

Surf Life Saving SA

Junior Administration Handbook

For the Junior Activities Coordinator
Junior Secretary
Age Manager
Parents





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RESOURCES

Age Group & Member Registration Forms

- Form - SLSA Application for Membership (generic) www.surfrescue.com.au
- Form - SLSA Registration (renewal) Available from Club Secretary/Registrar

Waivers

- Form - Waiver www.surfrescue.com.au

Medical information

- Form - Health Information www.surfrescue.com.au

Clearance/Transfers

- Form – No longer required Please contact Club Secretary/Registrar

Member Protection and Nippersafe

- Discussion - [Nippersafe](#)
- Process - [Club Reporting Officer](#), Annual Accreditation and Revision www.surfrescue.com.au
- Noticeboard – Nippersafe Sign Available from Surf Life Saving SA
- Process - National Police Certificate Application www.surfrescue.com.au
- Process - Criminal History Assessment www.surfrescue.com.au
- Policy – Member Safety and Wellbeing and Appendices www.slsa.com.au

Junior Development Program and Age Managers Guides

- Age Managers Guide and Age Guides SLSA Secure Resource Library www.slsa.com.au
- Junior Development Resource Kit SLSA Secure Resource Library www.slsa.com.au
- Junior Development Participation Certificates Available by contacting Surf Life Saving SA

Water Safety Requirements

- Policy – Junior Activities and Water Safety www.slsa.com.au
- Policy – Patrol Uniforms www.slsa.com.au
- Policy – Patrol Hour requirements www.slsa.com.au

Junior Awards and Evaluation

- Form - Junior Preliminary Evaluation and Award Summary Chart www.surfrescue.com.au

Surf Sports (Competitions/Events)

- Form - Junior Competition Eligibility www.surfrescue.com.au
- Form - Junior Competition Summary Form www.surfrescue.com.au
- Manual – SLSA Competition www.slsa.com.au
- Manual – SLSA R & R Competition www.slsa.com.au
- Manual – Junior Coaching www.slsa.com.au
- Junior Coaching DVD www.slsa.com.au

Member Development

- Overview – Surf Life Saving SA (Leadership & Development) www.surfrescue.com.au
- Overview – Surf Life Saving Australia (Leadership & Development) www.slsa.com.au

SLSA Surfshop

- Link <http://www.surfshop.slsa.com.au/default.aspx>

SLSA Policies

- Overview – All [SLSA Policies](#) www.slsa.com.au

SLSSA Policies

- Overview – All SLSSA Policies www.surfrescue.com.au



GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

OVERVIEW:

Junior programs and requirements are constantly evolving, and therefore recording of information and obtaining new information is necessary for the successful administration of juniors. Basically there are 3 main administration tools that clubs utilise for the administration of juniors.

- SurfGuard (National Database)
- Correspondence (information to and from SLSA & SLSSA)
- Rules and Regulations (including policies)

SurfGuard:

SurfGuard is a national database that is used for the recording of all members' details including personal details, emergency contacts, awards, accreditations and much more. Each Club should have a junior registrar who has access to SurfGuard. Club Secretaries, Administrators or Registrars are able to inform you who this person is and request a change if necessary. When new people are provided access it is requested they contact Surf Life Saving SA to arrange a suitable time for basic training to ensure they understand all the capabilities of this important tool.

Correspondence:

All correspondence (from Surf Life Saving SA and Surf Life Saving Australia) is sent electronically. Correspondence is sent to an appropriate officer (i.e. Junior Officer) as recorded on SurfGuard. Other members can access this information via the Surf Life Saving Australia and Surf Life Saving SA websites. Click to hyperlink to site [SLSA Bulletins and Circulars](#) SLSSA [Bulletins](#) and [Circulars](#)

Rules and Regulations

Surf Life Saving Australia and Surf Life Saving SA have many policies. All of these are available on the relevant websites. Surf Life Saving Australia and/or Surf Life Saving SA will distribute Bulletins/Circulars detailing any changes that occur. Click to hyperlink to site [SLSA Policies](#)

RESOURCES:

Websites:

Surf Life Saving SA: www.surfrescue.com.au
Surf Life Saving Australia: www.slsa.asn.au
Other Clubs (South Australia): listed on the Surf Life Saving SA website.
Other States: listed on the Surf Life Saving SA website
Other Clubs (Interstate): Detailed on the find a beach page of the Surf Life Saving Australia website.

Contacts:

Surf Life Saving SA :

Phone: (08) 8354 6900
Fax: (08) 8354 6999
Address: 219 Henley Beach Road Torrensville 5031
Post: PO Box 108 Torrensville 5031
Email: surflifesaving@surfrescue.com.au

Surf Life Saving Australia:

Phone: (02) 9130 7370
Fax: (02) 9130 8312
Address: Level 1, 1 Notts Avenue, Bondi Beach NSW
Post: Locked Bag 2, Bondi Beach NSW 2026
Email: info@slsa.asn.au

SLSA Surfshop:

Web link: <http://www.surfshop.slsa.com.au/default.aspx>

Other States/Branches/Clubs:

SA Clubs: Available on the Surf Life Saving SA and/or Surf Life Saving Australia website.
Other: Available on the find a beach page of the Surf Life Saving Australia website.



AGE GROUPS

OVERVIEW:

Children **MUST** be 5 years of age to be registered and permitted to participate in any Surf Life Saving SA activities. A child's age group for the season is their age as at midnight 30th September. This is also their competitive age if participating at interclub carnivals and junior state championships.

Age Group 2009/10 Season	Birthday
Under 6	Turns 6 after midnight 30th September
Under 7	Turns 7 after midnight 30th September
Under 8	Turns 8 after midnight 30th September
Under 9	Turns 9 after midnight 30th September
Under 10	Turns 10 after midnight 30th September
Under 11	Turns 11 after midnight 30th September
Under 12	Turns 12 after midnight 30th September
Under 13	Turns 13 after midnight 30th September
Under 14	Turns 14 after midnight 30th September

For example, John turned 9 on the 28th August this year – John is therefore registered as an Under 10. Emma turned 9 on the 2nd October this year – Emma is therefore registered as an Under 9.

A child who turns 5 after midnight 30th September may participate in the Under 6 age group but only after they have had their 5th birthday and these children will remain in the Under 6's next season also.

RESOURCES:

1. Application for Membership form is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website.
2. Membership renewal forms are printed by clubs from SurfGuard.
3. Once registered, clubs can obtain reports of age groups from SurfGuard.
4. Waiver form (come and try) is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website.

REGISTRATION FORMS

OVERVIEW:

All sections of the "Application for Membership" form are to be completed paying particular attention to the personal details section. These forms **MUST** be signed by the member even if they are under 18 (legal advice has been sought and this section must be signed by the member) and remember both sides of the form are to be signed. If under 18 then a parent/guardian must also sign where indicated.

