

# Annual Report

## 2022 Annual General Meeting

<b>Date</b>	9 April 2022
<b>Name</b>	Grant Barnett, President Adam Traugott, Director of Lifesaving Alison Snowden, Director of Education Vacant, Director of Surf Sport
<b>Strategic Intent</b>	3. Ensure a growing and relevant movement
<b>Strategy / KPI</b>	3.1 Contemporary governance, policy and procedures

## 2021 SLSNT Board

Position	Name	Term Started	Term Ends
President	Grant Barnett	SGM 2020	AGM 2022
Director of Lifesaving	Adam Traugott	14 July 2021	AGM 2023
Director of Education	Alison Snowden	AGM 2020	AGM 2022
Director of Surf Sport	Christopher Gray	AGM 2021	Resigned 17 November
Director	Susan Barnes	28 July 2021	1 May 2023
Director	Jade Creek	14 July 2021	1 May 2023
Director	Vacant		

## Presidents Report

Hello to all SLSNT members and supporters, it is with much pleasure I present my annual report for the 2021 season.

From the outset I would like to send out a huge thank you to our CEO, Samantha Farrow who through an extremely challenging two years has kept the wheels rolling and her efforts have been a massive part in why we as an organisation has come through this pandemic relatively unscathed.

As members you can be very proud of the achievements that your SLSNT Board has been able to complete throughout the past season. Whilst you may not hear much from them, I can assure you they are all working towards a common interest and that is making the life of a volunteer easier. Please join me in thanking and congratulating Adam Traugott, Ali Snowden, Sue Barnes, Jade Creek and Chris Gray who unfortunately as soon as he got his feet under the desk was posted out of the NT.

To all our sponsors and supporters thank you, we simply cannot do this without your help. In these times when it is so hard to get the support of the corporate world to come onboard, your ongoing support is so vital to our volunteer organisation surviving and thriving.

Lastly to our patrolling, back of beach volunteers and their families who every year continue to choose to provide a service to their local populations, thank you. 2021 has been a bit of a rebuilding year and all clubs seem to be putting their best foot forward and getting down to what we do best.

We were fortunate this season to hold the SLSNT Championships at the Darwin SLSC which turned out to be a great weekend. Thank you to all the Officials that put their hands up, the staff who gave up their weekend to help out and keep our members safe throughout the weekend. Most importantly thank you to the members who chose to compete, I trust you had a great weekend whilst honing your rescue ready skills.

After the changes made for COVID -19, this season saw us come together again for the AGM and the Awards of Excellence. It was a great night and I know for me having our Patrons attend was a great honour. Thank you to Her Honour the honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO, Administrator of the Northern Territory and Mr Craig O'Halloran for all your ongoing support. Congratulations to all the award winners on the night, we appreciate everything you do to help make our organisation so awesome.

Surf Lifesaver of the Year	Steve Krohn	Darwin SLSC
Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year	Fisher Harris	Mindil Beach SLSC
Volunteer of the Year	Tracey Koch	Darwin SLSC
Youth Volunteer of the Year	Phoenix Riggs	Darwin SLSC
Athlete of the Year	Heather Standley	Darwin SLSC
Educator of the Year	Bridget Riggs	Darwin SLSC
Coach of the Year	Skip Hall	Mindil Beach SLSC
Lifeguard of the Year	Kaitlyn Stephen	ALS NT

As I have stated before we are a small organisation that punches well above our weight but more importantly we remain relevant in the broader NT community. The red and yellow can now be seen at most waterparks and we are progressing well with our new contract of providing Lifeguard Services to every Defence establishment in Darwin. This of course comes at a cost and the more people that can help out the better, so again I urge anybody who can spare a little time to put you hand up and nominate for a SLSNT Board position.

In closing it is now time for me to step aside and let somebody else take over the helm. It has been an absolute privilege and honour to have served as your President for the past 6 years and I thank each and every one of you for your continued support. I wish the incoming President and SLSNT Board every success for the future and I believe that our organisation is well positioned for positive things in the future. A massive thank you to my wife Marcia and our family for supporting me on this journey and obviously I could not have achieved it out without their love and support.

See you on the beach, somewhere.

**Grant Barnett**  
**President SLSNT**

## 2021 Partners

### Major National Partners

	
	

### NT Partners

#### Gold

 <p>Proudly supported by <b>Northern Territory Government</b></p>	
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#### Silver

	
 <p><b>COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND</b> <i>Helping Build Better Communities</i></p>	
	

## Supporters



## Lifesaving Report

### Key Stats

Volunteer Patrol Hours	2609.5
Rescue (lives saved)	9
First Aid Treatments	16

Despite going through the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 ended up being a reasonable season for lifesaving within SLSNT.

### Search and Rescue (SAR) Team

The SAR Team contributed 433.75 volunteer patrol hours, performing 4 rescues and 379 preventative actions.

