



Date: 12/10/2021

To: **All Club Chairs, Club Admins, SLSNZ/NR Staff, Team Managers, Surf Officials & Volunteers**

From: Mark Inglis – Sport Event Manager

Subject: **2021 New Zealand Pool Rescue Championships - CANCELLED**

It is with regret that on behalf of SLSNZ, I have to inform the membership that the difficult decision has been made to cancel the 2021 New Zealand Pool Rescue Championships, due to be held at Waterworld in Hamilton on October 29-31.

SLSNZ acknowledges that this will be extremely disappointing for individual members, clubs and the movement as a whole, in particular following the cancellation of TSB Nationals earlier this year.

The ongoing spread of COVID-19 within the Auckland Region and more recently into multiple areas of the upper North Island, coupled with the continued changing of Alert Levels and associated 'Range of Measures' provides little certainty for both the host venue and SLSNZ in terms of the viable delivery of the competition on the schedule dates.

While Alert Levels may change between now and the current competition dates, there are no guarantees and so this decision has been made now to provide certainty to clubs, competitors, volunteers and all other associated attendees and organisations.

Postponement/Location Change

Originally planned for October 8-10, the Championships have already been postponed and moved as per the [COVID Competition Contingency Guidelines](#).

Consideration has been given to further postponement, however with over 30 events across the country already scheduled in the seven weekends from the current scheduled event dates through to Christmas and ongoing variability of Alert Levels, it was determined that this would continue to cause significant uncertainty and disruption.

Alternative locations have been investigated, however as venues are not confirming availability or are already fully booked, there is still significant uncertainty in securing a suitable location.

Modification/Replacement

With a number of club and regional pool rescue events already postponed or cancelled, SLSNZ is focusing on supporting Regional Sport Managers and Committees to engage with clubs and competitors to provide opportunities for their membership as well as preparing for upcoming ocean and beach based events.

High Performance

SLSNZ has a plan in place to ensure athletes who have applied for HP Squad Selection have the opportunity to qualify for the 2022 World Games and push for selection for the 2022 Lifesaving World Championships. This will be communicated to HP athletes separately.

<END>

For more information, contact:

Mark Inglis

Sport Event Manager

Surf Life Saving New Zealand

Mark.inglis@surflifesaving.org.nz