



26th March 2020

Dear Presidents,

COVID-19 – Financial Assistance for Clubs

We are facing a challenge like we have never faced in the history of our organisation. This world-wide pandemic is going to impact us all in ways which we couldn't have imagined. We know our clubs are extremely resilient and capable, but it is also prudent that we try to assist you during these difficult times.

Most Clubs are undoubtedly experiencing financial stress as a direct result of the forced closure of their Club's commercial operations due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the federal government.

The federal government is aware of these stresses and has announced a number of financial initiatives to assist businesses and individuals via a stimulus package.

In addition, there are a couple of other areas of assistance available to SA surf lifesaving clubs.

Whilst Not for Profits and charities are included in the measures identified, there do not appear to be any specific assistance packages for this sector.

The following provides a summary of the currently known financial assistance available.

1. Boosting Cash Flow for Employers

The Boosting Cash Flow for Employers measure is a federal government initiative will provide up to \$100,000 back to businesses and not-for-profits (including charities).

Eligibility: applies to surf clubs that pay salary and wages

Calculation: \$ provided will depend on salary and wages detailed in BAS returns

Application: The ATO will deliver the payment as a credit to your business upon lodgement of your Business Activity Statements (April & July 2020)

2. Coronavirus SME Guarantee Scheme

The government providing a guarantee of 50% to lenders for new unsecured loans to be used for working capital, with the following terms:

- Turnover less than \$50m
- Maximum total size of loans of \$250,000 per borrower.
- The loans will be up to three years, with an initial six-month repayment holiday.
- The loans will be in the form of unsecured finance, meaning that borrowers will not have to provide an asset as security for the loan.

Surf Life Saving South Australia Incorporated

PO Box 117

West Beach SA 5024

2 Barcoo Road

West Beach SA 5024

t. 08 8354 6900

f. 08 8354 6999

w. surflifesavingsa.com.au

Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible

Borrowers will only incur interest on the amount they draw down. If they do not draw down any funds from the facility, no interest will be charged, but they will retain the flexibility to draw down in the future should they need to.

Eligibility: applies to all Surf Lifesaving Clubs (turnover less than \$50m) that require additional funds

Application: Specifics are not yet known. The Scheme will commence by early April 2020 and be available for new loans made by lenders until 30 September 2020

3. Employee assistance

For those Clubs that employed staff that have had to be stood down (casual staff or otherwise) then the Government announced changes:

- For people who have lost more than 20% of their normal income
- Access will be provided to up to \$10,000 of their superannuation savings in the 20/21 financial year.
- Access to the Jobseeker Payment (formerly Newstart) will be made easier – with the waiver of the asset test and waiting period.
- The payment will be temporarily increased to \$550 per week.
- Welfare recipients will receive another \$750 once-off payment starting 13 July, in addition to the \$750 once-off payment announced in stimulus package 1 – for payment in April.

People can claim online through myGov using a Centrelink online account, or via the Centrelink mobile app, they can phone Centrelink on 13852.

Eligibility: applies to all Surf Lifesaving Clubs that employ staff

Surf Life Saving SA (SLSSA) suggests that Clubs contact staff affected with the above information

4. SLSSA Club Foundation

Kanini Pty Ltd is the trustee for the SLSSA Club Foundation

Clubs are able to apply to Kanini for loans.

The Foundation Trustees are meeting on Thursday 26/3/20 to discuss, among other matters, broadening the criteria for providing loans and distributions to Clubs (amount and timing).

Eligibility: applies to all SLSSA fully affiliated Clubs

SLSSA will provide an update to Clubs after this meeting.

5. Westpac

National SLS sponsor, Westpac, is providing financial support for home lending, savings and small business customers, through the following changes:

- To support the cash flow needs of our small business customers, overdrafts will be reduced by 200 basis points for new and existing customers, effective Monday 6 April 2020.
- 100 basis point reduction to variable interest rates on small business cash-based loans, effective Monday 6 April 2020.

- Special 12-month term deposit of 1.7% p.a. to provide customers a higher return on their savings, an increase of 70 basis points (up to \$500,000 per customer). Effective Friday 27 March 2020.

Eligibility: open to all Surf Lifesaving Clubs that have (or are willing to open) a Westpac account.

Please note that other banks may also be offering financial assistance packages.

6. SLSSA Board

The SLSSA Board is meeting on 30 March and one of the items to be discussed will be what opportunities exist to support and provide assistance for our Clubs who may need it. The Board is aware of the financial strain it and in turn Clubs will be facing and are committed to ensuring that Clubs remain viable and sustainable during these times.

The SLSSA Board will also be working with Kanini to understand what if any opportunities exist in collaboration to support Clubs.

We know these are extremely complex and trying times for all. However, what we also know is that times like this can bring out the best in humanity. Surf Lifesavers are selfless, inclusive, courageous, trusted and authentic, but above all we are a family. Families look out for each other when things get tough.

If you need any help, support, advice or just a friendly ear over the coming days and months, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Board or staff.

Yours sincerely,



Damien Marangon
Chief Executive Officer
Surf Life Saving SA



John Baker ESM
President
Surf Life Saving SA