



Lifelines Newsletter

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PAST EVENTS

Saskatchewan Branch's AGM

The Branch's Annual General Meeting took place in Saskatoon on March 26, 2011. Thirty-nine members attended the event. The AGM's purpose was to ratify the actions of the previous Board of Director's for the 2010/2011 year, approve the audited financial statements and to elect new directors for the upcoming year.

We are happy to announce that the 2011/12 Board of Directors is:

Dean Stanley, Regina
Shane Sawatzky, Kindersley
Rick Stilling, Saskatoon
Ken Bartnik, Regina
Kimberley Fleischhaker, Regina
Jocelyn Chandler, Ile a la Crosse
Nicole Lychak-Smith, Prince Albert

Informational Meeting & IT Update

An Informational Meeting for Lifesaving Instructors and Affiliates was held the morning of March 26th and prior to the AGM. The meeting's focus was to review policies and procedures of the Branch and Society programs as well as to facilitate discussion around the Branch's Mentorship System, roles and

responsibilities of instructors and examiners as well as general networking. The third and final Instructor Trainer Update was also held on March 26th which familiarized our Instructor Trainers and Apprentices on the new Swim for Life and Swim Patrol programs.



Participants at the Informational Meeting in Saskatoon on March 26th.



PAST EVENTS (con't)

Another Successful Symposium

The third annual Aquatic Leader's Training Symposium took place May 11th – 14th in Saskatoon. It was a successful turnout with 24 participants in total over the four days. Aquatic Supervisor Training and NLS Instructor were the certifications offered. Participants were from province-wide, including Kipling, Estevan, Moosomin, Kindersley and Swift Current.

Drowning Prevention Week

Drowning Prevention Week is July 16th– 23rd, 2011 this summer. Lifesaving Society affiliates are encouraged to participate in this yearly event once again.

The Drowning Prevention Tool Kit is now available on the Affiliate Log-in section of our website.

Transport Canada Makes Changes to B.O.A.T.

Transport Canada makes changes to B.O.A.T - PCO Training Training/Testing Protocols have changed:

As of April 15, 2011, all Lifesaving Society BOAT Affiliates must be using the new exams which are written by Transport Canada and the new BOAT Study Guide which has been approved by Transport Canada.

To access the new exams, please contact the Branch Office for a copy of the new BOAT Affiliate Agreement.

Changes to the B.O.A.T. exams:

- There are now 50 questions instead of 36. The exams questions and written by Transport Canada.
- Exams will change every six months. Transport Canada will send the Branch a new set of exams every six months who in turn will send it to the BOAT Affiliates.
- Old exams and BOAT Study Guides cannot be used as of April 14, 2011.
- There are no longer age categories for the exams. Everyone writes the same exam regardless of age.



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®
The Lifeguarding Experts



Notice of New Branch Policies and Procedures

Return Policy:

- This Return Policy includes all goods, materials and resources.
- Items returned must be accompanied with a copy of the original invoice.
- Credit for items will be applied to the account - no refunds will be issued.
- Items returned must be in resale condition.
- Shipping/ mailing costs for returned items will be paid by the customer.
- Items will only be accepted within three months of original date of purchase.

Cancellation Policy:

- This Cancellation Refund Policy includes Branch delivered courses, workshops or events such as NLS Instructor, regional meetings or life-guard/lifesaving competitions.
- Cancellations must be in writing through fax or email.
- Cancellations occurring 11 business days or more before the course, workshop or event will result in the payee being granted a refund credit; monetary refunds will not be given.
- An administration fee will be charged for all refund credits ...please contact Branch for current administration fee.
- Refund credits will not be granted for cancellations occurring 10 business days or less before the course, workshop or event.

Society Course Registration Form:

- All Affiliates must now register their leadership and first aid courses through the Branch Office in Regina by filling out a Course Registration Form. This includes NLS, AEC, LSI, Bronze Awards, etc.
- The purpose of the course registration is for quality control measures which will include random instructor certification checks, examiner status checks and receiving of test sheets upon completion of courses. It will also assist the office in keeping appropriate inventory for our Affiliates and to advertise your courses on our website and through phone calls and emails.
- Registration forms can be found on the Affiliate log-in section of the Society website or you can request a form to be email to you by the Branch Office.

Text Messaging While Lifeguarding is NOT OKAY

Although it should go without saying, text messaging while on active lifeguard duty is unsafe and inappropriate. "Any distraction that takes the lifeguard away from active surveillance of bathers for more than a brief period must be viewed as a serious disruption in safety supervision." (Alert: Lifeguarding in Action, page 24)

The Lifesaving Society does not condone texting or any other activity that takes the lifeguard's attention away from supervising the pool such as "buddy guarding", facility maintenance, reading, lesson planning, etc.

Please be alert, attentive and vigilant while lifeguarding!

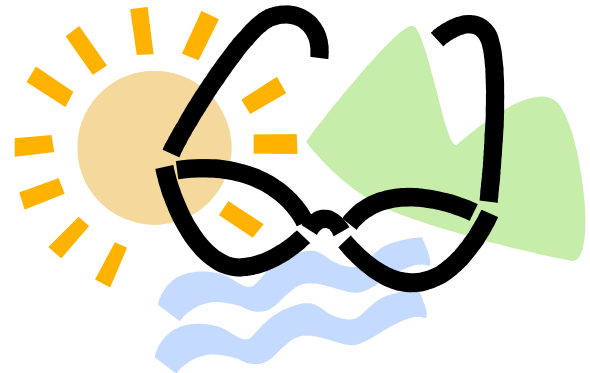




Sun and Heat Safety for Aquatic Staff

Sun and Heat Safety Recommendations for Aquatic Staff this Summer

1. Wear sunscreen and a hat.
2. Stay hydrated – carry a water bottle or drink water on your breaks.
3. Remember: Heat and wind will tire you out faster and affect your ability to effectively scan and supervise the pool. Allow for more frequent breaks out of the sun. (guard rotations).
4. Use polarized sunglasses to protect your eyes while guarding or teaching.
5. For more information, please refer to the Alert: Life-guarding in Action manual (Chapter 2, page 24). You can also contact the Canadian Cancer Society and Saskatchewan Occupational Health & Safety



HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER!

Upcoming Events and News

- Please join us in welcoming our summer students Jacy Bartnik and Ally Nelson to the Branch Office!
- Congratulations to the Meadow Lake Aquatic Centre on becoming a Swim for Life Affiliate with the Lifesaving Society!

- **NLS Waterfront Course:**
Duck Mountain Regional Park near Kamsack, SK
June 24 – 26, 2011
Please call the Branch Office to register! **780-9255**



The Meadow Lake Aquatic Centre

- We're now on **facebook**! Check us out at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lifesaving-Society-Saskatchewan-Branch/207169849327920>
- Pool Vacuum for Sale: The City of Prince Albert has a commercial pool vacuum for sale. Click on this link to find out more: <http://princealbert.kijiji.ca/c-buy-and-sell-tools-equipment-Commercial-Pool-Vacuum-For-Sale-W0QQAdIdZ285055770>



Above: Twelve new and enthusiastic NLS Instructors with their Instructor Trainers Nicholas and Shelby. Left: NLS Instructors reviewing land spinal rollovers.