

BRONTE

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB • 1903

NIPPERS NEWSLETTER WEEK 6



Huge congratulations to all Nippers and parents who took part in the Junior Ocean Swim and the Bondi to Bronte on Sunday – what an amazing day! Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make it such a fantastic success.

Sydney Water Police @ Bronte: Keep an eye on the ocean this Sunday morning! We have a group of lucky U13 nippers arriving via the Offshore Police Vessel as part of a broader Surf Life Saving / Water Police engagement strategy.

BBQ –U11G this week: 7.45am-11.30am (a full morning!). What a great way to help out our Club – no experience required!! BBQ roster is [here](#), and BBQ volunteer sign up is [here](#).

BRONTE NIPPERS IN THE NEWS!

Check out the article and lovely photo below.

HOLIDAY DATES & REMINDERS

Nippers:

- Sunday 15 December: Last Nippers for 2024.
- Sunday 12 January: Nippers resumes.

Training:

- Beginners board squad: last session Tuesday 17 December; training resumes Tuesday 21 January.

- Development and Competition squads: last session Saturday 17 December; training resumes Saturday 18 January.
- For those nippers who wish to continue training during the holidays, we highly recommend Jo Mermaid's fantastic nippers holiday camps: <https://www.mermaidswim.com.au/session-category/surf-sports/>
- Sand training: last session Tuesday 10 December; training resumes Tuesday 29 January.
- Reminder re expectations:
 - Nippers must be signed in and signed out of training with a responsible adult remaining within sight on the beach.
 - Following sign out from beginners boards:
 - Please **move away** from the development and competition squad training area.
 - Strong recommendation to parents: ensure your child remains within their capability and jump in the water with them.

DIPPERS, 1 February 2025 – 22 March 2025

Dippers is returning! Dippers is a modified Nippers program for neuro-diverse kids and is run in conjunction with Autism Swim at Bronte on Saturday mornings at 8am in Term 1. Dippers is led by a specialist from Autism Swim, and is staffed by Bronte volunteers. It's an incredible program – just as fun for volunteers as participants! Please see [here](#) for information regarding Dippers and [here](#) to sign up to volunteer. Bronze Medallion holders preferred.

UPCOMING NIPPER CARNIVALS ****Check list of entrants to date at end of this newsletter.**

All entries due as per below to nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au or via form where relevant. Please see the latest calendar [here](#) as well as our Competitor Guidelines for Nipper Carnival Participation [here](#):

- Saturday 7 December: Cronulla Board Bash (closed). Good luck to our entrants!
- Sunday 8 December: North Narrabeen Beach Carnival (closed). Good luck Em!
- Saturday 4 January: Wamberal - Race One Junior Iron 2025. All welcome. **Due by 15 December.**
- Sunday 5 January: Narrabeen Junior Beach Carnival. All welcome. **Due by 15 December.**
- Sunday 12 January: Manly Nipper Nats. All welcome. **Due by 15 December** (entries close over break)
- Sunday 26 January: North Cronulla Junior Iron Carnival. All welcome (not yet open but let nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au know if keen)
- Friday 7 February: Sydney Branch Carnival – Beach Runs U11-U14 @ North Cronulla. Championship Carnival; discuss with your Age Manager. Sign up [via this form](#) **due by 15 December.**
- Sunday 9 February: Sydney Branch Carnival. U9-U10 @ Cronulla; U11-U14 @ Wanda. Championship Carnival; discuss with your Age Manager. Sign up [via this form](#) **due by 15 December.**
- Thursday 6 March – Friday 7 March: NSW State Age Championships (U9 & U10 championship carnival –Queenscliff). Championship Carnival; discuss with your Age Manager. See info below. Sign up [via this form](#) **due by 15 December.**
- Friday 7 March– Sunday 9 March: NSW State Age Championships (U11-U14 – championships carnival – Queenscliff). Championship Carnival; discuss with your Age Manager. Sign up [via this form](#) **due by 15 December.**

- Note that as Carnivals are volunteer-run, the parents of any child who enters are **expected to volunteer** at the event - water safety and officials quotas apply to **all** carnivals.

CHAMPIONSHIP CARNIVALS - BRANCH AND STATE - RSVP'S REQUIRED [VIA THIS FORM](#) ****Check list of entrants to date at end of this newsletter.**

Each season there are 2 Championship Carnivals where our top competitors compete against similar from Sydney Branch Clubs, and then NSW Clubs, for Nippers titles. Unlike 'participation' carnivals such as the Waverley Shield and regular [local carnivals listed here](#), these are **only** for our top, committed competitors who are enrolled in regular swimming, board paddling and/ or sand or running training. With limited exceptions, we're looking for a **maximum** of top 8 competitors per group, all of whom should have a LiveHeats band and prior Carnival experience.

- Entries for these carnivals open and close early (during the school holidays) and there are no late entries for either carnival.
- Only those who [complete this form](#) (1 per child) will be entered into either Carnival.
- Speak to your Age Managers this weekend if you are unsure.
- As with all carnivals, all families who send a nipper **are required to** volunteer in some way (water safety, officials, first aid, white shirt age manager, IRB, IRB transport, tent transport, set up and pack up).
- Volunteer quotas are determined based on entries not on who turns up on the day. If your child commits, you commit!

Read on if this sounds like you!

SYDNEY BRANCH CHAMPIONSHIPS (U9-U14) 7 and 9 February at Bate Bay (Cronulla & Wanda). RSVPs required by 15 Dec ****Check list of entrants to date at end of this newsletter.**

If your child is keen to compete at Branch, please [complete this form](#) (1 per child) by Sunday 15 December.

