



Surf Life Saving Australia - Circular

Title:	2025 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships Final Event Circular
Document ID:	Circular 56/24-25
Audience:	State/Territory Surf Sport Managers, Directors, Club Secretaries, Branches, State/Territory CEO's Sport Standing Committee, Aussies Team Managers and Competitors
From:	Sport
Date:	24 March 2025
Summary:	This document contains important information about the 2025 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships to be held on the Gold Coast from Saturday 29 March to Sunday 6 April 2025.

DISTRIBUTION OF THIS CIRCULAR

It is most important that the information in this Circular be brought to the attention of carnival officials, team managers, coaches and competitors. Non-receipt of this circular will not be taken as an excuse if a club, team or individual does not comply with the requirements outlined in this and other circulars which refer to the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2025.

TEAM MANAGER BRIEFINGS

A reminder for all clubs to nominate the relevant Youth, Masters & Opens Team Managers for your club via the following links:

- [Nutri-Grain Nipper and Youth Championships Team Manager Form](#)
- [Masters Championships Team Manager Form](#)
- [Open Championships Team Manager Form](#)

Youth Team Managers Briefing (Online) – [Team Manager Briefing Link](#)
Monday, 24 March – 6pm AEST / 7pm AEDT / 4pm AWST / 6.30pm ACDT

Masters Team Managers Briefing (Online) – [Team Manager Briefing Link](#)
Tuesday, 25 March – 6pm AEST / 7pm AEDT / 4pm AWST / 6.30pm ACDT

Open Team Managers Meeting (Online) – [Team Manager Briefing Link](#)
Wednesday, 27th March – 6pm AEST / 7pm AEDT / 4pm AWST / 6.30pm ACDT

As part of the Australian Championships safety procedures, the safety, and contingency plans will be communicated in detail at this briefing. Failure to attend the relevant briefing/s may result in the Club's entries being refused and/or the Club referred to the Australian Championships Competition Committee for further action. As part of SLSA's administration processes, the briefings will be recorded.



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 24 March	Youth Team Manager Briefing (Online) First day for club container deliveries
Tuesday 25 March	Last day for container deliveries Masters Team Manager Briefing (Online)
Wednesday 26 March	Open Team Manager Briefing (Online) First day for craft trailer deliveries – Gilltrap Park, North Kirra (9am)
Thursday 27 March	Club tents allowed on beach at North Kirra (9am) Youth Athlete Check In Opens 12-5pm North Kirra Admin
Friday 28 March	Board Riding Marshalling (via text) Ocean Swim Entries Close 4pm
Saturday 29 March	Australian Championships Opening Ceremony Competition Day 1: Youth Championships Open & Masters Championships – Lifesaving commences
Sunday 30 March	Competition Day 2: Youth Championships The Aussies Ocean Swim Board Riding Commences
Monday 31 March	Competition Day 3: Masters Championships Golf Day
Tuesday 1 April	Competition Day 4: Masters Championships Pathways Interstate Championships Women in Lifesaving Event
Wednesday 2 April	Competition Day 5: Open Championships Officials Dinner
Thursday 3 April	Competition Day 6: Open Championships Life Members Function
Friday 4 April	Competition Day 7: Open Championships
Saturday 5 April	Competition Day 8: Open Championships Adaptive Events
Sunday 6 April	Ecumenical Service Welcome to Finals Day Ceremony March Past Competition Day 9: Open Championships
Tuesday 8 April	First day for container pickup
Wednesday 9 April	Final day for container & trailer pickup

****All above dates and times are subject to change**

CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEES

The Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2025 are managed by three committees.

The committees include:

- Event Organising Committee (EOC)
- Australian Championships Competition Committee (ACCC)
- Safety & Emergency Committee (SEC)

LATE ENTRIES

As advertised in the entry circular, there will be no late entries permitted at the 2025 Australian Championships. This includes additional entries for existing competitors.

Changes to the composition of teams can occur until marshalling commences via LiveHeats. There is no charge for a team change as long as the competitor is already entered in the carnival.



