



# Protocol Guide

## SOP ADM 19





## Commissioner's Foreword

Wearing the Marine Rescue NSW uniform signifies a commitment to service. It reflects your role within the organisation, the responsibility it carries, and the trust placed in us by the communities we serve and the agencies we work alongside.

The manner in which each person wears our uniform, and the conduct they uphold while doing so, reflects a commitment to the values of professionalism, respect and teamwork that define our culture.

The protocols in this document support a consistent standard across Marine Rescue NSW. These practices are not about unnecessary formality. They allow us to honour individual contribution, mark important occasions with the attention they deserve, and carry forward the history that shapes our identity.

Whether you are new to Marine Rescue NSW or have served for many years, I hope this guide gives you the confidence to take part in these responsibilities with the same care you bring to your role.

Thank you for your commitment to Marine Rescue NSW. The strength of the organisation depends on the example you set and the standard you uphold.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Barrell".

Alex Barrell ESM

Commissioner

Marine Rescue NSW

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

## SOP ADM 19 – Protocol Guide

### Contents

Commissioner's Foreword .....	1
Scope and purpose .....	4
Policy context.....	4
Protocol Officers .....	4
<b>PART A – UNIFORM POLICY .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Authority to wear uniform.....	5
Lost or stolen uniform .....	5
Restrictions on Wearing Uniform .....	5
Uniform alterations .....	5
Uniform disposal.....	6
<b>PART B – DRESS CODES AND UNIFORM STANDARDS.....</b>	<b>6</b>
Provisional Uniform .....	6
Corporate Uniform .....	6
Dress Codes.....	7
Presentation Requirements.....	8
Dress Code: 1 - Working Blues .....	9
Dress Code: 1A – Formal Working Blues .....	10
Dress Code: 1B – Ceremonial Working Blues .....	11
Dress Code: 2 – Dress Whites .....	12
Dress Code: 2A – Presentation Dress Whites.....	13
Dress Code: 2B – Formal Dress Whites.....	14
Dress Code: 2C – Ceremonial Dress Whites .....	15
Dress Code: 2D – Ceremonial Dress Whites with Tunic (Ribbons) .....	16
Dress Code: 2E – Ceremonial Dress Whites with Tunic (Medals) .....	17
Specialised Personal Protection Gear (PPE) .....	18
Rescue Water Craft Operator (RWCO) Gear .....	18
State Operations Group PPE .....	19
Headwear and Caps.....	20
Other Ceremonial Insignia .....	22
Approved footwear .....	23
Legacy and Purchasable Items .....	23
<b>PART C - Honours, Awards and Insignia .....</b>	<b>24</b>
Australian Honours and Awards .....	24
Order of Wear (closest to the heart → outward toward the left shoulder): .....	24

NSW State Awards - Medals .....	25
Marine Rescue NSW Medals.....	25
NSW State Awards - Citations .....	26
Marine Rescue NSW Citations .....	26
Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Pins and Medals .....	27
Ribbon Bars.....	30
When medals are worn.....	30
Lapel Pins .....	31
Unofficial Medals .....	31
Wearing Decorations with Civilian Dress .....	31
<b>PART D – CEREMONIAL PROTOCOLS .....</b>	<b>32</b>
Award and Recognition Presentations.....	32
Welcome to Country .....	35
Acknowledgement of Country.....	35
Commissioning of a Marine Rescue NSW Base, Vessel or Facility .....	36
Saluting .....	37
When to salute .....	37
How to Salute .....	37
Funerals .....	38
<b>PART E - Flags and Formal Observances .....</b>	<b>39</b>
Flags on vessels.....	39
Flags at Bases or Facilities.....	41
Related documents .....	42
Support and advice.....	43
Definitions .....	43
Approval and document control .....	44
Appendices .....	44
.....	45
Appendix A - Duty Jacket Guidelines .....	45
Appendix B - Rank and Insignia .....	46
Appendix C - Legacy Recognition and Non-Approved Awards.....	50
Appendix D - Protocol Reference Cards.....	52

## Scope and purpose

This document defines the uniform and ceremonial protocols for all Marine Rescue NSW members and staff. It outlines eligibility requirements, standards for uniform presentation, expectations for behaviour while in uniform, and guidance for formal duties including meetings, official functions and ceremonial activities.

The purpose of this document is to ensure consistency, discipline and professionalism in how members and staff represent the organisation. It provides clear, practical instruction to support compliance across all roles and locations.

Protocols outlined in this document include practices adopted from established maritime and uniformed service traditions, adapted to suit the operational and organisational context of Marine Rescue NSW.

## Policy context

This document is guided by the following instruments, which establish the authority, conduct and governance framework within which Marine Rescue NSW operates:

- Marine Rescue NSW Constitution
- Marine Rescue NSW Rules
- Marine Rescue NSW Code of Conduct
- State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (NSW)

## Protocol Officers

Protocol Officers are appointed representatives responsible for upholding the ceremonial and presentation standards of Marine Rescue NSW. Protocol Officers are awarded the rank of 'Inspector' while in this position.

They provide guidance on the correct application of uniform dress codes, ceremonial protocols, medal and insignia placement, flag use, and the formal conduct of events.

Protocol Officers wear the Marine Rescue NSW Protocol Lanyard while undertaking official duties. The Protocol Lanyard identifies the wearer as holding a designated specialist appointment within Marine Rescue NSW.

### Contact details for each region's Protocol Officer:

- **Northern Rivers:** protocol.nr@marinerescuensw.com.au
- **Mid North Coast:** protocol.mnc@marinerescuensw.com.au
- **Hunter Central Coast:** protocol.hcc@marinerescuensw.com.au
- **Greater Sydney:** protocol.sydney@marinerescuensw.com.au
- **Illawarra:** protocol.ill@marinerescuensw.com.au
- **Monaro:** protocol.mon@marinerescuensw.com.au

## **PART A – UNIFORM POLICY**

### **Authority to wear uniform**

Marine Rescue NSW is recognised under the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (NSW) as an accredited emergency service. The Marine Rescue NSW uniform is issued for use by current authorised members and staff for approved operational, ceremonial, training and official duties.

Uniform items must not be worn by persons who are not current members or staff, except where specifically approved by the Commissioner or delegate, such as for authorised ceremonial displays, historical exhibitions, official photography, or other approved organisational purposes.

Upon resignation or cessation of membership, all uniform items are to be returned or otherwise managed in accordance with this SOP.

Custom garments, modified insignia, or unauthorised apparel are prohibited.

### **Lost or stolen uniform**

It is the responsibility of all members of Marine Rescue NSW to ensure that all issued uniform items are secured and properly stored at all times.

If any part of a uniform is lost or stolen, members must report the incident to their Unit Commander (or their delegate).

### **Restrictions on Wearing Uniform**

Uniforms may only be worn during authorised Marine Rescue NSW activities including operational duties, training, official functions or approved public engagements. Uniforms must not be:

- Worn at unauthorised events
- Combined with civilian or other agency clothing unless wearing the Provisional Uniform
- Worn while consuming alcohol in public (unless formally approved by the Commissioner)
- Worn by individuals no longer authorised to represent Marine Rescue NSW

Members and Staff are expected to consider the setting and whether their presence in uniform reflects the values and responsibilities of Marine Rescue NSW. The misuse of Marine Rescue NSW uniform may be considered a breach of the Code of Conduct and could result in disciplinary action.

### **Uniform alterations**

Uniforms must not be altered, modified or personalised. This includes:

- Removal or addition of patches, insignia or embroidery
- Decorative additions or branding
- Reshaping or tailoring that changes issued appearance

Minor alterations for fit (e.g. hemming) are permitted, provided they do not affect functionality or style. Medical or accessibility-related adjustments are permitted where necessary, provided they remain consistent with operational requirements.

## Uniform disposal

Uniforms that are no longer fit for wear must be defaced or have branding removed before disposal. Uniforms must not be donated, sold, or used for non-MRNSW purposes.

Upon resignation from Marine Rescue NSW, all uniform items must be returned to the member's Unit. Items are not required to be sent to MRNSW Stores and may be retained for use within the unit where appropriate.

## PART B – DRESS CODES AND UNIFORM STANDARDS

### Provisional Uniform

#### Eligibility

Members become eligible for the provisional uniform once they are granted Provisional Membership. Further requirements for Provisional Membership are outlined in the Marine Rescue NSW Constitution.

#### Uniform Components

The standard Provisional Uniform set includes the following items:

- One Marine Rescue NSW branded polo shirt or t-shirt
- One Marine Rescue NSW cap
- Marine Rescue NSW issued name badge(s)
- One Marine Rescue NSW photo identification card

#### Conditions of Wear

The provisional uniform must be worn for authorised Marine Rescue NSW activities, including meetings, training, and supervised public duties. It must be paired with neat civilian trousers and closed-toe footwear suitable for operational environments. The ID card should be worn when undertaking fundraising duties.

#### Care, replacement and transition

Uniform items must be kept clean, stored securely, and presented in a serviceable condition. Any requests for replacement must be submitted to the Unit Commander or delegate.

Upon transition to Regular Membership or attainment of a recognised rating, the full Working Blues uniform is issued. The cap, name badge and identification card remain valid and continue to be used.

### Corporate Uniform

#### Eligibility

The corporate uniform is issued to all Marine Rescue NSW staff.

#### Uniform Components

The standard corporate uniform includes:

- Marine Rescue NSW branded short or long sleeve business shirt.
- Dark Navy corporate trousers.
- Marine Rescue NSW branded polo shirt.
- Chino pants, shorts or skirts.
- Corporate Style Marine Rescue NSW Duty Jacket (slightly different than the regular Duty Jackets).

- Marine Rescue NSW issued name badge.
- Closed-toe footwear that reflects a professional standard and is in a suitable condition.

### Conditions of Wear

The corporate uniform is issued in accordance with role requirements as determined by Marine Rescue NSW.

Citations, medals and pins are not to be worn with the corporate uniform. Only the issued name badge may be displayed.

### Care and Replacement

Uniform items should be kept clean and in good condition. Staff may replace items when no longer suitable due to wear, damage or fit.

