

BRONTE

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB • 1903

NIPPERS NEWSLETTER WEEK 2



It was terrific to see our nippers ease into the swing of things on Sunday. Thank you to all parents who have earned their 'yellow cap' and who helped out – what a difference extra volunteer power makes!

Particular congratulations to all nippers who braved the exciting shore-dump-wades, to the U12 girls who spent time practicing their board and tube rescues, and to the boys who did some CPR.

Swell permitting, we will run our ocean proficiency swims for U9 and up this weekend. All orange rashie water safety required please! Once ocean proficiencies are ticked off, the U9+ kids are able to get into the open water and onto boards and are eligible to compete at Carnivals if they wish.

For U9 and new kids: these ocean swims are not timed and are a fun, mainstay of Sunday Nippers activity!

GENERAL REMINDERS

The Roll: All nippers must be SIGNED IN AND SIGNED OUT.

No cap, no rashie = no nippers: All nippers *must* wear their age cap for the duration of their session every Sunday morning and remove it as they sign out. Please mark your child's first name in thick, black permanent marker on both sides of their cap so that they can be easily identified and communicated with. All Nippers aged U8 and up must also wear their pink rashie.

Pack up: Please assist with packing up your age group once it finishes and bringing the equipment back up to the Clubhouse, washing it down and putting it away (including boards, tug-of-war rope, beach flags, your age flag etc).

BBQ - U12G this week: This year, each Nipper group will be rostered on to assist with the BBQ **from 8am-11am** (a full morning!). BUT: most groups will only be rostered on once for the whole season. What a great way to help out our Club – no experience required!! BBQ roster is [here](#).

Club Champs Round 1 for U8-U14 (normal nippers U6 & 7): next Sunday 6 November from **7am-11am** if full water and sand event program running (later if sand only events due to swell). Timetables [here](#). More info to follow next week and in the [Nippers Handbook](#) on our website).

Please don't block the promenade: Please be aware that the lifeguards need clearance in front of their window for visibility and the promenade is used all morning by eager walkers! Please try to keep the area in front of the Club clear. Catch ups on the beach or on the grass are just as fun.

REMINDER - PARENTS AT NIPPERS – ONLINE COURSE QUALIFICATION REQUIRED

A reminder that it is an SLS requirement that **all parents who assist at Nippers with their child** must be 'qualified' (requirements: membership of the Club (insurance), WWCC, plus Age Manager Award to become a yellow-capped Age Assistant or Bronze Medallion to be Water Safety). Please get onto this ASAP – we need your help with our youngest Nippers and we expect your kids would like you to remain with them on the sand and in the water!

Qualification as an Age Assistant is so easy!! Just a couple of short online courses:

1. Child Safe Awareness online course (very short);
2. Age Manager Award online course (short);
3. Working With Children Check Number sent to nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au.

All details of how to access and complete the above are here: <https://brontesurfclub.com.au/nipper-parent-involvement>. Age Assistants who complete the course will be given a yellow 'Beach Crew' cap to wear at Nippers.

*Note that although the course is named the 'Age Manager Award', it really should be called the 'Age Manager / Age Assistant Award'. In doing the course, we do not expect you to become Age Leaders - it is simply the SLS pre-resquisite to assisting/being on the sand or in the water as part of the group.

SWIMMING LESSONS - PLEASE ENROL

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 doing regular swimming lessons or squads each week, all year round.

Please ensure that ALL nippers are enrolled in swim classes or squads **at least** once a week. **We do not teach your children to swim at Nippers and swimming at Bronte is challenging.** Although we always have plenty of water safety in the water with your children, age appropriate swimming competence and confidence is assumed and will make your child's Nippers experience so much more rewarding.

