



CIRCULAR

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TO: Club Presidents, Secretaries, Captains, Competition Officers, Junior Coordinators

FROM: Michael Schetter, Manager Surf Sports
Steve Cornish, Strategic Development Manager
Dick Clarke, Chief Referee
Craig Burton, Chairman Board of Surf Sports

SUBJECT: Junior Carnival Program

Over the past season there has been much discussion around the development and implementation of a more streamlined and structured program at carnivals, particularly late last year following the overwhelming response from the on-line survey. This has been reinforced very strongly via the Strategic Planning consultation that we have been undertaking and although initially in a junior context, it has also been raised in the context of senior carnivals.

Following a number of meetings, analysis of the consultation and ongoing discussions with groups such as the Board of Surf Sports and Youth Development Committee, a format has been agreed for trialling at **the first four** Junior Carnivals. Following some initial work the Board of Surf Sports then established a small working party to progress the concept in order to be in a position to trial at the start of this season.

The resulting program and associated discussion paper are attached.

The first thing you will notice is that all Age Groups will be engaged throughout the day and rotate through a timetabled program of events. This is aimed at providing more predictability for everyone so they will know where they are meant to be and when, and will hopefully increase participation throughout the day.

There are a few assumptions that need to be made. The program is obviously based on getting days (weather wise) that allow this format. Again obviously if conditions are not favourable then we need to make sure a 'plan B' is in place.

It is also based on being able to marshal all participants for all events in an efficient manner. A number of initiatives will be put in place to assist officials in this process including:

- Allowing clubs to have Age Group Marshals whose role is purely to ensure numbers of competitors are given to the appropriate official in a timely manner.
- Reinstating the process of 'club pegs' so that competitors will line up in an orderly manner and those late are easily identifiable
- Having competition arenas identified by a colour flag so that moving to the next arena is made easier.



Implementing the program is also only possible with an extra water area (as per State Championships) and this has obvious implications on the number of officials and water cover required. Official's quota can be found on Bulletin B10005. Water cover will be based on a formula that we are currently finalising.

We are all aware of the 'time' issues with varying events and the program has been structured to cater for this as best we can. Again this will be an item that needs to be monitored and support by all concerned in moving to the right place at the right time critical. It may mean competitors will have a number of goes at some events and one only with others. It will also mean the Age Group Managers will need to look at the best place to slot in drink and food breaks.

Ultimately what we are aiming to do is put programs and processes in place for our juniors to ensure:

- maximal participation and involvement
- maximal enjoyment by all involved (participants at all levels, parents, officials, club management)
- an environment that is healthy, safe and inviting to young people
- we have the people with the skills and knowledge to conduct events
- we have the people with shared vision and philosophies on junior sport
- we have the young people as the centre and focus of any decisions
- we have contingency plans for varying weather conditions
- ongoing and open communication with all clubs

We trust that everyone will understand that this is a trial program and we need to be aware that it will have its 'teething' problems but there is certainly enough support for us to 'give it a go' and see if it can work. We will obviously refine things following the Somerton Carnival and then conduct a full review after the Port Elliot Carnival. This will determine what format we continue with for the remaining two Carnivals before we proceed to Qualifying and then State Championships.

Attachments:

Proposed program
Discussion Paper