

# COVID-19 AL3 (Step 2) Surf Life Saving Operational Safety Plan

This document outlines how **Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service (MVLS)** will adapt operations at **Alert Level 3 Step 2 (AL3-2)** to keep volunteers, members, visitors, workers, and members of the public safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The key risks that this plan seeks to eliminate, mitigate, or control while keeping the public safe at Muriwai Beach are as follows:

- **Exposure of MVLS lifeguards to members of the public who may be COVID-19 positive**
- **Exposure of MVLS lifeguards to other MVLS lifeguards who may be COVID-19 positive**
- **Exposure of visitors to the MVLS facilities including contractors and members of the public from exposure to COVID-19.**
- **Maintaining the reputation of MVLS and SLSNZ as a trusted organisation that operates within the prevailing Alert Level setting to protect both staff and members of the public.**

## Surf Life Saving Club Details

Club Name: <b>Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service</b>	Regional Office Signoff:
Region: Northern	
Contact name: Glenn Gowthorpe	Board/Committee Signoff:
Contact Details: 021 420832	
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Refer to SLSNZ Operational Capability/Operational Compliance Document: [https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/media/995456/surf-lifesaving-capability-operational-compliance-matrix-for-covid-19\\_v16-updated-05-nov-2021.pdf](https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/media/995456/surf-lifesaving-capability-operational-compliance-matrix-for-covid-19_v16-updated-05-nov-2021.pdf)

	Alert Level 3 Requirements and Considerations:	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE
<b>How we will manage the risks of operating our Club Facilities at Alert Level 3?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only those lifeguards rostered on-duty on any given day or the SAR Squad who are conducting training or responding to a callout are to access MVLS lifesaving facility areas.</li> <li>• Family members of lifeguards on patrol are not to enter any MVLS facilities or remain in the vicinity of MVLS facilities or on duty lifeguards at the beach.</li> <li>• All those lifeguards attending the site will be required to scan the MVLS QR code that is on the front door of the Ops Room or in the Tower.</li> <li>• All lifeguards must sanitise their hands on arrival at the club using hand sanitizer dispensers found around the club (Ops room, First Aid Room, kitchen, hall, hallway, gear shed).</li> <li>• Thorough cleaning of surfaces and equipment used is to be conducted at the end of patrols (vehicles, Ops room, bathrooms, first aid room) as well as gear that was used (IRB hulls, lifejackets, tubes, IRB engines, fuel bladders etc)</li> <li>• Maintain two metre distancing as much as possible with as many of your activities conducted outside vs inside. Ventilation of indoor areas is mandatory if you have to undertake a task inside (e.g., Ops room - leave the door open)</li> <li>• <b>Overnight Stays:</b> At Level 3 overnight stays are not permitted for MVLS volunteer lifeguards.</li> <li>• <b>Gatherings:</b> In general, there are to be no gatherings for any purpose other than to support lifesaving operations, training (as per SLSNZ recommendations <b>Compliance Matrix for COVID-19_v15</b>) and callouts. In all cases, the maximum number of people allowed indoors or outdoors at Alert Level 3 is <b>25</b>. Additional conditions on gatherings:</li> <li>• Physical distancing, masks and infection prevention and control requirements must be met.</li> <li>• All organisers/patrol captains must record patrol attendees, ensure QR codes are scanned in order to ensure contact tracing may be conducted if necessary.</li> </ul>	<p>Everyone on site at the club is responsible to ensure the risks of operating at Level 3 are managed.</p> <p>Committee to ensure information of how risks are to be managed are passed on to the membership.</p> <p>Patrol Captains on patrol weekends to ensure lifeguards adhere to distancing rules, mask wearing and sanitation requirements.</p>