Branch Champs will be held for Nippers and senior competitors at Bate Bay over one weekend. Beach Runs for U11-U14 will be on Friday 7 February (from 5pm) at Cronulla. Remaining events for nippers will be on Sunday 9 February at Cronulla (U9, U10) and at Wanda (U11-U14).

- All information published in relation to the Carnival to date is [on this page](#), in particular [in this bulletin](#). This is where the Club gets all info, so please check here if you have a query.
- The draft timetables are here:
 - [Distance Runs U11+](#)
 - [U9, U10 & Inclusive](#)
 - [U11-U14](#)
- Please read [Bronte's competition policy](#) for Nipper Carnivals.
- There are **no late entries** to Branch Champs; entries close during the holidays.

- Remember that this is a championship (not a participation) Carnival so **only strong competitors** who are enrolled in regular training should enter. Nippers should have some Carnival experience and a LiveHeats band.
- Qualifying events for State Champs for U11+ will be held at Branch Champs. These include iron, board rescue and all age relays.
- There is a new requirement that Iron competitors must have competed at 3 Carnivals this season.
- Sign up links for parent volunteer purposes will follow. See [nipper sign up form](#) and the following for Branch volunteering forms links: [Officials](#) and [First Aid](#)

NSW NIPPER STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (U9-U14), 6-9 March 2025 @Queenscliff. RSVPs required by 15 Dec
****Check list of entrants to date at end of this newsletter.**

If your child is keen to compete at State, please [complete this form](#) by Sunday 15 December (note this is the same form as the above - 1 form per child). State champs (U9-U14) will be held at Queenscliff SLSC from 6-9 March 2025:

- EVERY SINGLE detail will be posted [to this page](#) (the Club gets all its information [from this page](#) and is not sent anything additional (the relevant Championships is the 'Age Championship').
- LiveHeats will be used. Competitors must have a band (replacement bands can be purchased).
- The timetable is now published: [State Champs Timetable](#)
 - U9 and U10: Thursday 6 and Friday 7 March.
 - U11-U14: Friday 7 March – Sunday 9 March.
 - All parents of all competitors competing on Thursday and Friday must expect to take time off work, and arrange for their children to take time off school. Blank the necessary parts of your diary now! Volunteer quotas do not budge for work meetings 😊
- Please read [Bronte's competition policy](#) for Nipper Carnivals.
- There are **no late entries** to State Champs.
- Remember that this is a championship (not a participation) Carnival so **only strong competitors** who are enrolled in regular swimming, board paddling and/or sand / running training should enter. Competitors should have prior Carnival experience and a LiveHeats band. For most events there are no pre-qualifications required (excepting some U11+ events, which are determined at the Sydney Branch Carnival).
- During the Carnival, SLS NSW communicates via Stack TeamApp: download Stack TeamApp, search for "2025 NSW State Championships" and click 'Become a member of this Stack Team App'.
- Sign up links for parent volunteer purposes will follow.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ON SUNDAY!

Nippers Committee: Ant Burrows, Jessica Stewart, Al Visch, Tara O'Reilly, Steve Brown, Neil Hayward

BRONTE

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Nippers on a wave of success

Willow Berry

Bronte Nippers is literally in the pink, with 841 kids signed up to learn beach safety. "Demand has been incredible this year, with waitlists forming in several age groups," said Anthony Burrows, director of nippers at Bronte SLSC.

"It's our 50th year of nippers at Bronte, and it's the highest number of sign-ups I've seen during my time as director."

Catering to kids aged 5 to 14, the program thrives thanks to the dedication of parent volunteers.

"Nippers is a rare kids' sport where there is no standing on the sidelines watching — the whole family can get involved," Burrows said.

Beyond the fun, the program equips children with vital lifesaving skills.

"If you can swim at Bronte, you can swim anywhere," said Burrows.

"We aim to develop young water men and women who are confident in challenging coastal environments to keep the community safe."

The rise in participation reflects a growing awareness of water safety, especially as Australia braces for a scorching summer.

Last summer, 134 people lost their lives to drowning nationwide, with 10 per cent of victims aged under 15. National Water Safety Day is on December 1.

"While it's great to see so many local youngsters loving the surf, it's equally rewarding to see them step in and use the skills they've learned to help others in need," he said.



Nippers Heidi Liessmann, 7, Frankie Persson, 6, and Amelia Persson, 8, at Bronte Beach. Picture: Jonathan Ng

BRANCH CHAMPS ENTRANTS

Aidan	Kelly
Arabella	Boyle
Arabella	Goulter
Boyd	Green
Charlotte	Kelly
Clementine	Green
Flynn	Gilmore
Frankie	Towill
Fred	Singleton
Harriet	Towill
Lexi	Smith
Lucas	Kelly
Nicholas	Fasol
Olivia	Dargue
Rafferty	Mulligan
Rosa	Hayward
Ruby	Rutherford
Sam	Kelliher
Teddy	Heritage
Thea	Hayward
Tilly	Smith
Will	Kelliher

STATE CHAMPS ENTRANTS

Aidan	Kelly
Arabella	Boyle
Arabella	Goulter
Boyd	Green
Charlotte	Kelly
Clementine	Green
Flynn	Gilmore
Frankie	Towill
Fred	Singleton
Harriet	Towill
Lexi	Smith
Lucas	Kelly
Nicholas	Fasol
Olivia	Dargue
Rafferty	Mulligan
Rosa	Hayward
Ruby	Rutherford
Sam	Kelliher
Teddy	Heritage
Tilly	Smith
Will	Kelliher

NIPPER NATS ENTRANTS

Emily	Snow
Luke	Haddock

AUST DAY JUNIOR IRON

office aware of intention to enter
enter when entries open

Luke	Haddock
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NARRABEEN JNR BEACH

Emily	Snow