ADMINISTRATION CENTRES

The primary Admin Centre will be located at North Kirra SLSC in the Festival Zone. The Admin Centre will be open from:

- 12:00pm-5:00pm: Thursday 27 March
- 8:00am-5:00pm: Friday 28 March
- 7:00am-5:00pm: Saturday 29 March – Sunday 6 April.

Surf Boats will have a dedicated Admin which will be open for lycra collection and surf boat check in which will be located in between George Street and Graham Street. Surf Boat Admin will be open from:

- 9:00am-4:00pm: Monday 31 March
- 7:00am-4:00pm: Tuesday 1 April
- 7:00am-4:00pm: Wednesday 2 April
- 7:00am-4:00pm: Thursday 3 April

There will be QR codes at the Admin Centre with general information, event draws & timetables and maps for quick event information.

International Competitors must check in with the Admin team before they start competition.

LYCRA VESTS

All competitors except Surf Boats are to collect their competition lycra from the Admin Tent south of North Kirra SLSC. Lycras can be collected during the Admin opening times as listed above.

Individuals are responsible for the collection of their own competition lycra vests and will be required to check in to the event with their LiveHeats band. This will ensure that each individual only receives one lycra vest, and also ensures all individuals have the correct LiveHeats band prior to marshalling.

SURF BOATS

All surf boats sweeps have been sent an email requesting the sizing's for each crew. These will be packaged and collected at the Surf Boat Admin Centre during the above listed times.

RANDOM DRAWS

For all 3 Championships (Youth, Masters and Open) Competitors will be issued with a random draw number for heats for both individual and team events. The random draw numbers will be published via the [Live Heats](#) website prior to the commencement of each Championship.

All athletes must be aware of their random draw heat number when being marshalled for each event. If an athlete does not have a random draw number, they will not be able to be permitted to race.

LIVE HEATS

Youth, Masters & Opens Championships at the Aussies 2025 will be utilising LiveHeats wristbands for marshalling and recording processes across water, beach and surfing events.

All competitors who have an existing LiveHeats wristband from any Surf Sport event are to bring these wristbands to Aussies. **If you have already been issued a wristband and require a new one, you will be charged \$10 for a new one.**

Competitors must wear their own liveheats band in every race including finals, or there will be penalties. You can check if it is your wristband by scanning the QR code on the underside of the wristband.

Please note LiveHeats wristbands will not be used for Surf Boats, March Past and RnR events.

Competitors can view all draws and results via the SLSA page on the LiveHeats website:
<https://www.liveheats.com/slsa>



Refer to the [LiveHeats Cheat Sheet](#) for all you need to know prior to coming to the event.

TEAM CHANGES VIA LIVEHEATS

Please note that all Team Managers will be required to make team changes direct through LiveHeats. Team Changes will not be accepted at Admin.

It is integral that all Team Managers complete the Team Managers form to allow for a login to be created to the Team Managers Portal.

Please refer to the [LiveHeats Team Managers Guide](#) for further information.

COMPETITOR CHECK-IN

Surf Boat Events

Check in will occur at the Surf Boat Admin Shed (between George Street and Graham Street). Check Ins must be done in person – NO telephone check ins – by the following times:

- Masters: 9am-1pm Monday 31 March
- Open: 9am-4pm Tuesday 1 April and 9am-12pm on Wednesday 2 April

Board Riding Events

Check in for board riding must be done via text to **0431 185 295** by Friday, 28 March by 7pm. Please ensure you include competition name, club and division to confirm. Please refer to the Board Riding circular for further information.

All Other Events

All competitors will be required to check into the event with their LiveHeats wristband in order to receive their competition lycra from Admin.

AREA LOCATIONS

All areas will be allocated as per timetable and event site maps, unless otherwise instructed. Clarification on the following event locations:

Youth R&R

Youth R&R will be held on the North side of the Blue & White Arena at North Kirra

Long Runs

Youth – will be held on the north side of the Blue & White Arena at North Kirra
Open & Masters – will be held in front of the Lifeguard tower at **Kirra** beach

EVENT CONDITIONS

Please refer to the [Entry Circular](#) for all event conditions.

WARM UP/TRAINING – WATER SAFETY

All competition areas can be used for warm-ups before competition each morning. Please ensure you listen to the officials and announcements regarding specific warm up times as per daily timetables.

