



Surf Life Saving Australia – Circular

November 2008

SPINAL KIT AND DEFIBRILLATOR UNIT

NOW COMPULSORY

EQUIPMENT FOR ALL BEACH PATROLS

Document id 43/08-09	Audience State centres, Branches, Directors of Lifesaving & Gear Stewards.
Department Lifesaving	

Summary

This circular is about the introduction of spinal kits and defibrillator units as compulsory items of all Australian beach patrols. It states the phase-in/implementation deadline and how 'clubs in need' can obtain assistance in purchasing this equipment.

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Spinal kits and defibrillator units are now compulsory items for all beach patrols in Australia.

First aid statistics gathered from our patrolled beaches indicate that these items are crucial lifesaving tools that will assist patrols members in providing essential first aid and emergency support on the beach.

All surf life saving clubs as a minimum are to acquire 1 x defibrillator unit and 1 x spinal care unit (spinal board, spinal blocks and collars and support straps). These items are to be introduced to patrols by the official gear inspection dates of the 2009/2010 patrolling season. Manufacturer details for approved spinal kits and defibrillator units can be found on the SLSA website under quick links - admin and resources - gear and equipment - approved gear and equipment.

In addition, a minimum of one person on patrol is required to be trained in Spinal Management and use of the defibrillator. Surf clubs that patrol larger and more populated beaches are encouraged to purchase more than one item of each and actively encourage all members to obtain the awards.



SPINAL KIT AND DEFIBRILLATOR UNIT NOW COMPULSORY EQUIPMENT FOR ALL BEACH PATROLS

Surf clubs that currently do not have a spinal kit or defibrillator unit and require financial assistance in purchasing this equipment are encouraged to apply for equipment through state or national grant schemes i.e. the Telstra Assistance Fund. The Telstra Fund is an opportunity for clubs and services from all over Australia to take advantage of obtaining subsidised equipment which is essential for patrolling our beaches. Please look out for information on the 2009 Telstra Assistance Fund which will be announced in mid 2009. Alternatively, contact your state office for information on their local funding programmes.

If clubs are unclear as to other compulsory items for patrols, please contact your local branch or state office for a complete list.