



Circular 066:06:09

To: Club Presidents Club Secretaries
Club Membership/Surfguard Registrars

Cc: District Officers Regional Officers

From: Nigel Taylor ESM – Chief Executive Officer

Date: 5 June 2009

Subject: Working With Children Checks – Compliance Deadline 30 June 2009

Action: Ensure all members have or applied for a WWCC and all relevant details are recorded in Surfguard

Life Saving Victoria (LSV) reminds clubs that to comply with the “*Working With Children Act 2005*” (the Act) and LSV Policy AD6-05 (effective date 30 December 2008) all active members must have a valid WWCC by 30 June 2009.

Policy AD6-05 outlines clubs’ responsibilities under the Act, the compliance timeline, and the need for clubs to enter the details of the card number including date of issue into the Surfguard Membership database. By ensuring that the relevant details are maintained in Surfguard clubs are able to provide hard evidence that they have complied with the legislation.

A recent audit of members’ member protection details (copy attached) held in Surfguard has shown that an alarmingly large number of clubs have either (or both):

- i. not entered the relevant details of their member’s WWCCs into Surfguard;
or
- ii. are not complying with the requirements of the Act.

The legal ramifications for breaches of the Act include fines up to \$27,000 and/or up to 2 years jail. This may impact on public liability insurance eligibility.

Clubs **MUST** take the time and effort to rectify these discrepancies to ensure they are not operating outside the law with regard to Working With Children Checks.

For additional detail on this Circular contact: Meg Sparshott – Manager, Club Administration & Development

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Circulars are also available at www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au

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