

# BRONTE

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB • 1903

## Dear Bronte Nippers Families

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to Bronte Nippers this year!

The 2020/21 season will commence on Sunday 18 October 2020.

Due to Covid-19, there will be changes to our Nippers Program this season. We have been working with SLS Sydney and with Waverley Council to develop a program which balances our desire to provide a fun and rewarding program for our Nippers against the need for us to take reasonable precautions to protect our Nippers, Volunteers and our Nipper families.

### What are the changes?

This season we will all need to take a cautious approach, keep our minds open and flexible, and be prepared to change things as regulations require.

At this stage:

**Renewals only.** Due to limits on numbers, we are unable to accept any new Nippers. We will only accept registrations of Nippers who were registered in the Bronte SLSC Nipper Program for the 2019/20 season.

**No U6 age group.** We are unable to run an U6 program safely with limited parental involvement. We realise this is very disappointing! Subject to future regulations, we hope to be able to run some U6 activities in the January school holidays. Keep an eye on our website and newsletter for any plans.

**Water focus.** Nippers activities will be conducted within zones on the beach, cordoned off from the public. Due to the limited area available, it is very unlikely that sand events will occur. When surf conditions cause the beach to be closed, Nippers is likely to be cancelled.

**Parent involvement.** Only **qualified** parents will be permitted to participate at Nippers this season due to Covid. This is an SLS NSW requirement. Qualification means holding your Bronze Medallion (with current proficiency) OR Age Manager Award. All involved parents must also have their Working With Children Check Number (apply here: [WWCC](#)). Age groups with large numbers of qualified parents may operate a roster system.

**Age Manager Award.** We strongly encourage **all** families to have one parent with either their Bronze Medallion or Age Manager award. Note that in doing the Age Manager course, we do not expect you to become age leaders. The course is short (2-3 hours) and Branch will run a number of these via Zoom prior to the season commencing. Courses are currently scheduled for 21 and 24 September. Please diarise!

**Proficiencies.** All Nippers must complete a proficiency swim. U8 and U9 will do their proficiencies in the Bronte Pool on the first day of Nippers. U9 will also complete an ocean proficiency swim. U10-U14 will complete their proficiencies in the ocean this year. This will occur on the first day of Nippers. We may also run proficiencies in the ocean on alternative dates. Stay tuned.

**Regulation.** Like with most activities, be prepared for additional rules and requirements. These will include keeping Nippers in defined areas on the beach, sign-in procedures that include a medical declaration, hand sanitation, physical distancing between adults and cleaning of equipment.

**Arrive, participate and leave!** Unless you are rostered on as Water Safety or an Age Manager, please drop your Nipper and go. Head home, go for a walk, grab a coffee or do your own thing. Whatever you decide, please DO NOT gather in groups with fellow parents to watch your Nippers. Nippers is a highly visible activity involving large groups in public areas. We do not want it to be shut down. Let's make this work!

## Important notes

**Refund policy.** Please see the Club's Nippers refund policy attached.

**Situation subject to change.** Like all activities in 2020, we may need to make further changes to our Nipper program as the situation develops. Obviously we hope that restrictions are loosened and we can broaden our Program! However, please be mindful that any changes could include tightening, suspending or cancelling the Program as NSW Government regulation requires.

**Medically at-risk families.** In running our Nipper program, we will adopt reasonable precautions in line with SLS requirements and NSW Government Regulations. We understand that each family needs to make their own decision as to whether to participate this season. If a family decides not to register for Nippers due to Covid-19 concerns, please let us know in writing to [office@brontesurfclub.com.au](mailto:office@brontesurfclub.com.au). These families will be treated as returning members in 2021/22 should they wish to re-join.

**Active Kids Vouchers and financial hardship.** When registering, Nipper families can use their Active Kids Vouchers toward payment.

The Club has made some provision to support the membership renewal of existing members who are experiencing financial hardship due to Covid-19. Please email Club General Manager, Peter Butcher ([management@brontesurfclub.com.au](mailto:management@brontesurfclub.com.au)) if you wish to be considered for this support.

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