



**Northern
Territory**



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

SNAPSHOT STATS

120 
PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS

 **1,774**
PATROL HOURS

14 RESCUES 



**14 FIRST AID
TREATMENTS**

608 
MEMBERS



1,433
PARTICIPANTS COMPLETED SLS TRAINING



**839 COMMUNITY
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS**

 **83**
NIPPERS



361
SAR TEAM HOURS



4
MARINE STINGS



137
BRONZE MEDALLIONS



38,381
LIFEGUARD PATROL HOURS

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INTRODUCTION

WHO WE ARE

Surf Life Saving NT is a volunteer, not-for-profit community service organisation and is the peak agency for coastal safety in the NT.

Surf Life Saving Northern Territory (SLSNT) is the peak coastal safety body in the NT. Formed in 1983, and becoming incorporated in 1991, we are part of the largest volunteer-based community service organisation in Australia.

Surf lifesaving began in the NT in 1971 with the creation of the Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club in Nhulunbuy. Today there are three clubs in our organisation – Gove Peninsula, Darwin Surf Life Saving Club and Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

WHY WE EXIST

To save lives.

We believe all Territorians should learn water safety skills, including swimming and resuscitation, and be provided with safe beaches, water environments and aquatic venues.

SLSNT works to achieve this by delivering lifesaving, development and sports programs for our members and the wider community. Accredited education and training courses are run through our Academy and professional Lifeguard services through our branch of the Australian Lifeguard Service.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello to all members and supporters,

It is with much pleasure I present the 2023 Annual Report, my first as SLSNT President. The 2023 season has been one with many positives as well as some challenges for SLSNT. Whilst it is still the same organisation we know and love, behind the scenes there has been significant change and renewal. Having undertaken this transformation in 2023-24, it is hoped that we can now provide strong leadership and support to our clubs, members and the beach-going public to grow our movement and ensure future successes.

In May, Ray Hall made the decision to step down as President of SLSNT. I thank Ray for his contributions during the 2022 season as President. As I am quickly learning, the role of President is both challenging and rewarding, so I have full appreciation of the efforts required by Ray during his tenure.

Between May and November, we welcomed four new directors to the Board; Nathan McCarthy, Lyn Barratt, Garry Williams and Ian Jackson have all joined our board this year. They bring wealth of experience within surf life saving and in the wider community. Lyn, Garry and Ian all have SLS experience interstate, in Western Australia and Tasmania. With the addition of these four directors to our returning directors Ali Snowden and Sue Barnes, we now have every Board position filled for the first time in several years. This has increased the capacity of the Board to conduct business, allowing us to take steps to strengthen the governance of SLSNT.

I thank all Board members for the time they have contributed over the last 12 months.

In September, Samantha Farrow departed after an eight year tenure as CEO of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory. During her time as CEO, Samantha achieved many great outcomes for the organisation. This includes the relocation of SLSNT offices to the current Coconut Grove venue, the purchase of the Offshore Rescue Boat and winning lifeguard contracts for the NT Government Water Parks and Defence

pools. As result of Samantha's efforts, SLSNT is in a strong financial position. We thank her for her work and wish her the best in future endeavours.

From October to December, SLSNT received support from the CEO of Surf Life Saving South Australia, Damien Marangon, whilst we recruited a new CEO. I'd like to thank Damien and the board of Surf Life Saving South Australia for the generous assistance over this time. As result of this arrangement, a stronger bond between South Australia and Northern Territory developed, which will present opportunities for both organisations for years to come.

In the absence of a full-time CEO for three months, the senior management team of Sarah Fisher, Sam Edwards and Josh Mitchener stepped up. I'd like to thank all three managers for their contributions this year.

They have all developed their skills and experience during the year, which sets the organisation up well for the future.

Following a comprehensive recruiting process, in January I was pleased to announce Andrew McGuinness as the new CEO of SLSNT. It is reassuring that after looking around the country, the best candidate for the job was found within our own membership. Andrew has started strongly and is proving a very capable CEO after his first three months; we look forward to his leadership in years to come.

The 2023 season welcomed new patrons for SLSNT, His Honour, the Honourable Professor Hugh Heggie, Administrator of the Northern Territory and Ms Ruth Jones. Throughout the year SLSNT received strong patronage from His Honour and Ms Jones, including their attendance at our Awards of Excellence, and a courtesy visit with the CEO and President at Government House. His Honour has been a strong supporter of SLSNT and welcomed SLSNT members to a ceremony for presentation of the Administrators Medal for services to

Surf Life Saving in the Northern Territory. This year's recipient was Steve Krohn from Darwin SLSC, who has been one of our most prominent members over the last few years.

At the 2023 AGM, Grant Barnett was elected the 17th life member of SLSNT. Barney's contributions to SLSNT, especially six years as President, have had a profound impact on the organisation and it is wonderful to see him recognised with the highest honour available. I'd also like to congratulate all members recognised at the 2023 Awards of Excellence. In November, Andrew McGuinness, Wayne McMahon, Samuel Ricketts and Rob Van Wessel travelled to Sydney to represent SLSNT at the SLSA Awards of Excellence.

The Search and Rescue Team is SLSNT's contribution to operational volunteer marine rescue services. In late 2023 the SAR Team began rejuvenation, through regular inductions and continuation training. These sessions saw the membership grow and increased skills for existing members. We have strengthened our relationship with external stakeholders and are well respected in the community as a frontline public safety organisation.

The board made the difficult decision to cancel the 2023 SLSNT championships, due to a lack of competitor entries. As a result, several discussions have occurred to learn from this, and ensure that we are able to deliver strong events for our membership in the future. SLSNT is preparing a calendar of regular meetings and forums to seek feedback and input from our membership on important events.

I'd like to thank all our sponsors for their valued and continuing contribution to surf life saving.

Without their support we would not be able to achieve what we do. I'd like to draw special attention to Westpac, the sponsor of our

Offshore Rescue Boat, who this year celebrated the 50th anniversary of their sponsorship of surf life saving.

The 2023 financial year delivered a very healthy profit of \$554,175. This can be attributed to two areas: an operating profit of \$79,671 and the return of \$474,504 from the Surf Life Saving Foundation (SLSF) Perpetuity Trust. The management team should be proud of delivering another strong operating profit. The return of the money from the SLSF trust allows SLSNT greater flexibility to manage and invest the funds for the financial sustainability and long-term benefit of our future membership.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our clubs and their members. Each and every member who volunteers their time in support of surf life saving is providing a valued service to the community that we can never truly repay. It is an honour to be able to lead SLSNT, I hope myself and the rest of the Board can work for you to deliver opportunities that justify the time you all commit.

Having strengthened SLSNT governance in 2023, there is an opportunity to step forward in 2024 and beyond. The Board are hoping to achieve a restructuring of our leadership roles to allow more input from the membership into how they want the organisation to run. This will also allow the workload to be distributed between more members, lessening the requirements for everyone. This will make our leadership roles more attractive and help create a succession plan for future years.

There is currently a positive energy within SLSNT as we look to the future, which I hope spreads throughout our entire organisation in 2024. If we achieve what we plan, the future is bright for SLSNT.



Yours in Surf Life Saving,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Traugott', written over a light blue background.

Adam Traugott
SLSNT President





A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the Surf Life Saving NT Annual Report for 2023.