## Dress Codes

To ensure members are correctly attired for their duties or an event, defined uniform dress codes are used across Marine Rescue NSW. Each dress code sets out a complete and specific standard of dress.

The Dress Codes are as follows:

Dress code number	Dress code title
<b>Operational Uniform</b>	
1	Working Blues
1A	Formal Working Blues
1B	Ceremonial Working Blues
<b>Dress Whites Uniform</b>	
2	Dress Whites
2A	Presentation Dress Whites
2B	Formal Dress Whites
2C	Ceremonial Dress Whites
2D	Ceremonial Dress Whites with Tunic (Ribbons)
2E	Ceremonial Dress Whites with Tunic (Medals)

Dress codes are not progressive or interchangeable. Members must wear only the uniform items listed for the nominated dress code.

## Presentation Requirements

The following presentation standards apply to all Marine Rescue NSW uniform dress codes unless otherwise stated:

**Uniform standard:** Uniforms must be worn in full and presented to a consistent standard.

**Shirts and sleeves:** Shirts are to be tucked in. Long sleeves are to be buttoned at the wrist, or neatly rolled above the elbow for general duties only. Sleeves must not be rolled at formal or ceremonial occasions.

**Footwear:** Footwear must be closed-toe, clean, serviceable and appropriate to the duty being performed.

**Condition:** All uniform items are to be clean, well-fitted and free from excessive wear, fading or damage, particularly at formal or ceremonial events.

**Ribbons, medals and citations:** Decorations must be current and worn in accordance with the placement guidance in this SOP.

**Rating epaulettes:** Epaulettes must reflect both the duty being performed and the member's highest operational rating.

**Wet weather PPE:** Fluoro wet weather PPE is to be worn for vessel operations where visibility or safety requires it. It may also be worn in heavy rain or adverse weather for outdoor duties or events. The Duty Jacket should be worn where high-visibility PPE is not required (see Appendix A).

**Legacy items:** Legacy uniform items may be worn for general duties but are not to be worn at formal or ceremonial occasions.

**Trial items:** Trial uniform items must not be worn once the trial period has concluded.

**Marine Rescue ID Card:** The ID Card is to be worn and visible when fundraising. At other times it is not required.

**Dress code compliance:** Dress codes are fixed standards and must be followed exactly as prescribed. Items such as ties, jackets, ribbons or medals must not be added or omitted unless expressly stated in the relevant dress code.

**Event direction:** Where an event specifies a dress code, that instruction takes precedence.

**Unspecified dress code:** Where a dress code is not specified, members should confirm the appropriate dress code in advance to ensure consistency.

## Dress Code: 1 - Working Blues

Wet Weather Gear	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
 * See note below	 Undecorated	 Shirt only	 Shirt only	 No medals

### Eligibility and Occasion

Worn by Regular Members and staff who have been issued the Working Blues uniform for standard operational duties, MR base activity, community engagement and/or training.

### Clothing

- Working Blues short or long sleeve shirt
- Working Blues cargo shorts or pants
- \*Duty Jacket (as needed)

### Additional Uniform Items

- Citations, pins and ribbons (optional, if issued)
- Epaulettes
- Web belt
- Name badge
- \*Fluoro wet weather jacket and trousers (as needed)

### Headwear

- Working Blues cap or broad brim hat

### Footwear

- Deck shoes or black boots
- Plain black or white socks

### Additional Presentation Requirements

\*Fluoro wet weather gear is the preferred choice on vessels when visibility or safety requires it. The Duty Jacket is best suited to duties at the unit or non-operational settings.

For day-to-day wear, no citations, medals or pins, aside from your name badge in the specially designed pocket on the right side of the duty jacket, are permitted. See **Appendix A**.



## Dress Code: 1A – Formal Working Blues

Wet Weather Gear	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
<b>X</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>X</b>
Unless specified	Undecorated	Shirt only	Shirt only	No medals

### Eligibility and Occasion

Worn by Regular Members and staff who have been issued the Working Blues uniform. For formal and commissioning events.

### Clothing

- Working Blues long sleeve shirt
- Working Blues pants
- Duty Jacket (as needed)

### Additional Uniform Items

- Citations, pins and ribbons (if issued)
- Epaulettes
- Web belt
- Name badge

### Headwear

- Working Blues cap

### Footwear

- Black boots
- Plain black socks



### Additional Presentation Requirements

No citations, medals or pins, aside from your name badge on the right side of the duty jacket are permitted under this dress code.

Fluoro wet weather gear is not generally appropriate for formal events and should be avoided where possible. It may be worn if specifically directed, or where poor weather conditions make it clearly necessary for outdoor events.



## Dress Code: 1B – Ceremonial Working Blues

Wet Weather Gear	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
<b>X</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>✓</b>
Unless specified	Decorations permitted	Jacket or shirt	Replaced by medals	Jacket or shirt

### Eligibility and Occasion

Worn by Regular Members and staff who have been issued the Working Blues uniform during formal commemorative occasions such as funerals, memorials, ANZAC Day, or other events as directed.

### Clothing

- Working Blues long sleeve shirt
- Working Blues cargo pants
- Duty Jacket (as needed)

### Additional Uniform Items

- Epaulettes
- Web belt
- Name badge
- Full-sized medals (if issued)

### Headwear

- Working Blues cap
- Footwear
- Black boots
- Plain black socks



### Additional Presentation Requirements

Medals may be displayed on either the shirt or the jacket under this dress code.

Fluoro wet weather gear is not generally appropriate for formal events and should be avoided where possible. It may be worn if specifically directed, or where poor weather conditions make it clearly necessary for outdoor events.



## Dress Code: 2 – Dress Whites

Navy Tie (Male or Female)	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
<b>X</b> No tie	<b>✓</b> Undecorated	<b>✓</b> Shirt only	<b>✓</b> Shirt only	<b>X</b> No medals

### Eligibility and Occasion

Worn by unit executive members and operational staff who have been issued Dress Whites as part of their role. Other members may only wear Dress Whites where they have been formally issued the uniform, or where wear has been expressly authorised for a specific event or function. This dress code is for day-to-day wear, or meetings & events where a professional appearance is required, but formal dress is not.

### Clothing

- Dress Whites shirt (short or long sleeve)
- Navy trousers or skirt
- Duty Jacket (as needed)

### Additional Uniform Items

- Name badge
- Ribbons (optional – shirt only)
- Black belt

### Headwear

- Executive cap (as needed)
- White peak cap (as needed – event dependent)

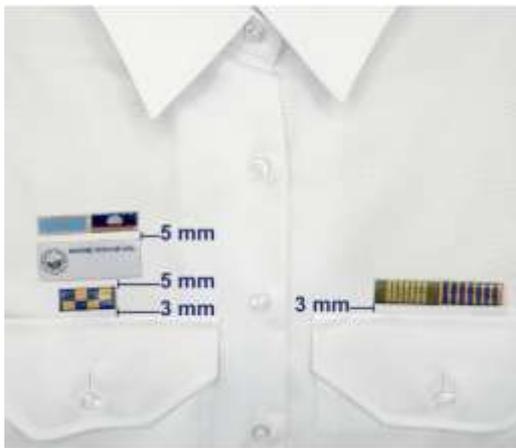
### Footwear

- Black socks
- Black polished shoes (men)
- Black court shoes (women)



### Additional Presentation Requirements

No citations, medals or pins, aside from your name badge in the specially designed pocket on the right side of the duty jacket, are permitted under this dress code.



## Dress Code: 2A – Presentation Dress Whites

Navy Tie (Male or Female)	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
 Tie required	 Undecorated	 Shirt only	 Shirt only	 No medals

### Eligibility & Occasion

Dress Whites are issued to unit executive members and operational staff where it forms part of their approved role. Dress Whites may also be worn by other members only where they have been formally issued the uniform or where wear has been expressly authorised for a specific event or function. This dress code is for events where a professional appearance is required, but formal dress is not.

### Clothing

- Dress Whites shirt (short or long sleeve)
- Navy trousers or skirt
- Duty Jacket (as needed)

### Additional Uniform Items

- Navy tie
- Name badge
- Ribbons (optional – shirt only)
- Black belt

### Headwear

- Executive cap (as needed – event dependent)
- White peak cap (as needed – event dependent)

### Footwear

- Black socks
- Black polished shoes (men)
- Black court shoes (women)



### Additional Presentation Requirements

No citations, medals or pins, aside from your name badge in the specially designed pocket on the right side of the duty jacket, are permitted under this dress code.



## Dress Code: 2B – Formal Dress Whites

Navy Tie (Male or Female)	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
 Tie required	 Undecorated	 Shirt only	 Replaced by medals	 Full-size Shirt only

### Eligibility & Occasion

Dress Whites are issued to unit executive members and operational staff where it forms part of their approved role. Dress Whites may also be worn by other members only where they have been formally issued the uniform or where wear has been expressly authorised for a specific event or function. These events may include award ceremonies (RESCA), the annual Government House Services Reception and similar formal occasions.

### Clothing

- Dress Whites shirt (long sleeve only)
- Navy trousers or skirt
- Duty Jacket\*

### Additional Uniform Items

- Navy tie
- Name badge
- Medals (if issued – full size, shirt only)
- Black belt

### Headwear

- Executive cap (as needed, event dependent)
- White peak cap (as needed, event dependent)

### Footwear

- Black socks
- Black polished shoes (men)
- Black court shoes (women)



### Additional Presentation Requirements

No citations, medals or pins, aside from your name badge in the specially designed pocket on the right side of the duty jacket, are permitted under this dress code.

\*The Duty Jacket is required to be worn to and from the venue and removed once inside.



## Dress Code: 2C – Ceremonial Dress Whites

Navy Tie (Male or Female)	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
 Tie required	 Decorations permitted	 Shirt only	 Replaced by medals	 Full-size Jacket or shirt

### Eligibility & Occasion

The Dress Whites uniform is issued to unit executive members and operational staff where it forms part of their approved role. Dress Whites may also be worn by other members only where they have been formally issued the uniform or where wear has been expressly authorised for a specific event or function. This may include ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day, or other events where full-size medals and formal presentation are appropriate.

