

BRONTE

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB • 1903

NIPPERS NEWSLETTER WEEK 8



Congratulations to all our Club Champs competitors, and a huge thank you to all our volunteers. What a terrific morning! Great surf conditions, sunshine, and a smooth and efficient day thanks to a beach full of great sports, and a big team of helpers.

The Branch Carnival is taking place this weekend (see below) and many U9-U12 Age Managers will be at the Carnival on Sunday. For this reason, some age groups may not run regular Nippers at Bronte this week. Please check your group's arrangement with your age managers.

Nipper rescue! We had a wonderful reminder this week of why we do Nippers. Our patrol got in touch to let us know of a rescue by one of our U12 girls – Isabella Wright- after Nippers had finished at Bronte last week. Isabella was paddling about 30m-40m out. A lady had been swept across, into the rip and was struggling but hadn't yet been seen by the lifeguards. Isabella went to her aid, picked her up, kept her calm and helped her onto the board to rest. A patroller then came out to assist and they transferred her onto the patrol board to bring her to shore. The patrollers said that Isabella had it all in hand and was calm, confident and understated. They were confident she would likely have been able to complete the whole rescue herself. We are so proud of you Isabella!

Dippers at Bronte: Our Bronte Dippers program has commenced! The first session was such a wonderful morning. Dippers is an inclusive Nippers program, run in conjunction with Autism Swim. Bronte Dippers

will run for 7 more weeks on Saturday mornings from 8am-9am. We have an incredible bunch of volunteers signed up but will always welcome more. Please let dippers@brontesurfclub.com.au know if you are keen, and sign up via [this link](#). Read more about the program [here](#) and see a terrific article written by Bronte patroller and SMH journalist, Andrew Taylor, [here](#).

SYDNEY BRANCH CARNIVAL, Saturday 5 February: U13, U14, U15. Sunday 6 February: U9, U10, U11 and U12. Beach events: Maroubra. Water events: moved to Yarra Bay

Best of luck to our Sydney Branch Competitors! This Carnival is limited to entrants only. Entries have closed and there are no entries on the day. Please liaise with your age manager re your team.

Note that all information regarding the Branch Carnival (including programs) is [here](#).

For all families going, the most important aspects are:

- **please read [this final event guide](#)**. This details the decision made this morning to **move water events to Yarra Bay** instead of Maroubra, including associated logistics. Sand events will remain at Maroubra.
- **event programs**: Please see event programs published [here](#).
- **arrive early**: parking may be tricky. All competitors, handlers, team managers/coaches, officials must wear a wristband. Age Managers will collect wristbands for competitors.
- **wear**: swimmers, pink rashie, swim cap, competition cap (the blue and gold underside of the Nippers cap), goggles
- **bring**: board (the office is open today if you still need to borrow one from the club), sunscreen, towels, sun protection/warm clothing, hat, black marker, chair, drinks, snacks
- **water safety**: must wear orange rashie and water safety cap, wetsuit strongly recommended, have own fins and tube (collect from Grant at Bronte tent). Our assigned Water Safety shifts are both on Saturday morning in the U13 water area. Shift 1: 7.30am-11am U13 Male water area (Blue/White). Shift 2: 10.45am – end U13 Female water area (yellow). Please be there 30 mins early. **We are short on water safety and none of our kids can compete without quotas fulfilled. Please let grant@busydads.com.au know ASAP if you can assist with the above shifts.**
- **officials**: wear neutral clothing (nothing 'Bronte'), preferably a white top and blue bottom, hat, bring badge, pen and notepad. Officials briefings are in each area at 7.15am.
- **age managers**: be prepared - work out your relevant events and team composition prior. Re-familiarise yourselves with race rules and revise with the kids. Officials and water safety are not permitted to direct competitors during a race.
- **iron handlers**: must wear fluoro (eg. a pink rashie) and a Bronte competition cap. Please find/borrow these in advance.
- **parents**:
 - help with set up. If your age group brings a tent, please assist.
 - help look after the kids of parents who are volunteering. If you are feeding/sunscreening your child, please do the same for the kids whose parents are volunteering.
- **Ironperson wildcard**: if you cannot attend Branch and unable to qualify for the Ironperson at State, 2 wild card entries are permitted per age per gender per Branch. Entries close at today and must be supported by past results. If you are interested, entry is attached to [this document](#).

