mission - to ensure the beaches we patrol remain safe during the summer months, remains paramount and firmly at the heart of everything we do. This season, our dedicated lifeguards collectively contributed thousands of volunteer hours, patrolling both Red Beach, and now 16 years at Pākiri, upholding our clubs' responsibilities within the surf lifesaving movement.

Our junior and senior surf programs continue to thrive year on year. A tremendous amount of work is required to keep these divisions operating.

We managed to replace our club roof this season after a huge amount of work fundraising and securing the additional funding required from Surf Lifesaving New Zealand (SLSNZ). This work was in dire need and one of the last critical projects after a long stretch of building improvement spanning more than 10 years. We are in a

changing environment where the volunteer movement is becoming increasingly regulated and scrutinised.

To all our committee members, our wonderful sponsors, athletes, officials, supporters, trailer towers, gear repairers, camp helpers and all other volunteers of our club, everyone plays a part in keeping our club rolling forward. It is a massive organisation now, and we should all be proud of what has been achieved by those before us, and now what we can all achieve together moving forward.

Kotahitanga, meaning "unity", is now a core value of SLSNZ. This resonates strongly with Red Beach when we think about our club. Thank you all.

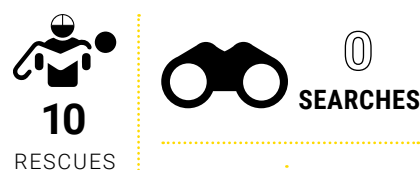
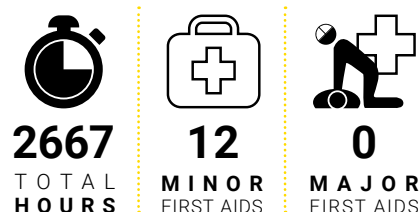
This last phrase sums up our 2024-25 season: He tangata, he tangata, he tangata: "it is the people, the people, the people". Your contributions are key to our club's culture, strength, and success.

Debra Cairns
Club Administrator, Red Beach Surf Life Saving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



SEASON AT A GLANCE





CLUB REPORT

MAIRANGI BAY

The 2024 / 2025 season has been another busy season. Perhaps the biggest highlight was the celebration of the club's 70th anniversary. A huge thanks to Sam Walters and his team for all the work they put in to make this a resounding success. Many, many months of planning and preparation went into this, and over the weekend it truly showed what a dedicated bunch of clubbies we have. True Bay of Dreams teamwork.

It didn't matter whether it was the wharf swim on the Friday night, the dinner on the Saturday or the chocolate fish competition on the Sunday, everyone who attended had nothing but amazing things to say about the organisation of the event, all the small details, and the reminiscing about events that have made our club so amazing.

Unfortunately, our new clubhouse still seems to be many years away, but there is a core group who are still spending countless hours plugging away at this, led by Tony Sands and Bucky. One day it will become a reality.

The Bay of Dreams has an amazing team of members, whether they be parents, supporters, committee members, lifeguards, coaches, athletes or just members who want to learn some beach and water skills each week. A huge thank

you to the Committee and their volunteers behind the scenes, who without them, our club would not be able to function. A huge thank you to those of you who are stepping down this season, and a welcome to those of you who are stepping up to take their place.

At Awards of Excellence, many of our members were nominated in the various categories. Congratulations to all those who were finalists. For those who won the award for the category they were nominated in, congratulations again and to those who received service awards at the Regional and National levels, well done.

Congratulations to all those athletes who participated in individual events overseas, represented and competed in National teams here and overseas, and represented the club at the various competitions throughout the season.

On a more sombre note, we sadly said goodbye to one of the true stalwarts of the club – Dick Pocock. Dick was a mainstay of the club when I joined over 35 years ago. He, his wife Margaret and children were people everyone looked up to and went to, to get advice and help when needed. I had the privilege of attending the presentation of his SLSNZ Life Member award. It was an honour to be included when this was presented to Dick. Gone but never forgotten. Rest easy Mr Po.

Jackie Grant
President, Mairangi Bay Surf Lifesaving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



195 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS

60
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR

IRB & RWC
OPERATORS
26

74 IRB
CREWPERSONS

31
ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE

38
SURF
FIRST AID

13
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE

4525
TOTAL
HOURS

18
MINOR
FIRST AIDS

1
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS

3
RESCUES

0
SEARCHES

17
ASSISTS

155
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS

964
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

MURIWAI

Firstly, my thanks to the Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service (MVLS) clubbies who dedicated long hours in sun, rain, and wind to protect our beachgoers from before Labour Weekend through Easter.

This extended season highlights MVLS's commitment to being a leading provider of volunteer lifeguard services in Aotearoa. Our ongoing support of Surf Life Saving Northern Region's Paid Lifeguard Service also ensures our facilities remain active throughout much of the year.

This season brought its share of challenges, with unpredictable weather and surf conditions making patrol planning difficult. Fluctuating beach attendance required constant coordination between Patrol Captains and volunteers. Special thanks to the Chapman family, Craig Smith, and many others who stepped up to fill gaps and keep patrols running smoothly.

MVLS lifeguards continue to serve beyond their scheduled shifts. Our Search & Rescue (SAR) squad remains a standout, with coordinator Glenn Gowthorpe earning bp Rescue of the Month in March. While walking along Muriwai Beach, Glenn spotted two families caught in a rip and, with the help of a nearby surfer, successfully rescued four people.

Our Junior Surf programme continues to thrive, with tamariki learning water safety, leadership, and surf sport skills. We anticipate 11 juniors will earn their

Surf Lifeguard Award before next season. Muriwai nippers once again claimed top club at the Northern Region champs and performed strongly at the national Oceans 25 event. Our three surf boat teams maintained their winning streak, and seven senior lifeguards competed at the Northern Region champs in Whangamata. Looking ahead, 12 members have begun surf ski training, setting the stage for a strong 2025–26 season.

Muriwai remains a key hub for powercraft training. National RWC chief examiner Damian Molloy and examiner Tim Draisey have made major contributions to the national RWC programme. Our collaborative IRB training with Ōrewa and Red Beach has led to a significant number of new IRB Crew and Driver awards across all three clubs.

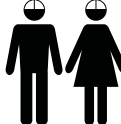
Thanks to successful Central Government Funding applications, we received a new IRB hull, Mercury outboard engine, and a Can Am Defender side-by-side vehicle this season—enhancing our operational capabilities.

Looking forward, we plan to replace our nearly 30-year-old patrol tower, originally built in 1996. Our goal is to complete the new tower before the 2026–27 season begins.

Finally, sincere thanks to the MVLS Board and all who contributed to the smooth running of the club this season. Your dedication and teamwork make everything we do possible.

Bryce Pearce
President, Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

 **105** SURF LIFEGUARD AND PATROL SUPPORTERS

 **53** MARINE VHF OPERATOR

 **54** IRB & RWC OPERATORS

 **78** IRB CREWPERSONS

 **48** ROCK TRAINING & RESCUE

 **47** SURF FIRST AID

 **28** ADVANCED SURF FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE

 **8065** TOTAL HOURS

 **78** MINOR FIRST AIDS

 **5** MAJOR FIRST AIDS

 **62** RESCUES

 **5** SEARCHES

 **46** ASSISTS

 **3214** PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS

 **21925** PUBLIC IN PREVENTATIVES



CLUB REPORT

BETHELLS BEACH

Bethells Beach has had a very busy and successful season with nearly 9000 hours worked, over 2000 preventative actions, 25 rescues, 11 assists, 5 major first aids, 29 minor first aids, 1 search and 9 search and rescue squad call outs.

With a record number of lifeguards being upskilled with training courses and qualifications, our Junior Surf programme is going from strength to strength, patrols are strong and proactive, and our Search & Rescue squad is leading the way with several memorable rescues. A particular effort has been placed on training our upcoming 16-21-year-old lifeguards to be future vice patrol captains and patrol captains.

At the recent Toyota Financial Services Surf Life Saving Northern Region Awards of Excellence, Bethells Beach won nine out of the 10 surf lifesaving awards and recognition of their excellent lifesaving accomplishments.

We also had some great sporting achievements in the IRB racing arena.

The inaugural Bethells Evening Summer Team (BEST) trial, with three lifeguards staying late until 8pm on weekend nights over peak summer, saw over 300 preventative actions performed, involving nearly 1,000 beachgoers. All of these combined efforts contributed to supporting our community, keeping all beachgoers safe

and preventing drowning from occurring at Bethells Beach.

Bethells Beach has just over 100 active lifeguards and many life members (with over 20 seasons' experience) who actively patrol. With a strong core group of experienced lifeguards role modelling proactive lifesaving, we were able to manage volunteer burnout by rotating and supporting our patrols.

We are fortunate to have amazing active lifeguards who contribute not just on patrol but also with training and development, operational leadership, and governance. Not only have we grown our capabilities, but also our capacity for, with our new 5-year strategic plan, road mapping a sustainable lifeguarding service into the future.

Finally, a big focus alongside patrolling has been the club and rebuild and we have an amazing club rebuild committee you have worked tirelessly to get us to the stage of applying for our resource consent with the council. Alongside the money and energy needed to rebuild the club, we have still been able to replenish our rescue equipment, and recently we have purchased a tractor to help manage the logistical burden that our beach brings. We look to continue our support of junior surf members and increase our sporting participation, including in the surfboat arena next season.

Daniel Harvey
President (and Life Member), Bethells
Beach Surf Lifesaving Patrol

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



118 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS

73
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR

IRB & RWC
OPERATORS
67

102 IRB
CREWPERSONS

88 °
ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE

69
SURF
FIRST AID

27
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE

8826
TOTAL
HOURS

29
MINOR
FIRST AIDS

5
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS

25
RESCUES

1
SEARCHES

11
ASSISTS

2188
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS

9788
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

UNITED NORTH PIHA

The 2024–25 season has been one of the most significant in the history of United North Piha Lifeguard Service (UNPLS). It was a year of milestones, growth, and renewed energy, driven by the commitment of our members and the support of our wider community.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly moving into Te Pou, our brand-new clubhouse. After years of planning and dedication, our members were finally able to call this state-of-the-art facility home. More than a building, Te Pou has already become a vibrant hub for our lifeguards and the community. Exams, trainings, courses, camps, and meetings filled the space with energy and purpose, creating a real sense of momentum. Te Pou represents both a proud achievement and the foundation for UNPLS's future aspirations.

One of the great strengths of our Club is the way our members continue to upskill and grow. This season, many participated in leadership, communication, first aid, powercraft, search and rescue, and instructing courses. Special thanks go to our Chief Instructors, Lily Tongue (Surf Lifeguard Award), and Kate Adolph and Rosie Davis (Powercraft), ably supported by Natalie Wilson, for leading training with skill and enthusiasm. The results speak for themselves: United now has more

lifeguards with new qualifications, more instructors developing others, and members proudly representing the club at regional and national camps and courses.

Another important step forward has been the strengthening of our relationship with Te Kawerau ā Maki, the mana whenua of Piha. UNPLS recognises the deep cultural guardianship of iwi and the alignment with our own role as kaitiaki of the coastline. Walking alongside iwi partners represents an exciting opportunity for shared learning and deeper connection in seasons to come.

United North Piha is more than a surf lifesaving club. We are guardians of our coastline, dedicated to protecting lives, fostering community, and building a legacy of service for generations to come.

Rob Ferguson
President, United North Piha Lifeguard Service

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



103 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



56
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR

IRB & RWC
OPERATORS

28



65 IRB
CREWPERSONS



36 

ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



48
SURF
FIRST AID



18
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



7846
TOTAL
HOURS



16
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



3
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



1
RESCUES



4
SEARCHES



3
ASSISTS



1848
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



11401
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

PIHA

In 2024/25, Piha SLSC celebrated its 90th anniversary, a milestone that brought members together, and a cake cutting that symbolised the club's history and unity. The season was marked by strong sporting and leadership achievements, including regional, national, and international successes, and the growth of young members stepping into patrol captaincy, coaching, and high volunteer hours.

Piha SLSC delivered more than 4,006 patrol hours, performed 25 rescues, volunteer preventative actions (protecting 23,000 people), and responded to 58 first aid incidents. We also introduced the Sunset Observational Patrol to reduce after-hours rescues, supported by a local business Surfside Bites & Brew, and ran a "Lifejacket Library" for safer community use.

Piha SLSC continues meeting the demands of another challenging season. We have strengthened our governance with a new constitution and a new income generation strategy in collaboration with an external agency, Away We Go (Matike Mai), and Surf Life Saving New Zealand. We have also expanded training and qualifications, producing new lifeguards, IRB and RWC operators, and specialist instructors. We maintained a strong and responsive Search & Rescue squad, handling multiple high-pressure rescues and incidents during

the most challenging conditions. We have also introduced an Operations Manager role to support administration and reduce volunteer pressure.

We are incredibly proud of our surf boat crews and competition squad athletes, who have achieved recognition at regional and national levels. The club expanded its reach through the Huntington Beach Lifeguard Exchange last summer. Piha SLSC has continued the successful Piha Ngā Tane o te Wai and Piha Ngā Wāhine o te Wai swim programmes, building inclusivity and broadening the club's reach. We launched the U20 Lifeguard Development Camp with great success, and also relaunched our IRB racing team.

We are committed to continue investing in our facility improvements and upgrades. Last season, we purchased new bunk beds and began First Aid room upgrades. We have worked hard to strengthen relationships with sponsors and partnerships that ensured resources for patrols and lifeguard welfare. Overall, 2024/25 was a year of celebration and growth, honouring our legacy while building the capacity and capability to thrive into the future.

Nicky Lloyd
Chair, Piha Surf Life Saving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



164 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



70
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR



IRB & RWC
OPERATORS
41



95 IRB
CREWPERSONS



36
ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



75
SURF
FIRST AID



22
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

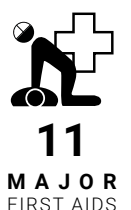
SEASON AT A GLANCE



10173
TOTAL
HOURS



47
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



11
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



25
RESCUES



8
SEARCHES



20
ASSISTS



4006
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



22985
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTATIVES



CLUB REPORT

KAREKARE

The 2024–2025 season was a milestone year for Karekare Surf Life Saving Club, marked by celebration, resilience, and the continued growth of our club whānau. Our 90th anniversary picnic in February was a true highlight, bringing together local families, past members, and current lifeguards to recognise nine decades of service to our community. During the event, we were proud to acknowledge several of our long-serving members with Service and Distinguished Service Awards, a reflection of the dedication that has shaped Karekare over generations.

Our new clubhouse continues to be an asset for both the club and the wider community, with strong demand for off-season bookings and increased collaboration with local groups. Youth development and leadership remain a cornerstone of our club culture, and it has been inspiring to see our younger members step confidently into responsibility both on and off the beach.

This season brought unique challenges. Access to the beach was significantly disrupted due to the rising stream, complicating patrol logistics, equipment movement, and search and rescue response. Despite this, our patrol and SAR teams responded with ingenuity and determination, adapting operations to maintain a safe beach environment. We continue to work with Auckland Council to progress a permanent solution to the bridge damaged during Cyclone Gabrielle.

Over the past year, we have also maintained strong momentum in membership development, community engagement, and strengthening relationships with our fellow West Coast clubs. Completing the cyclone repair work and finalising the planting required for our resource consent were further positive steps in securing our club's future.

We are proud of what we have achieved and grateful to everyone who contributes their time, skill, and heart to Karekare.

David Munro
President, Karekare Surf Life Saving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



67 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



27
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR



IRB & RWC
OPERATORS
11



36 IRB
CREWPERSONS



7
ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



29
SURF
FIRST AID

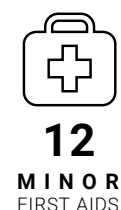


15
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



4310
TOTAL
HOURS



12
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



1
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



4
RESCUES



0
SEARCHES



7
ASSISTS



396
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



3982
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

KARIAOTAHİ

As we come to the end of another season, it's a great opportunity to reflect on the progress and achievements of Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi over the past year.

One of the most exciting developments is the near completion of our new club building. This has been a long-term vision, and it's incredibly rewarding to see it finally taking shape. We're all looking forward to starting the upcoming summer in our new home – a facility that will serve our members and the wider community for years to come.

Operationally, it's been a relatively quiet season – and that's a good thing. The calm on the beach is a testament to the dedication and proactive approach of our lifeguards, who work hard to prevent incidents before they happen. Their commitment to vigilance and safety continues to uphold the high standards of our club. I'd also like to thank the team for their adaptability and resilience in working out of the temporary shipping container setup while the new building nears completion. It's been tight quarters, but your ability to make it work despite the challenges has been truly amazing.