### Clothing

- Dress Whites shirt (long sleeve only)
- Navy trousers or skirt
- Duty Jacket (required, except where advised otherwise)

### Additional Uniform Items

- Navy tie
- Name badge
- Medals (if issued – full size)
- Black belt

### Headwear

- Executive cap (as needed – event dependent)
- White peak cap (as needed – event dependent)

### Footwear

- Black socks
- Black polished shoes (men)
- Black court shoes (women)



### Additional Presentation Requirements

Citations, medals or pins may be displayed on either the shirt or the jacket under this dress code.



## Dress Code: 2D – Ceremonial Dress Whites with Tunic (Ribbons)

Navy Tie (Male or Female)	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
 Tie required	 Not permitted	 Tunic or shirt	 Jacket or shirt	 Not permitted

### Eligibility

The tunic is not part of the standard uniform issue. It is worn in limited circumstances, typically by senior representatives or members attending formal or commemorative events.

### Occasion for Use

Used for formal duties or ceremonial events where ribbons may be worn in place of medals.

### Clothing

- Dress Whites shirt (short or long sleeve)
- Navy trousers or skirt
- MRNSW tunic

### Additional Uniform Items

- Navy tie (male or female style)
- Name badge
- Ribbons
- Black belt

### Headwear

- White peak cap (if purchased or allocated)

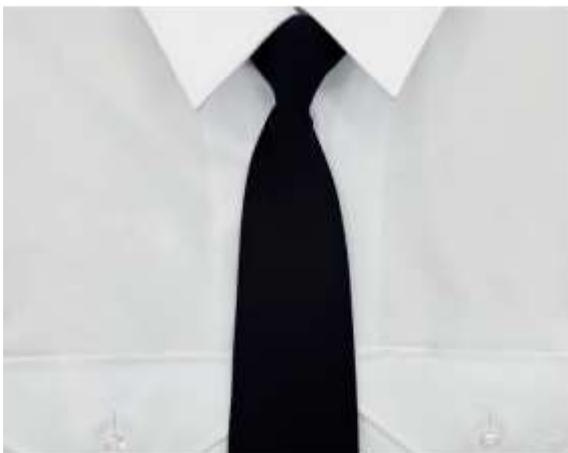
### Footwear

- Black socks
- Black polished shoes (men)
- Black court shoes (women)



### Additional Presentation Requirements

Medals, including miniatures, are not permitted under this code.



## Dress Code: 2E – Ceremonial Dress Whites with Tunic (Medals)

Navy Tie (Male or Female)	Duty Jacket	Citations & Pins	Ribbons	Medals
 Tie required	 Not permitted	 Tunic or shirt	 Replaced by medals	 Full-sized

### Eligibility

The tunic is not part of the standard uniform issue. It is worn in limited circumstances, typically by senior representatives or members attending formal or commemorative events.

### Occasion for Use

Used for high-level ceremonies, official honours presentations, or formal commemorative events where full-size medals are worn.

### Clothing

- Dress Whites shirt (short or long sleeve)
- Navy trousers or skirt
- MRNSW tunic

### Additional Uniform Items

- Navy tie (male or female style)
- Name badge
- Medals (full-size only)
- Black belt

### Headwear

- White peak cap (if purchased or allocated)

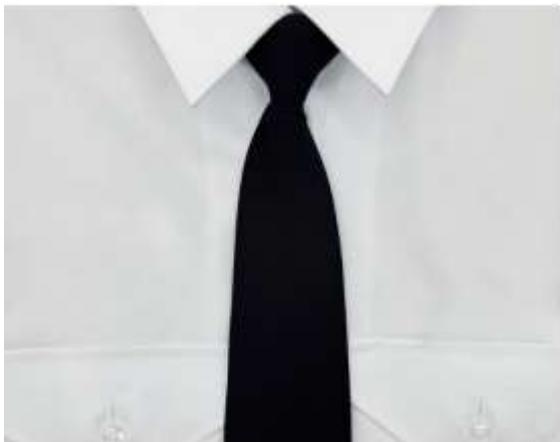
### Footwear

- Black socks
- Black polished shoes (men)
- Black court shoes (women)



### Additional Presentation Requirements

Full-size medals may be worn under this code. Ribbons and miniatures must not be worn.



## Specialised Personal Protection Gear (PPE)

### Rescue Water Craft Operator (RWCO) Gear

#### Eligibility and Issue

Issued to trained and current Rescue Water Craft Operators (RWCOs). Members must maintain currency through drills and remain active in service to retain access to RWC PPE.

#### Occasion for Use

This gear is worn during all RWC operations and training. It must not be worn unless operating or assisting with RWC activity.

#### Components

- Marine Rescue NSW-approved helmet
- Marine Rescue NSW-issued RWC lifejacket (PFD)
- Neoprene wetsuit (spring suit or full length)
- Neoprene booties

#### Additional Presentation Requirements

All items must be clean, properly fitted, and in good condition. No substitutions may be made without the relevant Zone Duty Operations Manager approval.

Wetsuit thickness may vary depending on local water temperature, as outlined in the RWCO SOP.

For detailed PPE guidance, refer to the RWC SOP available in OTTER.



## State Operations Group PPE

### Eligibility and Issue

Worn during approved SOG deployments or exercises. This uniform is task-specific and must not be worn outside of authorised SOG activity.

### Occasion for Use

This gear is worn during all SOG operations and training. It must not be worn unless operating or assisting with SOG activity.

### Components

Uniform and equipment items may be issued to the member, assigned to a vessel or vehicle, or provided for the duration of a deployment. Members are responsible for ensuring they have access to all required items before deployment.

- Deployment shirt with reflective tape
- Operational trousers with reflective tape
- Spray jacket (optional)
- Black lace-up boots
- Helmet (as required by task or risk assessment)
- Lifejacket (for on-water operations)

### Additional Presentation Requirements

All items must be clean, correctly fitted, and in good condition. Members are expected to bring or collect the PPE required prior to deployment.

For further detail, refer to the SOG SOP, available in OTTER.



## Headwear and Caps

Marine Rescue NSW recognises the following headwear as part of the official uniform. Wear is subject to the guidelines for each uniform type.



### Working Blues Cap

The working blues cap is worn as part of the operational uniform. Members have the option of wearing either the working blues cap or blue wide brim hat (see below).



### Wide Brim Hat

The wide brim hat should only be worn when working outdoors or on boats, where it does not create a hazard. Members have the option of wearing either the working blues cap or blue wide brim floppy hat.



### Beanie

May be worn during informal duties with the Working Blues uniform. *Available for purchase for Units in cooler climates.*



### Executive Cap

The executive cap is an optional item that may be purchased and worn with the Dress Whites uniform.



### White Peak Cap

The peak cap is worn with the Dress Whites uniform and tunics. It must not be worn with the Working Blues uniform.

The peak cap is normally worn by the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners, Senior Staff, Unit Commanders and Deputy Unit Commanders.

## Permitted Headwear by Uniform Type: Summary

	Working Blues Cap, Wide Brim Hat & Beanie	Executive Cap	White Peak Cap
<b>Working Blues</b>	✓	✗	✗
<b>Dress Whites</b>	✗	✓	✓
<b>Tunic</b>	✗	✗	✓

## Peak Cap Insignia

Marine Rescue NSW peak caps include visual distinctions that indicate the wearer's appointment level. These distinctions are consistent across both men's and women's headwear, including plain and tricorn styles.



### Men's Plain Peak Cap

Worn by Unit Commanders, Deputy Unit Commanders, and selected Unit Executives, as designated by the Unit Commander.

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### Women's Tricorne Plain

Worn by Unit Commanders, Deputy Unit Commanders, and selected Unit Executives, as designated by the Unit Commander.

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### Men's Peak Cap with Silver Bar & Silver Strap

Worn by Protocol Officers and staff-appointed Superintendents and Inspectors.

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### Women's Tricorn with Silver Bar

Worn by Protocol Officers and staff-appointed Superintendents and Inspectors.

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### Men's Peak Cap with One Row of Silver Oakleaf & Silver Strap

Worn by the Marine Rescue NSW Deputy Commissioners

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### Men's Peak Cap with Two Rows of Silver Oakleaf & Silver Strap

Worn by the Marine Rescue NSW Commissioner

## When caps are worn

The formal white peak cap or working blues cap should be worn in the following circumstances:

- When attending a Marine Rescue NSW function in uniform, or representing Marine Rescue NSW at an outdoor function in uniform
- When the National Anthem is played outdoors
- When taking part in a Marine Rescue NSW funeral parade

- When entering a building while on official Marine Rescue NSW business
- When inside a church (females only)

#### When caps are not worn

- Peak or working blues caps should not be worn in the following situations:
- When inside a church (males only)
- When a chaplain is conducting a prayer for any Marine Rescue NSW purpose
- When serving as a pallbearer during a funeral parade
- When the National Anthem is played indoors
- When entering a Marine Rescue NSW unit meeting
- When entering a Marine Rescue NSW base
- Inside an RSL Club

### Other Ceremonial Insignia

#### Chaplain Stoles

Marine Rescue NSW chaplains may wear a ceremonial stole when officiating at memorials, official ceremonies, and other formal events.

The stole is worn over Dress Whites, Tunic or other formal uniform, draped evenly over both shoulders with insignia clearly visible. It must not interfere with the display of medals, rank insignia, or name badges.

Stoles are reserved for formally recognised chaplains only. The design must align with organisational standards, and any alterations must preserve the official appearance.



## Approved footwear

### Working Blues

Members wearing the Working Blues uniform are to wear either deck shoes or black boots depending on the event.

Deck shoes are the standard footwear issued at no cost as part of the uniform. They are Duty in colour and form part of the full Working Blues uniform kit provided to members.

Black boots may be worn as an alternative to deck shoes. Mongrel brand boots are the style available through Stores, either provided on approval or for purchase. Other plain black lace-up boots of a similar standard are acceptable.

### Dress Whites / Unit Executive Uniform

When wearing the Dress Whites uniform, members are to wear formal black footwear.

**Men:** black polished lace-up shoes.

**Women:** plain black court shoes.

Footwear for these uniforms must be well maintained and polished to a high standard.