If renewing registration, members must check all details on the renewal form and make any changes or additions necessary. Again remember both sides of the form are to be signed and if under 18 then a parent/guardian must also sign where indicated.

Process:

- Clubs receive completed membership forms and date them accordingly at the foot of the form.
- Club records registration on SurfGuard (within 28 days of receipt).
- Club forwards forms to Surf Life Saving SA (in timely batches).

Lifesaving Online: SLSA also has an online registration system where new or existing members can request, register or renew their membership. It also allows an individual to update their personal details. Members are not required to fill in any paperwork once submitting their registration online using Lifesaving Online. Web link: https://www.lifesavingonline.com.au/SLSA_Online/modules/home/index.php

NOTES:

1. Unregistered members are not covered by insurance and therefore cannot participate.
2. Registration from the previous season expires at midnight 30th November.
3. Members transferring from other clubs **MUST** complete the clearance/transfer procedure (endorsed by club, approved by Surf Life Saving SA and completed by the club) prior to completing a membership form and participating in any activities.
4. Potential members can complete a waiver (details below).

RESOURCES:

1. [Application for Membership Form](#) is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website under FORMS.
2. Membership renewal forms are printed by clubs from SurfGuard.
3. SLSA online registration system. Click to hyperlink to [Lifesaving Online](#) or visit the SLSA website.



UNDER 7 ACTIVITIES (5 AND 6 YEAR OLDS)

OVERVIEW:

On the 12th May 2007, the SLSA Australian Council (State Presidents) made the decision to lower the minimum age for SLSA membership to 5 years of age as of 1st October. This is as per SLSA Bulletin 1/07-08, Under 7's Membership of SLSA.

Clubs are however not bound to provide junior activities for 5 and 6 year olds.

If clubs do decide to provide junior activities for U7's, they would need to comply with the play, participation and fun guidelines listed below.

The key focus for 5 and 6 year old year olds is on play, participation and fun, with guidelines to support this focus to include:

- a. beach activities that emphasise games and group activities,
- b. water activities to be limited to shallow water near the water's edge,
- c. no competition for these age groups other than that involved in fun games.

Clubs may also need to determine their own further conditions for participation in terms of parental involvement and duty of care. Clubs may also wish to consider a shorter time on the beach given the attention span and concentration levels of Under 7 members.

WAIVERS

OVERVIEW:

Waivers must be completed for any child participating in "Come & Try" days, or just participating to ascertain whether they would be interested in joining. This form is valid only for the duration of that specific activity (one day). The completed forms are to be retained by the club for insurance purposes (not sent to Surf Life Saving SA).

RESOURCES:

[Waiver Form](#) is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website under FORMS.

MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

OVERVIEW:

Surf Life Saving SA strongly recommends that Clubs ensure that all junior members complete a Health Information form. Once completed these forms should be kept by the club and details made available to the relevant Age Manager. Parents should ensure that a suitable emergency medical plan is in place with the Age Manager and Club where appropriate.

RESOURCES:

[Health Information Form](#) is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website under FORMS.

CLEARANCE/TRANSFERS

OVERVIEW:

Any person (irrespective of age) who has been registered with a club at any time in the past and wishes to join another club MUST complete a Clearance/Transfer. The member is responsible for informing their Club to initiate their Clearance/Transfer. Be aware that the member CANNOT be registered until the Clearance/Transfer has been processed and therefore CANNOT undertake any training or competition until the Clearance/Transfer is finalised. All Clearance/Transfers are processed via SurfGuard (paper copies are not required).

RESOURCES:

Initiate Clearance/Transfer on SurfGuard. To do this the following details are required:

1. The previous club.
2. The previous branch (if another club in SA the branch is misc SA clubs).
3. The previous club's state (i.e. South Australia).
4. The person's full name or ID number.

Should problems occur initiating a Clearance/Transfer, the club will need to contact Surf Life Saving SA.



MEMBER PROTECTION

OVERVIEW:

Member Protection:

Surf Life Saving SA is committed to the health, safety and well being of all of its members and is dedicated to providing a safe and enjoyable environment for participants in Surf Life Saving activities. In order to protect all members who are 18 years and under from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury, exploitations and abuse a Member Protection Policy was introduced. Clubs should be conversant with this Policy and ensure that all members with any regular involvement with children and youth have completed a criminal history assessment with the Club and have a current police certificate.

Surf Life Saving SA (only) can record details of who has a current police certificate however to do so the original certificate needs to be sighted by the Club President or the General Manager of Surf Life Saving SA (copies are not accepted). A police certificate is recognised by Surf Life Saving SA for a period of three (3) years from the date of issue. Clubs can obtain a list of members who have completed this process from SurfGuard. All officers appointed by Surf Life Saving SA (State coaches, managers, etc) have completed this process. It is mandatory for many other Club officers to have completed this process also including Club Presidents, Junior Age Managers, Junior Coaches, Youth Training Officers, etc.

Nippersafe and Club Reporting Officers:

Nippersafe is a joint initiative between the SA Police and Surf Life Saving SA. Carefully selected members are trained to be Club Reporting Officers and informed on such things as:

- what is a paedophile, how do you recognise one, what are their characteristics;
 - what you should do if you are suspicious about anything you have seen;
 - how to keep yourself away from any suspicion;
 - what your personal responsibilities are as a mandated reporter;
- and so on, and so on

This program is about helping junior members (and parents) feel safe at all times and that there are procedures in place for anyone to report unusual or suspicious behaviour.

Each Club has members trained as **Club Reporting Officers (CRO)** for the **Nippersafe** program. These are the people that are not only trained to recognise behaviours, but have the resources and the knowledge to assist others through any reporting process (be it victim or witness).

Clubs are requested to display the sign detailing who their Club Reporting Officers are (including photos) in a prominent position at the Club so ALL members, parents etc are aware of an appropriate person to contact should they have any concerns. Surf Life Saving SA conducts updates (for club reporting officers) and new courses annually.

Any registered member of SLSSA over the age of 18 can be trained up as a CRO. Training courses take place annually, usually in the month of October. You simply need to register your interest through SLSSA and you will be contacted when the dates have been set. Each CRO is required to do an annual update, but this is done via the internet accessed via the SLSSA website www.surfrescue.com.au.

SLSSA is happy to run a course at any Club that can arrange for a dozen or more people to attend. To become a CRO, please discuss this with your Club and then email elainef@surfrescue.com.au with your request.

RESOURCES:

The following is available by contacting Surf Life Saving SA:

1. Nippersafe Notice Board Sign.

The following is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website:

1. National Police Certificate Process.
2. [SLSSA Member Safety and Well Being: SLSSA Appendix](#): The National Police Certificate Process and Conducting Criminal History Assessments

The following is available on the Surf Life Saving Australia website:

SLSA Policy Statement 6.5 Feb 2008, Members Safety and Well Being

- Annexure 1: SLSA's Child Protection Requirements
- Annexure 2: Role Specific Codes of Conduct



THE JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

OVERVIEW:

INTRODUCTION TO THE JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The junior development program is designed to ensure children from the ages of 5 to 12 have fun at the beach while participating in lessons that will pathway them to becoming a lifesaver – what we like to call ‘Serious Fun’.