We also welcomed another strong intake of junior surf members, which is always encouraging to see. The enthusiasm of our young nippers and their families keeps the heart of our club beating strong. Their energy and eagerness to learn are a constant reminder of why we do what we do.

In the competitive arena, our IRB racing teams had another successful year, delivering strong performances and proudly representing Kariaotahi. Their results reflect countless hours of training and an unwavering team spirit.

Like many volunteer organisations, Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi has faced challenges with retention and engagement—a sector-wide issue. We're grateful for Surf Life Saving New Zealand's recruitment efforts and deeply thankful to our dedicated volunteers, whose commitment on the beach and behind the scenes keeps our club strong.

I would also like to extend my personal thanks to the board for their guidance, dedication, and countless hours of hard work behind the scenes. Your leadership has been instrumental in navigating both the challenges and successes of the year.

Finally, a sincere thank you to our community, sponsors, and charitable partners for your ongoing support over the past year – especially during this critical time as our new club is being built. Your generosity and belief in our mission have made a significant difference and are deeply appreciated.

As we look ahead to the new season, we do so with optimism and excitement – ready to make memories and continue our mission in our new clubhouse.

Here's to a safe, fun, and successful summer at Kariaotahi.

Bradley Walters
President, Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



53 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



29
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR



IRB & RWC
OPERATORS
21



39 IRB
CREWPERSONS



12
ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



27
SURF
FIRST AID



5
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



4922
TOTAL
HOURS



16
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



7
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



4
RESCUES



7
SEARCHES



15
ASSISTS



1682
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



16224
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES



CLUB REPORT

SUNSET BEACH

With rapid growth across North Waikato and the Golden Triangle, Sunset Beach is now a key recreational hub—bringing new demands on our volunteer lifeguards. We're ready to meet these challenges with professionalism and strong recruitment to maintain beach safety.

This season, our volunteer lifeguards upheld their commitment to beach safety with increased rescues and preventative actions—thanks especially to our outstanding Patrol Captains. A key highlight was our targeted recruitment and high-quality training programmes, which not only attracted capable new members but also strengthened club retention.

On the sporting front, the Club again dominated IRB Racing in New Zealand and was the Top Club at the NZ Champs. IRB racing has increased the club's overall membership as it has become the tool for recruitment. This past year, 45% of the membership have qualified as Crew or Drivers.

Our Community Hub is now a seven-day-a-week space for diverse groups and activities, from preschoolers to pilates, Council meetings to mana whenua. In partnership with Tuakau Health, we offer free weekly health services, while continuing to strengthen our valued relationships with iwi, hapū, and the Waikato River marae.

The Search & Rescue squad has developed into a recognised emergency team in the region, and call outs are increasing with the provision of services to those both on the river and in the ocean.

The Club Board marked another successful year, with a strong financial and administrative footing. A summer restructure will sharpen focus on governance, growth, and equipping surf lifeguards for beach safety.

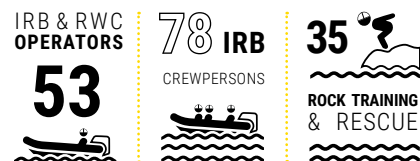
My thanks to the Trustees of the Charitable Trust for the work behind the scenes that might appear to go unnoticed. The Trust has become a formidable force, and the dedication to our Club's future is immeasurable.

To the staff at Surf Life Saving New Zealand, and in particular Surf Life Saving Northern Region, your support this past year as we faced adverse conditions resulting from Cyclone Gabrielle and township flooding has been recognised and appreciated.

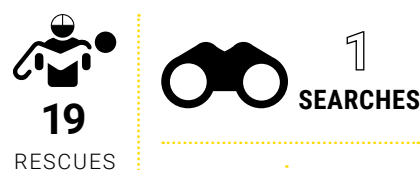
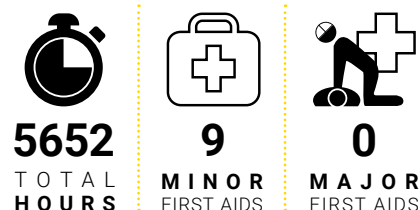
We at the Sunset Beach Lifeguard Service are willing and ready for another busy summer, and we will provide a service to the public that is second to none.

Malcolm Beattie OBE
President, Sunset Beach Lifeguard Service

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



SEASON AT A GLANCE





CLUB REPORT

RAGLAN

What a season 2024/2025 was. The weather again was up and down, but it didn't affect the beachgoer's enthusiasm. I would like to start by thanking our dedicated volunteer lifeguards. Their dedication to giving their time to ensure public safety by providing the highest level of lifesaving services to our community and visitors. Thanks to their dedication, we again remain one of the highest performing surf lifesaving clubs in the country.

Thanks to the support of our senior guard's leadership, we continue to have great growth and development in our Junior and Intermediate Lifeguards. It has been great to see some of these guards starting to take up leadership roles within the club to secure the future of Raglan Surf Life Saving Club (RSLSC).

In addition to our lifeguards' efforts, our board members, contributions to RSLSC have been instrumental. They are all volunteers and involved not only on the board but also have time commitments elsewhere within the club. I thank each and every one of them for their continued support and commitment. They do everything behind the scenes, from applying for funding, organising events, completing required documentation, arranging patrols and training. Planning for season

2025/2026 is well underway, and we are all looking forward to the season ahead.

Looking ahead, we are excited about our upcoming building extension. Thanks to funding from Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ) and the NZ Government, we are progressing our building extension to provide our guards with a new tower to patrol from to get them out of the weather and wind. We are still seeking additional funding of \$600k to ensure we can complete the build. The season ahead is likely to be patrolled from different locations than normal to allow for this major building works to be completed asap.

Once again, it has been a busy season for lifeguards and our SAR squad, which has been recognised at the New Zealand level this year. The lifeguarding team have had another busy year educating members of the public on beach safety through many preventative actions. This ongoing work ensures we minimise the number of rescues that are required to keep all visitors safe.

I would like to thank SLSNZ and Surf Life Saving Northern Region for their ongoing support in delivering lifesaving activities at Raglan. A massive thanks to our dedicated group of sponsors who have helped us throughout the last 12 months.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to make the 2024/2025 season a positive season for Raglan Surf Life Saving.

Dan Wilson
Chairperson, Raglan Surf Life Saving Club

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP



75 SURF
LIFEGUARD
AND PATROL
SUPPORTERS



50
MARINE VHF
OPERATOR



IRB & RWC
OPERATORS
29



57 IRB
CREWPERSONS



30 °
ROCK TRAINING
& RESCUE



37
SURF
FIRST AID



19
ADVANCED
SURF
FIRST AID

SEASON AT A GLANCE



9682
TOTAL
HOURS



89
MINOR
FIRST AIDS



26
MAJOR
FIRST AIDS



31
RESCUES



27
SEARCHES



50
ASSISTS



3628
PREVENTATIVE
ACTIONS



27445
PUBLIC IN
PREVENTIVES

FACILITIES REPORT

SURF LIFE SAVING KARIAOTAHU PROJECT: A NEW CHAPTER

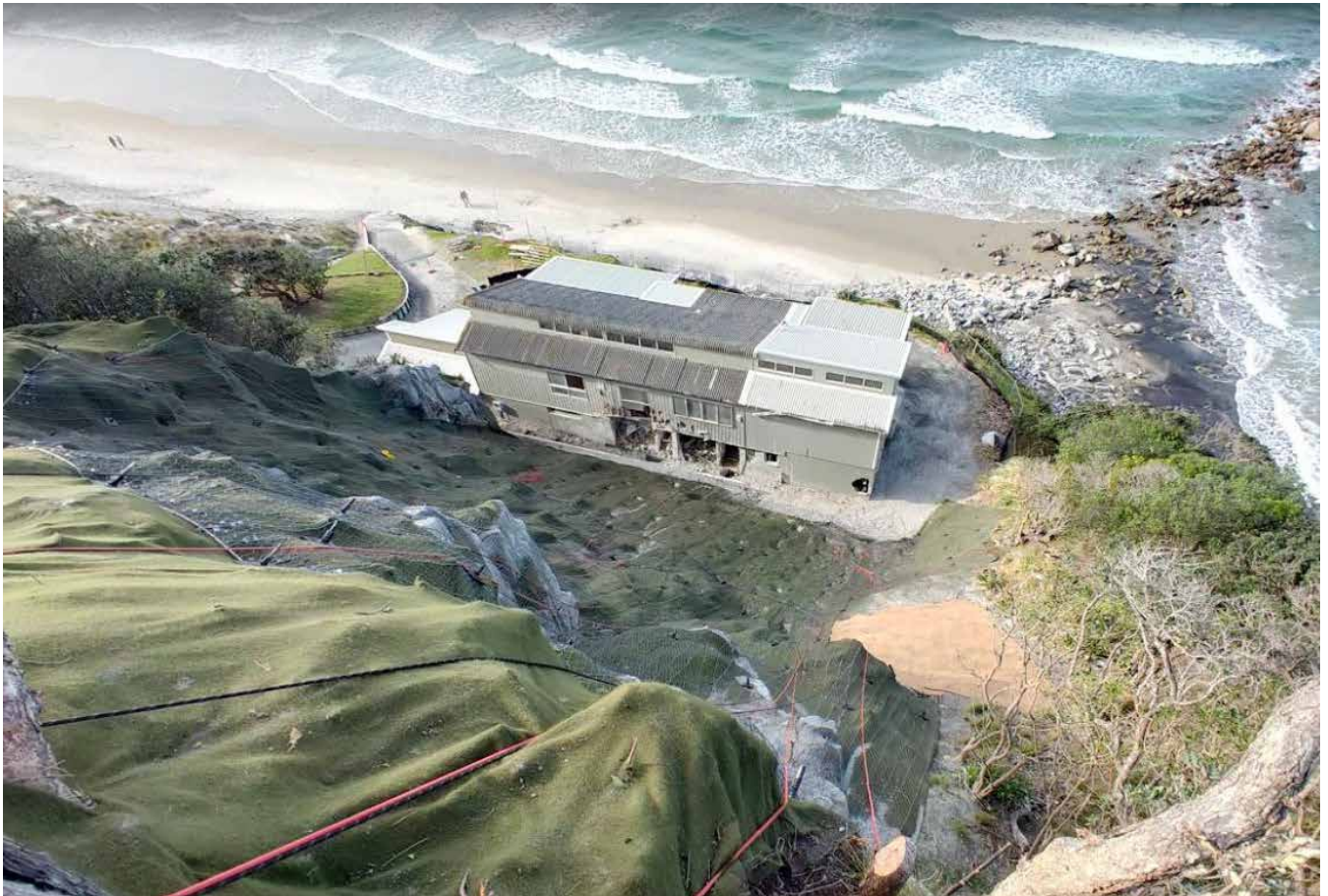
A long journey for Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi will soon draw to a close, with their facility progressing to time, scope and cost, and will be open for service for the 2025/26 summer season. In an increasingly tough capital project environment, the SLSK Building Committee, led by SLSNZ, SLSNR and SLSK Life member Jim Coe, have worked tirelessly to deliver an enduring facility, fit for the next chapter of the West Coast club.

Praise must also go to Pukekohe Builders Ltd, who were commissioned to undertake the project within a design-build capacity.

The two-level, 682m² facility provides a 'wet' downstairs area, housing IRB and RWC equipment, with dual driveway access. Nestled against the hillside directly behind it, the upstairs level provides clubrooms, an operational room, training areas, kitchen, and sleeping facilities.

After a tumultuous recent history within the Capital Project space, thanks must go to Auckland Council for their funding through its previous Long-Term Plan for the Kariaotahi project. Their partnership with Surf Life Saving Northern Region, through the Surf 10:20 Project Committee, has assured uninterrupted service delivery long into the future.





MANGAWHAI HEADS VOLUNTEER LIFEGUARD SERVICE: RESILIENCE FOLLOWING CYCLONE GABRIELLE

After operating remotely for the past two seasons, work has begun on clearing the landslip behind the Mangawhai Heads facility. The landslip, a result of the catastrophic Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023, rendered the facility unusable, with the club limited to two port-a-comms to provide lifesaving services and membership development opportunities to since that time.

Central Government funding secured through the Severe Weather Resilience Response and Recovery Fund allowed works to progress in clearing the debris, with works on track for the facility to be open pre-Christmas 2025.

Despite operating remotely, the uninterrupted service delivery at the location is a real testament to the clubs leadership, in particular Chair Jess Costello and Project Lead David Wheatley, and the Mangawhai Heads VLS membership – truly epitomises the nature of Surf Life Saving.

PROJECTS ON THE HORIZON

In addition to the completed facilities, with have several upcoming projects in the pipeline for the coming seasons including:

- Ōrewa SLSC
- Ruakākā SLSP
- Bethells Beach SLSP
- Mairangi Bay SLSC

Surf Life Saving's proven success in delivering capital projects, combined with its retained expertise and robust support systems, sets the stage for an exciting future, where fit-for-purpose facilities across all Surf Life Saving Northern Region locations is fast becoming a reality.

LIFESAVING SERVICE DELIVERY





2024-25 OPERATIONAL SEASON OVERVIEW

Lifeguards logged over **112,000** hours this season, reflecting their commitment to our communities.

Volunteer Patrol Operations:

The performance and dedication of our extraordinary volunteers once again underscored the vital role surf lifeguards play in safeguarding our communities. Across the Northern Region, over 61,000 volunteer hours were logged, an average of 53 hours per active lifeguard, reflecting the unwavering commitment of our members.

With all service hours considered, 178 active lifeguards have logged over 100 hours on the beach this season, 11 of these lifeguards logging over 500 hours. Focusing on the volunteer contribution through patrol and SAR service, 62 active lifeguards logged over 100 hours on the beach. Eight of these dedicated volunteers logged over 200 hours of service.

Our clubs outstanding service drew praise from the sector, with Raglan and Far North earning national recognition at the NZSAR Awards, with Raglan receiving a prestigious Gold Star for excellence in Search and Rescue. Others, such as Kariaotahi, maintained high spirits and safety standards despite operating with limited infrastructure. The Piha area faced a particularly challenging season marked by several critical incidents both within and outside of patrol hours yet continued to deliver strong positive community engagement.

Innovation and adaptability were evident across the region. Bethells Beach piloted the BEST Patrol initiative, which enhanced post-patrol observational coverage and contributed to successful rescues. Piha later adopted a similar initiative, the Surfside Sunset Observational Service. Clubs including Omaha, Baylys, and Ruakākā expanded their patrol areas and IRB racing programmes, a testament to their growth.

Ōrewa and United North Piha highlighted the need for clearer training pathways and structural support, particularly amid leadership transitions and rising facility costs. Meanwhile, Waipū Cove and Whangārei Heads celebrated positive team culture and milestones such as the debut of an all-women IRB crew.

Across the board, themes of recruitment, retention, and sustainable patrolling emerged as key priorities for the upcoming season. Clubs expressed strong interest in cross-club collaboration, shared patrols, and joint training camps to build resilience and community.



Paid Lifeguard Service

Leading on from challenges over the past few years, favourable conditions enabled SLSNR to deliver the seasonal Paid Lifeguard Service relatively unobstructed.

The Paid Lifeguard Service (PLS) started delivery to two of our locations on the 18th of November 2024, bringing a total of 17 weeks and closing out the season on the 10th of March 2025. During the peak season, SLSNR delivered to 24 locations.

The service also extended its delivery to two new locations last season - these being Te Arai and Tāwharanui. These additional locations brought our total satellite patrol capacity to 6, alongside the delivery out of our 18 SLSNR clubs.

The City Ski (RWC) was back for a full season operating out of the AMRC for 8 weeks, supporting the North Shore locations from Takapuna up to Long Bay, and all locations in between. All satellite locations are patrolled 7 days a week with all different rosters sharing the weekend work with volunteers.

SLSNR employed 132 lifeguards this year: 77 male, 55 female. 65 guards were hired from the 16-19 age group, 46 from the 20-24 age group, 15 from 25-29 and 6 from 30+.

SLSNR again welcomed international applicants, attracting surf life guards from England, Denmark, France, Jersey, Poland and Wales. The UK again made up the bulk of the international contingent. We employed 14 international lifeguards out of 29 applicants, 8 of these were new to SLSNR PLS and 6 returning for another season.

SAR Squads:

The 2024/2025 season had a total of 74 callouts across the Northern Region. SAR Squads this season have worked hard to continue building relationships between squads along with other key agencies. We have also seen an increase in the number of hours members are committing to this space with a total of 176 different SLS members attending callouts for a total of 846 hours.

Raglan SAR Squad were awarded the Gold Star for Excellence in SAR at Parliament in May, for a rescue they performed on the Raglan Bar with an overturned vessel. Far North was also commended for their work in a low light rescue early in the season.

