

<b>POLICY NO</b>	<b>E - 001</b>
<b>POLICY</b>	<b>CURRENCY OF AWARDS</b>
<b>ORIGINAL POLICY:</b>	<b>OCTOBER 1995</b>
<b>LAST REVIEW DATE:</b>	<b>OCTOBER 2002</b>
<b>REVIEW DATE:</b>	<b>CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW</b>

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

At the Manual Review meeting at Gwinganna in 1993 all Branches agreed to change the policy on currency of awards.

A number of research findings in relation to Resuscitation Training indicate that within three months of passing an examination over 80% of candidates when re-tested failed to pass. After twelve months this figure was in excess of 90%.

The Society's professional qualifications, Pool and Advanced Lifeguard, together with all Resuscitation Awards have, as a result, a twelve month currency.

It was discussed at Gwinganna and agreed that because many people use our awards, in particular the Bronze Medallions, as qualifications to provide Lifesaving supervision and that the duty of care of these people would appear to be of no less than that of a lifeguard, that all personal performance awards would also have a currency of twelve months.

As most people only gain these awards once in a lifetime this would not disadvantage them. For those who use the qualifications professionally it has been made easier to requalify for an award with the number of elements to be re-examined reduced to those most likely to suffer a reduction in performance standard due to passing of time.

It was also stated that persons using personal rescue awards as professional qualifications should also maintain regular practice throughout the year to further reduce the risk of failure or incorrect performance.

**2. POLICY**

- 2.1 All awards of The Society are issued in recognition of the holder's attainment of a specified level of competency at the time of
- a) the issue of the original award and
  - b) the subsequent requalification (if any) of that award.
- 2.2 When RLSS awards are required as a pre-requisite to the obtaining of employment or the possible carrying out of lifesaving duties incidental to employment or in other activities where the knowledge and application of lifesaving techniques are relevant to such activities, then such award holder should successfully complete a competency test within 12 months of the date of the issue of the original award and any subsequent competency test.
- 2.3 In the circumstances referred to in paragraph 2, it is thoroughly recommended that ongoing training be carried out to maintain the award holders performance and competency from the date of issue of the original award and any subsequent competency test.