The specially designed program progressively introduces knowledge and skills learning outcomes through lessons that are tailored to each of the age groups; ensuring the content is relevant, in line with lifesaving and surf sports’ most up to date training standards and most of all exciting! Each age group has its own individual set of lessons – between 10 and 16 depending on the age group.

The table below outlines the award pathway for a junior member in surf life saving. The program pathways learning towards the Surf Rescue Certificate which members can begin training towards from the age of 13.

SLSA JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – AWARD PATHWAY

AGE GROUP	AGE	AWARD	NUMBER OF LESSONS
Under 6	5	Nil (Surf Play 1)	10
Under 7	6	Nil (Surf Play 2)	12
Under 8	7	Surf Aware 1	12
Under 9	8	Surf Aware 2	12
Under 10	9	Surf Safe 1	13
Under 11	10	Surf Safe 2	14
Under 12	11	Surf Smart 1	16
Under 13	12	Surf Smart 2 & Resuscitation Certificate	16
Under 14	13	Surf Rescue Certificate	

Other SLSA Awards are available to participants once they reach a certain age such as Resuscitation Certificate (from 10 yrs) and Basic Emergency Care Certificate (from 11 yrs).

SLSA JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE KIT

The SLSA Junior Development Resource Kit comprises a number of resources for the effective delivery of the junior development program to participants. There are a range of resources for the Age Manager and Participants including:

Age Managers Guide	A comprehensive resource designed to prepare an Age Manager for their role.
Age Guides	A ‘one stop shop’ for an Age Manager to deliver the requirements for the specific Junior Age Group Award, i.e. Surf Aware 1.
Record sheets	To record the participation of participants as they progress through the award.
Age Guide Workbooks	A workbook designed for use by the participant to assist with delivering some of the lessons.
Worksheets	Used to assist with delivering some of the lessons.
Flipcharts	Used to assist with delivering some of the lessons.
Certificates	Recognition of having participated in all the mandatory lessons, therefore gaining the award.
Passport	Charts a participant’s progression through each lesson of each award.
Junior Coaching Manual and DVD	A specific resource used to assist with delivering some of the lessons related to Surf Sports activities and the preparation and development of competitors.

RESOURCES:

These resources can be accessed from the [SLSA Secure Resource Library](#) (click link) under Club Resources / Development Resources / Junior Development Resource Kit. Each Club’s administration has been supplied a log in *username* and *password*. SLSSA and SLSA have made some of these resources available (Age Guides, Work Sheets, Flip Charts, Record Sheets, Age Guides and Junior Coaching manual and DVD) for use by Clubs. Other resources can be accessed via the SLSSA [Junior Resources](#) website.

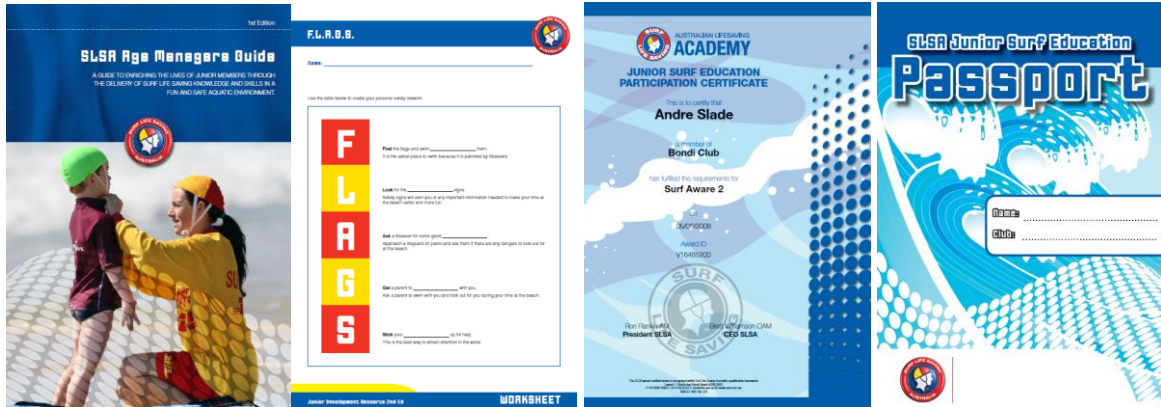
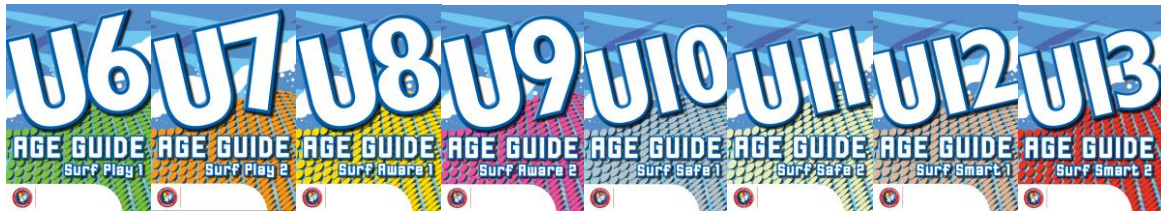


Junior Development Participation Certificates for each award recipient will be provided by SLSSA at no cost. Please liaise with SLSSA staff to arrange these towards the end of the season for presentation or otherwise when this may be relevant.

Further information on the Junior Development Resources and Junior Awards can be found:

- within the SLSA Age Managers Guide and the individual Age Guides
- on the SLSA and SLSSA websites

Feedback Welcome: To enable the usefulness of the resources to be monitored and assessed effectively, it is important we receive feedback from training officers, junior coordinators and age managers, so please feel free to make comment. Please provide this to SLSSA via surflifesaving@surfrescue.com.au



HELPFUL HINTS

- On receiving these resources, please read the SLSA Age Managers Guide and the introductory pages of each Age Guide before moving to the lesson plans.
- Plan the training programs well in advance.
- Have the necessary resources and equipment e.g. flags, visual aids, etc., readily available to prevent delays on the day.
- When instructing, explaining “why” is just as important as “how”.
- Where possible instruct by demonstration.
- Where necessary co-opt other specialist personnel e.g. First Aid Officer, Club Captain, qualified Instructors and Assessors (SLSA awards).
- When weather and surf condition are adverse bring out plan “B” (i.e. indoor program).

For further information please contact SLSSA.

