



COMPETITOR GUIDELINES FOR CARNIVAL PARTICIPATION

At Bronte SLSC (the *Club*) we encourage all interested Nippers to participate in Nipper Carnivals (*Carnivals*). There are a range of Carnivals from local Carnivals run by individual surf clubs (*Participation Carnivals*) through to Sydney Branch Championships and NSW State Championships (*Championship Carnivals*).

Competition includes:

- Sand events: individual sprints, sprint relays, all-age sprint relay, flags, 1km and 2km beach runs
- Water Events (U9-U10): individual surf race (swim), surf team race, individual board, board relay, all-age board relay
- Water Events (U11-U14): individual surf race (swim), surf team race, individual board, board relay, all-age board relay, ironperson, board rescue, cameron relay.

The Club provides a comprehensive training program for Nippers. Most information regarding Carnivals is circulated via the specific training group communications.

SLS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (MINIMUM) FOR ALL CARNIVALS

Nipper proficiency: subject to the below, all Nippers who have passed their swim proficiency assessments (pool and ocean) and had them entered by the Club into the SLS national database (Surfguard) before 31 December, are eligible to compete at Carnivals.

Parent volunteering: SLSC is Australia's largest volunteer organisation and all Carnivals are volunteer run. Any family who sends a Nipper to compete must expect to volunteer at that Carnival. If you are not water safety, you will need to do the Officials Course (see details here).

Volunteer requirements are worked out via a quota system: Clubs are required to send a quota of water safety and officials corresponding to entry numbers. Expect this to be enforced: Nippers can be removed from their race start line if their Club's Carnival quotas are not fulfilled.

SLS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CHAMPIONSHIP CARNIVALS

SLS encourage top competitors only to compete at Championship Carnivals and requires the following additional eligibility criteria to be satisfied:

- Competitors must have achieved their relevant age group education award by 31 December. Education Awards are achieved by attending a minimum of 75% of Sunday Nippers sessions between the beginning of the season and 31 December and having this entered by the Club into Surfguard.

- Competitors must have a LiveHeats band. This is obtained by competing at a Participation Carnival. Competitors must keep their allocated LiveHeats band for all Carnivals. A Championship Carnival cannot be a Nipper's first Carnival.
- Ironperson events: if a Nipper wishes to compete in Ironperson events at the Sydney Branch Carnival, they must have competed in Ironperson events at 3 Carnivals during the preceding calendar year.
- Ironperson, Board Rescue and All Age Relays: to compete in these events at NSW State Championships, Nippers must pre-qualify at the Sydney Branch Championships.

CLUB ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CHAMPIONSHIP CARNIVALS

Championship Carnivals are for top competitors who participate in regular training. In addition to satisfying the SLS eligibility criteria above, the Club expects all entrants to satisfy one or more of the following:

1. Nipper is enrolled in and attends the Club's board training program.
2. U14 is enrolled in and attends the Club's cadet board training program.
3. Nipper is enrolled in and attends the Club's sand training program.
4. Nipper is a squad level swimmer who attends at least 2 squad sessions per week (minimum).
5. Nipper is enrolled in and attends regular sprint or distance running training with a squad or coach.

Nippers who do not satisfy any of the above 4 Club requirements can only attend Championship Carnivals to make up team numbers for particular age groups as jointly approved by their Age Manager and the head of Water Sports and/or Sand Sports (whichever is relevant).

THE CLUB PAYS FOR:

- Any external trainers employed by the Club.
- Bronte Team Uniform for Championship Carnivals only and at its discretion. Competitors will need to buy their own swimwear, rashie and competition cap.
- For U11-U13 board rescue events only: board rescue boards owned by the Club and loaned to competitors at the Club's discretion. The Club is not obliged to provide equipment for every competitor.

Nipper training fees contribute towards the above.

THE CLUB DOES NOT PAY FOR*

- Carnival entry fees.
- Bronte Team Uniform for Nippers who are not enrolled in, or who have not paid for, Bronte board or sand training squads (these families are charged a uniform levy of \$50 per Nipper)
- Transportation of equipment to or from Carnivals.
- Ancillary costs for carnival participation such as transport, accommodation and meals.

**unless in extenuating circumstances as approved by the Nipper Committee.*

PARENT VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

As outlined above, any family who sends a Nipper to compete must expect to volunteer at that Carnival. If you are not water safety, you will need to do the Officials Course ([see details here](#)).

Other volunteer roles include transport of the IRB and First Aid Officer.

If your child intends to compete at a Championship Carnival, please start preparing early: enrol them in the required training and achieve your own relevant qualifications (official or water safety). Neither can be done last minute.

If, for a particular Carnival, the Club's quotas are not fulfilled and the Club is not able to enter all interested Nippers, the Nippers of officials and water safety will be prioritised.