Being appointed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) late in 2023 was a great honour and I hope that I continue the great work of our previous CEO. I must acknowledge former CEO, Samantha Farrow on her significant achievements in her time with SLSNT. I worked closely with Samantha throughout her tenure, both on the board and as the coordinator for the SAR Team.

Samantha left us in late September and over the last 8 years, Samantha has overseen a period of massive expansion of our organisation. She expanded the lifeguarding contracts and facilitated the transition from the Aralia Street office to the current premises in Coconut Grove. Samantha also purchased the Westpac Offshore Rescue Boat (ORB), Lifesaver 1, the only Westpac sponsored ORB in Australia. In between these major achievements, she transformed the procedures of the business, delivered strong and consistent profits and has grown a capable workforce. On behalf of SLSNT, I thank Samantha for her efforts.

SLSNT is a fantastic organisation that makes a difference in people's lives – whether they are our members, sponsors or the public who need our help – and in 2023 SLSNT sustained our contribution to the NT community as the peak coastal water safety organisation who is dedicated to drowning prevention and aquatic event safety provider.

Our positive contribution to the NT community was achieved by:

- Providing members of the community the opportunity to gain lifesaving skills and knowledge,
- Providing a safe space for members of the public to visit the beach, water parks and defence pools and enjoy our tropical lifestyle,
- Providing water safety for major community events,

- Promoting a healthy, active lifestyle, and
- Developing youth to become great citizens.

Our Lifeguard Service continues to grow from strength to strength. In addition to our ongoing lifeguarding contracts, lifeguards were engaged to provide water safety and first aid for community events including Triathlon NT, Swimming NT, Masters Swimming NT, Territory Day at Mindil Beach, India @ Mindil Beach, Don Dale school camps, Territory Family Day at Lake Alexander and many more.

Our Offshore Rescue Boat, Lifesaver 1, continues to be the flagship of our 24/7 Marine Search & Rescue service. Whilst 2023 was a quite year with emergency response for the SAR team, Lifesaver 1 provided water safety coordination for major events including the International Dragon Boat Festival, Territory Day fireworks, Darwin Ocean Swim, Sand Bar Party and the Beach and Paddle Series.

Member education is crucial to our continued success as an organisation. SLSNT and the clubs worked hard to deliver a wide range of courses to keep members engaged and ensure lifesavers have the skills needed to patrol our beaches and provide quality first aid when required.

Our commercial education and training service continues to deliver, both a profit and greater recognition in the community of our brand. First aid courses remain the most popular courses businesses engage us to deliver, and this is due to the engaging team of educators and trainers that we have and the quality of the training they provide.

Our partnerships with NT Government departments, NT Search & Rescue Section (formally known as NT Water Police), Careflight and the NT Water Safety Advisory Council continue to develop and strengthen. These relationships are important to SLSNT as we strive to reinforce our credibility and relevance

as the peak coastal water safety authority and community-based emergency service.

SLSNT continues to have a strong relationship with Surf Life Saving Australia and SLSNT is appreciative of the opportunities we receive to have input into national initiatives and directions. Whilst we are a small entity compared to some of our larger states, we have an equal contribution at the SLSA board and executive management group.

Thanks to our clubs who do a great job promoting surf lifesaving through their involvement in the community conducting, or supporting, popular public sporting events such as swimming and triathlon events, Darwin Ocean Swim (Darwin SLSC), Beer Can Regatta (Mindil Beach SLSC), Beach Volleyball (Gove Peninsula SLSC).

Appreciation

Our most valuable assets are our members who, rain or shine, volunteer their time every weekend of the dry season to make sure the local beach is safe for the public to enjoy. I wish to pass on my sincerest appreciation to every member of our wonderful organisation; you all do an amazing job.

A highlight of the year is always our Awards of Excellence night, where we get to formally recognise the contribution of our members. Every awardee has a passionate commitment to surf life saving and I would like to congratulate them on their dedication and hard work.

Another highlight is the recipient of the Administrators Award, who are recognised for having rendered outstanding service to the advancement, growth or development of surf lifesaving at any level in the NT. Steven Krohn was a deserving recipient of this award in 2023.

I would also like to acknowledge the Board of Directors for their support and commitment to furthering the goals of surf life saving in the Northern Territory. On behalf of the board and the staff, I would also like to acknowledge the commitment and professionalism of our dedicated members, who provide water safety, first aid and advice to members of the public throughout the year. This extends to all our parents and administrators who keep our clubs running, seek grants and raise funds, manage and train our nippers, who are our next generation of lifesavers.

During the transition of CEO's for the SLSNT, we received amazing support from SLS South Australia's CEO Damien Marangon and CFO Shaun Walker. Their hand over to me as the new CEO was invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Finally, to the SLSNT staff, a huge thank you. 2023 was a very challenging year for you all and you all deserve high praise for your dedication, professionalism and willingness to step up whenever it is needed.

I wish everyone in our surf life saving family a wonderful 2024 and look forward to working with and supporting you all throughout the season.




Andrew McGuinness
SLSNT CEO

OFFICER BEARERS & PATRONS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Adam Traugott (appointed 9 May 2023)
Director of Lifesaving:	Nathan McCarthy (appointed 9 May 2023)
Director of Education:	Ali Snowden
Director of Sport:	Sue Barnes
Director:	Lyn Barratt (appointed 26 July 2023)
Director:	Gary Williams (appointed 26 July 2023)
Director:	Ian Jackson (appointed 29 November 2023)
Interim Chief Executive Officer:	Damien Marangon ^ (28 September to 18 December 2023)
Chief Executive Officer:	Andrew McGuiness ^ (appointed 18 December 2023)

^non voting position

Resignations –

President: Ray Hall resigned 9 May 2023

Chief Executive Officer: Samantha Farrow resigned 28 September 2023

CLUB DELEGATES

Darwin SLSC – Michelle Taylor and Sam Creek

Mindil Beach SLSC – Luke Marcroft and Elizabeth Gunther-Oliver

Gove Peninsula SLSC – Mandy Hutchinson and Richard Hutchinson

PATRONS

His Honour the Honourable Hugh Heggie AO PSM and Ms Ruth Jones

VICE- PATRON

Mr Brian Measey

Surf Life Saving Northern Territory is saddened at the passing of our supporter, Brian Measey in late 2023.

Brian and Patricia were sponsors of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory for over 15 years through their Thrifty Car Rental Business. Brian's support of our organisation has been extensive and highly appreciated. We extend our deepest condolences to Patricia, Mary-Anne, Sarah and Matthew and the grandchildren.