Bethells SAR Squad was recognized as SLSNZ SAR Squad of the Year and won Northern Region BP Rescue of the Year, at respective Awards of Excellence events, for a challenging rescue of three fishermen in the early evening of summer.

The appointment of a new SAR team across SLSNZ included a new Regional SAR Officer with Nick Wagstaff supporting NR, and a new National PLS and SAR Manager. The introduction of a dedicated SAR education role will also have a huge positive impact of this space.





Patrol Observations

During the 2024-2025 season the Lifesaving Support Officers continued to complete the beach observations during their weekend visits to their clubs.

A total of 33 Patrol Observations were conducted and recorded by LSOs during the patrolling season, covering all volunteer patrol locations except for Far North & Bayllys (due to their short season).

Overall observations indicated patrols are functioning to a high standard and we are seeing a higher number of refreshers than previous seasons. While on patrol the LSOs are seeing good beach management, lifeguards patrolling to high standard, within minimal issues.

Duty Officers Overview:

This season, the Northern Region Duty Officer team comprised 39 Local Duty Officers. Over the course of the season, Duty Officers responded to 25 critical incidents, with only three other critical incidents occurring without a Duty Officer present.

Local Duty Officers (LDOs) have guided members through critical incidents by providing debriefs and direction. In our region, LDOs have also taken on liaison roles with partner first response agencies, offering clarity and specialist knowledge so Patrol Captains and SAR Coordinators can focus on leading their teams.

The National SurfCom Manager facilitated bi-weekly evening online training sessions, with topics ranging from debrief strategies, to rescue helicopter capabilities, active incident support, and supporting member wellbeing. These sessions were well attended and valued by those that had engaged.

Peer Supporters

The National Wellbeing Lead continues to provide exceptional training and guidance to the Peer Support team and staff. SLSNR's 58 dedicated Peer Supporters continue to deliver fantastic support to our members. Their efforts have been especially notable during challenging fatal incidents.

We have received several complements and anecdotes from lifeguards and family members of guards that have been engaged in the Peer Support programme. A huge thanks to our amazing Peer Supporters.

RWC:

The RWC lease programme has been reviewed by SLSNR, and all RWC's have now been purchased and deployed to the clubs at their current locations. These clubs have taken ownership of the craft and are now responsible for all maintenance and operations moving forward.

SLSNR now only manage two RWC, primarily for training, examination, and seasonal deployment to support PLS operations and supplement club operations where required.

Yamaha have proven to be a reliable and highly valuable partner to SLSNR. As such, we are very much looking to continue the ongoing partnership with Yamaha through support of the regional craft.



Rock Fishing Project

The Rock-based Fishing Project saw significant success in FY25, largely thanks to Auckland Council's new investment model. This crucial funding, a collaborative effort with Drowning Prevention Auckland (DPA), allowed us to meet our strategic objectives and greatly improve safety for Auckland's rock fishing community across all pillars: Research, Education, Operations, and Community Engagement. We deeply appreciate Auckland Council's commitment this financial year; their investment's positive impact is clear. Looking ahead, continued support into the next financial year is essential to build on this momentum, expand our reach, and further protect rock-based fishers across Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland.

Project Progress and Key Achievements:

The project has made significant strides in understanding and influencing Rock-based fisher behaviour. Over 297 on-site observations were conducted at 18 west coast sites, providing valuable real-life data on fishing practices, including lifejacket usage (29% of fishers observed wearing them, with an additional 5% accepting and wearing jackets when offered). A total of 57 fisher profiles were collected through surveys, offering insights into demographics, attitudes, and behaviours, such as the finding that nearly one-half of respondents had witnessed a water incident.



PAID LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR CONNOR GUEST – RUAKĀKĀ



Connor has consistently demonstrated excellence across every aspect of his role this season, both on and off the beach.

A highly skilled operator with an exceptional understanding of lifeguarding and RWC operations, Connor has not only led by example during critical incidents but has actively invested in the growth of his team through constant mentorship, training, and encouragement.

Always professional and composed, Connor fosters that same standard in those around him. His clear communication, independent problem-solving, and sound decision-making have made him a reliable and respected leader. He continually goes above and beyond - whether it's organising training sessions, providing detailed feedback, or even turning up to remote patrols with hot chocolates in the rain to boost morale.

Connor's leadership is grounded in kindness, humility, and a genuine passion for the job. He's an outstanding mentor, a trusted teammate, and a true role model for what it means to be a paid lifeguard.



DHL LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR

DANIEL HARVEY – BETHELLS BEACH



Daniel Harvey, patrol captain of c patrol, led 12–24 members with zero rescues in the season. He managed health, safety, task coordination, and completed all reports. Daniel ran briefings, rescue training, and led proactive lifesaving in challenging conditions.

He logged 142 volunteer hours plus 8.25 SAR callouts, led the best after-hours patrol trial with 300+ pas and zero rescues, and managed SLA/IRB refresher programs (86% SLA rate). Daniel mentored five trainee PCS and helped reduce IRB injuries through cultural change.

He also served as local duty officer, medical advisory group member, SLA and IRB instructor/examiner, and completed RWC and surfcom shifts. As Bethells SLSC vice-president, he leads innovation, member development, SAR wellbeing, and the club rebuild committee.



LIFESAVING KEY STATISTICS

All Stats

Areas of Work		YE2023	YE2024	YE2025
	Number of people rescued	450	288	313
	Number of people assisted	806	490	410
	Number of First Aids	507	816	673
	Number of searches	95	92	104
	Number of preventatives	14,669	22,351	23,723
	Number of hours worked	83,856	94,859	112,916.50

Paid Lifeguard Service

Areas of Work		YE2023	YE2024	YE2025
	Number of people rescued	90	95	95
	Number of people assisted	143	190	152
	Number of First Aids	203	341	294
	Number of searches	37	37	46
	Number of preventatives	10,067	16,214	16,518
	Number of hours worked	31,007	33,233	34,492

Volunteer Service

Areas of Work		YE2023	YE2024	YE2025
	Number of people rescued	180	172	139
	Number of people assisted	170	276	207
	Number of First Aids	245	431	302
	Number of searches	23	47	41
	Number of preventatives	4578	6127	7204
	Number of hours worked	49,817	58,789	61,382

After Hour Callouts

Areas of Work		YE2022	YE2023	YE2024
	After hours callouts	138	78	74
	Number of people rescued	171	16	42
	Number of people assisted	463	5	12
	Number of First Aids	30	6	10
	Number of searches	34	7	12

SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES

NOTABLE CALLOUTS

This section of the report provides high-level details of incidents deemed to be “critical” in nature. This could, for example, be due to a fatality eventuating, a mass rescue, a major first aid, or a traumatic incident.

NORTHLAND

Waipū Cove 10th January 2025

Waipū PLS guards, as well as off-duty guards, were made aware of a car accident outside The Cove Cafe, providing first aid care to the driver, who had a suspected heart attack while driving. The patient was drifting in and out of consciousness. Lifeguards also undertook the role of scene management until external emergency services arrived to take over. Once Hato Hone St John and Police NZ arrived, lifeguards advised that they were no longer required at the scene, so they headed back to the patrol location.

Whangārei Heads 28th January

A MOP advised Whangārei Heads lifeguards of a person who was unconscious and breathing on the beach. The patient was transported to the club and monitored until the ambulance arrived 1.5 hours later. LDO attended; however, no Peer Support was available nearby.

AUCKLAND

North Piha 2nd December 2024

Lifeguards spotted two people in distress on the northern side of Lion Rock from the United North Piha tower. A tube rescue was performed on one person and returned them to shore, while an IRB from South Piha rescued the second person. An ambulance and Westpac were called, and the patient was given oxygen as they went between consciousness and low responsiveness. Westpac landed and assessed the patient, then departed without them.

South Piha 19th December

An 11-year-old had an epileptic seizure in the flagged area at Piha. Lifeguards helped her out of the water and to the first aid room, where lifeguards assessed her before she was taken to the hospital with St John.

Ōrewa 30th December

A MOP informed lifeguards of someone north of the flagged area who was struggling to breathe. Upon reaching the scene, the responding lifeguard found a patient who had been pulled out of the water, was conscious and breathing, but was not allowing lifeguards to touch them. Lifeguards learnt of the history of epilepsy from the patient’s mother.

The patient was not having a fit, however was affected by being in the water for an extended period. The patient’s mother did not believe an ambulance was required at the time. Lifeguards brought the patient to the First Aid room to rest. Once in the First Aid room, the patients’ conditions improved with breathing returning to normal. The patient’s mother took the patient home once stable.

Ōrewa & Red Beach 6th January

POL informed SurfCom of a swimmer approximately 300m off Red Beach that was last seen by an informant 15 minutes prior. POL arrived at Red Beach, and lifeguards went further down the beach to investigate. Once Red Beach had eyes on the patient and recognised, they were unable to respond via Tube Rescue, Red Beach requested an IRB to be launched from Ōrewa.

Red Beach guards helped direct the Ōrewa IRB to the patient, who was now located 500m offshore. When Ōrewa lifeguards came across the patient, it was clear that they were dealing with a mentally distressed patient. Once lifeguards beached the boat, POL took over care of the patient, and no further medical assistance or Surf response was required.

South Piha 9th January

Piha lifeguards were made aware by a member of the public that a fisherman had fallen into an area known as the “washing machine”. They launched an IRB, while one lifeguard responded on land. Two RWCs were launched soon after by UNP and Piha, both of which were unable to locate the patient.

As SLSNZ assets searched, Eagle began an overhead search of the area. The patient’s lifejacket and an angel ring were recovered during the search. After 1.5 hours of searching, all lifeguards regrouped at the club with the police, and a second search was undertaken later by Piha SAR members, but the patient was not located. During the entire search, lifeguards were able to continue keeping flags open on Piha Beach while undertaking responsibilities such as preventive actions.

North Piha 14th January

A member of the public alerted UNP lifeguards to a body that had washed ashore halfway between Lion Rock and the North Piha Surf Club. Lifeguards from both UNP and Piha responded and covered the body. They then supported the police by transporting the body to the club at UNP, where they then handed it over to the police. This person was identified as the fisherman from the drowning at South Piha on the 9th. Two LSOs ran a debrief with all those involved at South Piha that evening.

Anawhata 15th January

Off-duty paid lifeguards and Piha SAR members assisted in the extraction. Seven patients from Anawhata Beach were transported back to Piha, as a bushfire at the top of Anawhata Beach had blocked their return to the car park. Lifeguards then transported them back to the car park via road.

Ōrewa 17th January

Lifeguards on roam in an IRB discovered multiple people stranded at Cove View who were unable to get up or down the rocks. The IRB released a rescue swimmer to try to coach the patients down the rocks, who would then swim them out to the IRB. Red Beach guards overheard the situation and walked on foot to the top of Cove View, while off-duty volunteer lifeguards launched a second IRB from Ōrewa. Two patients were picked up in the IRB on the scene and driven to Red Beach.

A 3rd patient was picked up when IRB #1 capsized. Ōrewa IRB #2 collected the patient from the capsized boat while the crew & driver from IRB #1 righted the IRB – all persons were okay. The last four patients were successfully rescued from the rocks and collected by FENZ.

South Piha 28th January

A swimmer drowned whilst swimming at South Piha. The swimmer had initially been swimming within the flagged area. The fatal drowning incident occurred during messy and rough conditions at the beach. A large wave swept the victim off their feet, while simultaneously, a group of six others swimming between the flags were also swept out to sea, resulting in a mass rescue.

Lifeguards on duty were able to rescue the six others in challenging conditions, utilising a range of rescue equipment (Rescue Board and Inflatable Rescue Boat). Two off-duty surf lifeguards (utilising a Rescue Water Craft) and the Piha Search and Rescue Squad joined to assist, however following an extensive search involving the combined efforts of Piha PLS, United North Piha PLS, and Piha Area SAR Squad, utilising five IRBs and two RWCs, alongside Hate Hone St John, local Police, and the Police Eagle Helicopter, they were unable to locate the victim and further search efforts were halted.

The victim's body was recovered three days later, on Friday, 31 January 2025, at Bethells Beach.

Omaha 6th February

A patient came out of the flags feeling faint and proceeded to lose consciousness for a few seconds. The patient, who was now alert, was complaining of numb legs and was pre-diabetic. The patient was transported to the First Aid room for further assessment.

During the assessment, the patient's BGL was 17.3, which subsequently declined. Lifeguards requested an ambulance via SurfCom. Within 20 minutes, the patient's BGL dropped to 5.8, and the patient had begun to throw up. An ambulance arrived, and lifeguards handed over the patient.

Bethells 13th February

While setting up patrol, Lifeguards were advised of a vessel that had broken down in the gut. An IRB was launched; however, it flipped in the large surf. SAR was activated to support and launched a second IRB to the original vessel while the RWC helped retrieve the lifeguards in the water. Two staff members responded and debriefed both teams.

WAIKATO

Raglan 11th December

Lifeguards responded to a rescue at Whale Bay, they picked up the Patient in an IRB, transported back to the beach, Patient was not breathing and unresponsive, Lifeguards commenced CPR, paramedics later arrived and deemed the Patient S0.

SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES

NOTABLE CALLOUTS *(VOLUNTEERS)*

This section of the report provides high-level details of incidents deemed to be “critical” in nature. This could for example, be due to a fatality eventuating, a mass rescue, a major first aid, or a traumatic incident.

AUCKLAND

Bethells 8th November 2024

Police informed Surfcom of a 17-year-old female swimmer caught in a rip at Bethells they requested support from the Bethells SAR squad and had tasked Eagle to assist. MOPs attempted to reach the patient on their surf board but were unable to due to the severity of the currents. Eagle located the patient before lifeguards arrived on scene but were unable to winch them into the helicopter. Because of this Eagle threw a flotation device for the patient to hold onto and kept eyes on them until lifeguards arrived on scene. An IRB picked up the patient and returned them to shore for a medical assessment. Lifeguards including an off-duty paramedic assessed the person who was deemed S4. Westpac who was en route was stood down and the patient was referred to urgent care. This rescue was done under low light conditions and was completed at 2040 hours.

Piha 11th December 2024

Two off duty lifeguards were waved down by a MOP and were advised of a missing swimmer last seen in the water. They responded in an IRB. The PUK SAR squad was then activated by Surfcom as backup along with FENZ and Piha FR. The lifeguards saw the patient and the crewman jumped out to secure them, while the other lifeguard returned the IRB to the beach. This lifeguard then returned to assist bringing the patient back to shore where they began CPR. Members of the SAR squad arrived and brought down a second IRB and first aid equipment assisting in transporting the patient back to the club. First responders and FENZ arrived on scene and assisted with CPR. Westpac and paramedics arrived and opted to cease resuscitation efforts due to poor prognosis.

Piha 14th December 2024

SurfCom were informed by PMU of a missing person, last seen by family on the water edge in the caves south end of Piha. PUK SAR was activated and an RRR call made on the operations network. Lifeguards launched Two IRB to conduct a search. The first IRB were waved down by bystanders and conducted a rescue near the caves. During which the patient was being supported by a surfer. During the attempted patient pick up the crewman exited the boat to ensure patient safety. The second IRB assisted with the remainder of the rescue supported by the RWC. The patient was given O2 and referred to a medical centre. The patients' name did not match that of the police tasking, so lifeguards continued searching. Later it was established that the person rescued did match the description of the person missing and no one was outstanding. Lifeguards were stood down.

WAIKATO

Raglan 1st December 2024

A MOP advised Raglan lifeguards that a boat had flipped on the Raglan Bar and there were two patients in the water. Lifeguards sent two IRBs to respond to the incident, and they were successful returning them to shore. Where they navigated not only challenging conditions on the bar but also debris including fishing line, rope, jerry cans and chilly bins. Coastguard co-responded and confirmed there were three people in the water and one person was still outstanding and believed to be trapped under the flipped boat. One lifeguard jumped into the water and managed to pull the patient out. All three patients were transported to hospital in an ambulance. During this incident lifeguards also responded to a kite surfer and boogie boarder in distress. This rescue was recognised at the NZ SAR awards, receiving a gold award.

NORTHLAND

Ruakākā 11th January 2025

A member of the public called Ruakākā Lifeguards and advised them of a person having a medical incident 2km north of Uretiti tip Road. Two lifeguards responded in an ATV taking FA gear with them. When they arrived on scene the patient was visibly unwell then became A paramedic arrived on scene, and the patient began seizing, which resulted in the patient becoming unconscious/unresponsive but breathing. In response O2 was administered, and an OPA was inserted in airway, defib pads were also applied. The patient was placed on a scoop and moved into the Ute to be transported to the ambulance which was waiting at the end of tip road. The ambulance took the patient to the helicopter which had landed in a field nearby. An LSO arrived to support the lifeguards and run a debrief.