Competitors are requested to not enter the water before 6:50am each morning and keep all areas clear so to allow IRB crews to reset and refine courses where required.

High Vis Lycras must be worn by anyone swimming before or after competition. High-Vis lycras must be worn for training and warm up and by all participants (e.g.: competitors, Team Managers, coaches, officials, etc.) wanting to enter the water during competition hours. It is therefore recommended to bring old lycras from previous competitions for this purpose as additional lycras will not be distributed.

Competitors are asked to work with referees and officials if they wish to warm up/down between events and cannot get specified areas.



We ask that Team Managers and clubs communicate this information to members in the lead up to the championships so that we continue to improve the overall operation of the championships.

We also ask that you work with Area and Sectional referees to clarify any issues and/or be updated on any changes once the championships have commenced.

Clubs are responsible for providing their own water safety for warm ups,

SURF BOATS

Proceed to sea in alleys 1,2,3 – Alley 4 as a buffer and return to shore in alleys 5,6,7.

With this system it will negate the congestion of boats, just doing their own thing all over the area. They will have a guide of where they can proceed to sea and where to return to shore. This hopefully will be a safer method for warm ups.

EVENT TRANSPORT & PARKING

A free event shuttle bus service will run between Kirra, North Kirra, Bilinga, Tugun and SLSA's Off-Site Parking Area at Boyd Street, Tugun. This service will commence at 5:30am and conclude approximately 6:00pm with buses coming approximately every 15 minutes.

SLSA also recommends using the Translink bus services as they too come every 15 minutes and cost only 50 cents.

There is 4 hour timed street parking in the local area so SLSA recommends utilising the SLSA Park and Ride car park, available at 4 Boyd Street, Tugun for \$5 per day. The four hour parking is strictly monitored because of proximity to the airport.





ACCESS TO GEAR AND EQUIPMENT COMPOUNDS

CRAFT TRAILERS

Provisions have been made for Board/Ski trailer parking within the Gilltrap Park North Kirra. Containers will be located here as well. Access will be via Pacific Parade on the corner of Musgrave Street, Kirra. It is recommended vehicles with trailers access Pacific Parade via Lang Street, North Kirra.

- Container deliveries will be taken on 24 March – 25 March. We ask no clubs to access their containers on these days.
- Access to trailer parking will be from 9am Wednesday 26 March. Note trailer parking will be locked at 6pm each day and for access after these hours you will need to talk to security to get access.

Under no circumstances are vehicles or trucks permitted to park or be left unattended in these areas – any vehicle parked in the Trailer Parking area will be towed.

BOAT TRAILERS

Boat Trailers will be stored on beach at North Kirra. There will be boat unloading areas along Pacific Parade both north and south of Mills Street as per the Site Map.

SECURITY OF EQUIPMENT

Reports of missing vehicles, craft and equipment and personal belongings, are not uncommon at major events and all club Team Managers and competitors are reminded of their responsibility towards the security of their own equipment at these Championships.

Whilst allocated areas for the storage of surf craft, reels, tubes, etc. and general security surveillance personnel will be provided, the security of this equipment remains strictly under the control of the clubs and competitors and no responsibility will be accepted by Surf Life Saving Australia.

CLUB TENTS

Club tents shall ONLY to be erected in designated areas after 9:00am, Thursday 27 March.

Tents found in position (erected or otherwise) before this time and/or in non-designated areas, will be removed from the area. Tents removed from competition area will then be made available for collection at the gear compound area on Monday 7 April.

We ask that clubs please respect each other and SLSA Staff and Volunteers during this process and listen to advice of SLSA staff and contractors.

ACCESS TO COMPETITION AREA

Under no circumstances will unauthorised personnel be allowed into any competition area. The same instruction applies to competitors who loiter around the area after competing. Many people will have travelled quite some distance to witness this major event and the area at all times must project an area befitting an Australian Championships carnival. A dedicated team under the control of the Championship Referee will ensure this direction will be adhered to. The cooperation of all competitors and visitors is sincerely sought in this regard. Coaches, club officials and supporters are not permitted in the competition area; however, a Team Manager may accompany their competitors into the marshalling areas if they need to discuss an issues with the Competition Liaison

VIDEO EQUIPMENT & PLAY BACK FACILITIES

Where available throughout The Aussies 2025, video equipment and play back facilities will continue to be used at some finish lines and judging areas for the boat, swim, craft and beach competition areas.