COMMITTEES & PANELS

Awards of Excellence Panel

Ray Hall, Adam Traugott, Sue Barnes, Alison Snowden, Samantha Farrow

STAFF

Chief Executive Officer:	Samantha Farrow (resigned 28 Sep 2023)
Interim Chief Executive Officer:	Damien Marangon
Interim Chief Finance Officer:	Shaun Walker
Education Manager:	Sam Edwards
Lifeguard Manager:	Josh Mitchener
Events & Marketing Coordinator/General Manager:	Sarah Fisher
Training Officer:	Jarryd Jeffrey
Programs Coordinator:	Giorgio Romano (resigned 1 Jun 2023)
Development Officer:	Maddi James (commenced 21 Aug 2023)
Lifesaving Officer:	Tameya Martin (commenced 30 Mar 2023)
Office Coordinator:	Clarissa McLennan
Lifeguard Coordinators:	Jessika Squire Daniel Reeve (finished 11 October 2023) Gabby Sutton (commenced 12 Oct 2023)

OFFICERS

Public Officer:	Samantha Farrow (resigned 28 Sep 2023) Adam Traugott
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LIFE MEMBERS

 Badge No 1 Leon Eddy	 Badge No 2 Fred Finch AM*	 Badge No 3 Colin (Col) Fleming	 Badge No. 4 Lee-Anne Kelly	 Badge No. 5 Alex Peters	 Badge No. 6 Charlie Rue	 Badge No. 7 Robert (Bob) Creek*	 Badge No. 8 Jo-Anne (Jo) Gardiner*	 Badge No. 9 Patricia (Mandy) Hutchinson*
 Badge No. 10 Gary McKinnon	 Badge No. 11 Trevor Webb	 Badge No. 12 Bernie Nixon	 Badge No. 13 Craig (Frog) Croke	 Badge No. 14 Chris (Putty) Putland	 Badge No. 15 Greg (Hendy) Edwards	 Badge No. 16 Adam Traugott	 Badge No. 17 Grant Barnett	<i>*SLSA Life member</i>



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

LIFE MEMBER

It's with great pleasure we introduce the newest life member.

Badge No 17 - Grant Barnett (Barney)

Barney has been apart of the lifesaving movement for over 10 years and amassed a huge 400+ patrol hours since 2011, joining our SAR team in 2013. Not only is Barney a fiercely active member, he has also been a driving force for surf sports. He has always been willing to contribute as an official at all major surf sports events on a local and interstate level. Barney spent 6 years as Director and President of SLSNT from 2016 - 2022 and has since moved into role of President at Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club.

Anyone who has come across Barney will know that he continues to be highly involved and enthusiastic about everything surf lifesaving from IRB training to getting nippers or new members involved.

As Barney would say - Lima Mike 17 reporting for duty.



ADMINISTRATOR MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

2023 ADMINISTRATOR MEDAL - STEVEN KROHN (Krohny)

Krohny has been a valued member of Darwin Surf Life Saving Club since 2010 and has since also become a SLSNT Search & Rescue member.

Krohny has completed over 59 awards as well as become an official and trainer. Over the course of his career he has amassed a staggering 1,267 volunteer patrol hours over his career.

Without his unwavering contributions over the past 13 years the movement wouldn't be what it is today in the Territory.



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Without our members there is no surf lifesaving in the NT, so it is important that the dedication and professionalism shown by our members each season is recognized. The annual Awards of Excellence for 2023 celebrated another successful event at The Venue in Fannie Bay on April 9. Over 80 members, supporters and guests came together to celebrate the efforts of our volunteers during the 2022 season.



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2023

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Wayne McMahon (Darwin SLSC)	YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Lewis Smythe (Gove SLSC)	ATHLETE OF THE YEAR Sam Creek (Darwin SLSC)
LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR Andrew McGuinness (Darwin SLSC)	EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR Lee-Anne Kelly (Darwin SLSC)	OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR Rob Van Wessel (Darwin SLSC)
LIFEGUARD OF THE YEAR Emily Hardy	YOUTH LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR Samuel Rickett (Darwin SLSC)	





LIFESAVING SERVICES


14 RESCUES


120 PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS


1,774 PATROL HOURS

The Lifesaving Services provided by SLSNT continued to play a vital role in ensuring that members of the public can continue to enjoy our coastlines and waterways safely. Throughout our season the iconic red and yellow flags were seen across Top End beaches provided lifesaving services and a safer place to swim for our local community.

During the 2023 season, our volunteer lifesavers performed 14 rescues, 120 preventative actions and patrolled a total of 1,774 hours. SLSNT extends a thank you to all volunteers for their continued dedication and willingness season after season. Your time as a surf lifesaver plays a pivotal role in keeping our NT community safe.

In July, Education Manager Sam Edwards and lifesaver Steven Krohn attended the Surf Life Saving Queensland Marine Stinger Symposium in Townsville. This symposium presented the latest research on marine sting prevention and treatment and challenged the current treatment methodology.

CLUB LIFESAVING

In 2023 our clubs patrolled beaches in Darwin and Nhulunbuy, with no lives lost during patrols and 60 preventative actions taken. Personnel shortages continue to be an ongoing problem for the Clubs and SLSNT needs to provide better support for this in 2024.

A large part of providing a professional service is having suitable equipment for the job, and it was very pleasing to see the Federal Government continue their Beach Safety Equipment Fund which saw each club receive \$10,000 to go towards the purchase of rescue equipment.

During the 2023 season SLSNT provided support to club events through the provision of personnel or equipment including the Darwin Ocean Swim and Beer Can Regatta. These events have received longstanding support from SLSNT, and SLSNT looks forward to continuing this support.



SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

The SAR Team contributed 293 volunteer patrol hours, performing 2 rescues and 70 preventative actions. Throughout the year it was notable to see organisations like City of Darwin request assistance from SLSNT for water safety across a vast range of community events. A notable mention was the International Dragon Festival, where the SAR Team were on the water for the entire day, providing competitors with first aid and water safety.

SLSNT SAR Team personnel continued to partner with Careflight for scenario training opportunities. However, overall SAR training hours were lower compared to previous years. Despite less training opportunities, members were quite active throughout the year, including wet season patrols from 24 February through until 1 April. Thirteen patrols were conducted over this period by eleven members.

The Westpac offshore rescue boat, Lifesaver 1, was not required for many callouts in 2023. Water police informed us that it was a quite year for aquatic emergencies. However, Lifesaver 1 continued to be utilised consistently to provide water safety support for events in Darwin Harbour. This included the Beach & Paddle Series, Darwin SLSC Ocean Swim, Territory Day, Sand Bar Party and the International Dragon Boat Festival.

Lifesaver 1 is now housed on an air berth. This keeps the hull out of the water which prevent marine growth. Marine growth on hulls is an issue, as it requires major maintenance cost to remove the vessel from the water every six months to clean and reapply anti foul. We thank and acknowledge the Northern Territory Government who funded the air berth through the Community Benefit Fund grant program.

Several SAR Team members completed their ORB crew certificates and one member completed their coxswain training and is well underway to gaining their ORB driver certificate.



DRONES

SLSNT was not successful in gaining sponsorship for the continuation of the Lifesaver Rescue Drone Program. This impacted our ability to offer this service in 2023.

SLSNT maintained its Remotely Piloted Aircraft Operators Certificate (ReOC), which authorises SLSNT to conduct drone operations for commercial purposes, and Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) area approvals for all Darwin beaches.

AUSTRALIAN LIFEGUARD SERVICE

The Australian Lifeguard Service NT had a successful year in 2023 as there were zero drowning deaths in any of our contracted sites. In addition, lifeguards supervised nearly 500,000 visitors across eight locations, rescuing 21 and performing 377 first aid treatments.

Ventia is a major contract partner to the Australian Defence Force. Ventia contracts SLSNT for lifeguard services for five Darwin defence base pools. This contract is due to renewal in July 2024, and negotiations are underway to extend the contract for a further 12 months, as the new tender process for sport and recreation services for defences bases is processed.

ALSNT had a workforce of approximately 60 staff working across three contracts and eight locations – Leanyer Recreation Park, Palmerston Water Park, Defence Base pools and Mindil Beach.