Unit Executives may obtain footwear through the Unit Executive uniform order form at unit cost. Plain black footwear of a comparable style and standard is also acceptable.

### General Requirements

- Footwear must always be serviceable and plain in appearance.
- Socks worn with footwear must be plain, either white or black.
- Footwear should be replaced when worn or damaged to maintain a professional standard.



Deck Shoe



Mongrel Zipsider Boot



Men's Black Polished Shoes (Executive)



Women's Black Court Shoes (Executive)

## Legacy and Purchasable Items

Marine Rescue has a number of legacy uniform items, as well as items available for purchase through the Marine Rescue online store.

'Supporter' items purchased from the online store are designed for casual wear and are not considered part of the official Marine Rescue uniform. This includes items such as the supporter cap and slouch hat, which may be worn with civilian attire.

Some legacy items are being phased out. These include the **Marine Rescue NSW Navy knitted jumper/pullover** (with roundels and epaulette holders) and the **Marine Rescue royal blue polar fleece vest**. While these may continue to be worn in general use, they are not to be worn at formal or ceremonial occasions.

The older Marine Rescue working blues shirt with writing above the right pocket is being phased out and should no longer be worn.

## PART C - Honours, Awards and Insignia

### Australian Honours and Awards

Australian Honours and Awards are worn on the left breast, following the official Order of Wearing issued by the Governor-General. The medal of highest precedence is always mounted closest to the heart, with others following outward toward the left shoulder. This ensures consistency and respect for the national system of recognition.

Members of Marine Rescue NSW may be recipients of a variety of awards from the Australian Honours system. These awards recognise service, commitment, and distinguished contributions to the community. The most relevant in this context are the Emergency Services Medal, the National Emergency Medal, and the National Medal:

- **Emergency Services Medal** – For distinguished service in an Australian emergency service. Entitles the wearer to the post-nominal ESM.
- **National Emergency Medal** – For sustained or significant service during nationally significant emergencies. Clasps on the ribbon denote the specific operation.
- **National Medal** – For fifteen years of diligent service in organisations that protect the community, with clasps for each additional ten years.

While these three medals are the most commonly encountered within Marine Rescue NSW, other Australian Honours may also be worn if awarded. These include awards for bravery, campaign and service medals, and long service decorations from other eligible organisations.

#### **Order of Wear** (closest to the heart → outward toward the left shoulder):

Emergency Services Medal → National Emergency Medal → National Medal

*Note: the complete order is available from the Governor-General's website*



Right  
Closest to the chest

Left  
Towards left shoulder

Where multiple medals are worn, medals are to be mounted so that the ribbons sit together without spacing. Court mounting is recommended.

## NSW State Awards - Medals

NSW agencies issue medals to recognise bravery, distinguished service and long service. These are worn on the right breast, with each service's medals grouped together in a fixed sequence.

### Order of Wear (right shoulder → inward toward the heart):

Marine Rescue NSW → Volunteer Rescue Association → NSW State Emergency Service → NSW Rural Fire Service → NSW Ambulance → Fire and Rescue NSW → NSW Police Force

## Marine Rescue NSW Medals

Marine Rescue NSW awards medals to recognise bravery, distinguished service and long service. These are worn on the right breast, with the highest bravery award placed outermost at the shoulder and the Long Service Medal worn closest to the heart.

- **Marine Rescue NSW Medal for Valour** – The highest MRNSW award, recognising acts of exceptional bravery under great peril. The full-size medal is engraved with the recipient's name and date of action.
- **Commissioner's Commendation for Courage** – Recognises conspicuous courage where members knowingly placed themselves at significant risk to save or protect life. Subsequent awards are denoted by a rosette fixed to the ribbon, miniature and ribbon bar.
- **Commissioner's Commendation for Service** – Recognises meritorious service beyond normal expectations in administration, leadership, operations, training or public education. May be awarded individually or to groups, with further awards marked by a rosette.
- **Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Medal** – Awarded after ten years of continuous or aggregate service.

### Order of Wear (right shoulder → inward toward the heart):

Marine Rescue NSW Medal for Valour → Commissioner's Commendation for Courage → Commissioner's Commendation for Service → Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Medal



Right  
Right shoulder

Left  
Closest to the heart

## NSW State Awards - Citations

Citations are worn on the right breast, positioned 5 mm above the name badge. These include citations issued by agencies as well as NSW Premier's Emergency Citations, which are placed after the agency sequence and ordered by date of issue.

When more than one citation is worn, they follow a fixed sequence from the right shoulder inward toward the heart, with Marine Rescue NSW outermost and the NSW Police Force closest to the heart.

### Order of Wear (right shoulder → inward toward the heart):

Marine Rescue NSW → Volunteer Rescue Association → NSW State Emergency Service → NSW Rural Fire Service → NSW Ambulance → Fire and Rescue NSW → NSW Police Force → NSW Premier's Emergency Citations (Flood 2022–23 → Bushfire 2019–20)

Citation or Pin	Recognition	Placement and notes	Image
<b>NSW Premier's Bushfire Emergency Citation 2019-2020</b>	Recognises service during the NSW 2019–2020 bushfires.	Right breast, 5 mm above the name badge	
<b>Premier's Flood Emergency Citation 2022-2023</b>	Recognises service during the NSW 2022–2023 flood events.	Right breast, 5 mm above the name badge	

## Marine Rescue NSW Citations

Marine Rescue NSW issues its own citations to recognise members for significant contribution, service, or commitment. These are worn on the right breast, above the name badge, with Life Membership placed outermost at the shoulder and Unit Life Membership worn closest to the heart.

Citation / Pin	Recognition	Placement and notes	Image
<b>Marine Rescue NSW Life Membership</b>	Awarded by the Board for a member's long-term and outstanding contribution.	Right breast, 5 mm above the name badge	
<b>Commissioner's Citation</b>	Awarded at the Commissioner's discretion for actions or service in a significant incident or rescue.	Right breast, 5 mm above the name badge  If a member is awarded a second citation, the insignia displays two anchors and the first citation is no longer worn.	 
<b>Marine Rescue NSW Unit Life Membership</b>	Awarded by an individual unit to recognise significant contributions to that unit over many years.	Right breast, 5 mm above the name badge	
<b>Marine Rescue NSW 5-year insignia pin</b>	<i>See Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Pins and Medals</i>		

**Order of Wear (right shoulder → inward toward the heart):**

Marine Rescue NSW Life Membership → Commissioner’s Citation → Unit Life Membership

**Note:** If issued, the 5-Year Insignia Pin is positioned after the Unit Life Membership citation, closest to the heart.



Right  
Right shoulder

Left  
Closest to the heart

Where multiple medals are worn, medals are to be mounted so that the ribbons sit together without spacing. Court mounting is recommended.

**Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Pins and Medals**

Long service awards recognise a member’s ongoing commitment to Marine Rescue NSW over an extended period. They are worn on the right breast of the uniform and form part of the Marine Rescue NSW internal medal order. When worn with medals from other NSW agencies, they remain grouped within the MRNSW sequence and are positioned according to the NSW-wide medal order.

Pin / Medal	Recognition	Placement and notes	Image
<b>Marine Rescue NSW 5-year insignia pin</b>	<p>Awarded for five years of continuous or aggregate service, including service with predecessor organisations.</p> <p>The pin is removed once the Ten-Year Medal is awarded.</p>	<p>Right breast, centred 3 mm above the name badge.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The Five-Year Service Insignia is a <b>metal pin</b> worn above the name badge.</p> <p>The Ten-Year Service ribbon bar is a fabric ribbon worn below the name badge. The two items are similar in appearance, however represent different awards.</p>	

Pin / Medal	Recognition	Placement and notes	Image
<p><b>Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Medal</b></p>	<p>Awarded for ten years of satisfactory service.</p> <p>The set includes a full-size medal, a miniature medal and a ribbon bar.</p>	<p><b>Full-size medal</b> Worn on the right breast below the name badge. The top of the ribbon sits 15 millimetres above the top seam of the right pocket. The name badge is centred 5 millimetres above the ribbon. Full-size medals are worn for ceremonial and formal occasions.</p> <p><b>Ribbon bar</b> Worn on the right breast below the name badge. The top of the ribbon bar sits 3 millimetres above the top seam of the right pocket. The name badge is centred 5 millimetres above the ribbon bar. The ribbon bar is worn for routine duties when full-size medals are not required.</p> <p>Only one component of the Ten-Year Service Medal set is worn at a time.</p> <p>Once the Ten-Year Service Medal is awarded, the Five-Year Service Insignia Pin is no longer worn.</p>	
<p><b>Marine Rescue NSW 20-year service clasp set</b></p>	<p>Awarded for twenty years of service.</p> <p>This clasp forms part of the Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Medal system and is worn in conjunction with the Long Service Medal first awarded at ten years.</p>	<p>The 20-year clasp is worn with the Long Service Medal.</p> <p>The clasp is fixed to the ribbon of the full-size medal and remains attached when additional service clasps are later awarded. A mini clasp is fixed to the ribbon of the miniature medal.</p> <p>When the ribbon bar is worn, a single rosette is displayed at the centre of the ribbon bar.</p>	

Pin / Medal	Recognition	Placement and notes	Image
<b>Marine Rescue NSW 30-year service clasp set</b>	Awarded for thirty years of service.	<p>The 30-year clasp is worn with the Long Service Medal.</p> <p>A second clasp is fixed to the ribbon of the full-size medal, resulting in two clasps being displayed on the full-size medal.</p> <p>No additional clasp or rosette is worn on the miniature medal or ribbon bar beyond the initial clasp</p>	
<b>Marine Rescue NSW 40-year service clasp set</b>	Awarded for forty years of service.	<p>The 40-year clasp is worn with the Long Service Medal.</p> <p>A third clasp is fixed to the ribbon of the full-size medal, resulting in three clasps being displayed on the full-size medal.</p> <p>No additional clasp or rosette is worn on the miniature medal or ribbon bar beyond the initial clasp</p>	
<b>Marine Rescue NSW 50-year service clasp set</b>	Awarded for fifty years of service.	<p>The 50-year clasp is worn with the Long Service Medal.</p> <p>A fourth clasp is fixed to the ribbon of the full-size medal, resulting in four clasps being displayed on the full-size medal.</p> <p>No additional clasp or rosette is worn on the miniature medal or ribbon bar beyond the initial clasp.</p>	

**Transition:** Marine Rescue NSW is in the process of transitioning from the use of anchor clasps to numbered clasps and adopting a five-year long service milestone system (15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years).

