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BULLETIN

Bulletin No: 11008

TO: Club Presidents, Secretaries, Captains, and Competition Officers
SSSC, BOM

FROM: Michael Schetter, Manager Surf Sports, SLSSA

DATE: 28th September 2011

SUBJECT: Use of High Visibility Lycra Racing vests for **Board and Ski Series events**

You are no doubt aware that there have been ongoing discussions at a State and National level in regard to the implementation of initiatives to further ensure the safety of all competitors at surf lifesaving events. A number of initiatives were adopted last season including items such as the use of a risk management checklist and associated risk management matrix at all relevant events.

One initiative that received very positive responses and feedback was the use of high visibility lycra racing vests (vests) at the Australian Championships. This initiative was one that also received positive comments in the Coroner's report into the death of Saxon Bird.

As outlined in Bulletin B11007, at the September 15th meeting of the Surf Sports Standing Committee (SSSC) it was agreed that high visibility vest are to be used at senior events in South Australia this season especially when conducted in surf conditions. The SSSC agreed that if the vests were to be used at Senior State Championships (as per Australian Championships) then they should be used for all senior carnivals and events conducted.

More specifically, in regards to the first Board and Ski Series event, this ruling means that it will be compulsory to wear a high visibility lycra racing vests to participate in this event. A number of prototype vests have been purchased and will be 'triallyed' at this first Board and Ski event.

These prototype vests will be available for \$5.00 to all competitors at the first Board and Ski event. If competitors have a vest from the 2011 Australian Championships or from the Ocean Paddling Series these can be worn.