



Circular

Surf Life Saving Australia

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Department Education	Audience State Education Managers, Club Training Officers, Club Captains
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Title Transition to Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate	
From: Craig Delahoy Training & Education Manager	Peter George AM Director of Lifesaving
Summary <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SLSA will release on 1 September 2009 a new Award called Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate (ARTC)• The ARTC Award should be widely available to all members by 30 June 2010• The core components of the new award will include oxygen airbag, defibrillation and the use of suction• The existing SLSA Advanced Resuscitation Certificate and the SLSA Defibrillation Certificate will cease to exist as a new award from 30 June 2010• This circular details information relating to the new award and change management issues relating to existing awards. It also details how you can upgrade over the next 3 years from the existing Advanced Resuscitation Certificate and Defibrillation Certificate awards to ARTC.• Similar to previous upgrades to the Advanced Resuscitation Certificate (with the introduction of the Airbag and OP Airways) this process should be kept as simple as possible to minimise disruption to existing qualified members Section 1 – Background and key actions/principles Section 2 – Arrangements for 2009/10 Season Section 3 – Getting access to defibrillator and suction equipment Section 4 - Arrangements for 2010/11 Section 5 – Questions and Answers	



Section 1 - Background/ Rationale

Over the years the use of defibrillation has become common as part of basic life support training. The Australian Resuscitation Council recommends defibrillation as part of the chain of survival and in basic life support roles.

In 2007 new industry competency standards were released for first aid and resuscitation across Australia. SLSA has since developed strategies to fall in line with these industry standards across its suite of first aid and resuscitation courses.

Part of this strategy has been to align SLSA advanced resuscitation training with the industry competency "*Apply advanced resuscitation techniques*" (HLTFA404A). The key components of this unit are the delivery of oxygen (including suction) and defibrillation.

To remain current with the industry standard for resuscitation, SLSA will combine its current SLSA Advanced Resuscitation Certificate and Defibrillation Certificate awards to form a new SLSA award called Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate. The industry competency standard will be attached to this award.

It is expected that the unit of competency currently used for our ARC award in the public safety training package (Administer oxygen in an emergency situation) will be removed from updates to the training package over the next 12 months.

Key actions to be taken by clubs / branches/ states

This year – 2009

Update your existing ARC trainers and assessors to ARTC. Conduct ARC and Defib proficiencies and awards as normal (see section 1 below)

Buy (or get access to) a defib training unit and a suction hand pump for your club (See section 2 below)

Next year – 2010

Upgrade your existing ARC holders during the annual proficiency test. All ARC proficiency tests in 2010 will involve Defib and Suction. All ARC proficient members as at 31 December 2010 will be automatically issued with the ARTC in Surfguard.

States may advise you of accelerated pathways to speed up the roll out if desired.

Defib trainers and assessors who do not have an ARC and who want to train or assess ARTC should get their ARC trainers or assessors award this year.

Key recommended principles and considerations of the change from ARC/Defib to ARTC

- Keep it simple! – Defibrillation has become a simple operation and should now be introduced to the club instruction process.
- Keep it simple! – Suction is conducted using a manual small hand pump device. Keep training to its simple operations and safety awareness.



Section 2 – Recommended arrangements for this year (2009/2010) Season

Clubs may still deliver and assess the separate ARC and Defib Awards. Clubs should conduct proficiency testing for these awards as normal.

September 2009 - SLSA will release learning materials for the Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate.

The materials will include:

- ART Learner Guide
- ART Delivery and Assessment Guide
- Powerpoint slides
- Upgrade Guide for ARC holders (includes Defib and suction)
- Upgrade Guide for holders of both ARC and Defib (includes suction only)
- Delivery and Assessment Guide for upgrade materials

Assessors and Facilitators

States/ Branches will need to conduct a workshop for their ARC Facilitators / Assessors to:

- a) Certify them in ARTC using the upgrade workbooks
- b) To issue them an ART Assessors or Facilitators Certificate (via Assessment Request)

This workshop should be conducted by someone who has an existing ARC and Defib Assessors or Facilitators Award or by two separate assessors / facilitators (i.e. one who holds an ARC assessor award and one who holds a Defib Assessor award) and use the upgrade workbooks. Once complete an Assessment Request will need to be processed in Surfguard for the ART Assessor or ART Facilitator.

You may also co-opt other members/experts within your region such as your medical advisor or an ambulance officer etc to assist with the upgrades.