This change is being implemented progressively and may result in members displaying different clasp styles during the transition period.

Under the new system, only the most recent milestone clasp is displayed on the ribbon of the full-size medal. Earlier milestones are recognised within the service record but are not displayed simultaneously on the medal ribbon.

For ribbon bars, a single rosette is used to represent long service recognition. The rosette is marked with the corresponding year number and replaces the use of multiple rosettes or devices previously associated with long service milestones.

During the transition period, the previously issued anchor clasps remain valid and may continue to be worn in accordance with this SOP until replaced or updated.



## Ribbon Bars

Ribbon bars are a smaller version of a medal's ribbon, worn when the full medal is not being worn. They provide a practical way for members to display their awards on a daily basis without the need to wear full-size medals. Ribbon bars are the approved form for routine uniform wear and allow achievements to be recognised while still maintaining a professional and functional appearance.

Ribbon bars are mounted in the same order of wear as the medals they represent, and on the same side of the uniform. On the left breast, they follow the Australian Honours and Awards System, positioned closest to the heart and moving toward the left shoulder. On the right breast, they follow the NSW-wide medal sequence, with Marine Rescue NSW medals grouped in their internal order, positioned closest to the heart and moving toward the right shoulder.

### Placement

Ribbon bars are worn 3 mm above the pocket seam, with the highest award placed in the top row closest to the heart. Where possible, all ribbons should be arranged in a single row. If more than four are worn, a second row is placed directly above with a 5 mm gap.

Men may wear up to four ribbons per row, while women may wear three or four depending on fit. Ribbons should always be kept neat, clean and correctly aligned, as they represent the member's personal service and formal recognition.

## When medals are worn

**Full-size** medals are reserved for formal or ceremonial occasions where the full dignity of the award is to be displayed. These occasions include official award presentations, ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services, memorial services, and other events where the invitation or directive specifies medals are to be worn.

Medals are mounted as a single group, with ribbons of equal length so that the medals hang evenly. A medal being awarded is not worn at the presentation ceremony itself; it may only be worn once it has been formally conferred.

When more than one medal is awarded, they are mounted on a single medal bar in the correct order of wear. Medal bars are made in different sizes to suit the number of medals, and all ribbons must be cut to the same length so the medals hang evenly. This ensures the medals are displayed in a professional and consistent manner across all members.

**Miniature medals** are smaller versions of full-size medals, mounted in the same order of wear. They are intended for wear on civilian evening attire such as a dinner suit, tuxedo or lounge suit, or with evening wear for females.

Typical occasions where miniatures may be worn include black tie dinners, official receptions, or other formal evening functions where full-size medals would not be appropriate. Miniatures are not worn on the Marine Rescue NSW Working Blues or Executive Dress White uniforms.

## Lapel Pins

Commemorative lapel pins previously issued by Marine Rescue NSW should be worn on the right collar of the uniform and only one pin is allowed. They can be worn on civilian attire on the collar or on suit or jacket's button lapel.

The State Radio Operator endorsement pin is awarded to Radio and Watch Officers endorsed to operate state-wide 24/7. It is worn on the right collar, with either the endorsement pin or a commemorative lapel pin worn at one time, not both.

## Unofficial Medals

Ex-service organisations sometimes commission their own unofficial medals to mark participation in particular military campaigns, periods of service or types of service that have not been recognised through the Australian honours system.

Awards made by foreign governments which have not been approved by the Governor-General for acceptance and wear are also "unofficial".

There is no impediment to wearing such medals in appropriate private settings, such as a meeting of the relevant ex-service association, or a reception hosted by the relevant foreign government. Ideally, unofficial medals should not be worn at public ceremonial and commemorative events, but if they are worn as the occasion demands, the convention is that they are worn on the right breast.

Wearing of unofficial medals colloquially known as "tinnies" must not be included with approved medals and not worn on the left breast at public, ceremonial or commemorative events while in Marine Rescue NSW Uniform.

## Wearing Decorations with Civilian Dress

Medals, ribbon bars, pins and citations are to be worn on approved Marine Rescue NSW uniforms when specified in the dress code. This includes operational blues, dress whites and tunics.

They may also be worn on appropriate civilian formal attire, such as a suit, when attending events including ANZAC Day commemorations, funerals, official ceremonies, or Government House receptions.

They are not to be worn on corporate attire or casual clothing, including Marine Rescue branded business shirts or polos. Honours and awards are reserved for uniform wear and formal occasions, and must always be displayed in accordance with the order of wear.

## **PART D – CEREMONIAL PROTOCOLS**

### **Award and Recognition Presentations**

The presentation of awards in Marine Rescue NSW reflects their significance, from Australian Honours conferred at Government House through to long service pins and citations awarded at local unit events. Each award has an intended level of presenter and a standard nomination process. While many can be presented at unit meetings, they may also be conferred at larger award ceremonies or specially arranged events.

#### **Presentation Protocol**

Award presentations should reflect the significance of the recognition. Whether held at Government House or during a unit meeting, each presentation is to be conducted with respect, consistency, and dignity. When planning ceremonies, units should also ensure that all members are aware of the appropriate uniform requirements.

Where a speech is appropriate, remarks should be prepared in advance. They should be concise, respectful, and suited to the award being conferred. For major honours bravery awards, the full citation should be read aloud before the presentation. For service and long service awards, a shorter explanation of the contribution or milestone may be sufficient, but the significance of the award should always be acknowledged.

Recipients are called forward one at a time by name. Where several people are being recognised together, a collective citation may be read, but each recipient should still be called forward individually. Before an award is presented, the presenter should ensure that the member is wearing the correct uniform and that it is neat and presentable.

Awards are given to the recipient in their presentation box. The presenter hands the opened box directly to the recipient, facing the audience, with a handshake to accompany the exchange. Where the occasion calls for medals to be worn, presenters are expected to wear full medals in accordance with the dress code, while recipients wear only previously awarded ribbons until the new award has been formally presented. Where possible, photographs should always be taken to record the presentation, ensuring that uniforms, medals and decorations are in compliance with this SOP.

The tone of the presentation should be appropriate to the level of award. Every presentation should be delivered with care, as each award represents significant commitment to Marine Rescue NSW.

Each award has an intended level of presenter. Where the designated presenter is not available, another senior officer or appropriate representative may take their place. The key consideration is that the presentation is carried out with formality and respect, regardless of the exact title of the presenter.

## Award Descriptions and Procedures

### Emergency Services Medal (ESM)

Recognises distinguished service in an Australian emergency service and entitles the recipient to the post-nominal ESM.

Nominations are confidential, endorsed by the Commissioner, and submitted through the national honours system via agencies directly.

The medal is formally presented at Government House by the Governor of NSW.



### National Emergency Medal (NEM)

Recognises sustained or significant service during nationally significant emergencies, with clasps denoting the specific operation.

Public nominations are permitted; nominations for Marine Rescue NSW members are coordinated through Headquarters, endorsed by the Commissioner, and submitted to the Australian Honours system.

Where possible, medals should be presented by a Federal Member of Parliament; otherwise by the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, or Zone Commander at a unit meeting or award ceremony.



### National Medal (NM)

Recognises fifteen years of diligent service in organisations that protect the community, with clasps for each additional ten years.

Nominations are endorsed by the Commissioner before submission.

Where possible, medals should be presented by a Federal Member of Parliament; otherwise by the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, or Zone Commander at a unit meeting or award ceremony.



### Marine Rescue Medal for Valour

The highest MRNSW bravery award, recognising acts of exceptional courage under great peril.

It is usually presented by the Commissioner at a specially organised ceremony, though on occasion it may be presented by the Emergency Services Minister.

The medal is engraved with the recipient's name and date of action.



### Marine Rescue NSW Long Service Medal

Is awarded for ten years of continuous or aggregate service, including service with predecessor organisations.

It is presented by the Unit Commander or Zone Commander, typically at a unit meeting or award ceremony. The pin is removed once the Ten-Year Medal is awarded.



### Commissioner's Commendation for Courage

Recognises members who knowingly placed themselves at significant risk to save or protect life.

It is presented by the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner at a special event.



### Commissioner's Commendation for Service

Recognises meritorious service beyond normal expectations in leadership, operations, administration, training, or public education.

It may be awarded to individuals or groups. This commendation is normally presented by the Commissioner, but may also be presented by a Deputy Commissioner or Zone Commander at a unit meeting or award ceremony.



### Commissioner's Citation

Recognises exemplary service or a significant rescue or incident. It is conferred by the Commissioner, or a Deputy Commissioner, at a unit meeting or award ceremony.



### Marine Rescue NSW Life Membership

Is the highest internal recognition of the organisation, awarded by the Board for long-term and outstanding contribution. It is presented at the Annual General Meeting by the Chair of the Board, accompanied by a framed certificate and citation.



### Five-Year Insignia Pin

Is awarded for five years of continuous or aggregate service, including service with predecessor organisations. It is presented by the Unit Commander, typically at a unit meeting or award ceremony. The pin is removed once the Ten-Year Medal is awarded.



### Long Service Clasps

Mark service at 20, 30, 40 and 50 years, and onwards in ten-year increments.

Clasps are fixed to the medal ribbon, while the ribbon bar shows a single rosette for the most recent clasp. They are generally presented by a Zone Commander, though occasionally a State Member of Parliament may be invited. These may be presented at a unit meeting or award ceremony.



*Marine Rescue NSW is in the process of moving to a 5-year milestone system (15, 20, 25, etc)*

## Welcome to Country

A Welcome to Country is a formal ceremony delivered by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Elder or Traditional Custodian who has permission to welcome others to their land. This can only be done by Traditional Owners or Custodians of the land where the event is being held.