The partnership with Careflight is really developing, and a number of scenario training opportunities were provided to SLSNT members. The timing of these opportunities were not always ideal for volunteer members but we are hopeful that as the partnership grows we can push for more weekend events to be offered.

Our Offshore Rescue Boat, Lifesaver 1, was quiet in 2021. Whilst we were put on stand-by a number of times, we conducted only 3 callouts for the year. Conversations continue with the Water Police to ensure that Lifesaver 1 and our members are considered in future call out situations. The main use of Lifesaver 1 in 2021 was as water safety support for events in Darwin Harbour.

### Wet Season Lifesaving Patrol

The SAR Team provided the Wet Season Lifesaving Patrol from January to April in 2021. 96 volunteer patrol hours were conducted for this service.

### Drones

With the loss of Westpac's support for the Lifesaver Rescue Drone Program progress in 2021 was slow going.

Chief Pilot, Steve Goat was engaged in January 2021 to oversee the CASA requirements for SLSNT to be able to fly on Darwin beaches. The proximity of the Darwin airport to all our beaches adds a layer of complexity to our Drone program.

SLSNT now holds a ReOC, which authorises SLSNT to conduct included drone operations for commercial purposes. Whilst we are not operating commercially, this is a requirement for us to fly in controlled airspace as it means SLSNT has gone through a rigorous compliance process to make sure we are able to operated in these areas safely. Also in place are the required CASA area approvals for all of our Darwin beaches, so as long as we follow procedure SLSNT can fly patrols.

This program is running without ongoing confirmed funding, so it is difficult to plan out the future of the program.

### **Club Lifesaving**

In 2021 our clubs patrolled beaches in Darwin and Nhulunbuy, with no lives lost during patrols.

Personnel shortages continue to be an ongoing problem for SLSNT and the Clubs.

A large part of providing a professional service is having suitable equipment for the job, and it was very pleasing to see the Federal Government announcing a boost to the Beach Safety Equipment Fund which saw each club receive \$15000 to go towards the purchase of rescue equipment.

During the 2021 season SLSNT provided support to club events through the provision of personnel or equipment including the Fannie Bay Swim and Beer Can Regatta. These events have received longstanding support from SLSNT, and SLSNT looks forward to continuing this support.

### **Lifeguard Service**

The SLSNT Lifeguard Service continues to deliver a quality service at the Darwin Waterfront, Leanyer Recreation Park and Palmerston Water Park year-round. A seasonal service at Mindil Beach ran between June and September.

SLSNT lifeguards also provided first aid at a number of events around Darwin including for Channel 10's Amazing Race Australia, NT Swimming Open water swims, Mango Festival, New Years Eve at the Darwin Waterfront and Christmas Carols at the Waterparks.

In 2021, Lifeguards were on duty for 33,598 hours. They completed 86 rescues and 589 first aids, 19 of these requiring ambulance support.

## Education Report

### Key Stats

Participants in SLS training	1,095
Units of Competency delivered	2,631
Courses Run	116

SLSNT continued to deliver education and training in both formal and informal settings to its' members and the wider community. Education of the wider community is a vital strategy in achieving our organisational vision of zero preventable deaths in NT coastal waters.

SLSNT through auspicing arrangements with Surf Life Saving SA (RTO 40110), delivers nationally recognised, accredited lifesaving education to the NT community, members, emergency services and local schools. SLSNT has developed a name in the NT for high quality training and education and will continue to deliver this service into the future.

### Commercial Education

SLSNT delivers a range of emergency care and aquatic rescue training courses across a range of industries including sport, education, medical, government and administration.

2021 was a very successful year in terms of commercial education, we continued to build on our client list and have added a first aid restocking service for Larrakia Nation. This service involves regular checking and stocking of all night patrol and ranger first aid kits.

In 2021, 1,095 members of the public learnt valuable lifesaving skills through First Aid, CPR and Advanced Resuscitation courses.

The impact our commercial education has on the profile of SLSNT in the community is very positive, increasing community awareness of our brand and role. Our partnership with the Water Police continues with courses in advanced resuscitation, first aid and rescue watercraft courses delivered.

### Member Education

This was difficult to deliver in 2020 due to the COVID restrictions but Darwin Surf life Saving Club managed to successfully deliver a Bronze and SRC course to 26 members.

SLSNT ran a total of 15 courses for 82 participants, including two Bronze Medallion / SRC courses (one in Darwin and one in Gove), Advanced Resuscitation, First Aid, Silver Medallion Beach Management and Spinal courses.

SLSNT continues to have a high focus on the development of trainers and assessors to ensure Clubs and SLSNT are able to deliver quality training long into the future.

The work on the recommendations from SLSA's review of the VET system and how SLS operates within it seem to be nearing completion in time for implementation in Season 2022. The main piece of work has been around simplifying the level of training our trainers and assessors must complete to run member training – greatly reducing the burden on our volunteers.

