

BRONTE

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB • 1903

NIPPERS NEWSLETTER WEEK 1



What a cracking start to Nippers! Under sunny skies and with a calm ocean, we loved meeting all our Under 6 families and then welcoming all our Nippers to Bronte on Sunday. Congratulations to every Nipper who participated, to every child who completed their ocean proficiency swims and to our amazing team of volunteers!

Conditions permitting, we aim to complete all outstanding ocean proficiency swims this weekend for all U9+ so please arrive on time and ready to go. A reminder that completing the pool proficiency, followed by completing the ocean proficiency, are pre-requisites to participating at Nippers and to all ocean activities for U9+.

We're thrilled how well everyone has adjusted to the new digs! Please keep up the good work, especially helping our Age Managers to set up and pack up all our equipment in a timely manner, and keeping the deck and steps clear for training and lifeguards.

THE ESSENTIALS!

- **Communication & information:** your go-to sources of Nippers info are the Bronte Nippers Community WhatsApp chats and [our website](#). There is loads there!
- **Sunday attendance roll:** All nippers must be **SIGNED IN and SIGNED OUT**. We phone all those who do not sign out, so please be sure you sign out to save our time (& our worry!)
- **No cap, no rashie = no nippers, no exceptions.** Please mark your child's first name in thick black permanent marker on both sides of their cap so they can be easily identified / communicated with.
- **BBQ: U13G** rostered this Sunday. All parents from all age groups welcome to assist at any time. Without a Clubhouse, this is a major fundraiser for our Club. The more help, the better!
- **Volunteer power!** Nippers is volunteer run. Please pitch in wherever you see a need: set up, pack up, taking the roll, the BBQ etc. Find out how to get your Yellow Cap [here](#). Many hands make light work!
- **Calendars:** see [here](#). Our Nippers calendar is updated as things change. Please keep checking it.

- **Upcoming special events:**
 - 2 November: missing Nipper drill. Each year, we are required to practice a mock search and rescue scenario for a missing child. This is observed by Sydney Branch. We invite water safety who will be assisting U8, U12 and U13 to attend this excellent training. [Please RSVP here.](#)
 - 9 November (early this year!): Waverley Shield for U8+ (a friendly carnival for all between the Clubs of the Waverley Council). The Waverley Shield replaces normal Sunday Nippers on 9 November for U8+. All attending families are expected to volunteer. See below.
 - 7 December: [Junior Ocean Swim](#) for U9+ / [Bondi to Bronte Ocean Swim](#)
- **Water Safety:**
 - [final skills maintenance for this season:](#) Saturday 15 November @8am and at 9.30am. If you are not proficient and miss this one, you'll need to request to join a proficiency at another Club.
 - Please sign in at the desk in front of the deck each Sunday to accrue volunteer hours.
- **Newly qualified Yellow Caps:** [please fill out this form](#) and collect your cap from the merch stall. They are individually labelled and in a box. To those keen to qualify, [see all the details here.](#)
- **Another reminder.....swimming lessons:** Swimming is the foundation of Nippers. It is not safe, nor fair, to expect your children to swim confidently in the ocean if they are not in regular weekly swimming lessons/squads **all year round**. We don't teach your children to swim at Nippers and swimming at Bronte is challenging. Confident swimming will make your child's nippers experience so much more rewarding.

TRAINING FOR U9+: BOARD TRAINING AND SAND TRAINING

Nippers board training and sand training for U9+ is off to a fantastic start – it is great to see so many nippers working to improve! All information regarding training is [here](#).

CARNIVALS AND COMPETITION FOR U8-U14

- All ocean proficient Nippers aged U9-U14 are able to compete at Nipper carnivals. There is also some competition available for proficient U8 (Waverley Shield and [U8 Carnival @ South Maroubra](#))
- Generally, competition is open to all Nippers - there are no pre-requisites or qualifiers for **most** Carnivals, other than completion of pool **and** ocean proficiency swims.
- Make sure you read all info [on this page](#).
- Comms re Carnivals are generally via the specific training groups (sand and board).
- Carnivals are volunteer run! If your child competes at a Carnival, you **must expect to volunteer either as water safety or an official at that Carnival** or in a very small range of additional roles.

WAVERLEY SHIELD NIPPERS CARNIVAL (U8-U14) – SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER – NORTH BONDI

The Waverley Shield Nippers Carnival is a friendly, annual competition between the surf clubs of the Waverley Council area. It's a great morning for all interested kids to 'have a go' at competing amongst club mates, school mates, and new mates in a familiar environment. The Waverley Shield replaces normal Nippers for U8+ on 9 November and for this Carnival only, the Club brings a trailer containing Club boards for Nippers who don't have their own. As for all Carnivals, we are required to officially 'enter' all competitors by a strict cut-off date. Don't just rock up without entering! We cannot enter you after cut off or on the day!

Responsibility for 'hosting' the carnival is rotated (this year, North Bondi), but all Clubs and SLS Sydney Branch play a role each year to make it happen. Each year, Bronte is specifically responsible for the U8 area. There is no fee to enter the Waverley Shield (costs are covered by the Club).

Below are the sign up links for nippers to enter the carnival, as well as for volunteer roles. We need plenty of parents to get involved, and the more we have, the less work for everyone. Please get onto this ASAP - we would like to have all roles allocated within the week - thanks for all your support.

- [Draft timetable is here.](#)
- Nippers – [sign up here](#) to enter the Carnival. Form closes 2 November (no late or on-the-day entries!)
- Officials and trainee officials - [sign up here](#) to volunteer:
 - All officials and *trainee officials: the earlier you nominate, the more likely you will get your choice of area. Click, click, click!
 - *Trainee officials: please choose the 'probationary' option
- Water Safety (Bronze Medallion) – [sign up here](#).
- All other parents: [sign up here](#).

***CARNIVAL OFFICIALS COURSE – [all details here](#)**

Bronte is required to send a quota of volunteer officials to all Carnivals that Bronte kids have entered. It is an easy online course, followed by a 'practical' (shadowing an experienced official at a Carnival). Note:

- You are **requested** to do the Officials Course if you are not water safety and your U9+ child intends to compete at Carnivals this season.
- You are **required** to do the Officials Course as a precondition to your child competing if you are not water safety and:
 - Your child intends to compete this season; and
 - Your child competed in previous seasons at Carnivals additional to the Waverley Shield.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ON SUNDAY!!