PROTEST/APPEALS

All protests shall be lodged with the appropriate carnival official in accordance with the procedures outlined in the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and shall identify the specific sections/clauses in the Surf Sports Manual upon which the protest is based.



Protest/Appeal Forms will be readily available from the Competitor Liaison Officers located in the various competition areas. A fee of \$150.00 AUD per appeal (incl. GST), must be paid to lodge an appeal with the Appeals Committee. Should the appeal be successful, the fee will be refunded.

SCRUTINEERING

Team Managers and competitors are strongly advised to ensure that their skis and boards, reels and surf belts, surf lines, swim fins, rescue tubes and surf boats, etc. strictly comply with the SLSA Policy Statements as applicable, before departure for these Championships.

Team Managers must read and understand the instructions in the [Scrutineering Circular](#) and ensure that their competitors do likewise. Having no knowledge of the procedures and requirements of Scrutineering Circular will not be an excuse if the directions contained therein are not followed.

DRESS OF COMPETITORS/OFFICIALS

In all events, competitors must wear approved competition dress as detailed in the 37th edition of the Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent Bulletins or Circulars.

Approval may be granted by the Championship Referee for a club or competitor to wear a singlet or vest different to the supplied singlet provided it complies with the SLSA Sponsorship Policy 6.28 (available via the SLSA Member's Area). This approval is subject to colour and visibility of the club/competitor singlets being Hi-Vis Yellow for the Opens, Masters & Youth. This must be presented for approval at the Team Managers' Briefings. The approved lycra singlets may only then be worn during the heats. For the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals the SLSA branded event lycra singlets must be worn, **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Competitors will be checked at the start line and no competitor will be allowed to compete unless they comply.

SLSA Staff, Championship Referee, Area Referee and/or Sectional Referee reserve the right to order the removal or covering of signage, ID or logos in conflict with the Championships sponsor and/or the SLSA Sponsorship Policy 6.28.

SPONSORED EVENTS/COMMERCIAL IDENTIFICATION

It is a condition of entry to the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships that competitors may be required to carry sponsor logos/identification on craft, boats, and equipment. However, if this occurs every effort will be made not to cover other signage, provided it does not conflict with sponsors of the Championships. For further details regarding sponsorship, refer to Policy 6.28 – Sponsorship available online in the Members Area.

The Championships have major partner and event partner sponsors that contribute and support the running of the championships. The following details clarify the requirements of all sponsored competitors/clubs participating in the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships.

- Finalists in the sponsored events may be required to carry event sponsor signage affixed on craft or equipment.
- Finalists in Open Male & Female individual ski events will be required to wear a specific lycra to be given to competitors when marshalling for these events.
- Finalists in Open Male & Female individual ski events will be required to affix Sea-Doo sponsor sticker on the front of the craft, as outlined in figure A. This sticker will be given to competitors when marshalling for these events.
- Club/individual's sponsor signage on craft and equipment will not be covered unless, when fitting the event sponsor signage, it is unavoidable. All competitors in these sponsored Championship events will also be required to wear lycras provided by SLSA.
- No competitor, handler and/or club is permitted to have any signwriting, logos or corporate ID on either clothing, competition apparel, gear, equipment or on the person in the competition area (including marshalling areas) which is deemed not in "good taste".
- It may be possible that TV interviews will be undertaken with prominent competitors, and in such cases, they may be asked to wear one of the official sponsor caps.

Figure A - A minimum two (2) Sea-Doo stickers anywhere within the shaded area below on their ski



Please note the following sponsors related to the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2025:

- **Strategic Partner:** Experience Gold Coast and Tourism & Events Queensland
- **Event Partners:** BRP, FINZ, Nutri-Grain
- **Event Supporters:** 92.5 Triple M Gold, Yeah Nah, Australian Sport Commission
- **Major National Partners:** DHL, Isuzu Ute, QANTAS and Westpac

All SLSA Staff, Sectional Referees, Area Referees and the Championship Referee reserve the right to order the removal or covering of signage, ID or logos in conflict with carnival sponsors.