Each location provides a unique set of conditions for our Lifeguards to operate under, so it is important that they undertake regular training and fitness testing to ensure they are equipped with the necessary skills to identify and deal with any scenario. This continual training and assessment ensures ALSNT Lifeguards promote a safe environment for locals and visitors to enjoy.

Mindil Beach is a popular beach in the NT, home to the famous twice weekly Mindil Beach Sunset Markets through the Dry Season. Thanks to the support of the City of Darwin, we provide a Lifeguard service at this popular beach. In addition to providing a watchful eye over beach users, Lifeguards also consistently liaise with visitors and local wildlife, answering queries and providing local knowledge on the area.

LOCATIONS

Leanyer Recreation Park & Palmerston Water Park

Leanyer Recreation Park	Palmerston Water Park	
• 18 Rescues • 202 First Aids • 3118 Preventative actions • 267,246 Attendances	• 3 Rescues • 138 First Aids • 1782 Preventative actions • 88,032 Attendances	Started Service: 2017 Current Contract: 2021-2026 Days Operating: 363 Lifeguards on site each day: 9-15 Lifeguard Patrol: 9.00 – 18.15

Defence Base Pools

Started Service:	2022
Current Contract:	2022-2024
Days Operating:	365
Lifeguards on site each day:	7-10

Mindil Beach Lifeguard Service

- 13 First Aids
 - 94 Preventative actions
 - 17,123 Attendances
- Started Service: 2006
Current Contract: 2021-2024
Season Operating: June – September
Lifeguards on site each day: 1
Lifeguard Patrol: 14.00-18.00

To ensure the best use of our lifeguards, changes were made to the patrol days. Lifeguards were on site from 1400- 1800 everyday Thursday to Sunday, and the same Monday to Wednesday when there was an afternoon high tide.

First Aid Services

ALS NT continues to expand its presence, and reputation as a reliable First Aid Service, within the community. These events provide Lifeguards with the opportunity to develop their skills and adapt to new working environments, interacting with diverse crowds and placement in sometimes-complex situations, that puts their knowledge and skills to the test.

During 2023, ALS NT was engaged to provide First Aid Services at the following community events:

- Triathlon NT events
- Swimming NT and Masters NT events
- Territory Day, Mindil Beach
- Holi Festival, Lake Alexander
- India at Mindil beach event
- Territory Family Day, Lake Alexander
- Melanoma March
- Lifeguard & first aid services for several school camps.

I would like to thank all of Lifeguards for their ongoing efforts. Their dedication has seen us achieve zero drowning deaths in any of our contractual areas. Their ability to operate all year round, professionally handling the high temperatures (exceeding 35°C), tropical thunderstorm and cyclonic weather that comes with living in the Territory is to be commended.

-Josh Mitchener, Lifeguard Manager



MEMBERS & CLUBS

MEMBERSHIP



Membership in 2023 increased slightly from the previous year. It was pleasing to see an injection of members across all three clubs, to sustain the lifesaving movement here in the territory, this needs to be a primary focus for SLSNT.

We note that surf lifesaving in the NT continues to attract members at almost a 50/50 gender split. There has been a significant drop in the number of members under 18 when compared to other years and this will steer SLSNT's strategic direction into the future.

It was great to see Mindil Beach SLSC back on the beach with a cohort of patrolling members after some challenging seasons. The club saw a President appointed and we look forward to continuing to see growth for the club into next year.

NIPPER & YOUTH

Our Nipper numbers across all clubs dropped off this season, and numbers compared to other years have been low. Darwin SLSC maintained stronger numbers with 67 youth on the beach, Gove SLSC had 16 and Mindil SLSC did not run a junior program. Despite the lower numbers for the season, the anecdotal feedback from participants on the beach was fantastic and a testament to those club Youth Coordinators and Age Managers.

SLSNT has identified that for our local lifesaving movement to be sustained, the Nipper program and supporting clubs to facilitate junior programs is vital for the future.

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (YIPS)

The Youth Involvement Programs (YIPs) was launched in March 2023. There was 5 youth members involved initially. However without a Program Coordinator throughout this time it was a challenging time to launch and sustain the program.

This program is a fantastic initiative that SLSNT encourages all clubs to support as it has the potential to directly impact youth engagement and member retention.





SURF SPORTS

There is no doubt Surf Sports here in the Territory had a challenging year in 2023. There were several factors that contributed to this, including the resignation of the Programs Coordinator and the subsequent recruitment process that happened through the season. The impacts of being understaffed coupled with low member engagement with scheduled events mean that SLSNT events were scaled back substantially including the cancellation of NT Champs. This was a disappointing but necessary call and one that has been a catalyst for reviewing and igniting change to ensure the future of Surf Sports in the Territory.

There were still highlights throughout the season. SLSNT continued to run the iconic Beach & Paddle events that were a success. Again, engagement for the beachside component was not as popular amongst participants as the paddling component. Based on feedback received, SLSNT has decided to focus solely on the Paddle series for the upcoming 2024 season. Across the series there were 19 competitors, from a variety of craft: surf ski, outriggers, ocean skull, SUPS and surf boat crews. It would be great to see that variety of craft and attendance continue to thrive and grow.

Thank you to those volunteers who lent in to assist with running of these events with SLSNT being under-staffed. SLSNT plans to manage and run an active Surf Sport program into 2024 in consultation with clubs and members.

Surf Sport can have such a positive impact on member recruitment and retention so although it has been a challenging year we look forward to reigniting this aspect of SLSNT into the future. We extend a warm thank you to those that continue to support these events and encourage all lifesavers to get involved in the future.



SEA SWIFT NT LIFE SAVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Sea Swift NT Surf Life Saving Championships were scheduled for 22-24th of September 2023 at Gove SLSC as the host club. Unfortunately, the championships were cancelled after lack of engagement for travelling to Gove SLSC. Member feedback was that the date change impacted ability for some members to travel and this has been noted for future planning.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education is a vital part of the Surf Life Saving movement – our organisation is renowned for providing high quality training and education around Australia and in the Territory. SLSNT has built a reputation for providing high quality training and education to our members, commercial clients, and the community. This is reflected in the academy's long term commercial client list which continues to grow year on year and supports our growing membership, local Surf Life Saving Clubs and SAR team.

Commercial education and training increased in 2023. SLSNT has been growing this department and income, which in turn supports each Surf Club in the Territory. Our ability to deliver specific training in First Aid and the aquatic industry, has furthered our reputation amongst emergency services and the community. SLSNT continues to grow our scope of training to include disaster response around flood rescue and technology such as drones.

Partnerships with other organisations, such as CareFlight and Northern Territory Police directly drove increased community awareness as well as providing further valuable opportunities to share resources and collaborate in training. Developing and maintaining these interorganisational relationships provides great benefit to the wider NT community and to the SLSNT brand.

SLSNT will continue to support our members in the education space and look at innovative ways to engage our community, continuing our goal of zero preventable deaths in coastal waters.

-Sam Edwards, Education Manager



1,433

**PARTICIPANTS COMPLETED
SLS TRAINING**



3,389

**UNITS OF COMPETENCY
DELIVERED**



137

BRONZE MEDALLIONS

LIFEGUARD TRAINING

SLSNT provided our Australian Lifeguard Service lifeguards continual training and testing to ensure that our ALS lifeguards, can continue to sufficiently provide a safe environment for locals and visitors to enjoy across locations and beaches.