THE SLSA JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

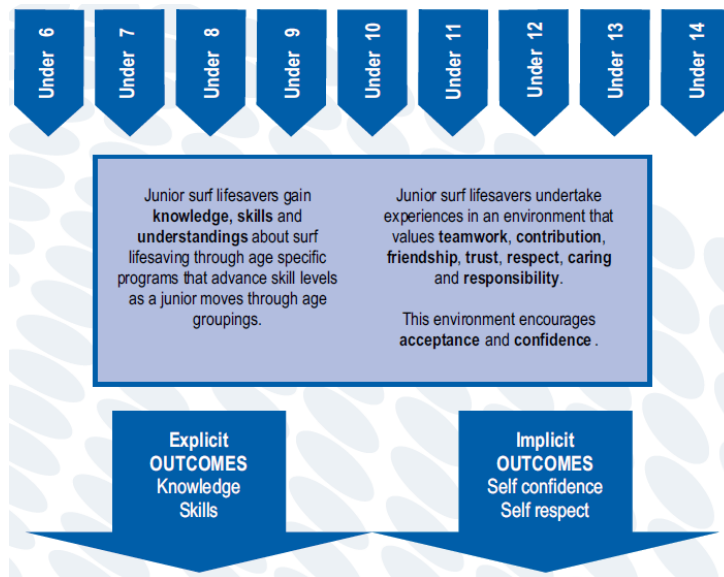
The Junior Development Framework has been designed to provide a simplified view of the key outcomes to be achieved by children participating in junior development programs. It emphasises that there are both explicit and implicit outcomes.

The explicit outcomes (i.e. skills and knowledge) are well set out in the lesson structure and sequencing within the junior development resource. However, the implicit outcomes (i.e. self confidence, self respect, trust) are not taught as such, but develop as a result of the supportive and nurturing environments in which junior programs are run. Effective programs teach the explicit outcomes whilst nurturing the development of the implicit outcomes.

The Junior Development Framework emphasises the importance of both sets of outcomes



JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK



AGE MANAGER REQUIREMENTS

OVERVIEW:

Prior to conducting Junior Activities each season, Clubs are to advise Surf Life Saving SA details of their Age Managers on the Age Managers Season List Form. Clubs are to advise SLSSA should any alterations to the Age Managers list occur. SLSSA will advise Clubs of the status of these alterations if there are any concerns.

SLSSA strongly encourages all Clubs to select Age Managers who are competent in leading and coordinating children in the SLSA junior development program and associated surf lifesaving activities. They will preferably have also undertaken courses regarding the education and training of children.

Age Managers courses are conducted annually by each Club and/or through the assistance of SLSSA and each Age Manager should participate in this course. This may also include participation in recognized officiating and/or coaching courses coordinated by SLSSA.

Clubs are responsible for scheduling and conducting their own Age Managers Course using an appropriate Age Manager Course Facilitator unless these are being coordinated and conducted by SLSSA.

Each Season SLSSA will assist with identifying appropriate Age Manager Course Facilitators to ensure all clubs have the ability to conduct the Age Managers course at the most appropriate time/venue and include relevant content. SLSSA will work with Clubs to achieve this each year.

Qualifications

ALL endorsed Age Managers are required to complete the following mandatory requirements:

- Current registered and financial members of the club.
- Completed the SLSSA member protection procedure (National Police Certificate process).

Age Managers are strongly encouraged to complete the following desirable components:

- Attended a SLSA Age Managers Course or an equivalent induction session including a Nippersafe presentation, reference to the SLSA Age Managers Guide, the Junior Development Program and associated resources.

RESOURCES:

1. SLSA Age Managers Course: content and resources available on the SLSA website or from SLSSA.
2. National Police Certificate process: refer SLSSA website



WATER SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

OVERVIEW:

Adequate water safety must be provided before any activities can be conducted in the water. Our duty of care to these young SLSSA members cannot be overstated, therefore any Club using lesser standards than those recommended would need to be able to justify such deviation.

Under no circumstances are non surf lifesaver qualified personnel to assume the role of Water Safety Officers, etc for Junior Aquatic Activities - **only proficient SLSA Surf Rescue Certificate and Bronze Medallion personnel are eligible to act in this capacity.**

Responsibilities

The Patrol Captain and/or Club appointed Water Safety Supervisor (WSS) must decide if the surf conditions are safe enough for junior activities as he/she is responsible for all water safety (i.e. a risk assessment is conducted). The Patrol Captain/WSS in counsel with the Junior Activities Officer must decide the area to be used. The Patrol Captain/WSS has the authority to cease Junior Aquatic Activities if in his/her opinion the conditions are deemed to be a HIGH RISK and unsafe at any time. Where a moderate risk is assessed the WSS may also modify the activity, course and/or water safety ratios.

The Patrol Captain/WSS/Junior Activities Officer has a responsibility to ensure no Junior Aquatic Activities take place without appropriate water cover, regardless of being conducted during or outside patrolling periods. The Junior Activities Officer, in consultation with the Patrol Captain/WSS, is to arrange water safety personnel. If insufficient numbers it is recommended activities be carried out in heats to maintain minimum supervision ratios.

Water safety personnel are required to wear brightly coloured caps for identification and/or a brightly coloured branded "Water Safety" rash top which is also encouraged. Colours should be consistent.

'On duty' patrolling members can only be used as water safety officers when the minimum patrol requirements have been met and at the discretion of the patrol captain and providing that their patrol duties are not compromised. Uniform for 'on duty' patrol members is the standard patrol uniform.

The recommended ratio for Water Safety is as outlined as:

- One (1) Water Safety Officer to five (5) participants (or four (4) where a moderate risk is assessed).
- Approximately 50% of these Water Safety Officers should be on a Rescue Craft
- It is also highly desirable that those Water Safety officers not on Rescue Craft wear swim fins and make use of rescue tubes or other flotation aids
- An IRB dedicated to junior activity water cover is also highly desirable and counts as two (2) Water Safety Officers. An RWC if used counts as one (1).
- Where participants are qualified (SRC/Bronze) the ratio is one (1) Water Safety Officer to Twelve (12).

At no times are water safety ratios to be compromised.

Patrol Hour Accreditation

Water Safety personnel are required to sign on whilst providing water safety. This may be kept as part of the normal Patrol Log or as a separate log. These members should also record it as "water safety" in the Patrol Type column of the logbook. Hours will be credited and recognised by members accruing hours for water safety provision only.

Note:

- As per National Policies, Patrol hours for junior activities are restricted to persons undertaking water safety duties only.

RESOURCES:

The following policies are available on the Surf Life Saving Australia website:

1. [Junior Activities and Water Safety](#) UPDATED 25/07/11
2. [Patrol Uniforms Policy](#)
3. [Patrol Hour Requirements](#)



JUNIOR ASSESSMENTS, EVALUATIONS AND AWARDS

OVERVIEW:

Each year junior members are required to complete several competencies as part of their surf lifesaving experience.