Refusal to comply with any of the above will render the clothing, competition apparel, or equipment ineligible for the competition, and the competitor (and/or team) may be ineligible for further participation in the Championships.

CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS, TROPHIES AND POINTSCORE

SLSA Championship medallions will be awarded to individuals and team members gaining 1st (Gold), 2nd (Silver) or 3rd (Bronze) in all Championship events contested. A minimum of one starter is required for any event to be contested. For all events, medals will be awarded as follows:

- Three (3) or more competitors – Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals may be awarded.
- Two (2) competitors – Gold and Silver medals may be awarded.
- One (1) competitor (providing the competitor/team correctly completes the course) – Gold medal

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations for the Youth and Open Championships Ocean and Beach events will occur just south of North Kirra SLSC following the conclusion of competition each day.

Please note presentations for Board Riding, Surf Boats and Lifesaving events will all occur at their respective competition locations.

All Masters will be presented their medals at the conclusion of their events on the beach by the chief judge or sectional referee in their area.

TROPHIES/POINTSORES

The following 2025 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships overall point score categories and memorial trophies will be formally awarded at the conclusion of the final day of competition:

Overall Point score 'Surf Life Saving Australia Perpetual Trophy' (Under 17, Under 19 & Open Points only) *	Handicap Point score
Under 17 years Champion Club	Under 19 years Champion Club
Opens Champion Club	Masters Champion Club
Most Outstanding Female Competitor	Most Outstanding Male Competitor
Female Champion Lifesaver	Male Champion Lifesaver
Open First Aid Competition 'Tess Cramond AO, OBE Shield'	Peter Lacey Medal (U19, U17, U15 & Ironperson, Surf Race, Board, Belt)
Open 6 Man R&R 'Curlewis Trophy'	Under 19 First Aid Competition 'Ian Mackie AM Trophy'



R&R Overall Open Champion Club Competition "Sandstrom Trophy"	Open 5 Man R&R 'Dearlove and Rennie Trophy'
Under 19 Ironman 'Saxon Bird Trophy'	Under 19 Surf Boats 'Robert Gatenby Shield'
Surfboard Riding Overall Masters Champion Club Competition	Under 15 Ironman 'Matthew Barclay Memorial Trophy'
Teams Surfboard Riding 'Peter Doolan Trophy'	Surf Board Riding Overall Open Champion Club Competition
Youngest Open Male Ironman Finalist 'Dean Mercer' Perpetual Shield	Open Patrol Competition 'The Governor Generals National Trophy'

*Youth and Masters results do not contribute to the overall point score and there is no point score tally for the Youth Championships.

The point score awarded for each Champion Club, within each event's age category, will be 6 points for 1st place, down to 1 point for 6th place. If, when the Championships have concluded, there is a tied point score, the Club with the most 1st placings will be declared the winner. Failing this, the Club with the most 2nd placings to 6th placings respectively will be taken into account to determine a winner. If, after this procedure there is no single winner, then the point score will be declared a tie and dual trophies will be presented.

Note: International clubs (and/or non SLSA affiliated clubs) are not eligible to earn points towards Australian Champion Club.

DEAD HEATS

Where a dead heat (as defined in the current edition Surf Sports Manual) occurs in the final of an event, the clubs of individuals/teams will share the placing points and medal relative to the finish placing. The club of the next individuals/teams to finish will receive the relative placing points based on the number of individuals/teams finishing ahead of them. For example: if two individuals/teams finish equal 1st, both individuals/teams shall receive 6 points each and the gold medal. The next placing individual/team shall be awarded the 4 points and the bronze medal for coming 3rd.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITOR MEDALS

If an international competitor (or club team) place (1st, 2nd or 3rd) in a Championship event they will be awarded the medallion (and/or trophy) equal to the placing gained.

However, the first Australian competitor/s (or club team/s) to place will be awarded the Australian Championship Title/Placing and the equivalent medal and/or trophy and Championship Points.