ARC Trainers

You may include trainers in the above workshop or hold a separate workshop for them. Separate workshops may be conducted by those assessors or facilitators who have been accredited as above and use the supplied upgrade workbooks.

Alternatively, an ARC trainer may complete the upgrade workbook and under the guidance of an ART Assessor / Facilitator present an ART squad for assessment. On successful completion of the squad, the trainer should then be endorsed as an TOC-ART.

Defibrillation only holders

Members who do not hold an ARC Award but who hold the SLSA Defibrillation Award should gain their ARC if they wish to remain current in their defibrillation qualification past 31 December 2010



Section 3 – Getting access to a defibrillator and suction pump

Most defibrillators cost between \$2900 and \$3500, whilst defibrillator trainers cost approximately \$500 - \$700.

Manual suction pumps cost between \$145 and \$200, whilst the consumables (collection jars and catheters) cost between \$4 and \$50 per item.

Manufacturers and suppliers for the above equipment can be found on the 'SLSA Approved Gear and Equipment List' which is listed on the SLSA website under the Club and Member information Gear and Equipment tabs.

Section 4 – Arrangements for 2010/2011

The SLSA ARC and Defibrillation awards will not be issued as "stand alone" SLSA awards from 1 July 2010. Members seeking to gain these skills will need to complete the ART course.

Ongoing opportunities should be provided to upgrade ARC candidate Trainers, Assessors and Facilitators past this date

All ARC holders who wish to remain current in oxygen skills will need to complete a defibrillation and suction upgrade as part of the 2010 ARC proficiency test. All ARC proficient members as at 31 December 2010 will be issued automatically within Surfguard with the ART Certificate (if not already issued).

ARC members upgrading this year will need to complete an Assessment Request in Surfguard.

Section 5 – Questions and Answers

Existing award holders

1. When will I need to stop training ARC or Defib Awards?
 - You can continue to train and assess the ARC and Defib awards up to 30 June 2010. From 1 July 2010 you can no longer issue the stand alone ARC and Defib awards.
2. If I have my defibrillation certificate how do I upgrade to ARTC?
 - Two possible paths:
 - a. Maintain proficiency in defib this year, also attain ARC this year, and next year upgrade to the full ARTC award by completing the suction section of the upgrade.
 - b. Complete the ARTC award while using your "prior learning" in defib.
3. If I have my ARC Award how do I upgrade to ARTC?
 - Complete the upgrade proficiency test in the 2010 ARC proficiency test
4. If I have my ARC and Defib Award what do I need to do?
 - You can do the suction upgrade during the 2010 proficiency test and be upgraded to the ARTC
5. What happens if I let my ARC award lapse this year or next year and want to become proficient again?
 - You should do an in-depth proficiency test in 2010 using the upgrade materials or sit the ART award.



Question & Answer existing trainers, assessors and facilitators (TAF)

6. If I have my ARC Training Officers, Assessors or Facilitators Awards what do I need to do?
 - You should attend an upgrade workshop this season or next season to upgrade by learning defib and suction skills of the ART workbook. Once approved by workshop co-ordinator complete an Assessment Request for your respective trainer, assessor or facilitator award (or all three).
7. If I have my ARC and Defib Trainers, Assessors or Facilitators Award what do I need to do?
 - You should attend an upgrade workshop this season or next season to upgrade to the suction sections of the ART workbook. Once approved by workshop co-ordinator complete Assessment Request for your respective trainer, assessor or facilitator award
8. If I have my Defib Trainers, Assessors or Facilitators Award but do not hold an ARC what do I need to do?
 - You should get your ARC this year if you wish to continue teaching, assessing or facilitating the new ART award in the future. You should attend an upgrade workshop and be signed off by workshop co-ordinator and complete Assessment Request for your respective trainer, assessor or facilitator award

Question & Answer Clubs

9. Do we have to buy a defib and suction device?
 - Yes. See Section 3 above
10. What do I need to do as a Chief Training Officer?
 - Continue to provide ARC and defib courses this year for new candidates
 - Look for upgrade workshops for your ARC trainers so they can teach the ARTC next year
 - Using your upgraded trainers conduct the upgrade proficiency test next season (2010) to upgrade ARC holders to Defib and Suction and therefore attain the ART.

If you require further information, please contact Craig Delahoy, Training & Education Manager 02 9300 4000.

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