JUNIOR PRELIMINARY SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Many activities that will be completed by children as part of junior activities will be conducted in the water. To ensure that all children have a suitable swimming ability to allow them to participate in these activities, SLSA has developed a Junior Preliminary Skills Assessment for each age group.

Every junior member is required to participate in this evaluation, conducted by the club, prior to any junior water activity training or competition being undertaken. It includes a swim and a float which is progressively increased by age group.

Normally this would occur at the very first training session but if not, this must be completed before any water activity is undertaken. The intent of this is to conduct an evaluation of each junior member's own personal swimming and water survival ability for the information of the member, parent and age manager.

Note: It is not an assessment which if not completed competently precludes the child from becoming a member or continuing with junior surf education or training activities.

AGE GROUP	SWIM REQUIREMENT	FLOAT REQUIREMENT
Under 6	Nil (shallow water activities only)	Nil
Under 7	Nil (shallow water activities only)	Nil
Under 8	25 metre swim, (any stroke)	1 minute survival float
Under 9	25 metre swim, (any stroke)	1 minute survival float
Under 10	25 metre swim, (freestyle)	1 1/2 minute survival float
Under 11	50 metre swim, (freestyle)	2 minute survival float
Under 12	100 metre swim, (freestyle)	2 minute survival float
Under 13	150 metre swim, (freestyle)	3 minute survival float
Under 14	200 metre swim, (freestyle, in less than 5 minutes)	3 minute survival float
Assessors	Age Manager, Level 1 Coach, Level 1 Official, Training Officer (SRC/Bronze), Assessor	

Conducting the assessment

This evaluation should be conducted in a safe aquatic environment with a recommended 1:1 water safety ratio (participant to water safety personnel). A 1:1 water safety ratio is especially important for new members where clubs may not be familiar with the ability of the participant.

Following the evaluation

Any child who does not meet the required evaluation level will require a higher level of supervision when involved in water based activities at the discretion of the club. It is a requirement that these children remain in shallow water and based on a 1:1 ratio until the child is deemed competent in relation to the preliminary skills evaluation guidelines.

Any child who does complete the preliminary skills evaluation competently can progress to water based junior activities noting regular water safety 1:5 ratio requirements must be provided as per the junior water safety policy.

Using intra-club water activities for skills progression

Clubs are encouraged to conduct intra-club swimming and board training and competition related events in a progressively challenging but safe environment regarding distances, water safety personnel and in relation to the abilities of their junior members.

This intra-club environment is where clubs should really encourage their juniors to challenge their own personal skills and abilities to achieve their personal goals. They should progressively work towards



competently completing the official carnival competition distances in swimming, board, multi-discipline and relay related events if they wish to pursue inter-club competition.

The intra-club environment is where age managers and water safety personnel are more likely to have a better understanding of each of their own members swimming or board paddling skill level. This contrasts with inter-club competition where water safety personnel may have no idea who specifically to keep a close eye on and are not there to personally encourage swimmers around the course.

JUNIOR COMPETITION SKILLS EVALUATION AND COMPETITION ELIGIBILITY

From the age of 8 (Under 9) juniors can begin to compete in inter-club competition at SLSSA Carnivals. There is no competition skills evaluation requirement for juniors to compete in non-water related events including the wade, wade relay and running legs of the Cameron relay.

To ensure that all junior members who wish to compete in swim and board related events have the ability, strength and fitness standard to complete the courses, they must be able to complete the Junior Activities Competition Skills Evaluation for their age group which is a water proficiency assessment.

The Competition Skills Evaluation consists of the SLSA minimum standard guideline which is the competition course and distance in the ocean as prescribed in the 33rd Edition of the Surf Sports Manual. SLSSA also requires competitors to complete this as a timed assessment to demonstrate an appropriate level of competency in swimming ability to complete the Carnival course in a safe and timely manner.

AGE GROUP	Competition Skills Evaluation Ocean Timed Swim
Under 6	Not Applicable
Under 7	Not Applicable
Under 8	Not Applicable
Under 9	150m ocean swim within 12 minutes
Under 10	150m ocean swim within 11 minutes
Under 11	288m ocean swim within 12 minutes
Under 12	288m ocean swim within 10 minutes
Under 13	288m ocean swim within 8 minutes
Under 14	288m ocean swim within 8 minutes
Assessors	Level 2 Official, Assessor, Training Officer (SRC/Bronze)

Ocean Timed Swim

Following the successful demonstration of the preliminary skills assessment, this competition skills evaluation **MUST** be achieved before any junior can participate in water events at carnivals (*not including wade events*). This includes swim, board and related team events such as the board or swim leg of Cameron relay, board relay and/or swim teams.

PLEASE NOTE: The preliminary assessment swim is a prerequisite to the competition skills evaluation (ocean timed swim) and these are two separate swims. One swim cannot be used to qualify a child for the other requirement.

All Clubs and Age Managers have a heightened duty of care in an interclub Carnival environment to ensure that their junior members are safe and can confidently and competently complete the Carnival competition course and distance. These distances may change on carnival days depending on surf conditions but Age Managers must be aware of the duty of care to those competitors under their control and be confident that they will be able to complete the course set by the Officials on the day.

This means that:

- ***ONLY juniors who have achieved their competition skills evaluation for their relevant Age Group are to be entered into water events at Carnivals AND***
- ***Clubs, Age Managers and Parents should also take into consideration the conditions, the course and the physical and emotional state of their juniors on the day of the Carnival and***



only enter those they consider to be confident, competent and in a fit state to complete the course in a safe and timely manner.

Carnival Entries Master Lists

For insurance and safety purposes **all Clubs must provide a master list** of all juniors competing at any given Carnival. For those who will compete in water events this list must also record that they have successfully completed the competition skills evaluation (ocean timed swim). These must be submitted prior to or at the commencement of every Carnival. SLSSA will again be asking clubs to indicate which events participants will be competing in via a simple tick box / number form. This is part of a process of attempting to streamline marshalling at events and an important component of being able to implement a more structured program. These will be required by mid-day on the Thursdays prior to the event.

JUNIOR AWARDS as part of competition eligibility for Junior State Championships

Each year junior competitors are also required to complete the relevant Junior Award i.e. Surf Aware 2 (U/9) through to Surf Smart 2 (U/13) in order to compete at Junior State Championships. Juniors from the Under 13 Age Group also need to complete their Resuscitation Certificate and juniors from the Under 14 Age Group their Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) to be eligible to compete at Junior State Championships.

Assessment of Resuscitation and Surf Rescue Certificate

Clubs need to submit Form 14 to SLSSA via SurfGuard prior to assessment. This is done through the Club Lifesaving Advisor and not initiated by Age Managers. Resuscitation Certificate assessments require a minimum of 7 days notice on SurfGuard, and Surf Rescue Certificate assessments require a minimum of 14 days notice on SurfGuard. Please be aware of time frames in relation to State Championships eligibility.