Waipū 30th November 2024

Waipū SAR was activated by police to search for a missing 18-year-old female who had been drinking and swimming with friends 200 meters north of the Waipū River Mouth. Waipū SAR responded with a night kit, ATV and two IRBs (one on the water) and searched alongside coastguard and police. They were later stood down in the early hours of the morning. A second response began at 0730 hours. Waipū and Ruakākā SAR continued searching with four IRB's and one RWC. SLS Assets were later stood down. The person was located, and the body was recovered by Coastguard later in the day. An LSO and LDO ran a debrief with all those involved.

Waipū 11th January 2025

A member notified lifeguards of the public that a young female had come out of the water with rapid heart rate and chest pain. The patient was taken to the first aid room and assessed by Lifeguards and an off duty GP. This person had a known history of heart problems. During this incident a MOP notified lifeguards of a male on the beach having a medical event. This patient was unresponsive and had struggled breathing. Paramedics were redirected from the club to assist the person who then began seizing in front of lifeguards and paramedics. The lifeguard assisted the paramedic in administering CPR until the patient regained breathing. A bag mask and OPA was utilised. The ambulance departed with the male patient and the female patient returned home with a family memoir. Two LSOs and Peer Support on scene to assist in debrief.



BP RESCUE OF THE YEAR BETHELLE'S BEACH



BETHELLE'S BEACH SURF LIFE SAVING PATROL FOR THEIR RESCUE IN FEBRUARY 2025.

In early February, two fishermen were rescued from the blowhole at O'Neills Bay in a high-risk, complex operation led by Bethells Beach surf lifeguards and their SAR squad. With challenging two-metre-plus surf, an incoming tide, fading light, and no safe access for an IRB, the team deployed rescue swimmers and a rescue watercraft to extract the men—one of whom was unconscious with head injuries and hypothermia.

The operation showcased exceptional teamwork, communication, and decision-making under pressure. Lifeguards maintained continuous dynamic risk assessments and expertly coordinated with the Westpac rescue helicopter via emergency channels to time the extractions. Patients were transferred to an IRB offshore and brought to safety, then handed over to ambulance services for further treatment.

Led by a skilled incident controller, the response involved seamless coordination between multiple SAR assets, clear role allocation, and outstanding patient care—including support for the informant. Without this professional and timely response, the outcome could have been tragic. This rescue is a testament to the bravery, training, and preparedness of the Bethells Beach lifeguard team.

YAMAHA CLUB OF THE YEAR OMAHA BEACH



OMAHA BEACH SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Omaha Beach Surf Life Saving Club has had a standout year, demonstrating that with intentional focus and community spirit, a small club can achieve big things. The club has grown across all areas, with notable increases in lifeguard, patrol support, powercraft, instructor, and first aid awards. Their strong refresher numbers reflect a high level of member retention and engagement.

Omaha's presence is felt across the region, actively participating in pool, beach, IRB, and junior surf sporting events. Their junior surf programme continues to thrive, with participation up 14% from the previous season.

With a clear focus on member development, retention, and succession planning, Omaha is building a sustainable and inclusive future. Their efforts are beginning to show—and this award is a testament to their progress, passion, and impact. Congratulations, Omaha!

TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES COACH OF THE YEAR



SHANE EDWARDS SUNSET BEACH

Shane has shown exceptional leadership in developing Sunset Beach's IRB training program, mentoring coaches, and building a winning team culture.

His expert preparation helped the New Zealand Black Props defend their 2024 World Lifesaving Championship title and led Sunset Beach to win the World Interclub IRB Championship. Shane's program is recognized nationally and internationally, and his focus on member retention and junior coach development has strengthened the club's success across regional, national, and international competitions.

DEVELOPING SURF OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR



KAREN BUCHAN MAIRANGI BAY

Karen has confidently stepped up since earning her level 2 certification in October 2024.

She has become the go-to expert for liveheats at events, skillfully handling any issues or questions. Dedicated to continuous learning, Karen is committed to mentoring new officials in the future.



AON SURF SPORT OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR



MICHELLE NEWTON RED BEACH

Michelle is an outstanding surf sport official whose professionalism, leadership, and tireless dedication have made her an invaluable contributor at every level of the sport.

She is known for her versatility—seamlessly moving between arenas and disciplines, excelling both on the beach and behind the scenes in administration and support roles.

Michelle regularly mentors others, leads admin at major regional and national events including oceans '25 and the NZ IRB and pool rescue championships, and was appointed arena referee and admin lead at the 2024 NZ championships. Her appointment to officiate at the lifesaving world championships on the gold coast is a testament to her skill and dedication.

Michelle's adaptability, broad expertise, and willingness to support wherever needed make her a truly deserving award recipient.





SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES AWARDS



DEAN MADDAFORD – BETHELLE BEACH **BP OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES**

In his 16th year as SAR coordinator, Dean led all nine SAR incidents at Bethells Beach and introduced a new leadership structure emphasising professional training and the CIMS model. He mentors new members, fosters strong local and interagency partnerships, and improves communication systems with SLSNZ. Dean also leads IRB training in tough conditions, making a lasting impact on the club and region.



BTHELLS BEACH SLSP **SEARCH AND RESCUE SQUAD OF THE YEAR**

The Bethells Beach SLSP squad made great strides in the 2024-25 season, earning SLSP Rescue of the Month twice. Their specialist training, including low-light operations, was put to the test during a real rescue with police eagle support. The squad demonstrated advanced lifeguarding skills in a complex double rock rescue at O'Neills Bay, showcasing expert craft handling, navigation, first aid, and radio communication. They also hosted a highly professional SAREX training at Anawhata, involving multiple agencies. The squad maintains a rescue-ready state with a strong culture focused on safety, well-being, and continuous improvement.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT





TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

FY25 outcomes demonstrate consistent training and examination numbers across all award types. Clubs effectively scheduled their training programmes in alignment with the examination calendar. Despite these positive trends, instructor and examiner availability remains a challenge for some clubs. This ongoing resource challenge is impacting the ability to provide clear development pathways for members, which in turn poses a risk to member engagement and retention. Addressing this issue will be critical to ensuring long-term sustainability and growth in capability across the organisation.

Surf Lifeguard & Patrol Support Exams:

A committed group of instructors and examiners were instrumental in the successful delivery of lifeguard qualifications throughout the season. Their efforts enabled 263 candidates to achieve the Surf Lifeguard Award, while an additional 27 members attained the Patrol Support Award.

IRB Exams:

The IRB training and examination programmes also delivered strong outcomes. A total of 81 new IRB Drivers qualified, and the IRB Crewpersons Module continued to attract high interest among newly qualified lifeguards. This pathway remains a popular entry point into advanced lifeguarding roles, with 150 members gaining their IRB Crew Award.

Rescue Water Craft (RWC) Exams:

Training and development in the Rescue Water Craft space also experienced continued growth. As more clubs recognise the operational value and versatility of this asset, the number of qualified operators has steadily increased. During the reporting period, 29 RWC Drivers qualified, and 61 existing operators successfully completed refresher assessments to maintain their operational status.

Intermediate Lifeguard School:

After absence in recent years from the training calendar, the Intermediate Lifeguard School made a strong comeback. This year, the school was held in two key locations, Waipū and Raglan, to ensure accessibility for as many young lifeguards as possible. The Intermediate Lifeguard School is designed to support junior lifeguards in developing the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to progress in their lifeguarding journey. The programme offers a dynamic blend of theory and practical sessions, enabling participants to learn through a variety of real-world scenarios and hands-on experiences. Across the two events 38 young lifeguards attended.

First Aid:

Northern Region continued to provide essential First Aid training through regionally coordinated courses. Due to high demand and growing popularity, additional courses were added to the calendar to ensure all interested participants could be accommodated.



Qualifications and Training Delivered	YE2023	YE2024	YE2025
Intermediate Guard School	1	0	2
IRB Crew Module	23	17	15
IRB Drivers Exam	8	10	9
IRB Instructor Development Workshop	1	0	1
Instructor Training Course	1	2	2
Patrol Captains Course	1	3	5
RWC Exam	4	6	7
Surf Lifeguard Award (SLA) Beach Exams	20	21	17
Surf Lifeguard Award (SLA) Pool Exams	17	34	27
Regional First Aid Course	1	9	7



COMMUNITY EDUCATION







ANNUAL REPORT 2024–25 COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Kaitaia ↑

Whangārei Heads

Ruakākā

Waipū Cove

Mangawhai Heads

Pakiri

Omaha Beach

Great Barrier Island

Red Beach

Long Bay

Mairangi Bay

Waiheke Island

Muriwai
Bethells Beach

Narrow Neck Beach

Kohimarama

Piha

Sunset Beach

Raglan



Beach Education

Through FY25, Beach Education continued to be the cornerstone of our community outreach, drawing thousands of eager young learners and their whānau to the shoreline. Across 105 sessions, over 5,900 students and nearly 2,000 adults immersed themselves in surf safety, coastal awareness, and hands-on learning — all delivered with passion and precision by our dedicated instructors.

But the season wasn't without its challenges. With surf club rebuilds limiting venue availability and schools grappling with transport costs and staffing shortages, we often found ourselves navigating logistical hurdles. The absence of a cancellation policy for funded bookings meant that last-minute dropouts had a real financial impact, stretching our resources thin.

Despite this, the programme thrived. Our team adapted quickly, maintaining high standards and ensuring every session was meaningful. Looking ahead, we're exploring new ways to scaffold learning across year levels, introduce refundable booking bonds, and offer Surf to School as a flexible alternative in regions like Northland. With targeted funding, especially for low Equity Index schools, we can ensure that every child — regardless of background — has the chance to learn safely by the sea.



Surf to School

Surf to School emerged this year as a quiet hero — a nimble, low-resource programme that reached nearly 5,000 students across 26 schools. Delivered across Terms 4, 1, and 2, it offered a lifeline to schools unable to commit to full-day beach excursions, bringing surf safety directly into classrooms and school halls.

The programme's flexibility was its greatest strength. It allowed us to extend our reach, retain seasonal staff longer, and offer continuity in education. Yet, behind the scenes, our team wrestled with manual bookings, repetitive delivery formats, and the need for more structured content.

We're now working to streamline the process — digitising bookings, simplifying onboarding, and developing modular content that can be tailored to different age groups. By encouraging off-peak term bookings and securing funding for equitable access, Surf to School is poised to become a year-round pillar of our education strategy.



Coastal Nippers

Coastal Nippers brought the joy of surf safety to tamariki aged 5–12, offering a playful yet powerful introduction to the ocean's rhythms. From Waiheke Island to Tutukākā, 113 children took part in sessions that blended fun with foundational skills, supported by partners including MERC and North Coast Board Riders.

However, the programme faced its share of setbacks. Water quality issues forced the cancellation of Mairangi Bay's sessions, and short planning windows made regional delivery a logistical puzzle. With funding often secured at the eleventh hour, our team had to work miracles to make it happen.

Still, the impact was undeniable. Children left with smiles, stories, and a deeper respect for the sea. To build on this success, we're developing contingency plans, extending the delivery window, and formalising partnerships to ensure Coastal Nippers can thrive — not just survive — in the seasons ahead.

Secondary School Programmes

For our rangatahi, especially Māori and Pasifika students, the Secondary School Programmes offered something rare: real-world learning in coastal environments that felt relevant, empowering, and deeply engaging. With 87 students across two courses, and more planned for the off-season, we saw firsthand how surf safety can become a vehicle for confidence, leadership, and connection.

These programmes are complex to deliver — tide-dependent, safety-intensive, and often costly for schools outside central areas. Instructor availability during peak season also posed a challenge. Yet the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with students and teachers alike calling for more.

We're responding by pre-scheduling delivery windows, integrating Paid Lifeguards for safety support, and refining the structure to maximise hands-on learning. With online booking and external funding, we aim to expand to more schools next year, ensuring that every young person has the chance to learn, lead, and grow by the coast.





Events

Our presence at community events this year was both vibrant and strategic. At the NZ Indian Auckland Wellbeing Expo, over 700 attendees engaged with our stall, while MERC's Sea Day saw 224 students dive into interactive water-based sessions. These events allowed us to connect with diverse communities, share our message, and showcase the power of surf safety education.

Yet, summer weekends stretched our staffing thin, and clashes with Surf Life Saving events made scheduling tricky. High stall fees and limited promotional resources added further pressure.

To meet these challenges, we're building weekend resourcing capacity, prioritising events that align with our goals, and developing engaging, low-cost stall materials. With clearer internal ownership and shared delivery models, we're ready to make our event presence even more impactful in the year ahead.

Strategic Priorities for 2025/26

1. **Workforce Development** – Earlier recruitment, fixed-term roles, leadership pathways, and expanded instructor pool.
2. **Programme Refinement** – Scaffolded learning pathways, clear differentiation between programmes, and standardised delivery resources.
3. **Funding Stability** – Secure multi-year funding to sustain and expand regional and low-equity delivery.
4. **Operational Improvements** – Streamlined bookings, improved school communications, and strengthened contingency plans for environmental disruptions.
5. **Off-Season Expansion** – Increase Term 2–3 delivery to improve staff retention, balance workloads, and broaden student access year-round.

MEMBER SERVICES





2024-25 MEMBER SERVICES SEASON OVERVIEW

This season, the Member Services team saw growth with the employment of two Club Development Officers (JD Daniels and Gabriella de Latour) to ensure that Northern Region clubs are provided with extra support within the Club Capability space.

This season marked another positive year following the continued impacts of Covid-19 and past weather events. Notably, the successful delivery of the Junior Regional Championships. This season marked the first time in recent years where the event ran without disruptions from weather or Covid-19, marking a positive milestone for event stability.

While successes were evident, challenges persist in the Event Lifeguarding Space and club-supplied officials, posing potential risks to overall event delivery mechanisms if not promptly addressed. Additional resources and strategies are already being explored to mitigate these challenges effectively.

Another year of growth was achieved in member and volunteer development initiatives, evidenced by a notable influx of Wāhine on Water events with four events being delivered across the season alongside three Wāhine in Lifesaving Workshops providing more opportunities for wāhine in our region to upskill in inclusive environments.

This season also saw the successful delivery of all three pillars of the Buddy Lucas Leadership Program. Feedback from participants underscored the significant benefits derived from these programs, with gratitude extended to Denis Black for continuous support enabling the provision of unique and valuable opportunities for volunteers.

Overall, the 2024-25 season demonstrated meaningful progress and momentum across a range of member services initiatives, reflecting the SLSNR community's enduring commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. As we look ahead, addressing key challenges and leveraging emerging opportunities will remain central to driving sustained success.

Special acknowledgment is extended to the volunteer committees, advisory groups, and dedicated volunteers whose contributions are fundamental to the success of events and courses.



EVENTS: PARTICIPATION AND BREAKDOWNS

Overview

Event delivery is a key retention tool used by our clubs and the region. Deliverables within this space provide opportunities to develop skills, interact with peers and establish relationships, with the ideal outcome of enabling long term membership.

A key highlight this season was the successful delivery of the Junior Regional Championships—the first time in recent years the event ran without disruptions from weather or COVID-19, marking a positive milestone for event stability.

A special highlight was hosting the Trans-Tasman series, where NSW Country emerged victorious. While unseasonal swell conditions restricted competition to the east coast, the event was well-executed.

Operationally, the season presented challenges in securing sufficient event lifeguards and club-supplied officials, highlighting an area for improvement in future planning and resourcing.

Event Insights

The season saw a total participation of 3,295 athletes, reflecting a 5.95% increase from the previous year. This included 1,534 junior surf participants and 1,473 senior surf participants, demonstrating strong engagement across both age groups.

Unfortunately, the second day of the Senior & IRB Regional Championships was significantly impacted by adverse weather and large swells, leading to the cancellation of most scheduled events. Despite this setback, a total of 21 events were successfully delivered throughout the season.

Gender participation remained balanced, with a 50% male-female split, reinforcing the inclusive nature of the sport.

Challenges

The season presented a range of challenges that impacted event operations and delivery. A key issue was the limited availability of officials, which placed pressure on scheduling and coverage of arenas. Additionally, there was a need to better understand the current capability of event volunteers to ensure roles were appropriately assigned. On-beach communication proved difficult at times, affecting coordination. Practical concerns such as provision of food, sunblock and shade were also noted, as they directly influenced the wellbeing of event attendees. There were gaps in the understanding of the safety hierarchy among Arena Referees and Officials which pose potential risks that will be addressed moving forwards.

