POLICY STATEMENT

DATE: 19th October 2005

SUBJECT: **Under 7 Activities Policy**

DEPARTMENT: **Juniors, Youth, Members, Administration**

INTRODUCTION

Surf Life Saving's Junior Activities Program aims to enrich the lives of children through fun, involvement and the acquisition of personal, lifesaving and competition skills.

As an introductory program prior to becoming a registered Junior Activities member (7-13 years), Surf Life Saving Clubs in Queensland may conduct basic activities as part of an Under 7 Activities Program, commonly known as "Green Caps".

The conduct of Under 7's activities or programs is not compulsory for Clubs to engage in. It is entirely an option for individual Clubs to consider based on their needs, manpower and resources.

This Under 7 Activities Policy has been created to outline the rules and regulations for Clubs to comply with in respect to the safe participation and administration of under 7's programs.

Individual Clubs may apply additional criteria for the inclusion of Under 7's in Club activities.

POLICY STATEMENT

Clubs may provide supervision and activities for children under the age of 7 years in accordance with the following criteria and conditions:-

Criteria 1: The parents/guardians of the children **must be** registered members of the Club.

Criteria 2: The children must have at least one brother/sister already registered in nippers **or** a parent/guardian actively involved in club activities at that time.

Other conditions include:

1. An extra Public Liability and Personal Accident insurance premium will be taken out by SLSQ for Clubs involved in this additional activity/exposure. SLSQ will invoice clubs $5.50 per person involved in Under 7 Activities. Note: Clubs must advise SLSQ on members involved in this activity on the form U/S2.

2. **The absolute minimum age for such children is 5 years**. Age is determined as at midnight on 30 September at the commencement of that season.

3. Chief Supervisors/Age Managers must be a minimum of 18 years of age held a "Blue Card' and it is desirable that they obtain a Resuscitation Certificate as a minimum requirement.

4. a) Children should be involved in fun activities, however, under no circumstances are these children to participate in activities involving Surf Life Saving equipment such as nipper boards or fibreglass boards, IRB's, rescue boards, surf boats, skis and the like.

b. Children can utilise Club foam boogie boards (no hard plastic, rails or fins) in shallow water (broken waves only).

5. Children involved in Under 7 Activities can participate in **shallow water activities up to the distance of a wade depth course.**

6. The under 7's Coordinator / Supervisor should liaise with the Patrol Captain regarding the safest area to conduct shallow water activities.

7. The recommended ratio of supervisors and/or water safety to children is 1:5.

8. Under no circumstances are these children to participate in inter-club carnivals or other such forms of formal competition outside the club.

9. All such children must be easily identifiable, i.e. wear a fluorescent green coloured cap. NOTE: Clubs must fully comply with this regulation.

10. An Enrolment Form (Form U/S1) must be completed for each child and filed to Club records. All details on this form must be completed.

Form U/S2 must be completed by the Club and sent direct to SLSQ prior to any activities being undertaken.

11. The Club must advise SLSQ of its involvement in such activities prior to the start of each season.

NOTE: The use of the boogies boards is to be reviewed at the end of the 2005/2006 season.