## COVID-19 Operational Safety Plan

	Alert Level 3 Requirements and Considerations:	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE
<p><b>How we will operate our facility and programs in a way that keeps members, volunteers or workers and other people safe from exposure to COVID-19?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At Level 3, observational patrols can operate (flagged area can be set up if assessed as required – PC to decide). This will involve a maximum of <b>25</b> (but preferably fewer depending on conditions) lifeguards who will provide eyes on the water, while still having the required number of lifeguards with the experience and qualifications necessary to respond to an in-water incident if it should occur.</li> <li>Flags may be stationed on the beach in order to indicate where the safest swimming location is, especially in situations where there are rips that could endanger unsuspecting swimmers (eg near rocks). Flags should be spaced <u>no less than 200m</u> apart so that members of the public can maintain social distancing while in the water.</li> <li>Tower shifts will be conducted with distancing requirements in place - masks are to be worn at all times when in the tower. The tower is to be well ventilated at all times. Those lifeguards that are not required on tower shift will be required to maintain social distancing requirements and be available for immediate response if called upon. Options exist to use an Ezi-Up on the beach if the conditions allow, along with the ATV's and Club 4x4.</li> <li>Training can take place according to current SLSNZ guidelines: See <b>Compliance Matrix for COVID-19_v15</b> (max groups of <b>10</b> including instructors). The club administrator must receive notice of intent to train more than 24 hours notification before organized training times (<a href="mailto:administrator@muriwaisurf.org.nz">administrator@muriwaisurf.org.nz</a>)</li> <li>One metre distancing to be maintained as practical as possible. Masks are to be worn if spacing is not possible.</li> <li>All training courses, individual training and exams will follow SLSNR and SLSNZ guidelines as they are updated throughout the season.</li> </ul>	<p>Everyone is responsible to ensure the risks of operating at Level 3 are managed.</p> <p>Committee to ensure information of how risks are to be managed are passed on to the membership.</p> <p>At Level 3, Patrol Captains will manage the numbers on their patrol manage replacements of guards as required.</p> <p>Committee to publicise with membership who is allowed at the club and at what point they're allowed at the club.</p> <p>Patrol Captains to ensure risks due to Covid are managed on patrol.</p> <p>SAR Squad Coordinator ensure risks due to Covid are managed if activated to attend the beach</p>
<p><b>How we will manage an exposure or suspected exposure to COVID-19?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lifeguards with exposure or suspected exposure to symptomatic people will be required to leave the club facilities immediately, report the exposure to the patrol captain by phone and then return home with no stops, and call Healthline for advice on what to do. All surfaces that have been in contact will require disinfecting and cleaning down.</li> <li>Anyone suspected of being exposed or being in an area that has been exposed to COVID-19, will not be allowed to go to the club or attend club activities until such time that those that they have been in contact with return a negative COVID test, or the person themselves takes a COVID test and that returns negative.</li> <li>In case of positive COVID test, people will be required to self-isolate for 14 days as per COVID guidelines. Contact Healthline for further guidance.</li> </ul>	<p>All club members responsible for maintaining and managing their own health.</p> <p>Patrol Captains to ensure that all patrol members are aware of their responsibilities and required actions.</p>

**COVID-19 Operational Safety Plan**

	<b>DESCRIBE WHAT YOU WILL DO</b>	<b>WHO IS RESPONSIBLE</b>
<b>How we will check to see if our work processes and risk controls are effective?</b>	<p>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head Lifeguard, Club President, Health and Safety Officer and Convenor of Lifesaving will conduct random assurance checks of patrols and facilities to ensure that the required protocols and procedures are being followed.</li> <li>• Members are encouraged to provide feedback on how our lifesaving operations could be done better or safer during the prevailing alert levels.</li> <li>• Committee will review the Operational Safety Plan at the start of every Alert Level change, checking for relevance and any additional requirements.</li> <li>• MVLS Instagram and Facebook feeds will advise members and the public of any specific requirements of those on patrol or public visiting the beach.</li> </ul>	BOARD
<b>How do any changes impact on the risks of the activity our club does?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in how we manage patrols and clubhouse will not create further risk to the members, we will still ensure that we have strong patrol numbers, especially when beach conditions and/or beach numbers require an elevated lifeguard presence.</li> <li>• There is the potential for increased workload for the SAR Squad under Level 3 as more and more members of the public enjoy Muriwai Beach and surrounding areas during weekdays and beyond patrol hours. The SAR Squad have recently completed 'Rescue Ready' training and are all fully vaccinated.</li> </ul>	Head Lifeguard, Patrol Captains and SAR Coordinator to review and be in contact with members as the season progresses.

Notes: