Surf Lifesaving NSW



Nominee's name: Reece Dodds

Current Role: Patrol Officer, Cape Hawke

Reece Dodds is a committed Patrol Officer with Cape Hawke Surf Life Saving Club, serving the Forster community and broader Lower North Coast region for the past eight years. Reece plays a critical role in coordinating patrol rosters for over 100 active members and contributes extensively to lifesaving education and surf sports.

As a Rescue Water Craft operator and member of the SLSNSW Rescue Services team, Reece responds to after-hours incidents and large-scale emergencies. Notably, in 2024, he was awarded a Surf Life Saving Australia Meritorious Award for his role in a complex rescue at South One Mile Beach, which saved a swimmer from drowning under extreme conditions.

Reece also gives countless hours to junior activities, surf coaching, and the training of new lifesavers. He exemplifies leadership, calm under pressure, and dedication to the Surf Life Saving mission.

During the 2022 floods, Reece volunteered in rescue and recovery operations across Northern NSW. His reliability and compassion in crisis situations have left a lasting impact on the community. Reece’s passion for mentoring and operational excellence truly embodies the values of “Service Above Self,” making him a worthy finalist for the 2025 Rotary Emergency Services Community Awards.