SLSNT provided two Bronze Medallion courses and eight pool lifeguards course as well as regular requalification and testing to maintain the highest quality of skills possible. SLSNT commends the 6 senior lifeguards who reaffirmed and built on prior leadership knowledge with the new Patrol Captain course.



MEMBER EDUCATION

Member education has been an area that SLSNT has provided ongoing support to surf clubs and that continued in 2023. The increasing regulations around training and assessment continued to be a barrier for clubs to deliver core inhouse training such as Bronze Medallion and SRC courses. SLSNT will continue to support affiliated clubs to deliver quality training and assessment for our members.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & ENGAGEMENT

SURF & SAIL

The Surf & Sail program continued to run over 3 sessions for the year. This initiative between Australian Sailing NT, Darwin Sailing Club and SLSNT has continued to grow throughout 2023.

The two hour sessions provide children with the opportunity to participate in the Nipper activities such as board paddling, beach and water flags and the opportunity to learn the basics of sailing. It's a great way for the collective group of organisations to come together and really encourage the participation in and around, water while also build the profile of surf lifesaving and the sailing in the community. The attendance of this program was incredible with over 600 participants across the 3 sessions. Moving forward SLSNT has identified the need to build upon these initial community programs to encourage participants and families to join local clubs and will be seeking support from clubs to facilitate.

MICHAEL LONG LEADERSHIP & LEARNING CENTRE

Another flourishing partnership for the year was the AFL Michael Long Leadership & Learning Centre (MLLLC) camps. This entailed a similar format as Surf & Sail but for Indigenous youth from remote communities that are participating in the MLLLC programs. Over the course of the year SLSNT ran a total of 18 sessions for MLLLC reaching 239 youth aged 8-17 years old. The anecdotal feedback from this partnership was positive and SLSNT looks forward to partnering with MLLLC more in the future.



LITTLE LIFESAVERS

SLSNT, with the support of the clubs, continued to run introductory program Little Lifesavers to increase awareness of SLSNT and the nippers program. Over 3 events at Darwin Waterfront, SLSNT reached 40 future lifesavers.

The feedback from families was positive as always, and this annual program is always well supported by the community with many returning families. SLSNT has identified that greater connection from sessions to our clubs will assist participants continuing on a pathway to join a club.

SPLASH FEST

Water Safety Week, is an NT Government initiative that focuses on creating awareness about keeping ourselves and others safe in, around and on the water. Splash Fest, a key event during Water Safety Week, is a one-day event at the start of the week and this continues to be a fun and important event on the SLSNT Calendar.

Held annually at Darwin Waterfront, over 1,200 members of the public attended to learn about keeping ourselves and others safe in, around and on the water. SLSNT provided a great activity which encouraged children to identify items you **SHOULD** take on a boat, and items you **SHOULDN'T**. Great feedback from accompanying parents was received, with the opportunity to engage in some interactive surf activities at the SLSNT stall.

DARWIN HARBOUR CLEAN UP

SLSNT continued our participation in the annual Darwin Harbour Clean Up. Lifesaver 1 and Lifesaver 2 were involved, and 5 volunteers took part in the event. Members focused on cleaning the area around the Esplanade between Lamerook Beach and Frances Bay.

We commend all involved who were involved on the day. It was a huge effort but we were able to assist in removing 1669 tonnes of rubbish from the Darwin Harbour. We pride ourselves on our involvement and a thank you to Larrakia Nation for continuing to coordinate the management of this great community initiative. SLSNT encourages more volunteers to take part in this unifying event in 2024.



 **839**
COMMUNITY PROGRAM
PARTICIPANTS



SLS COASTAL SAFETY SNAPSHOT 2018-2023

As the leading coastal safety authority in the Northern Territory, SLSNT collects drowning and coastal fatality data to help inform decisions making regarding the delivery of Surf Life Saving services. The data below and the following has been collected by Surf Life Saving Australia for the period of 2018-2023.

7 COASTAL
DROWNING
DEATHS

86% MALE



*Arrow indicates annual
change from 10-year average

30%↓

LOCATION



71%
BEACH



29%
PORT/MARINA



29%
LOCAL RESIDENTS



86%
>1KM FROM
SLS SERVICE

ACTIVITY



43%
SWIMMING/WADING



29%
FALL



14%
BOATING



MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

MARKETING

This year saw Surf Life Saving Northern Territory proudly continue to uphold and enhance its iconic brand. It also marked a significant shift in marketing strategy, with the 'Safe to Swim with Us' campaign aimed at recruiting new members. This ran from the 11th of June to the 23rd of July across radio, YouTube and social media.

Digital activity ran in both Darwin and Gove to ensure coverage for all 3 clubs and activity weights were planned in line with potential populations in each market. Both YouTube and social activity achieved strong results, above industry benchmarks, suggesting that the message resonated well with the target audience. Click-through rates (CTR) over social channels delivered an average of 1.34%, this is well above the industry benchmark of 0.05 – 0.08%. View through rate (VTR) for YouTube also came back above the industry benchmark of 20-23% with Darwin region sitting at 27% and 24% in Gove.

Overall, this campaign was successful in building awareness and anecdotally from the community engagement we can observe that users were engaged in the collateral.

Moving forward the overarching slogan will be revised from 'safe' to 'safer' as per internal feedback and discussions. The timings of campaigns need to be adhered too as this campaign did go into market later than anticipated due to delays on the collateral. This potentially impacted the success of the campaign in terms of member conversions. SLSNT also needs to better consider the contact touch points at club level to ensure community members who are engaging can easily access information.

In collaboration with Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) we launched a brand update and continued to provide support to clubs reflecting these updates. Our brand is iconic, and we celebrate this evolution.

DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA

Our digital platforms continued to produce great engagement and growth over the year. It's exciting to see the local community resonating with the key safety messages and content shared.

Our primary platform Facebook saw a net increase of 29.2% followers and our reach increased by 83.7%. These results were reflective of the paid advertising over the June/July period. Regardless, it is pleasing to see our content interactions were consistent throughout the year with volunteer lead and safety messaging posts being our top performers.

Instagram also saw an increase with the channel growing by just over 120 followers over the year. The content interactions were up by 100% and the reach saw a staggering 73.3% increase. Throughout the year SLSNT strategically moved towards more short form video content and that was well received. We hope to continue that into the future to assist with growth and reach.

SLSNT also launched three new channels with the introduction of the member newsletter, staff newsletter and Lifeguard Territory on Instagram. All three have had a great reception and we look forward to them being apart of our digital strategy moving forward.

FUNDRAISING & PARTNERS

FUNDRAISING

SLSNT, as a charity and not-for-profit organisation, relies heavily on the generosity and support of the local community to ensure our skilled volunteer lifesavers are able to continue patrolling our beautiful Top End beaches. In these difficult economic times, SLSNT is extremely appreciative of all support received.

All funds raised go towards the continuation of our lifesaving activities, through the maintenance and purchase of rescue equipment, enhancing our training and development programs and expanding community safety initiatives.

SURF LIFE SAVING FOUNDATION

The Surf Life Saving Foundation's Grant Seeking Unit (GSU) is a national grant research and writing support unit for Surf Life Saving entities across Australia. The GSU's focus is to research appropriate grant opportunities from private trusts, foundations and relevant government agencies.

More importantly, the GSU provides grant writing support to SLSNT and the clubs - this service is greatly appreciated by all of us.