*NOTE: Children selected for the **Junior State Development Team/s** require these awards prior to final team selection confirmation (by the end of November as a guide). Information relating to this will be circulated prior to the season commencement.*

Recording the Assessment, Evaluation and Awards

Surf Life Saving SA must be advised of the preliminary assessment, competition skills evaluation and junior award when these are completed via recorded entry into SurfGuard. This can be tracked on the beach using the JUNIOR AWARD RECORD SHEET and the JUNIOR COMPETITION ELIGIBILITY FORM.

Whenever the Club conducts a Preliminary Skill Assessment with juniors from the U/8's – U/14's, that section of the form is ticked for the relevant child, the form can then be copied or passed onto your designated club officer who will enter these onto SurfGuard for each member. Similarly this should be completed for U/9's – U/14's for the Competition Skills Evaluation (Ocean Timed Swim) and finally with all the relevant Junior Awards (including U/6's – U/13's).

NB: All awards must be entered in SurfGuard by close of nominations for state titles.

Only Junior Administration Officers and Club Lifesaving Advisors can enter SurfGuard assessment requests and awards

To access more information regarding the procedure for entering these into SurfGuard please refer to Resources section of the SLSSA website under Junior Activities and refer to the document "How to enter Junior Awards into SurfGuard".

RESOURCES:

The Following are available on the Surf Life Saving SA website:

1. [Junior Assessment Summary Chart](#)
2. [Junior Competition Eligibility Forms](#)
3. [Junior Competition Summary Form](#)
4. [How to enter Junior Awards into SurfGuard](#)

The following are available by contacting Surf Life Saving SA:

1. Junior Development Participation Certificate

The Surf Lifesaving Training Manual (Resuscitation Certificate, Surf Rescue Certificate, Bronze Medallion) are ordered by clubs direct from SLSA.

The Junior Development Resource Kit is available on the Surf Life Saving Australia website within the Secure Resource Library. This includes the

1. Junior Award Record Sheet (1 per age)



SURF SPORTS (COMPETITIONS/EVENTS/CARNIVALS)

OVERVIEW:

General Requirements:

For clubs to participate in Surf Life Saving SA Surf Sports Events (Junior Carnivals) each club is required to supply support personnel/craft to ensure all aspects of the event are conducted successfully.

Officials:

Each Club is to supply qualified officials for the duration of the carnival. The number of personnel required is detailed in an annually posted bulletin available on the Surf Life Saving SA website.

The numbers required by each club is dependant on the number of members entered into the preceding state titles.

Water Cover (Personnel):

Each Club is to supply qualified (proficient Bronze Medallion or Surf Rescue Certificate) water safety person/s with a SLSSA approved rescue tube or board for the duration of the carnival. The number of personnel required is detailed in an annually posted bulletin available on the Surf Life Saving SA website.

Water Cover (IRB):

Each club is rostered to perform IRB duties at Surf Life Saving SA Surf Sports events each season. Clubs are compensated for costs associated with this. When rostered the club is to supply the following for the duration of the event:

- a) 1 fully equipped operational IRB and motor (with sufficient fuel for the duration of the carnival)
- b) 1 qualified, proficient IRB Driver (competent in setting buoys)
- c) 1 qualified, proficient IRB crewperson (competent in setting buoys)

Patrol:

The host club is to supply a minimum of 6 patrol persons for a Carnival Patrol – separate from a normal patrol (including a nominated Carnival Patrol Captain) to initiate any First Aid management as required.

Participants:

Participation in events is not allowed for U8 members. Only registered members (U9 – U14) who have completed the relevant competency are permitted to participate in Surf Life Saving SA Surf Sports Events (Junior Carnivals). Details of the competency required are detailed in the Junior Assessment, Evaluations and Awards section.

Age Managers:

Each Club is permitted 2 Age Managers for each age group within the carnival arena. Age managers **MUST** be easily identified as an Age Manager (t-shirt, bib) with the **club name** and **age group** (i.e. North Haven U/11) they are managing. Printed shirts, arm bands, badges or lanyards can be used. Extra Age Managers may be permitted to assist with larger groups or with juniors with special needs where authorised by SLSSA.

Age Group Marshall:

Each Club will be permitted 1 Age Group Marshal for each age group. This person is responsible for ensuring all marshalling is done prior to their allocated event. Their sole role and responsibility will be to ensure marshalling is done in an efficient, timely manner. These people should also be identified as an Age Group Marshall similar to Age Managers.

Media Personnel:

Clubs are able to request (in writing to Surf Life Saving SA) members to act as media personnel each season. Only registered members with a current police certificate will be approved. Clubs can request a maximum of 6 members to act as media personnel, however only 2 members are permitted in the carnival arena at any time.

Once approved the club is issued with a media bib which must be returned to Surf Life Saving SA at the conclusion of the season. Clubs not returning the bib will not be endorsed with media personnel the following season.

Refer SLSSA Photography Policy (page 18) for further background on this matter.

Competition Requirements:

The SLSSA Board of Surf Sports (BOSS) updates the carnival timetable and program regularly. Once updated the Surf Sports Calendar is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website.



Rules and Regulations for all events conducted are detailed in the Surf Life Saving Australia Surf Sports Manual and/or R & R Competition Manual. Any alterations are detailed in Surf Life Saving Australia Bulletins available on the Surf Life Saving Australia website.

CARNIVAL ENTRIES MASTER LISTS

As previously mentioned Master Lists must be submitted prior to or at commencement of every carnival. The easiest way for clubs to manage these is to have a master list of all registered children – by age group. Then simply cross off those who are not attending the carnival. This is necessary for insurance purposes. This can be completed using copies of the Junior Competition Eligibility Form. SLSSA will again be asking clubs to indicate which events participants will be competing in via a simple tick box form. This is part of a process of attempting to streamline marshalling at events. These will be required by mid-day on the Thursday prior to the event.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRIES

Clubs are advised (electronically) when nominations for State Championships entries are available. All requirements for entry (including closing dates/times) are detailed in the circular, however all members must have the following:

- A. Registered for the current season.
- B. Completed and entered into SurfGuard the following competencies:
 1. Preliminary Skills Assessment
 2. Competition Skills Evaluation (Ocean Timed Swim) – if entering water events (excluding wade).
 3. Surf Education Award including Resuscitation Certificate – U13 & Surf Rescue Certificate – U14.

NOTES:

- Entries will be via the on-line entry system.
- Before submitting them to SLSSA you are asked to **ENSURE** that all children are registered and have completed the necessary assessments, evaluations and awards by the cut-off date. This can be done by simply obtaining reports from SurfGuard.

PLEASE CHECK ALL DETAILS BEFORE ENTRIES ARE FORWARDED TO SLSSA. IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF A MEMBERS STATUS PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CLUB JUNIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICER (WITH SURFGUARD ACCESS) PRIOR TO SUBMITTING ENTRIES.

