

Circular 286:03:20

To: Trainers
Assessors
All Members
Chief Instructors
Area Training & Assessment Officers

Cc: Club Presidents
Area Lifesaving Operations Officers
Club Administrators
LSOC Officers

From: Lifesaving Operations Council Executive

Date: 20 March 2020

Subject: Impact of COVID-19 on Volunteer Training Activities

Action: Communicate the need to suspend training and assessment activities to Members

For additional details on this Circular please contact:
Volunteer Training on 03 9676 6980 or email volunteertraining@lsv.com.au
Circulars are available at www.lsv.com.au/circulars

Key messages:

- It is necessary to suspend Club training and assessment activities until further notice;
- Exemptions can be requested when training is necessary to fulfil emergency service / patrol obligations;
- Cert IV / Assessor up-skill and Training Officer Certificate courses will continue with adjusted delivery.

Key considerations:

Giving due consideration to the latest advice, the LSOC Executive has carefully considered our responsibilities within the provision of training to Members. After much deliberation, the decision has been made to suspend volunteer training and assessment activities, effective from Monday 23rd March (inclusive). When making this difficult decision, key considerations included:

- The inability to achieve the social distancing recommendations made by Government (17th Mar), which impact various training and assessment activities associated with Aquatic Rescue and Powercraft related courses.
- The recommendations of the Australian Resuscitation Council (19th Mar) that "routine first aid and resuscitation courses should be postponed until the current COVID-19 pandemic has abated".

Exemptions:

As part of our obligation as an emergency service organisation, Clubs will be able to submit an exemption request to volunteertraining@lsv.com.au when essential training is necessary to fulfil an emergency service / patrol obligation. A simple 'Volunteer Training - Delivery Exemption Form' will be developed in the next few days and placed on the i) Volunteer Training and ii) Health Alert sections of the LSV website.

When requesting an exemption, Clubs should give consideration to operational requirements, timeliness, ability to meet Government recommended risk mitigants and broader member health implications and are encouraged to contact micaah.spedding@lsv.com.au or andy.dennis@lsv.com.au for further guidance.

The Volunteer Training team will initiate planning activities to enable appropriate support to be provided to Clubs, once the suspension on training is lifted. The team will remain available to support Trainers, Assessors and Facilitators during this challenging period and will provide further correspondence in due course.