OVERALL CHAMPION CLUB

For the overall Championship point score winner (Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2025 only) the winning club will be awarded at the closing ceremony. Also awarded at this ceremony will be the Male Competitor of the Championships and Female Competitor of the Championships.

HANDICAP CHAMPION CLUB

The Handicap point score will be on a handicap system based on the Champion Club from the previous three Australian Championships. The calculation is based on the following formula:

- Total of the previous three years pointscores.
- Highest total has handicap of zero.
- Handicap Bonus is the difference between the club with the highest past three pointscore total, minus the other club's past three total, divided by three.
- Handicap is present points plus Handicap Bonus points.
- Only Clubs that have gained points in the present pointscore and the previous 3 carnivals are considered.
- Highest total wins

SLSA CODE OF BEHAVIOUR/MISCONDUCT



Misconduct before, during and after the Championships will not be tolerated. Offending members risk disciplinary action against themselves and their Clubs. Please refer to the current Edition [Surf Sports Manual](#) and, in particular but not limited to, section 2.27 SLSA Code of Behaviour, section 2.28 Abuse/Inappropriate Behaviour and section 2.29 Competing Unfairly and also to SLSA Policy 6.05 – Member Protection Policy (available online at [Member's Area](#) > Document Library > Governance/Policies > Policy 6.05).

COMPETITION MANIPULATION AND ANTI-DOPING

Competition Manipulation

The SLSA National Policy on Competition Manipulation and framework covers all SLS Events that are conducted by SLSA, State Centres, Branches and Clubs includes special events, conducted by third parties sanctioned by an SLS entity and any event, competition or series connected with Surf Lifesaving. Please refer to Policy Document 5.11 for further details.

Anti-Doping

Members have responsibilities under Policy 5.2 Anti-Doping Policy and Policy 6.23 Illicit Drugs in Sport (both available in the SLSA Members Portal).

It is strongly recommended that all Athletes, Coaches, Team Managers and Support Personnel complete the online Sports Integrity Australia training module “Clean Sports 101” and conduct at least one (1) anti-doping education activity with all competitors from the Club.

<https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/resources/education>

MISCONDUCT AND REPORTING

Misconduct before during and after the Championships will not be tolerated. Offending members risk disciplinary action against them themselves and their club. WA Police will be closely monitoring behavior during and after competition.

If you wish to report a matter that you believe breaches SLSA Policies, please do so by lodging it at <https://complaints.sls.com.au>

TEAM APP

Aussies 2025 will be using the 'Team App' smart phone application to send out updates and notifications to competitors. Download 'Stack Team App' from your App Store or Google Play. Once you have downloaded the app and created a user login, search for '**The Aussies 2025**' in the search bar at the top of the screen and click on the event to join. From here you will be able to access event documentation, timetables and where to find all the latest and up to date information on the event. It may also be helpful to visit the website for further clarification at <https://www.teamapp.com/faqs>.

PHOTOGRAPHY

As a condition of entry, all competitors agree that any photography taken during the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2025 can be used for promotional material by SLSA. This is:

I understand that as a competitor I am participating in competition which is of national significance and agree:

- a) to be filmed, televised, photographed, interviewed and otherwise recorded for the duration of the competition, under the conditions and for the purposes authorised by SLSA;*
- b) to compete with a Go Pro or any other device, within reason, attached to equipment if requested for the purpose of obtaining best possible footage to promote the sport, unless an athlete can prove that such an attachment would hinder their performance.*
- c) that SLSA owns all rights in the photos and recordings taken in accordance with (a) and SLSA has the right to reproduce these.*
- d) if asked, I agree to wear a 'Tracker' in any event. Please note that this device is only used to enhance broadcast and audience engagement, and is not a safety device.*

SLSA has appointed official event photographers who will make their photos available for purchase online



at <https://geosnapshot.com/e/the-2025-australian-surf-life-saving-championships/35076?source=event-eo-share>

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Only accredited media will be granted access to the competition area and The Aussies 2025 Media Centre.