## Surf Sport Report

### Key Stats

Participants in Surf Sports activities	4,312
Accredited Coaches	12
Accredited Officials	14

Surf Sports is a great outlet and opportunity for surf lifesaving members to participate in unique activities, whilst improving their essential skills required to be a lifesaver. Surf sport is also seen as a key to recruiting and retaining members.

### Beach and Paddle Series

SLSNT ran four events in 2021. It was generally seen as a success, with a return to some older courses to cater for participant requests, conditions and accessibility. A 3km and 2 km beach run were also added to event 2 & 3 – whilst low participation we hope to see this increase in 2022.

Overall feedback was that the competitors were happy with the variety of courses and distances selected. Across the series there was 83 competitors, from a variety of craft: surf ski, outriggers, ocean skull, SUP's and surf boats.

A big hit in 2021 was the sponsorship provided by Café De la Plague and Foreshore Café. Thank you to these businesses for their generous donation for Event 3 & 4.

### 2021 Sea Swift NT Surf Life Saving Championships

The 2021 Sea Swift NT Surf Life Saving Championships were hosted by Darwin Surf Life Saving Club from the 26-28 August.

It was great to be back on the beach after the event was cancelled in 2020. Competitors represented all three Darwin clubs and there was even a small contingent from Woolgoolga who were travelling around Australia who joined us.

As always competition started Friday night with beach flags being held under lights, there was a great atmosphere and a great way to kick off the championships. Competition continued on Saturday with the beach sprints in the morning, and then onto the water events. The tide was definitely challenging, causing issues later in the day for the surf boats in particular.

Host club Darwin SLSC won the Championships on 1395 points, followed by Mindil Beach (156), Woolgoolga (78) and Gove Peninsula (19). For the discipline champions, Darwin SLSC won the Beach, Boat and Ocean Competition. TJ Tilley Award went to Finn Goat from Darwin SLSC.

Thank you to Sea Swift who continues to support surf sports in the NT. They kindly donate the use of their barges to transport Gove Peninsula's gear and equipment to Darwin and return.

A big thankyou to the officials who put their hands up to assist at the 2021 Sea Swift NT Surf Life Saving Championships. Without your assistance the Championships would have been impossible to run.

The location of the 2022 Sea Swift NT Surf Life Saving Championships will be confirmed ASAP.

### **Community Awareness**

SLSNT attended a number of expo events in 2021 to increase the awareness of SLS in the NT.

- Splashfest during Water Safety Week at the Waterfront (1,400 participants)
- Darwin High School Healthy Living Expo (300 participants)
- CDU Youth Futures Workshop (150 participants)
- National Family Week (120 participants)
- Darwin 4WD, boating and camping expo (1,200 participants)
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Day (120 participants)

SLSNT also ran several come and try sessions at various locations around Darwin. Thank you to those members that supported the running of these events either through coaching or water safety.

- 4 Little Lifesaver Programs (180 participants)
- 3 Surf n Sail program at Lake Alexander (150 participants)
- 8 Beach to Bush Program at Leanyer Recreation Park (380 participants)
- 10 school learn to paddle activities at Lake Alexander (145 participants)

### **Surf Boat Development**

In May, Peter Tidswell from Glenelg SLSC visited Darwin to run a surf boat development weekend. The weekend went well with plenty of people attending.

Starting with a theory session at Surf House on Friday night, 20 attended this session, going through the sweep's accreditation handbook plus various ergo, gym and rowing programs. Lots of healthy discussion on all topics from all in attendance, this session went for around 90 minutes.

Saturday morning, at Darwin SLSC, started with some boat rigging and maintenance techniques before launching the boats. Spent the first few hours going through the basics of sweeping, then gave the new sweeps the opportunity to have a go. 3 new sweeps complete their S1 level sweeping.

The next session was more advanced sweeping techniques for the S2 sweeps, covering race starts and turns. All S2 sweeps had a chance to practice and demonstrate their skills during the afternoon, 8 sweeps completed their S2 accreditation.

The two S3 sweeps being Bob and Greg have continued to show the way in mentoring the new sweeps from both clubs.

Sunday morning, 15 rowers completed an ergo session focussing on rowing techniques and discussions on general ergo sessions. There was also a come and try session for new rowers squeezed in on Sunday afternoon.

### **Coaches and Officials**

In 2021, SLSNT had 12 accredited coaches, 4 gaining their accreditation during the year. Officials saw 14 accredited individuals with only one new official added to the ranks during the year.

The number of coaches and officials in the NT needs to continue growing. But to do this we need more people to put their hand up to give it a go. SLSNT can support all interested people on their journey to accreditation – contact us today to find out more.



**Appreciation**

SLSNT wishes to thank all coaches and officials for giving up their time throughout the year and our fantastic water safety volunteers who make our events safe for all competitors.

SLSNT would also like to acknowledge the NT Government's Department of Sport & Recreation and our sponsors Sea Swift, Thrifty and Schweppes for their continued support of surf lifesaving sport in the NT.