

Cairns Surf Life Saving Club Policy

Title: Marine Stinger Risk Management Policy for Lifesaving Activities	Life Saving 01
Effective Date: 1 July 2026	Version: 1.1
This policy is approved in accordance with the Cairns Surf Life Saving Club Incorporated Constitution Version 3, paragraph 3(g).	Approved by: CSLSC Board

Purpose

Cairns Surf Life Saving Club recognises the risk of dangerous marine creatures, in particular marine stingers on our beach. The intent is that this policy will help achieve a greater level of understanding and compliance, thus reducing the risk of marine stinger envenomation to club members.

Scope

This policy encompasses lifesaving activities conducted by the Club: surf sports, training, competitions, and junior activities; however, patrol operations are excluded from this policy. This policy complements existing SLSQ policy and aims to identify and articulate the specific club requirements relating to the areas listed of PPE requirements for protection against marine stingers.

Definitions

Marine stinger: Includes all types of jellyfish, especially those causing severe and possibly life-threatening symptoms.

PPE: Personnel protective equipment.

Risk Rating: Refer to the SLSQ Marine Stinger Risk Assessment, which is completed by patrol members.

Stinger Season: November to May is the period when they are most prevalent, however this does not preclude the presence of marine stingers in other months.

Stinger suit: Full-body 80% Nylon & 20% spandex marine stinger suit or neoprene suit. (covers 75% of the body's skin, mesh size of no greater than 200 microns or 0.2mm or a tight weave)

PPE Requirements for Lifesaving Activities

For 15yrs and over any member entering the water for any lifesaving activity during a moderate or high risk rating they must be in a stinger suit. All Junior Activities members 14 years and under must wear full body nylon/spandex or neoprene suits (suitable weave) at all times during open water activities at all times of the year.

Contacts

The following officers can address questions regarding this policy:

Director of Lifesaving (Club Captain) captain@cairnssurfclub.com.au

Director of Surf Sports surfsports@cairnssurfclub.com.au

Director of Junior Activities jac@cairnssurfclub.com.au

Reference

[SLSQ Policy LSP006 Marine Stinger Risk Management Procedure](#)