All media enquiries should be directed to the Surf Life Saving Australia Media Team – media@slsa.asn.au

THE AUSSIES FESTIVAL ZONE

The Aussies 2025 Festival Zone is the place to experience the sponsor activations, competitions and giveaways, get your Aussies 2025 official merchandise and enjoy a selection of the race action live on the Big Screen. The Aussies 2025 Festival Zone will also feature Your Mates Brewing Bar and live music throughout the event.

SAFETY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

All Competitors and Officials are referred to the Introduction on page (i) of the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and in particular but not only paragraphs (d), (e) and (f). Paragraph (d) states:

"Surf lifesaving can be inherently dangerous. Serious accidents can and often do happen which may result in property damage, physical injury and even death. All members are assumed to have voluntarily read and understood this warning and accept and assume the inherent risks in surf lifesaving."

A Emergency Management Plan and Risk and Safety Strategy has been developed for use by the Safety & Emergency Committee (SEC), the Competition Committee (ACCC), officials and relevant personnel. These guides have been refined for use for the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2025.

Water safety as part of the competition, is ultimately the responsibility of the SEC & ACCC, based on the advice of the Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator, the Championship Referee and Officials in determining postponement or cancellation of any or all events, or relocation to an alternate venue in accordance with Section 1 - Competition Safety, of the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual, any subsequent amending bulletins, and this Circular.

The Championship Referee and Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator will conduct safety briefings to Officials and Team Managers before commencement of competition and during the event as required.

Safety and Emergency Manager Officers have been appointed to assist the Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator to provide ongoing assessment of conditions and safety across the carnival area. They will create an effective communications channel to the Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator and Competition Committee. Those Officials may seek advice from competitors and team representatives to ensure an informed opinion is provided and can be acted upon where appropriate.

Team Manager Briefings will be conducted 30 minutes prior to the start of competition each day in areas. These briefings will be conducted in each area by the Area Referee and/or the Sectional Referee.

At the conclusion of each race, each competitor will have their LiveHeats wristband scanned to record their placing, including those that have completed and have not qualified to the next round, disqualified competitors and those that did not finish.

PLEASE NOTE:

- All competitors participating in The Aussies, **must** wear a **yellow** lycra during their competitions. Failure to comply with this safety measure may result in disciplinary action against the individual and club
- For warm up and training competitors may wear either pink or yellow lycras.



- For the duration of the Championships, Surf Life Saving will provide water safety from 7.00am to 8.00am for the purpose of water safety during warm-ups.
- Powercraft & water safety requirements are set in place for the duration of the Championships, inclusive of Youth, Masters & Opens Championships.

INCIDENT PROCEDURES

Surf Life Saving Australia has a range of incident protocols in place for Aussies 2025 including designated search and response teams. In the event of a shallow water search, event organisers may seek further assistance from some competitors who hold a Bronze Medallion.

U13 WATER SAFETY

The U13 Water Safety roster will be allocated on a pro rata basis. Clubs will have to provide personnel to cover water safety shifts however they will be provided equipment and water safety vests. Final roster to be communicated via TeamApp and in the Youth Team Managers Briefing.

DRONES ON SITE

Please ensure that all competitors and travelling family members are aware that no unauthorised drones are permitted at the 2025 Championships, including all respective arenas and surrounding locations.

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

A contingency plan has been developed as part of SLSA risk management planning and its duty under the Work Health and Safety Act and regulations to ensure health and safety risks are eliminated so far as reasonably practicable.

In the presence of natural or man-made hazards, particularly unfavourable weather and / or surf conditions preventing the conduct of part, or the whole of the competition events, it is essential that a clear and simple Contingency Plan be established to relocate events to alternate locations.

The decision to enact this Contingency Plan is the responsibility of the ACCC. The Championship Referee and the Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator are responsible to the ACCC for recommendations concerning competition safety. The Safety Operations Manual developed for this event is to be applied when considering and making recommendations, in consultation with relevant emergency services and lifesaving authorities (i.e., City of Stirling Council and SLSWA).