SAND TRAINING HAS COMMENCED FOR U8-U14! Wednesday afternoons, Bronte 4.30pm-5.30pm

Come on down to Bronte on Wednesday afternoons from 4.30pm-5.30pm for sand training. We have a new athletics coach joining us and are looking forward to some great sessions! Your kids are welcome to come down and give it a go before formally registering. Please request access to the Sand Training group within TeamApp for all updates. With so much raw talent amongst our Nippers, we'd love to see their skills develop under the guidance of our new coaching team.

NIPPERS TRAINING, BOARDS: U9-U14 / SAND: U8-U14

Nippers training is now in full swing! Please see separate communications for details (the 'Bronte Board Training' team on TeamApp, and the Sand Team group within the 'Bronte Nippers' team on TeamApp). All information regarding training is [here](#).

Any child who wishes to train in the board training squads must have their own board. We have now rented out our limit of boards.

UPCOMING CARNIVALS U9-U14

All ocean proficient Nippers aged U9-U14 are able to compete at Nipper carnivals. There is also some competition available for proficient U8.

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. There are, however, some things to keep in mind:

- Subject to the point below, the Club will cover entry fees of Nippers who have enrolled in, and paid for, the board or sand training squads and who enter before the cut off. Those not enrolled are welcome to compete, but will need to cover associated costs. For local carnivals, these are fairly minimal.
- In relation to the Waverley Shield and the U8 Carnival at South Maroubra – no enrolment in training squads is required – the Club will cover all entries.
- Most information re Carnivals will be circulated via the specific training group communications.
- Entries to Carnivals close some time prior to the events – interested families must contact nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au well in advance to express their interest.
- Carnivals are volunteer-run and the Club is obliged to send a quota of water safety and officials corresponding to entry numbers. Our kids cannot compete without this. Any family who sends a Nipper to compete **must expect to volunteer**. If you are not water safety, you will need to do the Officials Course (see details [here](#)). This cannot be done last minute – please start preparing now if your child is interested in competing this season.
- There are a few additional considerations for Branch and State: although open to all, these are 'championship' carnivals, rather than 'participation' carnivals, designed for the top competitors only in each age group.

The following carnivals are currently scheduled:

- Sunday 20 November: the [Waverley Shield](#) at North Bondi. This is the main local carnival for our kids and will replace normal nippers for U8-U14 on Sunday 20th. We encourage everyone to come along and give it a go. Bronte is in charge of the U8 area and we will be looking for significant volunteer contribution from parents.
- Saturday 19 November: [U8 carnival at South Maroubra](#). U8s who wish to make it a weekend of racing, please diarise this one and let nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au know if you wish to enter. A great first carnival for our youngest competitors!
- [Sydney Water Series](#): a 4 part series that commenced last week. Entries have closed but late entries are available for keen nippers on the day. Note however that Nippers will need to wait until they are ocean proficient before participating. Please check with nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au before you head off.

- A full list of Carnivals can be found here (note it is subject to change): [Sydney Branch Carnival Calendar](#)

WATER SAFETY

All water safety must sign in via their age group's paper roll each week to accrue hours. Skills maintenance opportunities are running out – please ensure you enrol ASAP [here](#).

SUNDAY SIPS & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Club has a terrific range of social and training events for adult members:

- Sunday Sips is held upstairs at the Club every Sunday afternoon.
- Pilates with Harries at 6am on Monday and Friday mornings (\$20 card-only payment). Bring your own mat. Spots are limited so don't be late!
- Sunday Surf Race at 11am on Sundays with Barry Brignell. Handicapped swim race around the cans, and available to all proficient Bronze Medallion holders, SRC, and Competition Squad members (comp squad participants subject to the approval of Al Visch).
- Swim group with Garry Luscombe, Wednesdays 6am at Bondi (meet in front of North Bondi SLSC) and Thursdays 12.15pm at Bronte (meet in front of Club).
- Paddle groups (beginners and intermediate) for proficient Bronze Medallion holders (generally Tuesday mornings) - check the website and join the relevant Club WhatsApp groups for details.

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

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



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