Clubs are asked to take particular care with these entries. To avoid unnecessary time and paperwork for all concerned, clubs are asked to enter only those who will or are likely to compete and only in those events that they will be contesting. Entering all the children in all events even when you know there is no way they will contest them only makes marshalling on the day stressful for all concerned.

Clubs are reminded that they will be charged per competitor.

U/14'S AND PATROL HOURS and UNDER 15 COMPETITORS

Under 14 competitors are **not required** to have completed Patrol Hours as an eligibility requirement for entry into JUNIOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

However AND PLEASE NOTE this **is required** for entry as an Under 15 competitor in SENIOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS and AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS. Please refer to SLSA Policy Statement 5.4 "Proficiency and Patrol Hour Requirements for Competition Eligibility".

This means that if a member attains their SRC prior to 31 December that they must complete the required patrol hours prior to 31 December.

In most cases, for a U/14 member gaining their SRC award during the season, this will mean completing a lesser proportionate number of patrol hours than the normal 16 hrs. For example, if a member gains their SRC in December then they must complete a minimum of 4 hours patrol prior to 31 December to be eligible to compete in the Senior State Championships and/or Australian Championships as a U/15 competitor.

If they achieve their SRC between April – November it increases to 8 hours prior to 31 December and so on. A table outlines this within SLSA Policy Statement 5.4 (clauses 3.12 and 3.13).

If the SRC award is gained after Dec 31 and prior to the closing date of entries in that year they must fulfill a minimum of four (4) patrol hours prior to the close of entries. Also be mindful that they will also need to complete a further 16 hours during that calendar year to be eligible to compete in the following years Championship events.



SLSSA REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS (State and Development)

Surf Life Saving SA selects representative teams to participate in interstate championships/events and/or development activities. SA Surf Sports Standing Committee (SSSC) determine the criteria and relevant trials for selection in these teams. Once finalised all details relating to representative teams is available on the Surf Life Saving SA website.

Should any members be selected in a representative team, the above competencies (State Titles) are required prior to the event they are selected for.

RESOURCES:

The Following resources are available on the Surf Life Saving SA website:

1. Bulletin – Officials Quotas (updated annually).
2. Bulletin - Junior Water Cover (updated annually).
3. Bulletin – Carnival IRB Water Safety (updated annually).
4. Bulletin/s - Results of all Surf Life Saving SA State Title events (approximately 2 weeks after event).
5. Circular – State Titles Nominations (approximately 6 weeks prior to event).
6. Circular – Representative team/s trials (annually updated)
7. Circular/s- Officials/Coaches Accreditation (available once a course is scheduled).
8. Calendar – Surf Sports (updated when future events finalised).
9. Policy Statement – Proficiency and Patrol Hour Requirements for Competition Eligibility

The Following resources are available on the Surf Life Saving Australia website:

1. 33rd edition Surf Sports Manual (also available for purchase from the SLSA Surf Shop).
2. 2nd revised edition R & R Manual (also available for purchase from the SLSA Surf Shop).
3. Bulletin/s – Alterations to Surf Sports and R & R Manuals.



CODES OF CONDUCT

SLSA requires every individual and organisation bound by the policy to:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others
- Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing with others, and be a positive role model
- Make a commitment to providing quality service
- Be aware of, and adhere to SLSA's standards, rules, regulations and policies
- Demonstrate a high degree of responsibility especially when dealing with persons under the age of 18.
- Contribute to the provision of a safe environment for the conduct of all activities within surf life saving.

A number of role specific codes of conduct also exist. Individuals who fall into these categories are also bound by these role specific codes of conduct.

Age Managers

Age Managers are responsible for the care, safety, wellbeing and development of the junior surf lifesaver. They are responsible for facilitating the development of surf lifesaving skills and play a fundamental role in the development of a learning program that encourages and develops young surf lifesavers.

An Age Manager will:

- Agree to abide by the code of conduct
- Be responsible for the overall safety and well-being of the group
- Be responsible for the group's learning
- Take time to plan and prepare the activities delivered to the group
- Foster a collaborative approach to the management of the group
- Instil enjoyment and fun in what they do
- Be a positive role model for surf lifesavers and SLSSA

Parents and Carers

The role of parents is critical to the young person's wellbeing and ongoing involvement. Supportive parents provide essential care, education and enthusiasm. A challenge for parents is getting the right balance between disinterest and overbearing involvement, and being able to read their child's changing support needs. Age Managers are encouraged to provide a full briefing to parents during the season outlining the age managers' expectations in relation to supporting the children and assisting with activities.

A Parent/Carer of a junior member will:

- Remember that their child participates in surf life saving for their own enjoyment
- Focus on their child's efforts and performance rather than winning and losing
- Show appreciation for good performance by all participants
- Never ridicule or yell at their child or other children for making a mistake
- Respect officials decisions and teach their children to do likewise
- Not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the activities (eg. coach, official, age manager, etc.)
- Be a positive role model for others

From time to time, age managers may need to deal with difficult parents who are being unsupportive, abusive, rude, etc. There are a number of tools available to assist age managers if they are having difficulties. One particularly well regarded website is www.playbytherules.net.au Age managers are encouraged to access this website.

Surf Sports Officials

Surf sports officials are responsible for the safe and fair conduct of surf sports events. It is important that surf sports officials recognise that young surf lifesavers have differing needs, and that the main emphasis of surf sports for youth is fun and developmental.

A Surf Sports Official will:

- Agree to abide by the code of conduct
- Be responsible for matters concerning the development of surf lifesavers and the conduct of competitions
- Maintain a 'duty of care' towards others and an accountability for matters relating to competition
- Have a sound working knowledge of SLSA policies, rules and regulations
- Be impartial and accept the responsibility for all actions taken
- Ensure that any physical contact with others is appropriate to the situation and/or necessary for the persons skill development
- Provide a safe environment for training and competition
- Be a positive role model for surf lifesavers and SLSSA



MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

OVERVIEW:

General:

Surf Life Saving conducts many other programs to enhance members' personal development and leadership skills and knowledge. There are several programs conducted however major annual programs are as follows:

Programs conducted by Surf Life Saving SA:

- Surf Life Saving SA U11/U12 Development Camp.
- Surf Life Saving SA U13/U14 Development Camp.
- Surf Life Saving SA Youth Development Camp (14-17 year olds).
- Surf Life Saving SA Leadership Development Camp (18-25 year olds).

Programs conducted by Surf Life Saving Australia:

- Surf Life Saving Australia National Leadership College (20 – 30 year olds).
- Sir Adrian Curlewis Scholarship (18 – 30 year olds).

Surf Life Saving SA Programs:

Annually, Surf Life Saving SA conducts leadership and development camps that are available to all members from the age 10 to 25. The camps provide the opportunity for young members to be exposed to the many elements of Surf Life Saving. Additionally the camps encompass team building, personal development and leadership based elements.