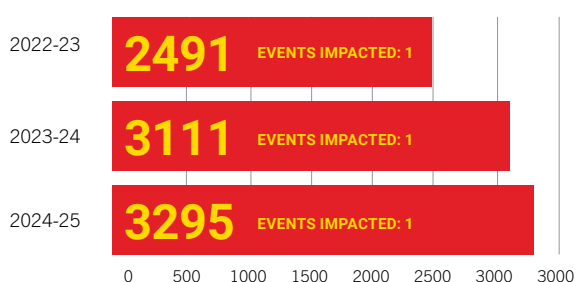
An increasing challenge throughout events this year was managing the presence of parents in the arenas, which often disrupted the flow of events. Official development has again been a challenge this season along with the complexities around composite teams and inconsistencies in ski judging.

Next Steps

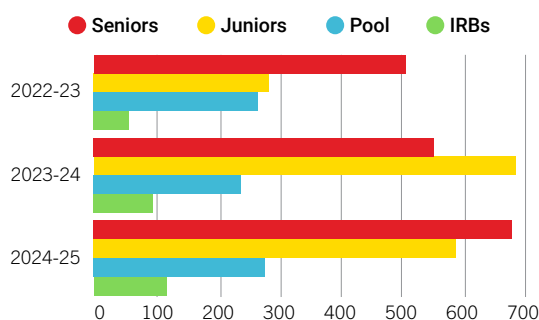
The following have been identified as key areas to focus on for the 2025-26 season to ensure that we are creating better event experiences for our membership.

- Streamline the Official Availability Process,
- Develop an informative Official's database,
- Formalise templates for key processes (e.g. briefings),
- Identify and develop people for Event Safety Officer (ESO) roles,
- Design and implement a structure to increase development support to key volunteers,
- Shift the narrative of Officials from a requirement to a positive,
- Ensure event delivery is within the capacity and capability of people resources.

Event Participation Totals By Year



Event Participation Totals By Discipline



VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT

Surf Officials

A total of 117 Officials were called upon from across 12 clubs to deliver our Northern Region events. These officials completed 2531 hours on beaches and poolside this season. These statistics show that a huge amount of amazing work is occurring within our region, however this season we were still presented with availability issues. This directly impacted several events this season. This season we continued the delivery of the online pre-learning component of the surf officials course, followed by a two hour in person practical component. Two courses were delivered with a total of 18 participants.

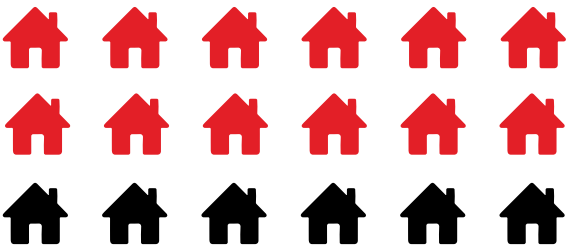
Key challenges included identifying suitable timing within an already clustered calendar, limited willingness to travel short distances, a small pool of facilitators across all education areas (not just sport), and an administratively heavy award structure. This presents a significant barrier and is one of the bottlenecks regions are facing with upskilling members.

Coaching

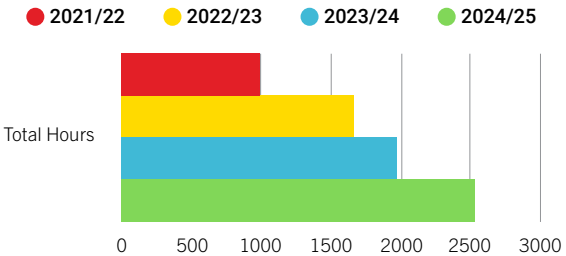
Coach development was limited this season due to the absence of a formal framework or course. However, informal opportunities were offered, including coach observations at athlete development workshops and visits to junior surf clubs, though uptake was low. Membership has expressed a clear desire for more support, and a new national framework is set to launch for the 2025/26 summer.

Surf Officials

SLSNR clubs engaged 12/18



Surf Official Hours





2024 SLSNR Pool Rescue Championships

The two-day event occurred across the 7th - 8th of September 2024 at the National Aquatic Centre in Auckland. The 2024 championships drew an attendance of 220, including 74 Juniors (U14), 87 Seniors (15+), and 16 Masters (30+) competitors. Events mimic rescue situations, with competitors having to swim through obstacles and carry manikins to complete their events. Further events like the Under 10 Royale, Pool Rescue Short Course, and Long Course events provided learning opportunities before the Pool Rescue Championship events. At the completion of the event Red Beach came away on top with a total of 713 points, Piha in second with 389 points, and Muriwai in third place with 326.



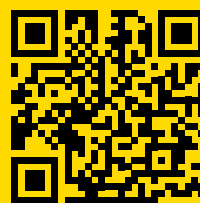
Scan the QR code
for results.



NORTHERN REGIONAL **JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

2025 SLSNR Junior Championships

After the 2022/23 and 2023/24 seasons were disrupted due to Covid-19 and bad weather the 2024/25 season saw the SLSNR Junior Championships successfully being run. The two-day event occurred across the 2nd - 3rd of February 2025 at Ōrewa. The event saw 264 competitors between the ages of 11-14 years, as well as 194 participants in the Under 10 Royale. Muriwai came out on top at the Junior Championships with 335 points, Mairangi Bay in second with 262 points, and Red Beach in third place with 233 points.



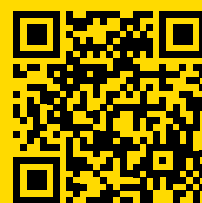
Scan the QR code
for the results.



NORTHERN REGIONAL **CHAMPIONSHIPS**

2025 Northern Region Senior Championships

Held over the 15th – 17th February at Whangamatā Beach, the Northern Region Senior Championships had a slight disruption due to weather conditions, however majority of the event still went ahead. The Senior Championships saw a total of 244 athletes compete in the event, 7 of those from Surf Life Saving Northern Region clubs. The event saw Red Beach take out the event with 532 points, Mairangi came in at second place with 318 points, and Omaha took out third place with 157 points.



Scan the QR code
for the results
from the day.



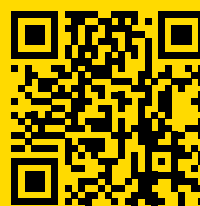
NORTHERN REGIONAL **IRB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

2025 SLSNR IRB Championships

Held over the 15th – 17th February at Whangamatā Beach, the two-day SLSNR IRB Championships attracted 135 competitors from 13 clubs in events that most closely resemble real-world rescue circumstances. Many of those participating within the crews are members of their clubs' Search and Rescue (SAR) squads, with the skills they develop through practice and repetition in a competitive context helping prepare them to be "rescue ready".

Events raced included the IRB Single Rescue, Tube Rescue, Mass Rescue, and the IRB Assembly Race. The Assembly Race requires teams to assemble their boat (within 10 seconds), before proceeding out to sea to pick up their 'patient' (another team member), before returning to shore to complete the event.

The event was won by Sunset Beach Lifeguard Service on 106 points, followed by Bethells in second with 53 points, and Baylys Beach in third with 35 points.



Scan the QR code
for the results
from the day.





DEVELOPMENT & HIGH PERFORMANCE

Overview

The 2024/25 season was a standout year for Northern Region, marked by strong athlete participation, coaching excellence, and national and international representation. From development workshops and youth competitions to high-performance events and international exchanges, our members consistently demonstrated commitment, skill, and leadership. The following summaries highlight the key representative activities and achievements from across the region.

Development Workshops

Pool Workshop Summary:

A two-part workshop was delivered, combining observation of Black Fins training with a practical coaching session led by the Black Fins. Twelve participants attended (7 males, 5 females).

Surf Skills Workshop Summary:

Held at Muriwai, this workshop was led by top Northern senior athletes, including past National Champions and Black Fins. It focused on swim, board, and ski skills. Twenty-five participants attended (13 males, 12 females).

IRB Workshop Summary:

A one-day workshop led by world champions Mark Edwards, Shane Edwards, Hogan Shrimpton, and Caitlin Walker. Thirty participants (17 males, 13 females) from six clubs—Sunset, Muriwai, Bethells, Omaha, Baylys, and Nelson—took part.

U17 Regional Challenge:

Serving as the curtain-raiser to The Invitational, the U17 Regional Challenge featured seven teams from across all North Island regions. Northern Region was represented by two teams, coached by Macy Franich, Dani Richards, Josh Green, and Kees Kramer. Northern White claimed the title, taking out this year’s edition of the event.

The Invitational:

Now in its fifth season, The Invitational continued to offer a high-quality domestic competition representing talent from across the country. This season, 23 Northern Region athletes were drafted—making up 32% of the total draftees—alongside 6 members contributing to coaching and team management roles.

Trans-Tasman

In January, Northern Region hosted teams from Central Coast and NSW Country, with all three groups based together in Long Bay. Unseasonal swell conditions limited competition to east coast beaches of Waipū, Omaha and Ōrewa, where NSW Country ultimately claimed the win. The Northern Region team featured athletes from Red Beach, Ōrewa, Piha, and Mairangi Bay.

National Squad/Team Selection

This season, 27 Northern Region athletes were selected for national squads—an impressive 29% of the total selections. Of those, 12 have been named to represent New Zealand at either the Battle of the Tasman on the Gold Coast or the International Surf Rescue Challenge (ISRC) in Mount Maunganui.

Northern Region also had a strong presence in the Trans-Tasman Surf Boat Series, with Piha A named as the Open Men’s crew, the Red Beach Rabbits as the Open Women’s crew, and the Piha Piranhas as the U23 Women’s crew.

Names of Northern Region Athletes selected in New Zealand High Performance teams and squads can be seen below.

Development/HP	
Development Workshops	67 Workshops Attendance
	9 Clubs Represented
	67 Athletes Selected
	5 Clubs Represented
	5 Clubs Represented
	23 NR Athletes Drafted
	32% NR Athletes in Total Field
National Representation	27 Athletes in NZ HP Programme
	29% NR Athletes in Total Field

NORTHERN REGION INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES 2025

Senior Squad Selection

Amelia Bray	Mairangi Bay
Fergus Eadie	Mairangi Bay
Grant Clancy	Red Beach
James Scott	Ōrewa
Jasper Cornish	Red Beach
Jonathan Swanepoel	Red Beach
Kaiha Gilbertson	Red Beach
Kalani Gilbertson	Red Beach
Laine Creighton	Red Beach
Louis Clark	Mairangi Bay
Michaela Pocock	Mairangi Bay
Olivia Tukia	Piha
Rae Kwan	Ōrewa
Ryder Heath	Mairangi Bay
Sam Brown	Mairangi Bay
Zoe Pedersen	Red Beach
Zoe Crawford	Mairangi Bay

Youth Squad Selections

Abigail Moxon	Mairangi Bay
Caleb Maunder	Mairangi Bay
Josh O'Sullivan	Mairangi Bay
Kayla Alarcon	Mairangi Bay
Isaac Gear	Piha
Anika Pihema	Red Beach
Dylan Blanchard	Red Beach
Grayson Swanepoel	Red Beach
Jordin Fitzpatrick	Red Beach

Oar Blacks Open Women Team Selection

Courtney Younger	Red Beach
Libby Bradley	Red Beach
Jasmine Brake	Red Beach
Courtney Matthews	Red Beach
Tom Jacka	Red Beach

Oar Blacks Open Men Team Selection

Jean-Paul Smit	Piha
Thomas Hanna	Piha
Benjamin Scott	Piha
Paul Gerritsen	Piha
Mark Bourneville	Piha

Oar Blacks U23 Women Team Selection

Molly Brittenden	Piha
Niamh Brittenden	Piha
Tobi Oldham	Piha
Tyler Lovett	Piha
Jean-Paul Smit	Piha

Black Props Worlds Team

Taylor Edwards	Sunset Beach LS
Abigail Chapman	Sunset Beach LS
Bella Perham	Sunset Beach LS
Holly Atkinson	Sunset Beach LS
Shane Edwards	Sunset Beach LS
Mark Edwards	Sunset Beach LS
Hogan Shrimpton	Sunset Beach LS
Alexander de Lautour	Sunset Beach LS

Black Fins Worlds Team

Fergus Eadie	Mairangi Bay
Louis Clark	Mairangi Bay
Rae Kwan	Ōrewa
Zoe Crawford	Mairangi Bay

Junior Black Fins

Issac Gear	Piha
Jasper Cornish	Red Beach
Laine Creighton	Red Beach
Michaela Pocock	Mairangi Bay
Zoe Pederson	Red Beach

2024-25 EVENT ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

Junior, Senior, Pool Rescue & IRB Events	Location	Attendance
Junior Pool Rescue Royale	National Aquatic Center, Albany	112
Pool Run-Through, Short Course	National Aquatic Center, Albany	89
Pool Run-Through, Short Course	National Aquatic Center, Albany	131
Northern Region Pool Rescue Championships	National Aquatic Center, Albany	220
Rangitoto Classic	Takapuna/Rangitoto	96
Long Distance Competition	Ōrewa	65
Auckland All-In (Seniors)	Ōrewa	148
Auckland All-In (Juniors)	Omaha	333
Whangamatā Classic	Whangamatā	360
Whangamatā Classic Boats	Whangamatā	125
The Invitational	Whangamatā	72
U17 Regional Challenge	Whangamatā	70
Trans Tasman 1	Omaha	54
Trans Tasman 2	Waipū Cove	54
Trans Tasman 3	Ōrewa	54
Northland Head to Head (Juniors)	Ruakākā	372
Northland Head to Head (IRB's)	Ruakākā	103
U10 Royale	Ōrewa	194
Northern Region Junior Championships	Ōrewa	264
Northern Region Championship	Whangamatā	244
Northern Region IRB Championships	Whangamatā	135
Total Attendance		3294

Member Development Events	Location	Attendance
Senior Leadership Experience	Raglan, Waikato	10
Youth Development Camp	Motutapu Island	63
California Lifeguard Exchange	California, USA	2
Wāhine on Water Events	Muriwai, Ruakākā, Red Beach	92
Wāhine in Lifesaving Workshops	Muriwai, Ruakākā, Red Beach	80
Total Attendance		247

California ↗



Ruakākā

Waipu Cove

Omaha

Ōrewa

Red Beach

Muriwai

Takapuna/Rangitoto

AUT Millennium

Motutapu Island

Whangamatā

Raglan

JUNIOR SURF REGIONAL NUMBERS & PARTICIPATION

Season Overview

Junior Surf Programs serve as a foundational pathway for cultivating the next generation of club members and lifeguards. This program is essential to ensuring the sustainability and resilience of our clubs.

This season saw a significant transition within the Junior Operations Committee (JOC), with over 50% of members stepping down. While this presented short-term operational challenges, it also provided a valuable opportunity to rebuild the committee with renewed purpose, structure, and strategic direction. Despite this challenge, the JOC is undergoing a positive rebuilding phase, with foundational structures being re-established to support future growth.

Insights

The above graph compares total Junior Surf memberships across the past three seasons, with data pulled from the SLS database. Five clubs within the region experienced growth, being Ruakākā, Omaha, Ōrewa, Karekare, and Kariaotahi. While there was a decrease in the overall Junior Surf numbers, it is noted that some clubs do not input all their members into the SLS database, which also poses a risk.

From a regional perspective, there is growing concern that valuable training content is being developed but cannot be delivered effectively due to a shortage of qualified facilitators and limited availability to run courses. This issue has been identified Nationally, with possible solutions being explored for next season.

Next Steps

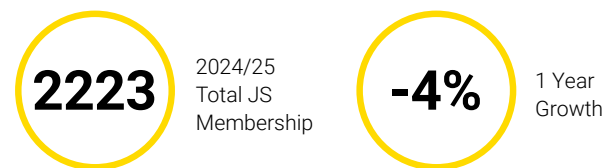
Looking ahead, several key initiatives have been identified to strengthen Junior Surf Operations.

A buddy system will be introduced to pair JOC members with local clubs, supported by a clear strategic plan, committee structure, and seasonal work plan. To improve water safety practices, practical guidelines will be developed for clubs to police vet and approve parents participating in water roles, alongside training and protection measures for those wishing to assist. The JOC will support clubs in implementing these procedures, with a Northern Region-led rollout. Finally, there is need to critically assess and improve current member protection practices to ensure all participants are safeguarded effectively.

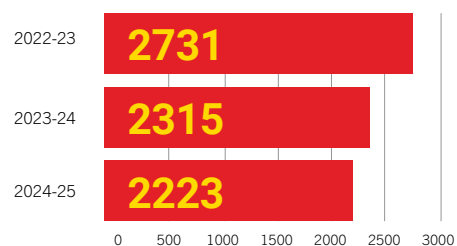
Group Leader Course

The Junior Surf Group Leader Course was rolled out this season. The course is an entry level development opportunity for members interested in taking on more responsibility in supporting delivery or leading Junior Surf sessions. This course was a highlight of the season, with two Group Leader Courses being successfully delivered. There were 35 candidates that completed the programme across the two courses held at Waipū Cove and Muriwai. This was the highest participation number at this course of any region across the country. Across these 35 candidates, six clubs engaged, coming from as far as Far North.

