



NIPPERS BOARD TRAINING 2026/27

The Club offers training for Nippers who are interested in improving their skills and representing Bronte at carnivals. There are 3 levels of board training squads.

OUR EXPERIENCED COACHES:

- Jo Mermaid – operator of [Mermaid Swim Academy](#) and provider of (world) famous Nipper Camps.
- Jason Gavin – we are again delighted that Jason will coach our competition squad and lead this program. Jason is an incredibly experienced Nippers board coach, former Age Manager and once a Bronte nipper himself!

BEGINNERS SQUAD

This squad is run by Jo Mermaid at Bondi (meet at water's edge to the left of Bondi SBSLSC – when facing the water).

- Tuesday 4pm – 5pm
- Saturday 3pm – 4pm

For Nippers U9+ who are new to boards and would like to receive instruction on how to paddle, negotiate the shore break and build confidence. RSVP via your board training WhatsApp chat.

Note: Weekly sessions on Tuesdays and Saturdays in 2 blocks: Tuesday 20 October 2026 – Saturday 12 December 2026, and Tuesday 19 January 2027 – Tuesday 2 March 2027.

DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

This squad is run by Jo Mermaid at Bondi (meet at water's edge to the left of Bondi SBSLSC – when facing the water).

- Tuesday 5pm – 6pm
- Saturday 4pm – 5pm

It is for competent swimmers (at least 1-2 swim sessions per week) who can paddle a board in and out of small surf, pop over waves & catch waves. It is not a beginner's squad. RSVP via your board training WhatsApp chat.

Note: Weekly sessions on Tuesdays and Saturdays in 2 blocks; Saturday 17 October 2026 – Saturday 12 December 2026, and Saturday 16 January 2027 – Tuesday 2 March 2027

COMPETITION SQUAD

This squad is run by Jason Gavin at Bondi (meet at water's edge to the left of Bondi SBSLSC – when facing the water).

- Tuesday 4pm – 5.15pm
- Saturday 3pm – 4.30pm

It provides intensive training for those at an advanced level who will represent Bronte at Carnivals. The squad does a minimum of 4km per session. Participation in this squad is at the discretion of Coaches. RSVP via your board training WhatsApp chat.

Weekly sessions on Tuesdays and Saturdays in 2 blocks: Tuesday 13 October 2026 – Saturday 12 December 2026, and Saturday 9 January 2027 – Tuesday 2 March 2027.

TRAINING FEE

- Season fee: \$380 (covers board and sand training)
- Payable via your SLS Hub by 20 October 2026:
 - Log into your SLS Hub
 - Click on 'More' (top of screen) → 'Memberships' → 'Organisation(s)' → 'Make Payment'
 - Use the following: Transaction Type: Other (from drop down list) → Description: Nipper training for [full name of child] Amount: \$380
- Refunds: available if written notice is received by end October 2026. No refunds after 31 October 2026.

MUST BRING: own board, pink rashie, goggles and drink bottle. The Club will not be providing, lending or renting boards for any of the above sessions.

WATER SAFETY: required for session to go ahead. All participants must sign in and out. Water safety parents are expected to bring orange rashies, own boards if they have them and be prepared to get wet.

COMMUNICATION: Please join the relevant board training WhatsApp chat via the Bronte Nippers WhatsApp Community to receive communications. Always check WhatsApp prior to the commencement of the session to ensure that it has not been cancelled or relocated due to unfavourable conditions.

Competitors: join the 'Carnivals' Chat within the Bronte Nippers WhatsApp Community and 'Surf Sports Sydney' team within Stack Team App (an SLS Sydney Branch team).

NIPPER BOARDS: Any child who wishes to train in the board training squads must have their own board.

Foamies (U9 & U10) – buyback program: the Club will buy back your foam board in the future if you purchase a new foam board. If the board is in good condition, we will pay \$300 to buy back the board after 1 year, and \$200 after 2 years of the original purchase. To participate, send the original receipt of purchase to nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au.

Fibreglass (U11-U13): If you wish to purchase a second hand fibreglass board search Facebook for this group: 'Second Hand Surf Lifesaving Craft, Surf Lifesaving Only'. Please also check the following chat within our Bronte Nippers WhatsApp Community: 'Bronte Secondhand Nipper Boards – buy & sell'.

QUESTIONS? Please feel free to contact Jason Gavin: jason@gghospo.com.au