BEACH SAFETY EQUIPMENT FUND

The Australian Government, through the Beach Safety Equipment Fund (BSEF) continues to provide each NT Surf Life Saving Club access to \$10 000 annually to purchase vital safety equipment. This grant is part of a national program to ensure that Australia's Surf Life Saving Clubs are better equipped to reduce the nation's coastal drowning toll.

MAJOR NATIONAL PARTNERS

AMPOL

Ampol is proud of its new partnership with Surf Life Saving Australia, which sees the two iconic Australian brands join forces to help deliver safer beaches and to save lives. The partnership underpins Ampol's commitment to being a positive contributor in the communities where it operates, and to use its scale, network and employee base to improve the lives of all Australians.

A number of Ampol employees are long-term surf lifesaving volunteers at their local clubs, and the company will also be activating the partnership through its retail network and broader infrastructure assets to promote surf safety messages and to support Surf Life Saving Australia's important work.

In addition to branding on patrol shirts across the country, the new partnership will see Ampol have a presence at major surf lifesavings events.

DHL

As a Major National Partner of Surf Life Saving Australia, DHL has been helping Surf Lifesavers deliver safer beaches since 2003. DHL is the global market leader in the logistics and transportation industry and shares many core values with Surf Life Saving Australia including speed, passion and a can-do attitude.

ISUZU UTE

Isuzu UTE Australia, home to the award-winning Isuzu D-MAX Ute and 7-seat MU-X SUV, is taking their safety-centric approach to a whole new level, as a Major National Partner and the Official Automotive Supplier of Surf Life Saving Australia.

At the heart of every Isuzu vehicle lies over 100 years of automotive experience and the tried and tested tough truck DNA— making them the pragmatic choice for SLSA with its proven reputation for durability and reliability. Providing our lifesavers across the country with a fleet of D-MAX and MU-X's, Isuzu UTE Australia is proud to support SLSA's mission and commitment to keeping our beaches safe.

WESTPAC

Westpac has been proudly partnering with SLSA for over 40 years since the inception of the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Service (WLRHS) in 1973. It is one of the longest corporate community partnerships in Australia.

The WLRHS is a vital extension of SLSA's front line services operating in Southern NSW, QLD, VIC, WA, SA and a rescue boat in the NT. The national operation also incorporates the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Northern NSW and Tasmanian Services.

Over 300 rescue professionals and volunteers make up the national operation, which has 15 helicopters and one rescue boat across 13 bases. During summer, the Service covers over 84% of the Australian population and to date, the WLRHS has performed more than 80,000 missions across Australia, with no one ever having to pay to be rescued. The Northern Territory proudly remains the only state to have the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Boat, Lifesaver 1.



NT PARTNERS

NT GOVERNMENT

The continued support of the NT Government through the Department of Sport and Recreation enables SLSNT to develop and deliver programs that encourages active participation from both our members and the wider community.

THRIFTY

Darwin Thrifty Car Rental is a prominent locally owned business and long-standing partner of SLSNT, whose support ensures SLSNT is able to provide valuable lifesaving training and education to the wider community.

GOLD



SILVER



NT SUPPORTERS

A number of organisations generously supported SLSNT by providing value in kind or greatly discounted items that helped to keep our operating costs to a minimum.



2023 - 2026 STRATEGIC PLAN



VISION

Zero preventable deaths
in NT coastal waters.

MISSION

We save lives and inspire Territorians
to build better communities.

VALUES

HONESTY

- Straight talking and straight answers

RESPECT

- Respect is shown no matter ability or background

TEAMWORK

- The team always has your back
- Serious fun

INCLUSIVE

- All cultural backgrounds are welcome

RESOURCEFUL

- A Territory 'can do' attitude
- Doing a lot with less

SELFLESS

- Small considerate actions make a big impact
- Passionately dedicated

PRIORITY 1

SAVE LIVES

KEY STRATEGIES

Provide services which:

- 1.1 Ensure the highest level of lifesaving services is delivered
- 1.2 Optimise the delivery of Support Operation services
- 1.3 Ensure we continue to be recognised as a leader in the provision of lifeguard services

Seek recognition:

As an Emergency Service and investigate opportunities to collaborate with other like-minded organisation

HOW WE WILL KNOW WE ARE ON TRACK

- 1) Achieve our Vision: zero preventable drowning deaths in NT coastal waters
- 2) Evidence shows ongoing and functional relationship with NT Police
- 3) Increase or stability in retention of lifeguard contracts
- 4) Retain current lifeguard contracts
- 5) Number of new commercial event lifesaving, first aid and lifeguard contracts
- 6) SLSNT recognised by the NT Government as an Emergency Service
- 7) A new lifesaving organisation is created through collaboration of SLSNT with like-minded organisations

PRIORITY 2

DEVELOP AND SUPPORT OUR PEOPLE

KEY STRATEGIES

Provide services which:

- 2.1 Develop a strong and engaging sport culture which provides development opportunities for the Club members, especially youth
- 2.2 Ensure Club's individual needs are met and they are sustainable and viable
- 2.3 Continue to engage with members at all levels of involvement and grow and maintain the membership

Support volunteers and staff so that we:

- 2.4 Grow the capacity of our people to receive and deliver accredited and non-accredited education and training

HOW WE WILL KNOW WE ARE ON TRACK

- 8) Increased membership across all clubs
- 9) Clubs are able to retain more members year on year
- 10) There are at least three healthy SLS Clubs in the NT
- 11) Clubs are solvent and financially stable
- 12) Clubs remain compliant with the NT Associations Act
- 13) Clubs have been offered or have delivered a range of courses relative to core lifesaving skills

PRIORITY 3

GROW AND SUSTAIN OUR BUSINESS

KEY STRATEGIES

SLSNT is a strong business:

- 3.1 Growing and diversifying revenue through maximising commercial opportunities in line with our values and developing our local corporate partnerships
- 3.2 Ensuring best practice Board governance responsible financial management practices and oversee the application of sound policy and procedures
- 3.3 Recruiting and retaining a great SLSNT workforce

HOW WE WILL KNOW WE ARE ON TRACK

- 14) Revenue has grown or remained stable
- 15) Number of new corporate partnerships (local or national)
- 16) Ongoing compliance with the NT Associations Act and unqualified Annual Financial Audit
- 17) SLSNT workforce has remained stable

PRIORITY 4

ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY

KEY STRATEGIES

Effective communications will:

- 4.1 Refine the messaging and mechanisms used to communicate to the clubs and reinforce the role of SLSNT
- 4.2 Ensure positive crocodile and stinger education messaging which is aligned with the NT government messaging

Developing a relationship with NT indigenous communities will:

- 4.3 Grow mutually beneficial opportunities for SLSNT and Indigenous Territorians to work together

Through advocacy and lobbying we will:

- 4.4 Strategically engage with schools, key community partners and sector bodies to advocate for government funded swimming classes in order to raise the level of swimming capabilities of all Territorians

HOW WE WILL KNOW WE ARE ON TRACK

- 18) Annual Club and member survey indicates improved messaging and communication from SLSNT
- 19) Evidence of positive working relationships with indigenous communities via Clubs and other SLSNT initiatives
- 20) Evidence of strategic engagement with schools, community partners and other sector bodies in lobbying for compulsory/funded swimming lessons at NT schools lifesaving skills

Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023



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Committee Report

31 December 2023

The committee present their report on Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

Committee members

The names of the committee members in office at any time during, or since the end of, the year are:

Names	Position	Appointed/Resigned
Ray Hall	President	Resigned 08 May 2023
Adam Traugott	President/ Public Officer (previously the Director of Lifesaving)	Member for full year
Alison Snowden	Director of Competition	Member for full year
Sue Barnes	Director of Sport (previously an Independent Director)	Member for full year
Nathan McCarthy	Director of Lifesaving (previously an Independent Director)	Appointed 26 July 2023
Lyn Barratt	Independent Director	Appointed 26 July 2023
Garry Williams	Independent Director	Appointed 26 July 2023
Ian Jackson	Independent Director	Appointed 29 November 2023

Committee members have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal activities and significant changes in nature of activities

The principal activities of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated during the financial year were:

- Participate as a member of a single uniform entity, through and by which, surf lifesaving and the preservation of life in the aquatic environment in Australia is conducted, encouraged, promoted and administered;
- To provide for the conduct, encouragement, promotion and administration of surf lifesaving through the Northern Territory for the mutual and collective benefit of the members and surf lifesaving in the Northern Territory.