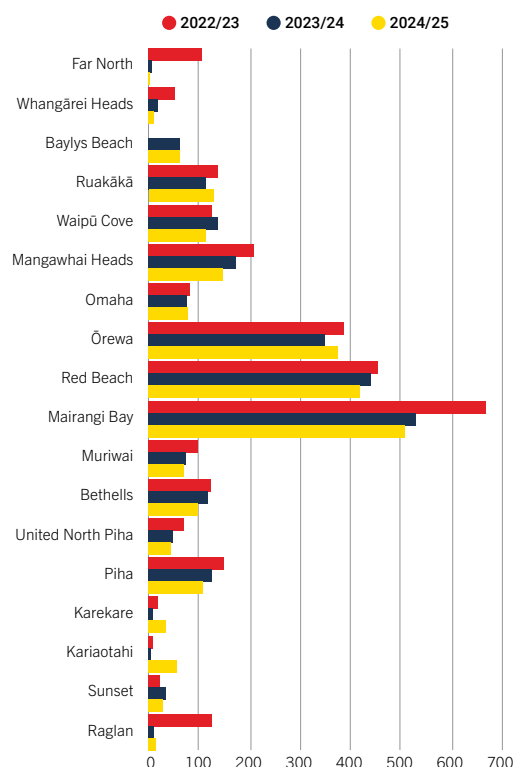
SLSNR Junior Surf Metrics



Junior Surf Membership Trends



Junior Surf Numbers By Club: 2022-2025



ROOKIE FINISHING SCHOOLS

Rookie Finishing Schools & Content Refresh:

The aim of the Rookie Finishing Schools is to show Rookies how their learning is progressing and identify gaps in their knowledge before completing their Surf Lifeguard Award exams. The Rookie Finishing Schools are run as “mock” exams which include a theory test and practical CPR, first aid, radio and signals stations, run-swim-run and tube rescue.

The 2024/25 season saw two Rookie Finishing Schools successfully delivered, hosted at Waipū Cove and United North Piha. Across both events, a total of 65 rookies were welcomed, representing eight different Surf Lifesaving Clubs.

Both events were well received and brought together a diverse group of young members, including not only traditional rookie lifeguards but also several patrol support members who joined in the learning and the fun. This mix of participants prompted valuable discussion around the definition of a “rookie” within the Surf Life Saving Framework.



Rookie Finishing Schools

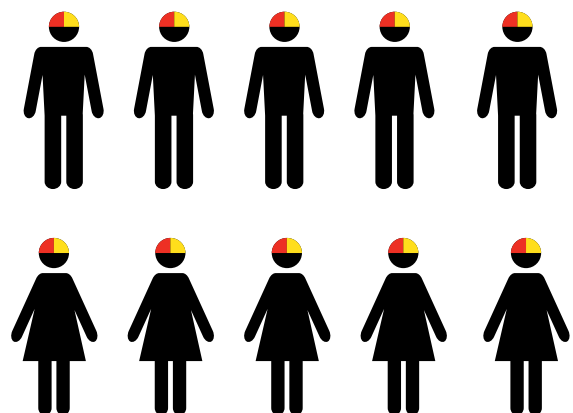
SLSNR clubs engaged 8/18



65

Total Attendance

50/50 Gender Split



CLUB DEVELOPMENT



Buddy Lucas Leadership Program

The 2024/25 season saw all three pillars delivered in full, with the exception of the World Conference on Drowning Prevention due to this being on a two-year cycle. Thank you to our Patron Denis Black for his continued support in these programmes, which without this we would not be able to provide this unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for our volunteers.



California Lifeguard Exchange

This season saw Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) host California Lifeguards Samantha Hall from Seal Beach Lifeguard Department and Nolan Weisser of Newport Beach Lifeguard Department for a six-week Surf Lifeguard exchange. Sam and Nolan visited 15 of the Northern Region Beaches, as well as completing their Surf Lifeguard Award and Rock Module with United North Piha and later their IRB Crewpersons Module and IRB Drivers Awards. These awards allowed Sam and Nolan to fully participate in Surf Lifesaving activities and patrols and gave them a comprehensive experience of lifeguarding in New Zealand.

SLSNR's selection process was completed for 2025 and saw Kyran Gillespie of Baylys Beach, and Judd Redmond of Sunset Beach represent the Northern Region this winter in California. Kyran and Judd's report follows:

The 2025 Exchange was an amazing experience for us as candidates. We would like to thank Denis Black for the generous contributions that made this trip and the associated learnings possible.

We were hosted by 14 different organisations across the state of California, from Santa Cruz in the North down to San Diego in the South.

During the Exchange, we toured lifeguard departments and learned how each beach was patrolled. We spent time in headquarters, dispatch, alongside tower lifeguards making near-constant rescues, riding in beach units responding to incidents, helping to instruct junior guard programmes, training with lifeguards, and patrolling from the surf with the skilled operators of high-powered rescue boats.

California put on a warm welcome for us, and we were shown incredible hospitality by the families we stayed with, and the people we met throughout the six weeks. It was great to be invited into lifeguards' homes and get a real taste of the culture behind each agency. Some highlights were BBQs, social events, and the time we spent getting to know hundreds of lifeguards across the state, continuing to build on the strong connection between lifesaving in New Zealand and California.

Many of our hosts were past exchange lifeguards, including last year's candidates Samantha Hall and Nolan Weisser. Having met Californians touring our clubs over the past decade, it was epic to see so many familiar faces and have such enthusiastic hosts wanting to return the good times they experienced in New Zealand and SLSNR.

Looking ahead to the 2025/26 season, we are both feeling passionate about lifesaving in New Zealand. We look forward to taking leading roles in hosting future delegates and to share the knowledge and experience we've gained for the benefit of our clubs and the wider region.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to be part of the 50-year legacy of this exchange.



World Conference on Drowning Prevention

The World Conference on Drowning Prevention was due to have a member attend in the upcoming 2025/26 season. However, the next few conference locations have been changed and are now not easily accessible to our members. These changes have made Northern Region review the cost versus benefit of sending a member to this conference compared to other opportunities that we could give upcoming leaders within our Region.

Moving forwards the World Drowning Prevention Conference will be replaced with The Central Coast Exchange. This is an exciting new addition to the Buddy Lucas Leadership Program where two lifeguards aged 18-19 years old from Northern Region will get the opportunity to travel to Surf Life Saving Central Coast (SLSCC) in Australia and participate in their U19 Leadership Camp which sees candidates take part in a week long exchange where they attend a four day camp facilitated by SLSCC and experience lifeguarding in Australia. The Exchange will then see two lifeguards from SLSCC, who are alumni of the U19 Leadership Program, travel to New Zealand for a week where they will take part in Northern Region's Senior Leadership Experience which is Pillar Two of the BLLP and experience how we carry out Lifesaving services in New Zealand.

The first exchange will take place in the upcoming 2025/26 season with NR delegates heading over to Central Coast in January 2026 and the Central Coast delegates arriving in New Zealand in April 2026.



Senior Leadership Experience

This season's instalment of the Senior Leadership Experience (SLE) saw ten members across six clubs engage in the three-day experience in Raglan/Waikato region. SLE aims to take members outside of their club context, introduce new leadership theory and pressure test this learning throughout the programme.

This year's programme included members engaging in communication exercises and leadership assessment through practical and theory-based activities. The highlight of the experience was a seven-hour adventure race, where members navigated through the forest completing a series of physical and intellectual challenges. This tested their leadership under pressure and required strong teamwork.

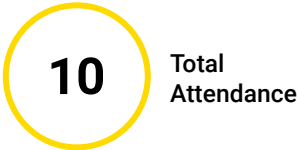
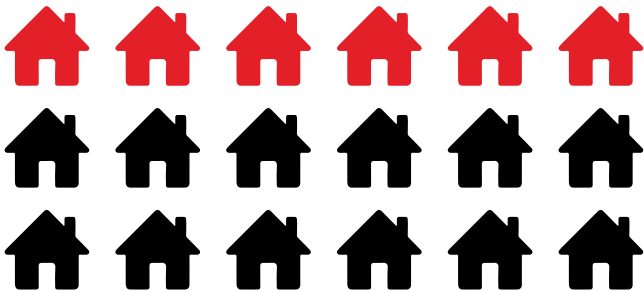
The final day included volunteering at a local farm where members had to identify and remove invasive weeds.

Planning has begun for the delivery of next season's SLE, with the next experience to be held on Motutapu Island with Motutapu Outdoor Education Camp (MOEC).

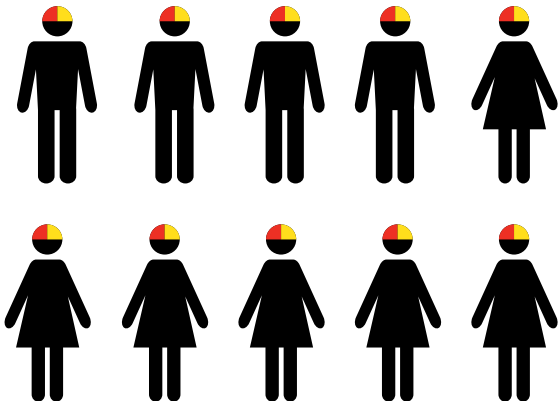
With this year being the third year since SLE was reintroduced the Membership Development Committee (MDC) completed a review process where the mission statement and key goals/outcomes have been adapted to suit the needs of our current and future members. The biggest change so far is that SLSNR has decided to part ways with BigFoot as the external delivery partner of SLE and move to MOEC.

Senior Leadership Experience

SLSNR clubs engaged 6/18



60/40 Gender Split



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Youth Development Camp:

SLSNR delivered another successful Youth Development Camp (YDC) during the 2024/25 season with Motutapu Outdoor Education Camp (MOEC). The Membership Development Committee continues to advance the development of YDC, which aims to empower candidates, develop their leadership skills, encourage them to increase their self-awareness of how to lead and work in groups, and demonstrate effective leadership under pressure. This year, YDC again incorporated a Youth Forum.

This year's camp brought a total of 63 candidates from a diverse range of backgrounds across 27 clubs, with this cohort observing a 60/40 (female/male) gender split. As this is the only opportunity of its kind within New Zealand, there is ongoing interest from outside Northern Region. This year we had 10 out-of-region candidates who were all from 10 different clubs. We had just shy of 100 applicants with 31 of these being out of region applicants. The National demand for YDC is growing quickly and a need for more camps is evident.

This year Poppy Crouch (SLSNZ National Member Development and Engagement Officer), attended YDC to gain a better understanding of the camp. The goal of this trip for Poppy was to see how YDC could look if additional camps were run Nationally. The focus of the camp is about empowering the candidates, gives them an introduction to leadership, encourages them to speak up and increase their self-awareness of how they lead and work in groups as well as how they do this under pressure.

Thank you to this season's instructors: Emma Michel, Nia Lloyd, Amber-Jade Spence, Charlotte Toumadj, Olivia Kayes, Toby Smeets, Carwyn Thomas and Annielle Ryland-Higgins. A special thank you goes to Mary Duff and Conor McDermott, the camp's head instructors.

Youth Forum:

This season the Youth Forum was once again held during the Youth Development Camp, capitalising on having key voices in this difficult to engage demographic all in the same space. The Youth Forum continues to be a key opportunity to allow YDC candidates to share their experiences and views on the organisation. We continued to share with this season's candidates the actions that have been taken based on feedback provided in past years, to highlight that feedback is taken seriously and to encourage greater engagement from participants.

The forum this year aimed to gain insights from the group by asking them to identify barriers, solutions, what might encourage people their age to join the surf lifesaving movement, what are the positives within surf lifesaving, what are some new initiatives Surf Life Saving could deliver and as an organisation, what can we start doing, stop doing, and keep doing. Candidates provided insightful ideas to all questions through an interactive exercise in smaller groups and a deep dive discussion as one group. Several themes from previous years were also identified this year however, some new themes included:

- More Search and Rescue (SAR) related opportunities for youth guards.
- Engaging with schools for all age groups through Surf to School and alternative opportunities such as school mufti days, career expos to raise awareness of Surf Life Saving.

All possible ideas/actions from the Youth Forum will be investigated.

63

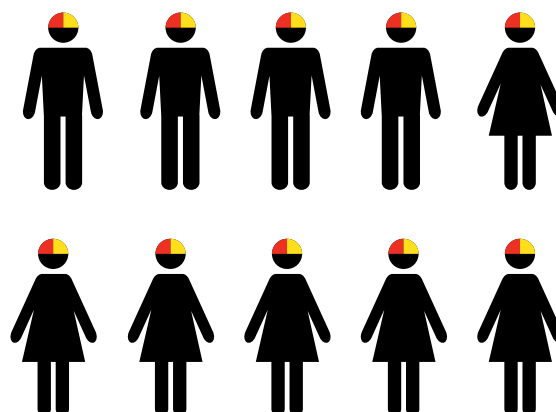
YDC
Attendance

Youth Development Camp

SLSNR clubs engaged 17/18



60/40 Gender Split





WĀHINE ON WATER

Traditionally, Wāhine on Water has been a programme aimed at encouraging more females to take part in powercraft operations throughout the country. This season Northern Region significantly expanded the delivery of the Wāhine on Water program by hosting four events across three locations with different focus areas within Surf Lifesaving.

These included:

- Muriwai – Surf Swimming Skills & Rock Skills
- Ruakākā – IRB Operations
- Red Beach – Rescue Board Skills
- Muriwai – IRB Operations

While we had also planned to deliver an RWC Wāhine on Water event, unfortunately, it could not proceed due to insufficient participant numbers. However, those who showed interest were given alternative opportunities to upskill. Across these four events, we were able to capture 92 wāhine. Fourteen clubs were represented at these workshops across 92 candidates.

Wāhine in Lifesaving Workshops

This season the Female Leadership Network was renamed to Wāhine in Lifesaving workshops so that a wider range of topics could be covered and to remove the expectation that you must be a “leader” to attend. On the back of this change, Northern Region delivered three workshops across three different locations, capturing 80 participants (majority female). These included:

- Ruakākā – Fostering great female leaders (Katie Pocock)
- Red Beach – The Tough Stuff Workshop (Kylie Ryan)
- Muriwai – Women in Sport Aotearoa (Merran Brockie-David)

These workshops enabled participants to learn about a variety of topics that would help them in their leadership journey within Surf Lifesaving and in their personal lives. Participant feedback has shown that participants enjoyed connecting with others, hearing from professionals in their respective fields, and learning how to inspire the next generation.



Wāhine on Water

4	EVENTS DELIVERED
92	WĀHINE ATTENDED
14	CLUBS REPRESENTED

Wāhine in Lifesaving Workshops

3	EVENTS DELIVERED
80	PARTICIPANTS
14	CLUBS REPRESENTED

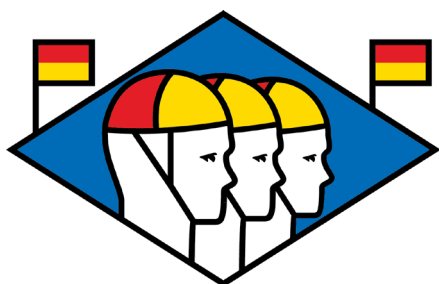


FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following pages contain the exact reprint of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025, page numbered 1 to 20.







SURF LIFE SAVING[®]
N O R T H E R N R E G I O N

Surf Life Saving Northern Region Incorporated
General Purpose Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

Contents

Directory	2
Independent Auditor's Report	3 - 4
Statement of Service Performance	5 - 6
Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses	7
Statement of Changes in Equity	8
Statement of Financial Position	9
Statement of Cash Flows	10
Accounting Policies and Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 20



SURF LIFE SAVING®
NORTHERN REGION

Directory
As at 30 June 2025

Purpose of the Society:	To be the lead provider of water safety services, working to prevent drowning and injury in our community.
Nature of activities:	Provision and administration of life guarding activities, community education and sporting programmes within the northern region of the North Island in New Zealand.
Address	3 Solent Street, Mechanics Bay, Auckland
Independent Auditor:	BDO Auckland
Bankers:	ASB Bank Limited
Solicitors:	Bell Gully
Charities Commission:	CC21256
Incorporated Society:	222108
Board Members	Michael BARKER (Chair, appointed 25th July 2024) Kelvyn EGLINTON Vanessa WINNING (resigned 15th May 2025) Donna MAXWELL (appointed 15th May 2025) Stephen FISHER Zachary FRANICH
CEO:	Stephen FISHER

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF SURF LIFE SAVING NORTHERN REGION INCORPORATED**

Opinion

We have audited the general purpose financial report of Surf Life Saving Northern Region Incorporated (the "Society"), which comprises the financial statements on pages 7 to 20, and the statement of service performance on pages 5 to 6. The complete set of financial statements comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in net assets/equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying general purpose financial report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- the financial position of the Society as at 30 June 2025, and its financial performance, and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the statement of service performance for the year ended 30 June 2025, in that the service performance information is appropriate and meaningful and prepared in accordance with the Society's measurement bases or evaluation methods,

in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime ("PBE Standards RDR") issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)) and the audit of the statement of service performance in accordance with the ISAs (NZ) and New Zealand Auditing Standard 1 (NZ AS 1) (Revised) *The Audit of Service Performance Information (NZ)*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Society.

