



4th December 2020

Aquatics Industry,

RE: Life Saving SA

This letter is to provide further information to you as the broader aquatics industry about the exciting steps being taken to strengthen and unite our industry.

As you would be aware at the recent Recreation SA AGM, the membership agreed to wind up the organisation. As a result of this courageous decision and after much deliberation and a vigorous strategic review, the Recreation SA Board of Directors determined that Surf Life Saving South Australia (SLSSA) were best placed to continue their great work in the aquatics space. This decision included becoming the custodians of the Watch Around Water program. Until today, we have been unable to fully detail exactly how this is going to work.

So it is with great pleasure today that I introduce you to Life Saving SA.

Life Saving SA is a targeted and specific approach to focus our collective efforts on all inland water ways. SLSSA's vision is zero preventable drownings in South Australian waters, and this new brand allows us to continue to vigorously pursue this vision in a more collaborative, appropriate and focussed way.

It is important you know that we are working closely with Royal Life Saving South Australia (RLSSA) to further strengthen and enhance our relationship and importantly to ensure we avoid duplication and confusion in the aquatics industry.

Recently, Recreation SA & SLSSA reconvened the South Australian Aquatics Advisory Committee (SAAAC) made up of industry representatives and pool owners and operators. This committee strongly endorsed the need for Life Saving SA to be the sole and peak authority in all inland waterways to better support, lead and advocate for the aquatics industry. The SAAAC also agreed on the following important initiatives;

- The SAAAC remain in place as the peak authority for the aquatics industry in South Australia
- Life Saving SA be the unifying peak body for SLSSA and RLSSA to combine efforts, resources and harness their collective brands and expertise for all inland waterways
- The SAAAC to review and clearly set its terms of reference (its reason for being)
- The SAAAC with feedback from the industry establish a list of industry imperatives, prioritised to ensure action and deliverables are met
- The Life Saving SA Pool Safety Assessment Tool being jointly developed by SLSSA and RLSSA be the recognised industry standard tool in South Australia to create consistency, equity and

Life Saving SA is an initiative of Surf Life Saving South Australia Inc.

2 Barcoo Road West Beach SA 5024 t. 08 8354 6900
PO Box 117 West Beach SA 5024 e. info@lifesavingsa.com.au
lifesavingsa.com.au ABN 34 104 527 879



standardised quality across South Australia. The SAAAC to be responsible for ongoing review and continuous improvement of the tool

- Life Saving SA continue an aquatics conference to service the industry and allow for the sharing of best practice

Life Saving SA is committed to supporting the industry in a way which has not always been possible or deliverable. A starting point for this commitment is the employment of Stu Ferenci under Life Saving SA in a full time role to solely focus on the aquatics industry and specifically the Watch Around Water Program. Further to this, we have a significant operational staff group who are working with, in and around Life Saving SA to ensure this critical industry is a focus.

Today I am pleased to introduce to you the Life Saving SA website which will provide further information on our intent, but also on the products and offerings that we will be delivering. There are still improvements to be made and further products and services to be added, but like all things in life, things are not always perfect. So please feel free to go to www.lifesavingsa.com.au and see this exciting new beginning.

We are genuinely excited to be on this journey with all of you, and I know we will do all we can to ensure this industry is valued, successful and sustainable. If you have any questions, concerns or challenges I encourage you to reach out to myself, Stu, Belinda or our team and we will be more than happy to chat.

I would like to finish by thanking and acknowledging the brave and courageous decision by the Board of Recreation SA and thank them for the faith and trust they have shown in us. Thank you to the Leisure Institute of WA Aquatic (LIWA) and Royal Life Saving WA for their collaboration and partnership with Watch Around Water. Thank you to the State Government and the Office of Recreation, Sport and Racing for their ongoing and continued support. Lastly thank you to the industry for welcoming us and this new initiative and for the excitement and collaboration that has already begun to flow.

Our organisation has always been community focussed, and we have delivered this through a strong sense of who we are; selfless, inclusive, courageous, trusted and authentic. It is this approach and this fierce focus that we will bring to the aquatics industry, and we can't wait to get started.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Damien", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Damien Marangon
Chief Executive Officer
Surf Life Saving SA

Life Saving SA is an initiative of Surf Life Saving South Australia Inc.

2 Barcoo Road West Beach SA 5024 t. 08 8354 6900
PO Box 117 West Beach SA 5024 e. info@lifesavingsa.com.au
lifesavingsa.com.au ABN 34 104 527 879