

BRONTE

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB • 1903

NIPPERS NEWSLETTER WEEK 3



What a magnificent morning! Congratulations to all our nippers who completed their ocean proficiencies, in particular our U9s and our new nippers who ventured out into the ocean at Nippers for the first time. We are so proud of you!

A huge thank you to our water safety teams, as well as the U8, U12 and U13 groups, for a successful 'missing nipper' scenario drill. We are required to run this every season and the drill is assessed by Branch. It was terrific to see how efficiently everyone responded.

We have a busy Sunday at Bronte coming up: Club Champs for U8-U14 and normal nippers for U6 and U7. Please see full details below. **Note that Club Champs starts early - a 7am start (U9-U14) and 9.30 for U8.**

CLUB CHAMPS ROUND 1 THIS SUNDAY, U8-U14 **NOTE: 7am start for U9-U14; 9.30 start for U8.

[Club Champs timetables here](#)

Sunday nippers is designed to be non-competitive, where kids learn and practice surf lifesaving skills as a group. The exception to this is Club Championships which are normally held on 2 mornings over the season for U8-U14. At Club Championships, the kids compete in a range of races (both in the water and on the sand) using the skills they have learned during Nipper sessions. The child with the most points over both rounds will become that age group's Club Champion at the end of the season. All U8-U14 Nippers are encouraged to compete in these friendly races:

- Sand events for all are: beach sprint and flags.
- Water events are:
 - U8: wade race
 - U9 and U10: swim race and board race
 - U11-U14: swim race, board race and ironperson

Carnival rules apply so wetsuits are not permitted for Club Champs (except U8 wade).

Volunteers required: We need plenty of help to run Club Champs! Please could all qualified officials assume they are needed as finish judges.

We set up Club Champs as a formal carnival (70m sprint track, 2 flags areas and 2 water areas). Many hands make light work – we will be setting up from 6am. Please could anyone available pitch in.

Timing: See timetables here: a full program and a sand-only program if the swell is large. Any change to a sand-only program will be communicated via TeamApp on the morning of Club Champs. Stay tuned.

Club Champs takes approximately 3 hours to run so we start Club Champs early. This gives us a clear beach, a more efficient schedule and less sun exposure.

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 - U12B 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](#).

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.

Swimming lessons: swimming is the foundation of nippers. We do not teach your children to swim at Nippers and swimming at Bronte is challenging. 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.

Get qualified! 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, especially with our younger Nippers and we expect your kids would like you to remain with them on the sand and in the water! All details are here:

<https://brontesurfclub.com.au/nipper-parent-involvement>

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](#).

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. This week is the final week of 'try before you buy' board training. Any child who attends from next week must pay the training fee.

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. Please [see program here](#).
- 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.
- Sunday 4 December: the Bondi-to-Bronte Junior Ocean Swim at Bronte for U9-U13
- A full list of Carnivals can be found here (note it is subject to change): [Sydney Branch Carnival Calendar](#)

SUNDAY SIPS & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

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

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- 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