The Directors' Responsibilities for the General Purpose Financial Report

The Directors are responsible on behalf of the Society for:

- a) the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and statement of service performance in accordance with PBE Standards RDR;
- b) the selection of elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and measurement bases or evaluation methods that present a statement of service performance that is appropriate and meaningful in accordance with PBE Standards RDR;

- c) the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of service performance in accordance with the Society's measurement bases or evaluation methods, in accordance with PBE Standards RDR;
- d) the overall presentation, structure and content of the statement of service performance in accordance with PBE Standards RDR; and
- e) such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements and statement of service performance that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the general purpose financial report the Directors are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole, and the statement of service performance are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate or collectively, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this general purpose financial report.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the general purpose financial report is located at the XRB's website at <https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards/assurance-standards/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-14-1/>

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Who we Report to

This report is made solely to the Society's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and the Society's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

BDO AUCKLAND

BDO Auckland
Auckland
New Zealand
12th August 2025

Statement of Service Performance For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

Our purpose:

Surf Life Saving Northern Region's (SLSNR) primary purpose is to ensure safe beach experiences for our communities through the provision of lifesaving services, beach education, and coastal aquatic rescue. SLSNR coordinates these activities through 18 clubs, operating from Raglan north to Cape Reinga on the west coast, and back down the east coast to Auckland. Whilst most of our services can be found within these club locations, increasingly our services are being called on to assist in new and emerging locations and environments, including disaster response and Search and Rescue (SAR).

SLSNR plays a central role in leading, coordinating, and supporting our member volunteer surf lifesaving organizations. Our services encompass beach safety, patrolling, patrol management, search and rescue, emergency response, public education, and sport and recreation activities. We also offer professional shared services to member clubs and collaborate with external stakeholders to negotiate current and future service delivery in consultation with clubs. One Statement of Service Performance has been presented to cover the SLSNR and the clubs on the basis the primary aims and objectives of both are aligned.

Our services are all directed towards outcomes that reduce drowning and injuries on Northland, Auckland and Waikato's beaches:

- 1 We provide dedicated support and best practice guidelines to member clubs, ensuring sustainable growth, volunteer management, and necessary resources for a safe lifeguard service.
- 2 A full-time coastal lifesaving delivery framework covers patrolling services at fourteen locations, event safety, and emergency response and management.
- 3 Community education programs focus on reaching at risk audiences including school-age children (focus on low decile schools), recent migrants, coastal communities, aquatic users (surfers, rock-fishers); offering water safety skills both at patrolled and unpatrolled locations, as well as urban environments.
- 4 We offer volunteer-run sport and recreation programs, from Competitive Lifesaving to junior surf carnivals and high- performance events, promoting member attraction, retention, and youth development.
- 5 We engage in long-term planning for future service delivery and stakeholder relations, focusing on local government, mana whenua land trusts, and pre-Surf Life Saving entities with a demand for surf lifesaving services.

Our outcome:

During the year we provided the following services:

- Paid lifeguard services to Northland, Auckland and Waikato regions.

	2025	2024
Number of Paid Lifeguard hours to the 3 regions	34,355	33,492

The above represented actual paid hours to lifeguards rostered at the 3 main regions that have been processed by our payroll system.

- Community education

	2025	2024
Beach education, number of participants	5,937	7,602
Surf to School, number of participants	4,974	2,478
City Nippers, number of participants	113	231

Our 3 main community education comprised beach education, Surf to School and City Nippers. Total participants to all 3 categories were 11,024 (2024: 10,311). Both Beach Education and Surf to School programs were managed by SLSNZ and the attendance statistics are available via its CRM and billing systems. The City Nippers' attendances were managed by an external company called GameDay.

- Paid membership

	2025	2024
Number of active memberships	5,314	5,433

The number of active memberships reported has been extracted from SLSNZ's CRMS. The data includes primary, secondary and life membership. Membership application for the northern region's clubs is made via SLSNZ's website. A member can become a primary member of the SLSNR, and a secondary member to the NR clubs. A membership of SLSNR and the clubs is counted as single active member for statistical purposes. The amendments to SLSNR's constitution on 27th September 2023 effectively removed the requirement for SLSNR to consolidate the clubs therefore clubs' secondary membership has been excluded from the statistics above.



SURF LIFE SAVING®
NORTHERN REGION

**Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Revenue from Exchange Transactions	7	524,138	373,393
Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions	7	4,750,695	4,703,730
Total Revenue		5,274,833	5,077,123
Cost of Delivery - Exchange Transactions	8	(2,807,152)	(2,755,907)
Gross Surplus		2,467,681	2,321,216
Administrative Expenses		(2,443,248)	(2,443,439)
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	10	24,433	(122,223)
Finance Income	11	105,125	88,372
Net Finance Income		105,125	88,372
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		129,558	(33,851)
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year attributable to equity		129,558	(33,851)

The information contained in the page must be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements on pages 11 to 20



SURF LIFE SAVING®
NORTHERN REGION

**Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025**

	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
	\$	\$
Balance at 30 June 2023	1,607,028	1,607,028
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year		
Deficit for the year	(33,851)	(33,851)
Balance at 30 June 2024	1,573,177	1,573,177
Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense for the year		
Surplus for the year	129,558	129,558
Balance at 30 June 2025	1,702,735	1,702,735

The information contained in the page must be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements on pages 11 to 20



SURF LIFE SAVING®
NORTHERN REGION

Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	12	1,102,027	700,325
Financial Assets	13	667,902	1,007,644
Trade and Other Exchange Receivables	14 (a)	50,859	112,308
Trade and Other Non-exchange Receivables	14 (b)	99,624	-
Current Assets		1,920,413	1,820,277
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	22	292,895	234,948
Non-Current Assets		292,895	234,948
Total Assets		2,213,308	2,055,225
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	15	274,047	288,936
Deferred Income	16	236,526	193,112
Current Liabilities		510,573	482,048
Total Liabilities		510,573	482,048
Equity			
Other Reserves			
Retained Earnings		1,702,735	1,573,177
Total Equity		1,702,735	1,573,177
Total Equity and Liabilities		2,213,308	2,055,225

Approved for and on behalf of the Board on this day:

12th August 2025

Board Member

Board Member

The information contained in the page must be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements on pages 11 to 20



SURF LIFE SAVING®
NORTHERN REGION

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Cash receipts from grants, sponsorships, donations, fees		5,257,160	5,051,964
Payments to suppliers and grant recipients		(5,168,722)	(5,034,104)
Net GST Received / (Paid)		8,782	(22,447)
Interest received		105,125	88,372
Net Cash from Operating Activities		202,345	83,785
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(140,384)	(24,427)
Proceeds from term deposit		339,741	9,748
Net Cash from Investing Activities		199,357	(14,679)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		401,702	69,106
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July		700,325	631,219
Cash and Cash Equivalents at 30 June	12	1,102,027	700,325

The information contained in the page must be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements on pages 11 to 20

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

1. Reporting entity

Surf Life Saving Northern Region Inc. (the Society, SLSNR) is a public benefit entity for the purposes of financial reporting in accordance with the Financial Reporting Act (2013).

The entity is a Society incorporated and domiciled in New Zealand established under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and registered under the Charities Act 2005. The registered office is at 3 Solent Street, Mechanics Bay, Auckland.

SLSNR was established to provide life guarding activities, community education and sporting programmes within the northern region.

2. Basis of accounting

These general purpose financial statements (which comprise the statement of service performance and the financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP). They comply with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (PBE Standards RDR), as appropriate for Tier 2 not-for-profit public benefit entities. For this purpose the Society has designated itself a public benefit entity.

The Society qualifies as a Tier 2 reporting entity as for the current period as it has between \$5 million and \$33 million operating expenditure, and are not publicly accountable.

3. Measurement Basis

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

4. Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (\$), which is the entity's functional currency.

5. Use of judgements and estimates

In preparing these special purpose financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

Judgements

Information about judgements made in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effects on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are included in the following notes:

Note 6	Useful lives and depreciation rates of property, plant and equipment assets
Note 7 & 16	Revenue Recognition non-exchange revenue (conditions vs. restrictions)
Note 20	Related party transactions

6. Significant accounting policies

Set out below is an index of the significant accounting policies, the details of which are available on the pages that follow. The accounting policies have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

- A. Revenue Recognition
- B. Employee Benefits
- C. Grant Expenditure
- D. Finance Income and Finance Costs
- E. Cash and Cash Equivalents
- F. Property, Plant and Equipment
- G. Leases
- H. Taxes
- I. Related Parties
- J. Financial Instruments
- K. Impairment

A. Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Society, and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

The following specific recognition criteria in relation to the entities revenue streams must also be met before revenue is recognised.

Revenue from Exchange Transactions

(i) Sale of goods

Revenue is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownerships have been transferred to the customer, recovery of the consideration is probable, the associated costs and possible return of goods can be estimated reliably, there is no continuing management involvement with the goods, and the amount of revenue can be measured reliably. Revenue is measured net of returns and discounts.

The timing of the transfer of risks and rewards varies depending on the individual terms of the sales agreement.

(ii) User pays

Revenue received from users where members or non members purchase specific services (for example attendance of a lifesaving event) is initially recorded as revenue in advance, and then recognised proportionally on the basis of the value of each session relative to the total value of the purchased services.

Event income including entrance fees are recorded as revenue when the function or event takes place.

(iii) Rendering of services

The Society recognises revenue from rendering of services in proportion to the stage of completion of the transactions at the reporting date. The stage of completion is assessed based on surveys of work performed.

(iv) Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income includes sponsorship given by businesses. Revenue is recognised over the term of the sponsorship contract.

(v) Interest Income

Interest income is accrued using the effective interest rate method. The effective interest rate exactly discounts the estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial assets to that asset's net carrying amount. The method applies this rate to the principal outstanding to determine interest revenue each period.

Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions

Non-exchange transactions are those where the Society receives value from another entity (e.g. cash or other assets) without giving approximately equal value in exchange.

Inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions, other than services in-kind, that meet the definition of an asset are recognised as an asset only when:

- It is probable that the Society will receive an inflow of economic benefit or service potential; and
- The fair value can be measure reliably.

Inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions that are recognised as assets are recognised as non-exchange revenue, to the extent that a liability is not recognised in respect of the same inflow.

Liabilities are recognised in relation to inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions when there is a resulting present obligation as a result of the non-exchange transactions, where both:

- It is probable that an outflow of resources embodying future economic benefit or service potential will be required to settle the obligation, and
- The amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

The following are the specific recognition criteria in relation to the entities non-exchange transactions.

(i) Donations, Legacies and Bequests

Donations, legacies and bequests are recognised as non-exchange revenue upon receipt and include donations from the general public, donations received for specific programmes or services or donations in-kind. Donations in-kind include donations received for services and these are recognised in the statements of comprehensive income and expenses when the service or good is received. Donations in-kind are measured at their fair value as at the date of acquisition, ascertained by reference to the expected cost that would be otherwise incurred by the Society.

(ii) Grant income

Grant revenue includes grants given by other charitable organisations, philanthropic organisations and businesses (predominately class 4 gaming and community trusts). The recognition of non-exchange revenue from grants depends on whether the grant comes with any stipulations imposed on the use of a transferred asset.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

Stipulations that are 'conditions' specifically require the Society to return the inflow of resources received if they are not utilised in the way stipulated, resulting in the recognition of a non-exchange liability that is subsequently recognised as non-exchange revenue as and when the 'conditions' are satisfied.

Stipulations that are 'restrictions' do not specifically require the Society to return the inflow of resources received if they are not utilised in the way stipulated, and therefore do not result in the recognition of a non-exchange liability, which results in the immediate recognition of non-exchange revenue.

The value of in-kind sponsorship comprising various products and services received from sponsors is recorded as revenue and expenditure within the year that the benefit is received.

(iii) Government and Council Grants

Grants received from Government or Councils are non exchange revenue and are therefore recorded during the year they are received. The Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Board's (ARAFB) grant is applied to fund operational expenditure. The Society confirms that all conditions associated with the government grant have been met.

B. Employee Benefits

Short term employee benefits are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid if the Society has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

C. Grant Expenditure

Grant expenditure is recognised once the grant is approved and committed to by both parties. When the Board approves the grants and the approval is communicated to the recipient, who returns a written acceptance, the expenditure is recognised.

D. Finance Income and Finance Costs

Finance income and finance cost include:

- interest income
- interest expense

Interest income or expense is recognised using the effective interest method.

E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and cash at bank, deposits on call and highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

Cash investments with original maturity of greater than three months are classified as financial assets.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

(i) Recognition and measurement

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items. Where an asset is acquired in a non-exchange transaction for nil or nominal consideration the asset is initially measured at its fair value.

Where material parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of property, plant and equipment. Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Subsequent costs are added to the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment when that cost is incurred if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied with the item will flow to the Society, and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance costs are recognised in surplus or deficit.

Capital work in progress is not depreciated until commissioned. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment less their residual value using the straight-line method or diminishing value method over their useful lives, and is recognised in surplus or deficit.

(ii) Depreciation

Depreciation has been calculated to allocate the cost or valuation of assets over their estimated useful lives, at the following rates:

	Straight line
Furniture & Fittings	7% - 36%
Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	6% - 80.4%
Radio Equipment	4% - 50%
Motor Vehicles and Trailers	7% - 30%

Depreciation methods, residual value of assets and useful lives are reassessed annually.

G. Leases

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases.

Payments made under operating leases are recognised in the statements of comprehensive income and expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognised as an integral part of the total lease expense over the term of the lease.

H. Taxes

The entity has charitable status and is exempt from income tax.

I. Related Parties

The Society regards a related party as a person or an entity with the ability to exert control individually or jointly, or to exercise significant influence over the entity, or vice versa. Members of key management are regarded as related parties and comprise the management and directors of the Society.

J. Financial Instruments

The Society initially recognises financial instruments when the Society becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The Society derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred. Any interest in transferred financial assets that is created or retained by the Society is recognised as a separate asset or liability.

The Society derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire.

The Society also derecognises financial assets and financial liabilities when there has been significant changes to the terms and/or the amount of contractual payments to be received/paid.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Society has a legal right to offset the amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

The Society classifies financial assets into the following categories: loans and receivables.

The Society classifies financial liabilities into the following category: Amortised cost.

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value, plus and directly attributable transaction costs.

Subsequent measurement is dependent on the classification of the financial instrument, and is specifically detailed in the accounting policies below.

(i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Loans and receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses. Loans and receivables comprise cash and cash equivalents, cash investments and receivables. Cash and cash equivalents represent highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into a known amount of cash with an insignificant risk of changes in value, with maturities of three months or less.

Any difference between fair value and transaction price of the concessionary loan at initial recognition is recognised as a finance cost in surplus or deficit.

(ii) Amortised cost financial liabilities

Financial liabilities classified as amortised cost are non-derivative financial liabilities that are not classified as fair value through surplus or deficit financial liabilities. Financial Liabilities classified as amortised cost are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Financial liabilities classified as amortised cost comprise trade and other payables.

K. Impairment of non-derivative financial assets

A financial asset not subsequently measured at fair value through surplus or deficit is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event(s) had an impact on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

Objective evidence that financial assets are impaired includes default or delinquency by a counterparty, restructuring of an amount due to the Society on terms that the Society would not consider otherwise, indications that a counterparty or issuer will enter bankruptcy, adverse changes in the payment status of borrowers or issuers in the Society, economic conditions that correlate with defaults or the disappearance of an active market for a security.

(i) Financial assets classified as loans and receivables

The Society considers evidence of impairment for financial assets measured at amortised cost (loans and receivables) at both a specific asset and collective level.

All individually significant assets are assessed for specific impairment. Those found not to be specifically impaired are then collectively assessed for any impairment that has been incurred but not yet identified.

Assets that are not individually significant are collectively assessed for impairment by grouping together assets with similar risk characteristics.