There were no significant changes in the nature of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated's principal activities during the financial year.

Operating result

The surplus/(deficit) of the Association for the financial year amounted to \$ 554,175 (2022: \$ 122,111).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee:

Committee member: 
Adam Traugott

Committee member: 
Alison Snowden

Dated this 16th day of April 2024

Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 60-40 of the Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 to the Committee of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 31 December 2023, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in section 60-40 of the *Australia Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Adam Dohnt (FCA)

Registered Company Auditor

Darwin

Dated: 18 April 2024

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	4	2,410,264	2,419,789
Finance income		48,654	9,999
Other income	4	920,582	380,963
Employee benefits expense		(2,238,783)	(2,156,621)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(130,434)	(146,015)
Other expenses		(449,966)	(381,616)
Finance expenses		(6,142)	(4,388)
Surplus (deficit) for the year		554,175	122,111
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the year		554,175	122,111

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position

As At 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	2,290,755	1,681,559
Trade and other receivables	6	323,319	305,364
Inventories	7	2,858	5,127
Other assets	85	83,171	98,503
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,700,103	2,090,553
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	9	291,813	295,812
Right-of-use assets	11	89,551	171,093
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		381,364	466,905
TOTAL ASSETS		3,081,467	2,557,458
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10	271,364	196,159
Lease liabilities	11	55,729	86,747
Employee benefits	12	85,344	86,996
Other financial liabilities	13	48,681	75,135
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		461,118	445,037
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liabilities	11	36,239	85,826
Employee benefits	12	13,972	10,632
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		50,211	96,458
TOTAL LIABILITIES		511,329	541,495
NET ASSETS		2,570,138	2,015,963
Equity			
Reserves		882,045	882,045
Retained earnings		1,688,093	920,570
TOTAL EQUITY		2,570,138	2,015,963

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Retained Earnings	General Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$
2023			
Balance at 1 January 2023	1,133,918	882,045	2,015,963
Surplus for the period	554,175	-	554,175
Balance at 31 December 2023	1,688,093	882,045	2,570,138
2022			
Balance at 1 January 2022	1,011,807	882,045	1,893,852
Surplus for the period	122,111	-	122,111
Balance at 31 December 2022	1,133,918	882,045	2,015,963

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING			
ACTIVITIES:			
Receipts from customers		2,775,762	2,199,264
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,625,830)	(2,523,602)
Interest received		48,921	4,577
Finance costs		-	(4,387)
Receipt from grants		535,841	503,188
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	734,694	179,040
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING			
ACTIVITIES:			
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment		-	11,363
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(44,892)	(11,674)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(44,892)	(311)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING			
ACTIVITIES:			
Payment of lease liabilities		(80,606)	(89,128)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		(80,606)	(89,128)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		609,196	89,601
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1,681,559	1,591,958
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5	2,290,755	1,681,559

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The financial report covers Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated as an individual entity. Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated is a not-for-profit Association, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated is Australian dollars.

Where applicable, comparative information for the 2022 financial year has been restated to provide consistency with current year disclosures.

1 Basis of Preparation

In the Committee's opinion, the Association is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures, AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The financial statements and material accounting policies all comply with the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

2 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The Committee makes estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

3 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue and other income

The core principle of AASB 15 is that revenue is recognised on a basis that reflects the transfer of promised goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration the Association expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services.

Generally the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

None of the revenue streams of the Association have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

Grant income

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligations is

3 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue and other income

satisfied.

The performance obligations are varied based on the agreement but may include management of education events, vaccinations, presentations at symposiums.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract.

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Revenue in the scope of AASB 1058 is recognised on receipt unless it relates to a capital grant which satisfies certain criteria, in this case the grant is recognised as the asset is acquired or constructed.

Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for zero or a nominal value. These assets are recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Association is entitled to it.

(b) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. It has been recognised as a Public Benevolent Institution by the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission. The Association has received endorsement from the Australian Taxation Office as an income tax exempt charity.

(c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

(d) Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost of inventory is determined using the first-in-first-out basis and is net of any rebates and discounts received. Net realisable value is estimated using the most reliable evidence available at the reporting date and inventory is written down through an obsolescence provision if necessary.

Inventories acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration are valued at the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition, which is the deemed cost.

3 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

(e) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Items of property, plant and equipment acquired for significantly less than fair value have been recorded at the acquisition date fair value.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured using the cost model.

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

Leased assets and leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or their estimated useful life.

(f) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Association becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification

On initial recognition, the Association classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at amortised cost.

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Association changes its business model for managing financial assets.

Amortised cost

The Association's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, foreign exchange gains or losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

3 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

(f) Financial instruments Financial assets Trade receivables

Impairment of trade receivables have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an

estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The Association has determined the probability of non-payment of the receivable and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

Other financial assets measured at amortised cost

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

Financial liabilities

The Association measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Association comprise trade payables, and lease liabilities.

(g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(h) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Association assesses whether a lease exists.

Lessee accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

At the lease commencement, the Association recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the Association believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Association's incremental borrowing rate is used.

3 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

(h) Leases

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the Association's assessment of lease term.

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Exceptions to lease accounting

The Association has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The Association recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(i) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits, those benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

(j) Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

The Association has adopted all standards which became effective for the first time at 31 December 2023, the adoption of these standards has not caused any material adjustments to the reported financial position, performance or cash flow of the Association.

