

# **INFORMATION: Changes to the National Disaster Rescue Competition**

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## **Background**

The NSW SES is hosting the NDRC on 16 and 17 November 2019 in Wollongong. Traditionally the NDRC format features eight (8) stands with a different scenario or theme. The action phase is generally 60 minutes with 15 to 20 minutes team debrief by the judge before moving onto the next stand. The NSW SES has reviewed the last two NDRC, reflected on feedback from volunteers and taken ideas from the Australian Road Rescue Organisation (ARRO) challenge. As a result it made recommendations to the Australian Council of State Emergency Services (ACSES), and obtained unanimous agreement to implement changes aimed at maximising team contribution and creating powerful opportunities for innovation and learning.

These changes will also affect the State Disaster Rescue Competition and Zone Rescue Competitions.

## **Why change the format?**

The modifications to the 2019 National Disaster Rescue Competition (NDRC) have been endorsed by all states and will retain the integrity of the NDRC while providing opportunity for teams to critically reflect on their approach to the rescue scenarios, promote learning and knowledge sharing.

Changing or improving recurring agendas and formats not only attracts participants' attention, but encourages new ways of engaging, learning, collaborating and networking.

## **Why set minimum participation for females?**

The SES needs to be reflective of the communities we serve. Setting a minimum participation rate of females in a team draws attention to this issue and will encourage the nomination and conscious inclusion of women. Many units have very active female members who are heard and encouraged. But like it or not, there are other units where this is not the case. So to ensure all SES agencies across our great country build female capability and engagement, a minimum standard has been set and agreed by all states for the NDRC and associated competitions.

- Team composition is 7 members including 1 reserve who must be rotated.
- There must be a minimum of 2 female members within the team of 7 members.
- Since 6 members are active at a given time, minimum female participation will shift between 15% and 30% depending on who is the reserve at any given time.

## **More information?**

Direct any questions you have to [exercise@ses.nsw.gov.au](mailto:exercise@ses.nsw.gov.au).

Your Training Delivery Officer or Training Advisor will be supporting you in your preparation for the Zone and State Competitions. Contact them directly for advice if your Unit is planning to be involved in the competition.

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