To organise a Welcome to Country in your area, contact your Local Aboriginal Land Council. They can help you get in touch with an Elder or Traditional Custodian.

For more information on Indigenous protocol, visit

<https://www.indigenous.gov.au/contact-us/welcome-acknowledgement-country>

## Acknowledgement of Country

An Acknowledgement of Country is a way for anyone to show respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land they are on. It reflects awareness of and respect for the enduring connection Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have to Country, including land, waters and culture, as the oldest continuous living cultures in the world.

Marine Rescue NSW observes this practice at major events such as Commissionings, state and regional meetings, and other significant gatherings. While not mandatory, Units are encouraged to include an Acknowledgement of Country at Unit meetings, events and activities where appropriate.

As more staff and volunteers work flexibly or attend meetings online from different locations, it remains important to uphold this cultural protocol in all settings.

### Example Acknowledgements

You can use one of the following examples to begin a meeting, speech or formal event, whether in person or online.

#### **If you know the name of the Traditional Custodians for the area you are meeting on:**

“I acknowledge the [insert Traditional Custodians name] as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are meeting today. I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW. I also acknowledge and pay my respects to any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people joining us today.”

#### **If you do not know the name of the Traditional Custodians:**

“I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are meeting today. I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW. I also acknowledge and pay my respects to any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people joining us today.”

#### **If you are hosting or recording an online meeting or webinar and know the Traditional Custodians for your location:**

“I acknowledge that I am hosting or recording this meeting or webinar from the lands of the [insert Traditional Custodians name]. I also acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the many lands across which you all work today and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people participating in this meeting or webinar. I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.”

## **If you do not know the Traditional Custodians for your location during an online meeting or webinar:**

“I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the many lands on which we are working today and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people participating in this meeting or webinar. I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.”

## **Commissioning of a Marine Rescue NSW Base, Vessel or Facility**

The commissioning of a new Marine Rescue NSW base, facility or vessel is a major milestone for both the organisation and the Unit involved. These occasions mark the formal recognition of the service’s growth and development and represent a visible investment by Marine Rescue NSW and the NSW Government in supporting local communities. A commissioning signals that the facility, base or vessel is ready to take its place in service, enhancing the safety of people on the water and strengthening the Unit’s connection to the community it serves.

Because of the significance of these ceremonies, they must be carefully planned and managed. Commissionings, building openings and sod-turning ceremonies are coordinated by Marine Rescue NSW Headquarters, in consultation with the Minister’s Office and the Commissioner. This ensures that each event is conducted with the appropriate level of formality and consistency across the organisation.

The Minister for Emergency Services is typically invited to officiate, and invitations are also extended to Members of Parliament, senior representatives of partner agencies, local government, donors and community leaders. This high level of representation requires early and detailed coordination. Units must notify Headquarters as soon as planning begins so that invitations, speaking roles, seating, protocol requirements and media arrangements can all be managed in good time. **Contact [reception@marinerescuensw.com.au](mailto:reception@marinerescuensw.com.au) to initiate this process.**

The Regional Protocol Officer provides direct guidance to Units on ceremonial procedures, order of events, official acknowledgements, flag protocol and other matters of detail that ensure each ceremony reflects the dignity of the organisation and respects government protocol. Early engagement with the Protocol Officer is essential to avoid any last-minute issues.

Units may arrange their own naming ceremonies when a new vessel enters service. A naming ceremony provides a meaningful opportunity for a Unit to celebrate its connection with the community and recognise those who have shaped its history. Some Units have chosen to honour past members who have made a significant contribution, while others have adopted Indigenous names that reflect the culture, geography or maritime heritage of their local area.

The choice of a name becomes part of the organisation’s identity and should therefore be made thoughtfully and with care. All proposed names are subject to approval by the Commissioner well in advance of the ceremony, and Units should **contact [reception@marinerescuensw.com.au](mailto:reception@marinerescuensw.com.au) early in the process to begin this approval** and receive guidance on planning the event.

By following these procedures, Marine Rescue NSW ensures that all commissioning events, whether for a base, facility or vessel, are conducted with consistency, dignity and respect. These occasions are not only milestones for the Unit directly involved but also an opportunity to showcase Marine Rescue NSW to government, partner agencies and the wider community. Careful planning and adherence to protocol ensures that the service is represented at the

highest standard and that the commitment of our volunteers and supporters is recognised in the most appropriate way.

## Saluting

Marine Rescue NSW is not a commissioned organisation and does not use saluting as a routine mark of rank or authority. Salutes are observed on ceremonial occasions and in specific formal contexts, in accordance with the guidance set out in this SOP.

As a maritime agency, Marine Rescue NSW has adopted the saluting customs of the Royal Australian Navy, in line with broader maritime tradition.

### When to salute

Members of Marine Rescue NSW may be required to salute during official ceremonial occasions, provided they are in full uniform, including either the working blues cap, or peak cap. In such instances, salutes must be rendered in accordance with the following guidance:

#### Wreath-laying ceremonies

When laying a wreath at a cenotaph or memorial while representing Marine Rescue NSW, the member shall place the wreath, take one step back, and render a salute held for two marching paces (approximately three seconds). The member shall then execute an about-turn and return to their original position.

#### Funerals involving Marine Rescue NSW participation

Where a formal Honour Guard is established, salutes may be rendered as appropriate, and only where the family has requested Marine Rescue NSW participation in the ceremony.

#### Passing of a funeral cortege

Members in uniform shall come to attention and render a salute as the cortege passes.

#### National observances

A salute shall be rendered during the playing of the National Anthem, the sounding of the Last Post, or the raising of the Australian National Flag, where appropriate and when in uniform with approved headdress.

#### Acknowledgement of dignitaries

A salute may be rendered when in the presence of members of the Royal Family, the Governor-General, or a State Governor, in accordance with established ceremonial customs.

## How to Salute

The salute is performed using the right hand, raised smartly from the position of attention at the side of the body to the peak or brim of the cap or hat.

The hand should be flat, with the palm angled slightly downward and the fingers extended and joined.

The upper arm is raised so that it is parallel to the ground, with the forearm and wrist forming a straight line, keeping the hand approximately horizontal.



The movement should be sharp and controlled, giving an impression of discipline without stiffness.

The salute is to be held until it is returned or for a duration equivalent to two marching paces (approximately three seconds), whichever is appropriate.

Upon completion, the hand is lowered smartly to the side of the body, returning to the position of attention.

## **Funerals**

### **Funeral Services**

When attending the funeral of a Marine Rescue NSW member, members should wear Dress code 1A, 1B, 2B or 2C as directed.

At a minimum, members may wear clean, pressed long pants with a long-sleeve shirt and a Marine Rescue working blues cap. Neat semi-formal civilian attire is also acceptable. Medals should be worn regardless of dress.

Participation by Marine Rescue NSW in a funeral service must be at the request of the family. If requested, Marine Rescue NSW may provide one or more of the following elements where practical.

Unless you have a specific role in the service, members should sit toward the back of the chapel. All male members must remove caps before entering an indoor venue or chapel.

### **Honour Guard**

When the hearse arrives at the chapel, members should form two ranks outside the entrance. All members in the honour guard must be wearing caps.

The most senior officer present will call the guard to attention as the casket is removed. As the casket approaches, the order will be given: "Honour guard salute." Members will face forward and salute the casket. Once the casket has entered the chapel, the next command will be "Honour guard attention" and members will drop the salute. The final command, "Honour guard fall out," signals members to turn toward the chapel and join the mourners inside.

If the casket is already in place before the service begins, there is no requirement for an honour guard at the start.

If the casket is being carried out after the service, members should form a second honour guard along both sides of the driveway or road. As the hearse passes, uniformed members come to attention and salute. Those in civilian clothing should come to attention and bow their heads. Salutes should be dropped once the hearse has passed.

Members are to remain in position until the hearse has departed. On command from the officer in charge, members will turn in the direction of the hearse and fall out.

### **Ribbons, Medals and Caps of the Deceased**

If requested by the family, the deceased member's medals and cap may be placed on the casket. This is often managed by the funeral director.

If Marine Rescue NSW is asked to assist, the medals should be presented on a cushion and carried by the senior officer. The officer walks to the casket, places the cushion where the member's chest would be, then places the cap at the head of the casket. The officer steps back, salutes, turns about and returns to position. The officer may remain wearing their cap for this process.

## Flags

All Australian citizens may have the Australian National Flag draped over their casket. This can be arranged through the funeral director.

If the family requests a Marine Rescue NSW flag, it must be positioned respectfully, without covering or obstructing the casket. Any flag displayed at a funeral must follow appropriate protocol.

## Memorial Services

For memorials, follow the guidance of the family or event organiser. If appropriate, Dress Code 1B or 2C should be worn.

# PART E - Flags and Formal Observances

## Flags on vessels

Marine Rescue NSW vessels are to fly the Australian National Flag (Blue Ensign) as the primary ensign. This flag has precedence over all others and is to be flown whenever a vessel is operating. The Marine Rescue NSW Flag is the secondary flag and may also be flown where rigging permits. Only one flag is to be flown from each halyard or portal.

Operational signal flags, such as Delta or Bravo, may be displayed when required for safety or operational purposes. These flags are subordinate to the National Flag and must never displace or outrank it. Signal flags are to be removed promptly once the relevant operation is complete.

While the arrangement of rigging varies between vessel types, flag usage must remain consistent across the fleet. Flags may be flown from the main mast or from dedicated flag portals on the cabin roof. The Australian National Flag should be hoisted on a halyard to the peak of the main mast so that it remains in place during towing operations, a position which also reflects its seniority as the national ensign.

This consistent approach ensures that Marine Rescue NSW vessels are immediately identifiable to other mariners, government agencies and the public. The Blue Ensign represents the organisation's emergency service role, differentiating it from merchant or private craft that may use other ensigns.

Flags are to be maintained in a clean and serviceable condition. Any flag that becomes faded, torn, frayed or otherwise unfit for dignified display is to be replaced as soon as practicable.