A review of the following will be conducted at each ACCC meeting:

- a) Risk Assessment of the current conditions of the beach
- b) Injury management statistics
- c) Current weather predictions
- d) Competition Statistics

CONTINGENCY OPTIONS

The ACCC have several contingency options available to consider, these are:

Option 1 – Reschedule Program

This option allows the ACCC to change the program to suit the prevailing conditions that may be experienced during competition. This may require rescheduling of one or all the competition arenas, including changes to courses, starts and finishes.

Youth Championship Events

Given the limited time frame for the conduct of the Youth Championships once underway, priority will be given to concluding any events that have commenced and then to the conduct of events that can be completed in the allotted time. The carnival committee will however have total discretion in what events are conducted.

Athletes may not be able to contest both beach and ocean events due to time constraints associated with



the Youth Championships.

Masters Championship Events

The carnival committee will have total discretion in what events are conducted should there be a need to rationalise the events conducted. The age and number of competitors in each event will be a consideration in the priority given to which events may or may not be included in a reduced program for the Masters' Championships although once underway priority will be given to concluding any events that have commenced and then to the conduct of events that can be completed in the allotted time.

Open Championship Events

In the event of a competition being affected by implementation of contingency plans, a decision to delete events may be required. Provided that competition can proceed safely, the table below is a suggested priority matrix with preference being given to open events then decreasing ages to youth and simultaneously increasing master's ages.

Priority	Event	Rationale
A	Surf Race Board Race Ski Race Ironman/Ironwoman Beach Sprint Beach Flags Beach Run Taplin Relay Surf Boats Beach Relay Champion Patrol	Core individual events, High media interest, Allows competitors from smaller clubs without teams to compete Premier Team events Showcases the strength of a club across a broad range of disciplines
B(1)	Board Relay Ski Relay Surf Teams	Core Team events
B(2)	Double Ski Lifesaver Relay	Core Team events Craft/Events that may result in heightened risk management issues in larger surf conditions
C	Board Rescue Rescue Tube Rescue Belt Races Champion Lifesaver	All Rescue style of events Length of time to complete events from heats through to finals may be significant Achieving a fair course, at times, can be difficult i.e., 50m of bank is required Setting the course, at times, at a distance longer than the SSM is required
D	2km Swim	This may be a complex event to run in difficult conditions.

Where events are relocated to alternative sites then the program must be amended to ensure the safe completion of the competition.

The Championship Referee has autonomy to make minor changes to the program but must advise the Chair of the ACCC at the earliest opportunity.

Option 2 – Use of an Alternative Competition Arena at Event Beach

The ACCC may see fit to change the competition arenas allocated to the various Age Groups or Events. The ACCC may consider these options due to hazardous conditions requiring a safer location for less experienced competitors.

Option 3 – Move to Carnival Arenas North or South along the beach

This option is for the movement of the competition arenas north or south along the current beach. This



option may be considered due to environmental issues being identified, e.g., lack of beach. This option may require the movement of one arena or all the arenas.

Option 4 – Partial Relocation away from Event Beach

This option allows the majority of the Championships support infrastructure, TV, sponsors' signage and other Championship's infrastructure to remain at the Championships Beach. Such items are not considered essential to the conduct of the competition. Following a risk assessment, if conditions are deemed unsafe for particular events, those events will then be relocated to an alternative venue where conditions are more suitable. **Primary and secondary alternative locations may be considered for this option where appropriate.**

Option 5 – Complete Relocation of Championships

Complete relocation of the Championships including sponsors' signage and TV, etc. The entire carnival infrastructure will be duplicated, where practical, at the alternate site except for the TV commentary stand. **This option is planned to occur only at the primary alternative surf location.**

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS – CONTINGENCIES

These locations have been identified as suitable for relocation of all or a large component of the Championships. This does not preclude individual events being relocated to these sites if appropriate. Infrastructure will be installed at these sites prior to the commencement of the Championships and comprehensive plans developed to facilitate any move.

A final decision regarding the use of any contingency site will be dictated by a risk assessment at that site. SLSA have also investigated other beaches and waterways on the Gold Coast as potential contingency venues and have ruled them out due to unavailability, not suitable for Aussies, unable to gain permission from local authorities to hold our event, distance, etc.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the SLSA Events team:

Email: events@slsa.asn.au

Onsite: Administration Tent – south of North Kirra SLSC