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**TASMANIA**

FOREWORD

Date: 27th November 2015

Dear All

It is with great pleasure that I provide you with the SLST Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) – Version 1 (2015). This manual outlines policies, procedures and guidelines to assist lifesaving services in the management and delivery of Surf Life Saving operations.

Supporting the SLST Strategic Plan, this document will define minimum operational standards for all Surf Life Saving Clubs (SLSC), Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR) and Support Operations/Services. It also reflects the professional requirements, responsibilities and expectations of our services by all stakeholders; including our members, emergency service partners, government departments and the wider community.

Our organisation and the services provided by thousands of volunteers/staff are fundamental to the Australian way of life; we are respected across the board as the best in the world at what we do and the demand for our services is increasing annually.

As the needs of the public and emergency service expectations increase, Surf Life Saving is self-driven to provide the highest quality service it can through innovation, dedication and hard work. This manual reflects those values and our combined commitment to excel in our ongoing work to save lives and prevent drowning.

While this document aligns with National policy and stipulates the various State minimum requirements, Regions and clubs may extend minimum requirements above these levels if deemed necessary to meet local needs. Such enhancements should be set within Clubs Patrol Operations Manuals and Lifesaving Service Agreements.

I would like to thank and acknowledge Surf Life Saving New South Wales for their document which has been modified to suit Surf Life Saving Tasmania. In addition to this, I would like to thank the members, volunteers and staff who have had input into the development of this document.

This document is provided to support the management and quality assurance of your lifesaving services and I again thank you for your ongoing professionalism and dedication.

Yours in lifesaving

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