



## Gear Inspection FAQs 2025-26

The purpose of this document is to answer some of the commonly asked questions and issues regarding Branch inspected gear.

For the 2025/2026 season the Branch Gear Inspection team will inspect:

- IRBs (be sure to review the checklist for IRBs for ALL items that will be inspected)
- IRB Motors
- Fuel cells
- Defibrillators (not including training defibrillators)
- Radios
- Rescue Boards

See the Gear Inspection Guideline for detail information. [LINK pending: not on new site]

### General

#### Naming of items:

- All items must be labelled and match the name on the Gear and Equipment list.
- Name that do not match will fail automatically, and no further checks will be done

### IRBs: Motors & Hulls

#### Common reason for failures

##### Hulls

- Eyelets on hulls are not smooth
- Ropes frayed
- Handles broken
- Compliant signage: SURF RESCUE or registration faded or missing numbers/letters

##### Floorboard

- MUST be removed from the IRB
- Floorboard mats lifting
- Sharp edges
- Foot straps not secure
- Foot strap covers worn

##### Motors

- Tilt friction too low



- Steering bushes and shaft heavily worn
- Should start and run under load

## Fuel Cells

### Common reason for failures

- Fixings are broke
- Eyelets not smooth

## Defibrillators

### Common reason for failures

- Missing items such as shears, gloves etc
- Alcohol wipes inside instead of non-alcohol wipes

## Radios

### Key updates for 2025/2026 season

- Must show Garie and Wattamolla repeaters as per SLS Sydney required update

### Common reasons for failure

- Name does not match in SurfGuard
- Corroded contact points

## Rescue boards

Rescue boards are designed to flex and may display creasing (particularly soft boards).

The gear inspection team's assessment of the structural integrity of a board includes:

- no display of the creasing being pierced with exposed foam
- flex should only be minor in danger to the point that the function of the board to rescue a patient is not compromised (essentially, if you lay on the board it should be able to withstand the weight of two people in the water)

### Common reasons for failure

- SURF RESCUE – faded or missing from bottom of board
- Name does not match in SurfGuard
- Sharp edges on board and/or fin
- Handles worn and unsafe