**Note:** National flag protocol allows vessels under 24 metres in the merchant, fishing, commercial and pleasure classes to use the Australian Red Ensign. Marine Rescue NSW is not part of these categories. As an emergency service fleet, Marine Rescue vessels fly only the Australian National Flag (Blue Ensign) for clear recognition and consistency across the fleet.

## Naiad

Naiad vessels are increasingly common within the Marine Rescue NSW fleet. They are fitted with three flag portals at the rear of the cabin: the starboard portal is used for the Australian National Flag, the port portal is used for the Marine Rescue NSW Flag, and the centre portal remains free for use with a Delta or Bravo flag during relevant operations.



*Flags correctly positioned on TG30, a 10m Naiad RHIB, with the Australian National Flag on the starboard portal and the Marine Rescue NSW flag on the port.*

### Steber

Steber vessels are fitted with starboard and port halyards, as well as a flag portal located amidships aft on the canopy or cabin roof. The Australian National Flag (Blue Ensign) is flown from the starboard halyard and the Marine Rescue NSW Flag from the port halyard. The centre portal is reserved for operational signal flags such as Delta or Bravo, which may be flown during relevant operations and must be removed once the operation is complete.



*Delta flag correctly flown during towing on PM30, an 11.5m Steber Cabin Cruiser, replacing the Australian National Flag on the vessel's single flag mount.*

### Ocean Cylinder

Ocean Cylinder vessels vary in configuration, with some fitted with starboard and port halyards, others with starboard and port portals, and some with both. Regardless of the setup, the same principles as Steber vessels apply: the Australian National Flag (Blue Ensign) is flown from the starboard halyard or portal, and the Marine Rescue NSW Flag from the port halyard or portal.

Where both halyards and portals are fitted, the flags are to be flown from the halyards. If Delta or Bravo flags are required, they may be flown from either portal when the halyards are in use. If both portals are already in use, the Delta or Bravo flag is to be flown only from the port portal.



*Flags correctly positioned on X21, a 5.5m Ocean Cylinder Open RHIB.*

### Flags at Bases or Facilities

Where a flagpole is installed at a Marine Rescue NSW base or facility, a combination of flags may be flown. All flags should be of equal size, with none larger than the Australian National Flag (Blue Ensign). The recommended size for base display is 1800 mm x 900 mm, maintaining the standard 2:1 fly-to-hoist proportion. This ensures flags are presented with uniformity and dignity.



Single Pole at half mast



Single Pole with Yardarms

## Configurations

Marine Rescue NSW bases generally use either a single pole or a single pole with yardarms. On a single pole, only one flag is displayed. This is normally the Australian National Flag, although a State, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Flag may also be flown when appropriate. On a yardarm configuration, the Australian National Flag is flown at the top of the pole. A recognised national, State, or Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Flag is flown on the left yardarm (as viewed from the front), and an organisational flag such as the Marine Rescue NSW Flag is flown on the right yardarm. This arrangement ensures the National Flag remains in the position of honour, with officially recognised flags placed before organisational flags.

## Order of Precedence

When more than one flag is flown, they must be displayed in the correct order of precedence. The Australian National Flag always comes first. It is followed by State and Territory flags, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags (equal in precedence), and then organisational flags such as the Marine Rescue NSW Flag.

For Marine Rescue NSW, this means the National Flag is displayed in the senior position, the Aboriginal Flag is typically used as the next most senior flag at bases, and the Marine Rescue NSW Flag is flown after these in the organisational position. This sequence respects the official national protocol while also reflecting the organisation's identity as a not-for-profit emergency service.

## Daily Routine

The Australian National Flag should be raised briskly at first light and lowered ceremoniously at dusk. When flown with other flags, it is raised first and lowered last. Flags may also be displayed at night if they are properly illuminated. This practice maintains the dignity of the flag and ensures it is never left flying in darkness.

## Half-Mast

When flown at half-mast, the Ensign must first be raised to the masthead before being lowered. The position is about one-third down the pole, or halfway on smaller poles, symbolising space for the "flag of death" above. Flags are not flown at half-mast overnight, except on ANZAC Day or during the Sovereign's mourning period, when they may remain in place if properly illuminated.

## Further Information

For more detailed guidance, see the Australian Government Flag Protocol or contact your regional protocol officer, or Member of Parliament's office, where printed copies and Australian flags may be available.

## Related documents

The following documents support and complement the protocols outlined in this guide:

### Marine Rescue NSW operational documents

- SOP OP 02 - State Operations Group
- SOP OP 04 – RWC Operations

### Honours and awards forms

- All honours and award nomination forms are available in OTTER.

### External guidance

- Australian Honours and Awards Order of Wearing (Governor-General of Australia)
- Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country guidance (Indigenous.gov.au)

## Support and advice

Guidance on the application of this SOP, including uniform standards, ceremonial requirements and event practices, is available to members and staff as needed.

Regional Protocol Officers provide advice and support within their respective regions. Regional contact details are provided earlier in this document.

Marine Rescue NSW Headquarters supports the planning and coordination of major events, official ceremonies and award nominations. Enquiries can be directed to [reception@marinerescuensw.com.au](mailto:reception@marinerescuensw.com.au)

## Definitions

**About-turn:** A drill movement where a person turns 180 degrees on the spot to face the opposite direction.

**Acknowledgement of Country:** A statement of respect recognising the Traditional Custodians of the land on which a meeting or event is taking place.

**Bravo Flag:** The international maritime signal flag “B”, used as an operational signal flag.

**Cenotaph:** A memorial monument used as the focal point for commemorative services and wreath-laying ceremonies.

**Clasp:** A device attached to a medal ribbon to indicate additional recognised service or a further award.

**Court Mounting:** A method of mounting medals so the ribbons sit together without spacing and the medals hang evenly.

**Cortege:** A formal funeral procession, including the hearse and mourners.

**Delta Flag:** The international maritime signal flag “D”, used as an operational signal flag.

**Ensign:** A flag indicating nationality or organisational identity, particularly when flown on a vessel or at a facility.

**ESM:** Emergency Services Medal.

**Half-mast:** The position of a flag lowered partway down a mast or flagpole as a mark of mourning.

**Halyard:** A rope or line used to raise and lower a flag on a mast or flagpole.

**Honour Guard:** A formal guard formed for ceremonial purposes, such as funerals or memorials.

**Insignia:** Official badges or devices worn to indicate rank, appointment, qualification or recognition.

**Last Post:** A ceremonial bugle call played at commemorations and funerals as an act of remembrance.

**NEM:** National Emergency Medal.

**NM:** National Medal.

**Order of Precedence:** The recognised ranking that determines the correct sequence for display, including flags.

**Order of Wear:** The prescribed sequence for wearing medals, ribbons and citations on uniform.

**Pallbearer:** A person who carries or escorts a coffin during a funeral service.

**Peak Cap:** A formal cap with a visor worn with specified uniform dress codes.

**PPE:** Personal Protective Equipment.

**Ribbon Bar:** A bar displaying a medal ribbon, worn instead of the full-size medal for routine uniform wear.

**Rosette:** A small device fixed to a ribbon or ribbon bar to denote an additional award or clasp.

**Signal Flag:** An international maritime flag used to convey a specific operational meaning.

**Tunic:** A formal ceremonial jacket worn with Dress Whites for authorised occasions.

**Yardarm:** A horizontal crosspiece on a flagpole used to fly additional flags.

## Approval and document control

Revision	Author	Document status / change	Reviewer	Approver	Date
1.0	A. Adam S. Galvin	Content review, rewrite and reformatting	Protocol Committee	Commissioner	12/9/25
1.1	A. Adam S. Galvin	Content review and amendments	Protocol Committee	Commissioner	9/12/25
2	A. Adam S. Galvin	Content review, rewrite and reformatting	Protocol Committee	Commissioner	16/2/26

## Appendices

Appendix A – Marine Rescue NSW Duty Jacket Guidelines

Appendix B – Rank and Insignia

Appendix C - Legacy Recognition and Non-Approved Awards

Appendix D – Protocol Reference Cards



## Appendix A - Duty Jacket Guidelines

These guidelines are designed to preserve the professional presentation of the Marine Rescue NSW Duty Jacket and reinforce its role in promoting the organisation's identity and values.

### Permitted uniform combinations

The Marine Rescue NSW Duty Jacket can be worn with Operational Blues or Dress Whites uniforms.

### Preferred use and vessel operations

The high-visibility yellow wet weather jacket and pants (PPE) are the most suitable option for vessel operations, ensuring maximum visibility and safety in maritime environments.

While not preferred, the Marine Rescue NSW Duty Jacket may be worn on vessels in situations where high-visibility gear is not required. Examples include calm weather conditions or operations that do not necessitate high visibility, such as moored activities or administrative tasks on board.

Regardless of the outerwear worn, always ensure your lifejacket is securely fastened over your outermost layer when on a vessel.

The Marine Rescue NSW Duty Jacket is an integral part of the Operational Blues or Dress Whites uniform and is best suited for use at the unit base or in other non-operational settings.

### Medals and pins

Medals and pins may be worn on the jacket for dress codes 1B and 2C only.

For day-to-day wear, no medals or pins, aside from your name badge in the specially designed pocket on the right side of the jacket, are permitted.

### Identification and personalisation

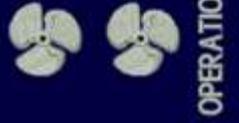
Jackets must only display approved name badges, medals, and pins. Modifying the jacket's design, such as removing roundels or reflective writing, or adding unauthorised patches or embroidery, is strictly prohibited to maintain uniformity and professionalism.

### Ceremonial use

The Marine Rescue NSW Duty Jacket is suitable for formal occasions when worn with the Dress Whites uniform. Ensure the jacket is clean and in excellent condition for these events.