4 Revenue and Other Income

(a) Revenue from continuing operations	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Revenue from other sources		
- Kiosk income	-	8,038
- Club income	59,397	49,398
- Academy income	106,729	84,696
- Lifesaving services	2,060,587	2,136,702
- Sponsorship	183,551	140,953
	2,410,264	2,419,787

4 Revenue and Other Income

(b) Other Income	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Other Income		
- Other income UD1	486,387	-
- in-kind contributions	38,747	38,747
- equipment sales	3,169	7,255
- donations	47,118	24,378
- grants	345,161	299,219
- net gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	11,364
	920,582	380,963

5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	1,590,755	731,559
Short-term deposits	700,000	950,000
	2,290,755	1,681,559

6 Trade and Other Receivables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	319,592	301,593
Other receivables	3,727	3,771
	323,319	305,364

7	Inventories	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	CURRENT		
	At cost:		
	Inventories on hand	2,858	5,127
		<u>2,858</u>	<u>5,127</u>
8	Other assets	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	CURRENT		
	Prepayments	77,063	92,128
	Accrued interest income	6,108	6,375
		<u>83,171</u>	<u>98,503</u>
9	Property, plant and equipment	2023	2022
		\$	\$
	Plant and equipment		
	At cost	498,036	495,583
	Accumulated depreciation	(243,442)	(215,756)
	Total plant and equipment	<u>254,594</u>	<u>279,827</u>
	Motor vehicles		
	At cost	28,518	28,518
	Accumulated depreciation	(18,236)	(12,533)
	Total motor vehicles	<u>10,282</u>	<u>15,985</u>
	Computer equipment		
	At cost	17,681	17,681
	Accumulated depreciation	(17,681)	(17,681)
	Total computer equipment	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	Leasehold Improvements		
	At cost	38,203	38,203
	Accumulated depreciation	(38,203)	(38,203)
	Total leasehold improvements	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	Other Lifesaving Equipment		
	At cost	32,342	-
	Accumulated depreciation	(5,405)	-
	Total Other Lifesaving Equipment	<u>26,937</u>	<u>-</u>
	Total property, plant and equipment	<u>291,813</u>	<u>295,812</u>

10 Trade and Other Payables	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade payables	26,615	19,589
Deposits	20,160	-
GST payable	76,036	67,679
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	24,322	14,537
Accrued wages & superannuation	76,691	65,095
Credit cards	692	10,899
PAYG withholding payable	28,035	18,360
Other payables	18,813	-
	271,364	196,159

10 Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

11 Leases

Right-of-use assets	Buildings	Motor Vehicles	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Year ended 31 December 2023			
Balance at beginning of year	126,981	44,112	171,093
Depreciation charge	(44,799)	(36,743)	(81,542)
Balance at end of year	82,182	7,369	89,551
	Buildings	Motor Vehicles	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Year ended 31 December 2022			
Balance at beginning of year	41,117	80,855	121,972
Depreciation charge	(44,849)	(36,743)	(81,592)
Modifications to right-of-use assets	130,713	-	130,713
Balance at end of year	126,981	44,112	171,093

Lease liabilities

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year	1 - 5 years	> 5 years	Total undiscounted lease liabilities	Lease liabilities included in this Statement Of Financial Position
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2023					
Lease liabilities	55,729	36,239	-	91,968	91,968
2022					
Lease liabilities	86,747	85,826	-	172,573	172,573

12 Employee Benefits	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Long service leave	33,315	28,190
Annual leave provision	52,029	58,806
	85,344	86,996

NON-CURRENT		
Long service leave	13,972	10,632
	13,972	10,632

13 Other Financial Liabilities	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Unexpended government grants	41,181	67,635
Deferred income	7,500	7,500
	48,681	75,135

14 Reserves

The general reserve records funds set aside for future expansion of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated.

15 Contingencies

In the opinion of those charged with governance, the Association did not have any contingencies at 31 December 2023 (31 December 2022: None).

16 Related Parties and Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated during the year is as follows:

	2023
	\$
Short-term employee benefits	117,540
Total remuneration	117,540

During the year, there were no related party transactions.

12. Cash Flow Information	2023	2022
	\$	\$
(a) Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities		
Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Surplus for the year	554,175	122,111
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in profit:		
- Depreciation	130,434	146,068
- Net gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	(11,364)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(37,009)	(22,950)
- (increase)/decrease in prepayments	15,332	(16,897)
- (increase)/decrease in inventories	2,269	(1,633)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	67,804	(30,593)
- Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	1,689	(5,702)
Cashflows from operations	734,694	179,040

18 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the association is:

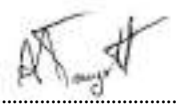
Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated
16 De Latour St, Coconut Grove NT 0810

Committee's Declaration

The responsible persons declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2022*.

Committee member: 
Adam Traugott

Committee member: 
Alison Snowden

Dated this 16th day of April 2024

Independent Audit Report to the members of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by the management committee.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of my report, the financial report of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of association's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Income

It is not practical for the association to establish accounting controls over all sources of income prior to its receipt and accordingly it is not possible for my examination to include audit procedures to extend beyond the amount recorded in the accounting records of the association.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of the association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

I draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared to assist the Association in fulfilling the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and its constitution. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. My report is intended solely for the Association and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Association. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that gives a true and fair view and have been determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial statements is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*

and the Association's constitution. It also includes such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the responsible entities regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

TDH Chartered Accountants



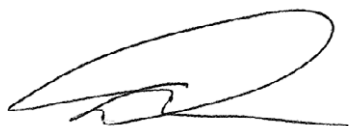
Adam Dohnt (FCA)
Registered Company Auditor
Darwin

18 April 2024

**Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated
For the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

Disclaimer

The additional financial data presented on pages 21-22 is in accordance with the books and records of the Association which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in my statutory audit of the Association for the year ended 31 December 2023. It will be appreciated that my statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on such financial data and I give no warranty of accuracy or reliability in respect of the data provided. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person (other than Surf Lifesaving Northern Territory Incorporated) in respect of such data, including any errors of omissions therein however caused.



Adam Dohnt (FCA)
Registered Company Auditor
Darwin

18 April 2024

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

TDH Pty Limited
ABN: 19 087 176 565
Director: Adam Dohnt (FCA)

Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Income		
Sale of goods	166,126	142,132
Lifeguard services revenue	2,060,587	2,136,702
Interest income	48,654	9,999
Grants	345,161	299,219
Donations	47,118	24,378
Sponsorship	183,551	140,953
Other income	528,303	46,002
Total income	3,379,500	2,799,385
Less: Expenses		
Accounting fees	21,923	17,328
Advertising	36,965	8,205
Bad debts	1,273	91
Bank charges	1,138	1,815
Catering expenses	15,536	9,946
Cleaning	3,526	3,620
Computer expenses	71,467	72,215
Depreciation	130,434	146,015
Equipment costs	29,588	19,188
Finance costs	6,142	4,388
First aid and lifesaving expenses	20,714	32,934
Fringe benefits tax	4,972	5,030
Freight and cartage	445	429
Hire	20,849	9,789
Insurance	65,895	73,771
Kiosk expenses	11,070	-
Lifesaving vessels expenses	17,322	12,836
Movement in leave provisions	1,689	(5,702)
Legal expenses	6,036	6,092
Motor vehicle expenses	14,831	16,713
Other employee costs	18,526	3,483
Office equipment	2,043	3,157
Postage	249	131
Printing and stationery	4,360	5,152
Rent	1,227	-
Salaries	1,990,335	1,932,145
Subcontracting costs	12,877	19,222

Surf Life Saving Northern Territory Incorporated

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Subscriptions	3,496	4,252
Sundry expenses	5,815	3,225
Superannuation contributions	208,698	193,218
Telephone and fax	8,624	14,299
Training & development	15,381	2,585
Travel - domestic	39,777	28,716
Uniforms	4,926	5,337
Utilities	7,641	5,536
Workers compensation insurance	19,535	33,477
Total Expenses	2,825,325	2,688,638
	554,175	110,747
Gain on disposal of assets	-	11,364
Surplus/deficit for the year	554,175	122,111



OUR CLUBS

CLUB

YEAR EST.

Darwin SLSC

1982

Gove Peninsula SLSC

1971

Mindil SLSC

1996