GO BRONTE!

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CAMPS – Ant Burrows

We are lucky in the Sydney Branch to have unique U11 and U13 Junior Development Camps run each year by Branch and volunteers from each club for our kids. Last weekend I had the pleasure to attend with four of our nippers the U11 Junior Development Camp at Youthworks, Port Hacking. Expecting a weekend of paddling and surf swimming I was amazed to see the kids squeeze in dragon boating, jet ski rescues, IRB rescues, tube rescues, rock climbing, water slide, kayaking, CPR, trivia night, movie night, leadership sessions and sessions to educate them on all the career path options in Surf Life Saving. It is no surprise that drone operator, IRB crew and jet ski operator roles were high on the wish list for our junior lifesavers. The kids had a chance to meet kids from other clubs and demonstrate their leadership skills by being split into patrols with a patrol captain for the weekend. The weekend culminated in a club tube rescue and CPR competition in the pool for which Bronte managed to claim equal first. It was a fast paced weekend and needless to say, we all slept very well on Sunday night!

Parents of U11 next year and U13 this year, when you do see the camps advertised, I strongly urge you to nominate your son or daughter as the camps offer an amazing experience for them.

FAQ:

Who are the camps for: Nippers showing development potential to be future club leaders and patrolling members. Not necessarily the gun board paddlers, sprinters or swimmers. 3 boys and 3 girls per age group.

Where are the camps held: Youthworks, located on the southern bank of the Port Hacking River. The camp enjoys the absolute waterfront setting in the stunning Royal National Park

Transport: You drop the kids to Elouera Surf Club and a bus takes them to the camp

Accommodation: Kids and minders stay in cabins.

When: U11 January each year. U13 December each year.

Cost: Absolutely free!

THIS WEEK'S REMINDERS

BBQ – U6G this week: this year, each Nipper group will be rostered on to assist with the BBQ for a full morning. BUT: each group will only be rostered on once for the whole season. BBQ roster is [here](#).

Covid: PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND IF: you or anyone in your household feels unwell, has tested positive to Covid-19, or has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive to Covid-19. Please take a cautious approach – if in doubt, opt out. All Nipper adult volunteers must be double vaccinated.

Boards in the flags: there have been several recent examples of nippers and water safety using boards during and after nippers between the red and yellow flags. This is an absolute no-no as the risk of a lost board washing in between the flags could hurt someone. If a member of our community was injured in this way, it could also have significant reputation implications for the club. Please be mindful to educate your kids and for adults to lead by example by keeping boards well out of the red and yellow flags.

Age Assistants: thank you to all the parents who have completed the theory portion of their Age Assistant qualification! For those who did the course online, please print and complete this '[SLSA Age Managers Competency](#)' document by assisting at 2 Nippers sessions, arranging for your Age Manager to sign it off, and submitting it to the office for final signatures from the 'Age Manager Mentor' (3rd party) and submission to SLS Sydney Branch.

All Age Assistants who have done the above and who have submitted their WWCC number and had their Covid-19 vaccination sighted can exchange their paperwork for a yellow 'Age Assistants' cap to wear at Nippers.

Water safety: must sign in via the paper roll in their child's area to have hours recorded. If you assist in more than one area, you must sign-in each time.

Nipper board training and sand training: Nipper training is in full swing! Please see [here](#) for full details and timetable.

State Championships: entries are now closed for State. Please speak to your age managers with any specific queries. Note that the Club does not have any information additional to what is published online by SLS NSW – but there is loads of information! It's all [here](#). See also our Competitor Guidelines for Nipper Carnival Participation [here](#).

Officials and Water Safety required for State: we have a large contingent going to State Champs and need 12 officials and 12 water safety. Please email nippers@brontesurfclub.com.au to volunteer as an official, and tara.wynne@gmail.com to volunteer as water safety.

All water safety with kids competing who are not age managers or officials should expect to be required to volunteer as water safety.

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. Due to Covid, you'll need to book a table. Email: functions@brontesurfclub.com.au to arrange.
- 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!
- 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, Jess Stewart, Al Visch, Tara O'Reilly, Amy Sharma, Kylie von Muenster, Steve Brown, Grant Lovett