## Appendix B - Rank and Insignia

### Executives & Staff

Insignia	Ranks	Position/s
	Commissioner	Chief Executive Officer
	Deputy Commissioner	Chief Operations Officer, Chief Financial Officer
	Superintendent	Zone Commander
	Inspector	Senior Manager Fleet, Zone Duty Operations Manager, Zone Training Manager, Manager Emergency Systems
	State Operations Officer Level 3	As determined by the Commissioner of MRNSW
	State Operations Officer Level 2	Fleet Officer, as determined by the Commissioner of MRNSW
	State Operations Officer Level 1	As determined by the Commissioner of MRNSW
	Specialist Media	As determined by the Commissioner of MRNSW

## Executives & Staff cont.

Insignia	Ranks	Position/s
	Staff	As determined by the Commissioner of MRNSW

## Protocol

Insignia	Ranks	Position/s
 STATE PROTOCOL	State Protocol Officer	As determined by the Commissioner of MRNSW
 PROTOCOL	Regional Protocol Officer	As determined by the Commissioner of MRNSW

## Unit Executives

Insignia	Ranks
	Unit Commander
	Deputy Unit Commander
	Unit Executive Position(s): Treasurer, Training Officer, Administration Officer, Membership Officer etc

## Radio Operations

Insignia	Ranks
The insignia for SAR Support Officer (legacy) consists of a white circular emblem on a dark blue background, featuring a globe with a satellite and signal lines, positioned to the left of three white chevron stripes pointing to the right.	SAR Support Officer (legacy)
The insignia for Watch Officer consists of a white circular emblem on a dark blue background, featuring a globe with a satellite and signal lines, positioned to the left of two white chevron stripes pointing to the right.	Watch Officer
The insignia for Radio Operator consists of a white circular emblem on a dark blue background, featuring a globe with a satellite and signal lines.	Radio Operator

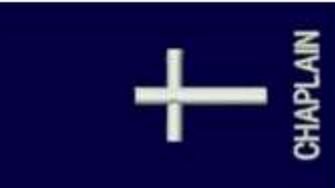
## Vessel Operations

Insignia	Ranks
The insignia for Master consists of a white anchor emblem on a dark blue background, enclosed in a white laurel wreath, positioned to the left of three white chevron stripes pointing to the right.	Master
The insignia for Coxswain consists of a white anchor emblem on a dark blue background, positioned to the left of three white chevron stripes pointing to the right.	Coxswain
The insignia for Coxswain (Restricted) consists of a white anchor emblem on a dark blue background, positioned to the left of two white chevron stripes pointing to the right.	Coxswain (Restricted)
The insignia for Rescue Water Craft Operator (RWCO) consists of a white anchor emblem on a dark blue background, positioned to the left of one white chevron stripe pointing to the right.	Rescue Water Craft Operator (RWCO)

## Vessel Operations cont.

Insignia	Ranks
	Senior Crew
	Crew

## Other

Insignia	Ranks
	Member
	Chaplain

## Appendix C - Legacy Recognition and Non-Approved Awards

### Formation of Marine Rescue NSW

Marine Rescue New South Wales (MRNSW) was established in 2009 through the unification of the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol (RVCP), the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association (AVCGA) and the Volunteer Rescue Association (VRA). Each of these organisations brought with them a proud history of service, their own systems of ranks, ratings and awards, and many decades of contribution to community safety on the water.

When MRNSW was formed, members' prior service and certain awards were carried across and recorded in their MRNSW member profiles so that this service and commitment would continue to be recognised.

### Long Service Awards

Members with cumulative service, including time with the RVCP, AVCGA and VRA, became eligible for the MRNSW Long Service Medal, with clasps issued where applicable. This medal brings together service from all three founding organisations and provides an ongoing way of recognising long commitment to marine rescue.

Because the MRNSW Long Service Medal consolidates earlier awards, members no longer need to wear the separate long service medals from the legacy organisations on MRNSW uniform.

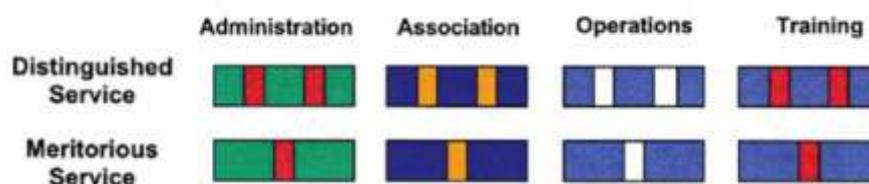
### Life Memberships

Members who had been awarded Life Membership in the RVCP, AVCGA or VRA were formally recognised as Life Members of MRNSW. This ensures that those honours continue to be acknowledged. As MRNSW Life Membership takes the place of previous life memberships, the older insignia does not need to be worn with the current uniform.

### AVCGA Distinguished and Meritorious Awards

- The AVCGA also conferred two distinct service awards:
- Distinguished Service Award (National Executive)
- Meritorious Service Award (Squadron Executive)

MRNSW continues to recognise both of these awards. As they do not carry a medal, their insignia may be worn in a similar way to citations – on the right side of the chest above the name tag – placed after any citations awarded by MRNSW or other NSW emergency service organisations.



### Badges and Non-Approved Awards

To keep the uniform consistent and easily recognisable, only MRNSW ratings, approved medals, ribbons, citations and the badges listed in Section 2 of this SOP are to be worn.

Badges from other organisations, while important in their own context, aren't part of MRNSW uniform. This includes, for example:

- Australian Defence Force qualification and service badges
- Rank or qualification badges from the RVCP, AVCGA or VRA

- Qualification badges from other emergency service organisations
- Commemorative or membership badges from organisations other than MRNSW

This approach is not intended to diminish the value of those qualifications, but to ensure the MRNSW uniform has a clear, professional and consistent appearance. Members are of course welcome to display or discuss their broader service history in other settings.

## Appendix D - Protocol Reference Cards



### 5 Year Insignia Pin

Marine Rescue NSW members who complete five years of satisfactory service are issued a 5 Year Insignia Pin.

The pin is worn on the **right breast**, centred 5 millimetres above the name tag, which is positioned 3 millimetres above the right pocket.

Once the 10 Year Service Medal set has been awarded, the 5 Year Insignia Pin is not worn.



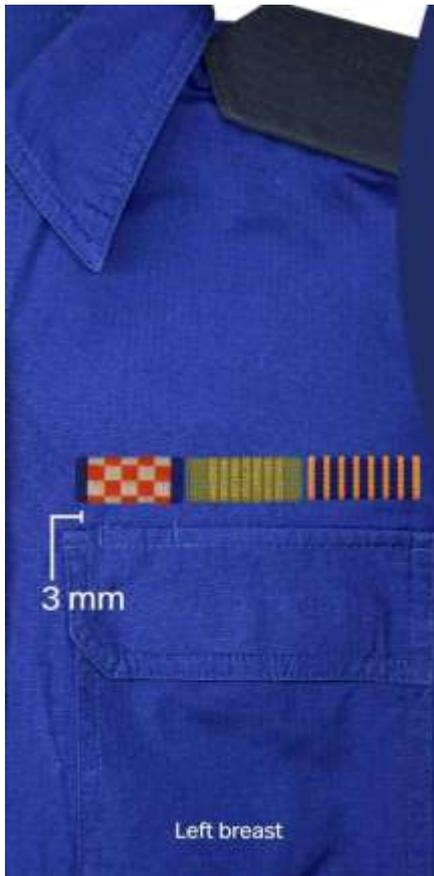
### 10 Year Long Service Medal

Marine Rescue NSW members who complete ten years of satisfactory service are awarded the 10 Year Service Medal set. The set includes a full-size medal, a miniature medal and a ribbon bar.

**Full-size medal**  
Worn on the **right breast** below the **name tag**. The top of the silk riband sits 15 millimetres above the top seam of the right pocket. The name tag is centred 5 millimetres above the riband. Full-size medals are worn for ceremonial and formal occasions.

**Ribbon bar**  
Worn on the **right breast** below the **name tag**. The top of the ribbon bar sits 3 millimetres above the top seam of the right pocket. The name tag is centred 5 millimetres above the ribbon bar. The ribbon bar provides a suitable alternative for routine duties when formal medals are not required.

Only one part of the 10 Year Service Medal set is worn at a time. Once this set has been awarded, the 5 Year Insignia Pin is not worn.



## Australian Honours and Awards

Australian Honours and Awards are worn on the **left breast** of the uniform. The medal of highest precedence is placed closest to the heart, with others following outward toward the left shoulder in line with the national Order of Wearing. The top of the silk riband sits 3 millimetres above the top seam of the left pocket.

For Marine Rescue NSW members, the Emergency Services Medal, the National Emergency Medal and the National Medal are the most commonly awarded. When worn together, they are mounted in that order of precedence.



## Epaulettes

Epaulettes are shoulder insignia that show a member's rating and the duties they are performing while in uniform.

Members should wear the highest-rated epaulettes appropriate to the duties they are undertaking. Epaulettes are worn as a matching pair on both shoulders. If duties change, the correct epaulettes should be swapped accordingly.

Epaulettes should be clearly visible at all times. Only epaulettes approved for wear by Marine Rescue NSW are permitted on the uniform.

## Permitted headwear by uniform type



Working Blues	✓	✗	✗
Dress Whites	✗	✓	✓
Tunic	✗	✗	✓



Right breast

## Lapel Pins

Commemorative lapel pins previously issued by Marine Rescue NSW may be worn on the right collar of the uniform. Only one pin is worn.

The Marine Rescue NSW State Radio Operator endorsement pin is also worn on the right collar. If worn, it replaces any commemorative lapel pin.

Lapel pins may also be worn on civilian attire on the collar or jacket lapel.

## Medal & Clasp Set Terminology



**Full-size medal:** Formal medal worn on uniform for approved occasions.

**Miniature medal:** Smaller version of the medal worn on certain formal civilian occasions.

**Riband:** The silk ribbon from which the medal is suspended.

**Ribbon bar:** A mounted piece of the silk riband worn on uniform when the medal is not worn.

**Clasp:** A small horizontal metal bar fixed to the riband of the medal indicating additional service or a specific operation.

**Rosette:** A small circular metal device worn on the ribbon bar to represent the same recognition as a clasp.

## Metal Insignia & Silk Ribbon Bars

Metal insignia, including citations, pins and other approved awards, are worn on the **right breast** centred above the name tag.

Ribbon bars are produced from the silk riband of medals and are worn when full-size medals are not being worn. They are positioned on the right side of the uniform below the name tag. Ribbon bars for Australian Honours and Awards are worn on the **left breast**.