In assessing collective impairment the Society uses historical trends of the probability of default, the timing of recoveries and the amount of loss incurred, adjusted for management's judgement as to whether current economic and credit conditions are such that the actual losses are likely to be greater or less than suggested by historical trends.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Losses are recognised in surplus or deficit and reflected in an allowance account against *loans and receivables* financial assets. Interest on the impaired asset continues to be recognised.

When an event occurring after the impairment was recognised causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through surplus or deficit.

Individual trade receivables that are known to be uncollectible are written off when identified, along with associated allowances. Loans, together with associated allowances are written off when there is no realistic prospect of future recovery and all collateral has been realised or has been transferred to the Society.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

7. Revenue	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
Revenue from Exchange Transactions			
Membership User Pays		343,298	345,983
Other Income		91,340	-
Auckland Council Contracts		89,500	27,410
Total Revenue from Exchange Transactions		524,138	373,393
Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions			
Auckland Regional Amenities Funding		1,975,000	1,897,450
Waikato Regional Council (funding via SLSNZ)	20	106,169	104,600
Northland Regional Council		224,000	224,000
Operating Grants		943,070	914,380
SLSNZ - Crown Funding For Operating Costs	20	700,000	700,000
SLSNZ - Funding For Club Operating Costs	20	36,583	108,178
Sponsorship	20	144,071	149,040
SLSNZ - Fundraising and Sponsorship	20	91,630	81,630
SLSNZ - NZLGB Funding	20	497,329	497,067
Fundraising, Donations and Legacies		32,843	27,385
Total Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions		4,750,695	4,703,730
8. Cost of Delivery - Exchange Transactions			
		2025	2024
		\$	\$
Lifesaving		636,389	624,576
Paid Lifeguard Services		1,826,478	1,707,602
Sports and Recreation		154,629	176,074
Community Education		189,656	247,655
		2,807,152	2,755,907
9. Employee benefit expense			
		2025	2024
		\$	\$
Wages and Salaries		3,023,364	3,078,137
Contributions to Kiwisaver		51,428	54,436
		3,074,792	3,132,573
10. Operating (Deficit) is stated after charging:			
	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
Operating Rental	17	136,082	136,476
Club Distributions		(791)	4,484
Operating & Admin Cost		1,909,086	1,661,317
Audit fees		48,794	74,824
Depreciation Expense	22	82,437	81,494
Employee Benefit Expenses	9	3,074,792	3,132,573
11. Net Finance Income			
		2025	2024
		\$	\$
Interest Income received on bank deposits		105,125	88,372
		105,125	88,372
Finance Expenses		-	-
		-	-
Net Finance Income		105,125	88,372

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

12. Cash and Cash Equivalents	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Bank Balances	1,102,027	700,325
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position and cashflows:	1,102,027	700,325

13. Financial Assets	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Current Financial Assets		
Term Deposits	667,902	1,007,644
Total Current Financial Assets	667,902	1,007,644
Total Financial Assets	667,902	1,007,644

Term deposits are held with various banks and financial institutions. Current term deposits mature within 12 months, and term deposits are placed with interest range of 2.2% to 5.25% per annum (2024: 6.1% to 6.2%).

14 (a). Trade and Other Exchange Receivables	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
Trade Receivables		3,068	25,476
Trade Receivables due from Related Parties	20	15,970	32,101
Prepayments and Other Receivables		31,821	54,731
Total Trade & Other Exchange Receivables		50,859	112,308
Non-current		-	-
Current		50,859	112,308
Total Trade & Other Exchange Receivables		50,859	112,308

14 (b). Trade and Other Non-exchange Receivables	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
Trade Receivables		5,750	-
Trade Receivables due from Related Parties	20	93,874	-
Total Trade & Other Non-exchange Receivables		99,624	-
Non-current		-	-
Current		99,624	-
Total Trade & Other Non-exchange Receivables		99,624	-

15. Trade and Other Payables	Note	2025	2024
		\$	\$
Trade Payables		22,763	95,174
Employee Benefit liability		105,244	67,627
Trade Payables due to Related Parties	20	1,953	5,092
Inland Revenue Payables		34,229	25,447
Accrued Expenses		109,858	95,596
Trade and other payables		274,047	288,936
Non Current		-	-
Current		274,047	288,936
Trade and other payables		274,047	288,936

The fair value of trade and other payables are equivalent to the carrying value.

16. Deferred Income	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Grants - Current	236,526	193,112

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025**

Funding held in deferred income relates to grants which meet the definition of non-exchange transactions per IPSAS 23. At balance date the purpose of these grants has not been fulfilled and where an appropriate condition is attached to the grant in line with IPSAS 23 the unutilised grant is held as income in advance. All grants will be used within 6 months of balance date and are current in nature. The fair value of the grants are equivalent to the carrying value.

17. Operating lease commitments	2025	2024
	\$	\$
i. Future minimum lease payments		
Less than one year	466,876	468,624
Between one and five years	402,188	589,721
More than five years	536,441	324,511
Total Operating lease commitments	1,405,505	1,382,856
ii. Amounts recognised in surplus or deficit		
Lease expense	545,617	496,991
Total Lease expenses	545,617	496,991

SLSNR leases vehicles and photocopiers. The lease commitments stated above included SLSNR premises lease in the Auckland Marine Rescue Centre which was renewed for a lease term of 6 years from 1 June 2024 with a right of renewal on 1 June 2030, and a final expiry date of 31 May 2036.

18. Commitments and Contingencies

Other than lease commitments in Note 17, there are no other commitments as at year end (2024: nil).

Refer to Note 20 in relation to the financial guarantee agreement in place for Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi Incorporated.

19. Subsequent Events

There are no events subsequent to the year end.

20. Related Parties

Key management personnel

The key management personnel are the members of the governing body comprised of the Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and the General Manager.

The Board of Directors do not receive any remuneration or fees, and are reimbursed only for direct and meeting attendance costs.

The Chief Executive Officer's remuneration is paid directly by Surf Life Saving New Zealand.

The SLSNR key management personnel remuneration paid for the year was \$176,144 (2024: \$429,975).

SLSNR was amalgamated into the Surf Life Saving New Zealand on the 1st October 2023. Under the terms of the amalgamation, SLSNR is to remain a separate legal and accounting entity for the foreseeable future.

Other related entities

The NLS Trust was set up by affiliated clubs to SLSNR, with SLSNR having the power to appoint two trustees out of a governing body of up to 7 Trustees. All other NLS Trust trustees are appointed by the trustees themselves. The control of the NLS Trust is with the NLS Trustees only and control does not sit with SLSNR. Any trustee may be removed by Special Resolution of all other trustees. (Deed of Variation)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

Auckland Marine Recue Centre Trust (AMRC Trust) was set up to maintain and administer the AMRC multi user building at 3 Solent Street, Auckland. SLSNR has the ability to appoint a trustee to the AMRC Trust board and is a beneficiary of this trust as an occupant of the building.

2025

Transactions with related parties during the year

	Revenue	Purchases / Distributions	Receivable	Payable
AMRC Trust	-	121,908	-	-
SLSNZ	1,577,535	83,853	109,844	1,953
Bethells Beach	5,600	10,652	-	-
Total	1,583,136	216,412	109,844	1,953

2024

Transactions with related parties during the year

	Revenue	Purchases / Distributions	Receivable	Payable
AMRC Trust	-	133,343	-	4,132
SLSNZ	1,485,536	48,607	30,001	960
Bethells Beach	10,687	8,278	2,100	-
Total	1,496,223	190,228	32,101	5,092

Financial Guarantee

As of 30 June 2025 SLSNR has an agreement with Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi Incorporated whereby SLSNR acts as a guarantor up to \$450,000 in the event of a shortfall in the funding of the construction of the club's life saving facility at Kariaotahi beach. At 30 June 2024 SLSNR has 2 guarantee agreements in place; the first with United North Piha Lifeguard Service Incorporated (UNP) of \$450,000, and the second with Surf Life Saving Kariaotahi Incorporated for \$450,000. The guarantee with UNP has been discharged on 22 July 2024 on the completion of the building project.

21. Financial Instrument Classifications

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Financial Assets	Loans and Receivables	Loans and Receivables
Cash and cash equivalents	1,102,027	700,325
Investments - term deposits	667,902	1,007,644
Receivables	50,859	112,308
	1,820,789	1,820,277

Financial Liabilities	Amortised Cost	Amortised Cost
Trade and Other Payables	274,047	288,936
Loans and borrowings	-	-
	274,047	288,936

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

22. Property, Plant and Equipment

Reconciliation of carrying amount for the year ended 30 June 2025	Furniture & Fittings	Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	Radio Equipment	Motor Vehicles and Trailers	Total
Gross Carrying Amount	442,504	456,352	576,422	170,913	1,646,191
Accumulated Depreciation	330,932	391,588	504,450	126,326	1,353,296
Closing carrying amount 30 June 25	111,572	64,764	71,972	44,587	292,895
Closing carrying amount 30 June 24	11,333	63,187	104,276	56,152	234,948
Add New assets during the year	117,953	22,431	-	-	140,384
Less Disposal	-	-	-	-	-
Less depreciation expense	17,714	20,854	32,304	11,565	82,437
Closing carrying amount 30 June 25	111,572	64,764	71,972	44,587	292,895

Reconciliation of carrying amount for the year ended 30 June 2024	Furniture & Fittings	Rescue Gear, Sports Equip, Inflatable Rescue Boats	Radio Equipment	Motor Vehicles and Trailers	Total
Gross Carrying Amount	210,009	422,071	576,422	181,348	1,389,850
Accumulated Depreciation	198,676	358,884	472,146	125,196	1,154,902
Closing carrying amount 30 June 24	11,333	63,187	104,276	56,152	234,948
Closing carrying amount 30 June 23	16,139	73,898	145,053	56,926	292,016
Add New assets during the year	3,411	10,582	-	10,435	24,428
Less Disposal	-	-	-	-	-
Less depreciation expense	8,217	21,293	40,777	11,209	81,496
Closing carrying amount 30 June 24	11,333	63,187	104,276	56,152	234,948

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

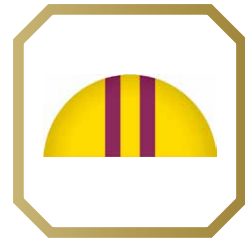
LIFE MEMBERSHIPS



Nick Devcich
Bethells Beach



Andy Shaw
Karekare



Allan Roberts
Muriwai



Bryce Pearce
Muriwai



Shane Armitage
Muriwai



Peter Brown
Piha

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS



Andy Shaw
Karekare



Alex Taylor
Kariaotahi



Andy Kent
Mairangi Bay



Jim West
Mairangi Bay



Tony Sands
Mairangi Bay



David Chambers
Muriwai



Greg Sager
Muriwai

SERVICE AWARDS

SERVICE AWARDS

Member	Club
Sam Teteina	Bethells Beach
Clyde Strickett	Karekare
David Munro	Karekare
Eti Eves	Karekare
Mike Mulcahy	Karekare
Vasali Eves	Karekare
Caylee Cooke	Kariaotahi
Dawn Newson-Adams	Kariaotahi
Peta Martinovich	Kariaotahi
Jono Reshef	Mairangi Bay
Leah Blincoe	Mairangi Bay

Member	Club
Miles Broderick	Mairangi Bay
Brett Hardie	Muriwai
Jason Platt	Muriwai
Jo Cooper	Muriwai
Timothy Draisey	Muriwai
Bernie Lovett	Piha
Wayne Harvey	Raglan
Rod Moratti	Red Beach
Carl Morgan	Sunset
Fiona Gower	Sunset



OUR PEOPLE

Name	Title
Zac Franich	General Manager - Northern Region
Kat Frankcom-Burgess	Executive Assistant
James Lea	Operations Manager
Talia Comp	Member Services Manager
Kenneth Lim	Finance Manager
Chase Cahalane	Lifesaving Manager
Maraea Whiu	Lifesaving Support Officer - Community Education Support Officer
Emma Baker	Lifesaving Support Officer - Paid Lifeguard Coordinator
Cory Harvey	Lifesaving Support Officer - Lifesaving Equipment & Logistics Coordinator
Samantha Larson	Lifesaving Support Officer - Volunteer Administration & Training Coordinator
Wayne Sutton	Training & Development Manager
Annielle Ryland-Higgins	Community Education Manager
Aurion Mead	Coastal Safety Officer
Dan Grant	Sports Manager
JD Daniels	Club Capability Officer - Junior Surf & Event Lifeguards
Gabriella De Latour	Club Capability Officer - Leadership Development
Barbara Leyland	Grants Officer
Linda Freeman	Payroll & Accounts Coordinator

SLSNR Board	Position
Michael Barker	Chair of the Board
Kelvyn Eglinton	Director
Donna Maxwell	Director
Denis Black	Patron

Lifesaving Advisory Group	Position
David Galuszka	Chair
Victoria Mulrennan	
John-Michael Swannix	
Georgia Parker	
Greg Sager	
Shannon Benterman	
Liana Sykes	

Competitive Lifesaving Operations Committee	Position
Dave Shanks	Chair
Wayne Franich	
Michelle Newton	
Simone Spencer	
Rob Mihaljevich	
Taylor Harvey	
Tim Rogers	
Richard Rogers	
Phil Fraser	

Junior Surf Operational Committee	Position
Russell White	Chair
Rod Salt	
Brad Hagstrom	
Ed Hines	
Caitlin Beckett	



Member Development Committee	Position
Caylee Cooke	Chair
Daniel Short	
Alicia McKenzie	
Eva Williams	
Olivia Kayes	
Luke Stockman	
Conor McDermott	

Training Advisory Group	Position
Johnny Clough	Chair
Jackie Grant	
Trevor Keinzley	
Grace Campbell	
Natalie Wilson	
Cory Harvey	
James (Jimmy) Kendrick	
Faron Turner	
Joanne Hobson	

Northern Life Savers Trust	Position
Michael Buck	Chair
Dave Chambers	
Andy Pitcher	
Susanna Stuart	
Scott MacBeth	
John Van Der Boom	
Kate Bushby	
Matt Williams	

Honours & Awards Committee	Position
Joanne Hobson	Chair
Dave Comp	
Ian Godfrey	
Eleanor Mulrennan	
Michelle Newton	

Auckland Marine Rescue Centre Trust	Position
Nik Webb-Shepard	SLSNR Appointed
James Jordan	SLSNR Appointed
Daniel Williams	SLSNR Appointed

2025 SURF LIFE SAVING NORTHERN REGION TOYOTA FINANCIAL SERVICES

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

WINNERS LIST

Award	Member
Junior Coach of the Year	Mathew Mihaljevich & Ethan McKolskey
Outstanding Contribution to Junior Surf	Jason Reid
Rookie of the Year	Tui Reade
Developing Surf Official of the Year	Karen Buchan
Aon Surf Official of the Year	Michelle Newton
Aon Outstanding Contribution to Event Lifeguarding	Finn Jennings
TFS Coach of the Year	Shane Edwards
U14 Sportsman of the year	Dylan Gear
U14 Sportswoman of the year	Summer-Rose Watson
U15 Sportswoman of the Year	Kayla Alarcon
U15 Sportsman of the Year	Caleb Maunder
U17 Sportswoman of the Year	Abigail Moxon
U17 Sportsman of the Year	Jordin Fitzpatrick
U19 Sportswoman of the Year	Zoe Pedersen
U19 Sportsman of the Year	Jasper Cornish
Open Sportswoman of the Year	Zoe Crawford
Open Sportsman of the Year	Fergus Eadie
Aon Team of the Year	Sunset IRBs - Abi Chapman & Taylor Edwards
Supreme Sport Award	Sunset IRBs - Abi Chapman & Taylor Edwards, & Fergus Eadie
Peer Supporter of the Year	Gordon French
Duty Officer of the Year	Kath Manning
bp Contribution to Search and Rescue Services	Dean Maddaford
bp Outstanding Contribution to Powercraft	Eti Eves
Instructor of the Year	Tasha Harvey
Examiner of the Year	Faron Turner
Search and Rescue Squad of the Year	Bethells SAR
DHL Patrol Support of the Year	Hamish Pook
DHL U19 Lifeguard of the Year	Jude Holtzhauzen
DHL Lifeguard of the Year	Daniel Harvey
Volunteer of the Year	Micheal Barker
Paid Lifeguard of the Year	Connor Guest
bp Rescue of the Year	Bethells Feb
Yamaha Club of the Year	Omaha Beach SLSC



2025 SURF LIFE SAVING NORTHERN REGION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



COUNCIL PARTNERS



FUNDING PARTNERS





SURF LIFE SAVING®
NORTHERN REGION



09 303 0663

3 Solent Street, Mechanics Bay, Auckland 1010