



Whiritoa Equipment Policy

Revision: *November 2025*

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure members of Whiritoa Lifeguard Service Inc. (the Club)

- Have access to surf-craft equipment, Vehicles and Technology that is appropriate for their individual skill level and to support their surf sports and lifeguard development
- That everyone is educated in the handling and allocation of equipment for Junior Surf, Surf Sports and other member usage
- To outline obligation and expectations in relation to liability and gear repair

Policy

- Equipment:
 - a. Foam boards: Foam boards are considered suitable for general use and are available to members, including junior members, upon approval from the Surf Sports Coach or a senior guard on patrol duty.
 - b. Fibreglass boards: Use of fibreglass boards is restricted and this policy dictates who can use them and the rules and conditions for such use. These boards will be allocated according to users specific needs, and a written agreement between the Club and each user will be signed.
- Training:

The Club has committed to a structured surf sports programme which is designed to help individuals excel and, as part of this programme, racing equipment can be made available at the discretion of the Surf Sports Coach or Junior Surf Co-ordinator to individuals for their sole use in training and competition, under the terms of the conditions of this policy
- Board Allocation:

Boards and equipment will be made available based on the following factors at the discretion of the Surf Sports Coach

 - Participation
 - Enthusiasm
 - Maturity
 - Confidence



- Weight
 - Age
 - Height
 - Ability
 - Conditions
 - Board Numbers
- General Rules of Board Use:

Members are encouraged to use club boards outside the hours of surf sport training for their enjoyment and skills development. However, to do so they must first obtain permission from the Surf Sports Coach or Senior Lifeguard. Please be aware you will be supervised specifically and are responsible for your individual actions and decisions.

 - a. Use of all boards must be recorded as being checked in and out using the whiteboard with the board number listed against your name. It is strongly recommended boards are checked for damage before and after returning. Boards will be checked each day during the surf season for damage.
 - b. Thoroughly check/inspect boards before and after use for any damage. You may be liable for previous damage if the board is not checked prior to use.
 - c. All Club fibreglass boards **MUST** be stored in club allocated kneeboard racks when not in use. Please ensure you re-rack boards after using them.
 - d. Do not use anyone else's gear and never allow non-members (friends) to use Club gear.
 - e. Non-members are not permitted to use club gear
 - f. Carry your board. Never drag gear on the beach. If you need help, ask.
 - g. Wash all gear down with a hose and return to storage, in the correct place, immediately after use.
 - h. No stand-up surfing of waves on kneeboards.
 - i. Do not remove equipment from the Club without specific permission from the Surf Sports Coach or Junior Surf Co-ordinator.
 - j. Never leave gear in the sun or lying outside in windy conditions.
 - k. When travelling to carnivals you must load and unload your gear onto the gear trailers or find a person willing to and capable of transporting your board and make sure it is tied down correctly. Any damage incurred during private transport is the responsibility of the user.
 - l. If any board is being used for individual training, this may only occur in patrol hours.



- **Gear Damage and Repair**

Repair of fibreglass boards is one of the major costs for the Club. When equipment is damaged the individual must alert their coach to the damage ASAP. The Club will meet repair costs in the following situations;

- When gear is damaged during approved trainings (Surf Sports and Junior Surf)
- When gear is damaged while competing at carnivals approved by the Surf Sports Coach.

Damage incurred outside of these situations may result in the individual having to pay for the repair themselves. Any equipment marked with a 'damaged gear' tag and put into the area specified, is under repair and cannot be used. The Club reserves the right to charge for any malicious or wilful damage or damage through misuse.

If damage occurs, fill out a Damage Form and advise your Surf Sports Coach or the Junior Surf Co-ordinator.

- **SLSNZ Vehicles**

- You must hold a valid NZ drivers licence, it is your responsibility to advise us if conditions of your licence changes
- Always drive safely and follow the NZ road rules
- Never drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Use only hands-free phone
- No smoking or vaping
- Keep vehicles' clean and tidy, locked and safe when parked
- Report any issues or repairs or accident immediately
- If involved in accident exchange details and take photos
- Unsafe or at-fault incidents may result in disciplinary action
- Any fines relating to driving the vehicle are the drivers responsibility
- If fuel cards issued, they are for SLSNZ vehicles only

- **Technology and Devices**

Club laptops, radios and phones are provided to provide staying connected and keeping people safe. Please use these responsibly, in line with our other values.

- While on patrol use of personal devices is prohibited
- Use technology in a respectful way, no offensive, harmful or illegal content
- Immediately report if any device is lost or stolen
- Do not share the devices with others
- Keep personal device usage to a minimum



- The devices remain the property of the Club

Promulgated at Committee Meeting Dated	23 rd November 2025
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