Participants are exposed to a variety of sessions that are designed to challenge them personally and in a team concept. The purpose is to provide Surf Life Saving with a broader base of future leaders. The camps are a process to facilitate this development and ensure that the future of Surf Life Saving is guaranteed by providing participants with the opportunity and tools to become more involved and effective within the environment that as leaders they will have to work within. The programs will provide the opportunity for participants to learn something about each other and themselves.

Surf Life Saving Australia Programs:

The **Sir Adrian Curlewis Scholarship** is a national program that is designed to build leadership skills, knowledge, and highlight the potential in young Australians who choose to pursue leadership roles in surf lifesaving at club, regional, state and national level. The program provides candidates with an environment within which they can discover their leadership potential under the guidance and mentoring of active leaders in surf lifesaving.

This scholarship provides the recipients with a 12-month structured mentoring program through a 'contract learning agreement'. This agreement focuses on some key areas that the participant feels they need to improve in their personal leadership skills. This mentoring program is preceded with a 4 day induction program where scholars are able to develop a greater awareness of their leadership strengths.

The **National Leadership College** offers Australia's young surf lifesavers the opportunity to achieve their potential as a future leader. The program is designed specifically to develop individual leadership and personal development skills. Enhancements to the program ensure each participant experiences ongoing achievements as a result of establishing a new network of members and life-long friends.

The National Leadership College is the beginning of ongoing leadership training for members of surf lifesaving. Clubs are encouraged to support the development of these outstanding members through mentoring and providing participants with leadership opportunities in their club environments.

RESOURCES:

More details, circulars and application forms for all member development programs are available on the Surf Life Saving SA and Surf Life Saving Australia websites. Look for *member development*.



PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY: SLSA Policy Number 6.21

OVERVIEW:

SLSA recognises that with the increasing use of digital photo and video capture devices that it has a role and responsibility to ensure SLSA members understand their rights in relation to laws governing photography in public and private places and protecting our members, particularly children against the misuse of their imagery. It also recognises that there is a legitimate need for photography and that in many cases it is appropriate and with good intent however this must be balanced with the well being of SLSA members.

This policy provides information and guidance in relation to the use of digital photos and videos, when and where it is appropriate and the actions that can be taken if at all concerned with any photography that might be deemed indecent, defamatory or without consent.

It also includes guidelines for SLSA members, photography and accreditation at surf sports events, protection of SLSA imagery, use of images of SLSA members for promotional purposes, copyright of photographic images, advice on displaying images of children and consent and release forms.

SLSA Policies

All SLSA policies are listed below and can be accessed via the SLSA website. Other relevant SLSA policies which are recommended for referencing include:

- [Sun Safety Policy: SLSA Policy Number 2.1](#)
- [Junior Activities and Water Safety Policy: SLSA Policy Number 1.1](#)
- [Youth Policy: SLSA Policy Number 6.15](#)
- [Member Safety & Wellbeing: SLSA Policy Number 6.5](#) including [Annexure 1](#) and [Annexure 2](#)
- SLSA Member Safety and Well Being Policy: [SLSSA Appendix The National Police Certificate Process and Conducting Criminal History Assessments](#)

The [SLSSA Environmental Risk Policy](#) also provides important information and guidelines for the conduct, modification and/or cancellation of training activities and events.

SLSA POLICIES

OVERVIEW:

The JUNIOR section of the Surf Life Saving SA website should be able to assist with coordinating most programs. The Surf Life Saving Australia website also contains (admin and resources section) all Surf Life Saving Australia Policies (detailed below). These policies should assist clubs with ensuring all requirements are followed.

RESOURCES:

[Surf Life Saving Australia Policies](#) (click to the SLSA website link)

Some relevant SLSA policies relevant to Junior Activities are listed below with links.

WATER SAFETY	ECOSURF
YOUTH POLICY	USE OF SLSA EQUIPMENT
MEMBER SAFETY & WELLBEING	PATROL UNIFORMS
MEMBER SAFETY & WELLBEING - CHILD	NEW & MODIFIED EQUIPMENT
PROTECTION	FIRST AID KITS AND ROOMS
MEMBER SAFETY & WELLBEING - CODES	ASSESSMENT POLICY
OF CONDUCT	GAMBLING
SLSA PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY	ANTI DOPING & (WADA CODE)
SUN SAFETY	PATROL HOUR REQUIREMENTS
ASTHMA	SELECTION POLICY
LIGHTNING	DESIGN & MANUFACTURE OF SURFCRAFT
SHARK SAFETY	COMPETITION SPONSORSHIP
SHARPS POLICY	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
EPILEPSY	PRIVACY
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES	LIMITING AND PERMANENT DISABILITY
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY	GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE
PAIN MANAGEMENT	GOVERNANCE
DISINFECTION OF EQUIPMENT	RISK MANAGEMENT



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: Information for the new parent on the beach.

First day on the beach – what do I want to know?

My child is aged 12 today (born 5th October), what age group will he be in?

This birthday is considered to be a lucky birthday in surf. The age group that your child is calculated to be in is the age they are as at the 30th September, therefore your child was 11 on the 30th September (turned 12 on the 5th Oct) and therefore are classed as being in the under 12 age group (even though they are 12). A child who has their twelfth birthday on the 30th July would be placed in the Under 13 age group.

Does my child change age groups if their birthday is during a season?

No.

My child's friend's birthday puts him in different age group and they want to be together.

Sorry the rules are that the children are placed in the age groups where their birthday falls – it may be good for them to be in different age groups, they can make new friends and still socialise before and after the training sessions.

How often do I bring my child to the beach?

Each club has a designated training session each week, some are on Saturday afternoons, (check with your club as to when theirs is) some clubs have specialised training i.e. swimming, boards, march past on other days. Carnivals (no compulsion to attend), are predominantly on Sundays, as per the SLSSA Carnival program.

What does my child need?

Bathers, club cap which has the age group that they are in on it, long sleeve t-shirt or rash top (club if available), a sun hat, towel and sunscreen. Most clubs have stocks of their apparel – speak to the relevant person for prices etc.

What do they do in surf life saving?

Running & flags, swimming, board paddling, wading, basic first aid skills, Surf Education and lots of FUN activities.

What do I need to fill out?

If your child only wants to try for a week – a waiver form **MUST** be completed. When they have decided to become a full member, a membership form needs to be completed which **MUST** be signed by both the junior member and a parent or guardian. Clubs will then send the form to SLSSA so you are recorded as a financial member. **(This form must be completed correctly, as it will cover your child for insurance purposes – if not completed correctly it will be returned to the Club from SLSSA and as a consequence you/your child WILL NOT be insured until such time as it is accepted).**

Junior Awards – what are these for my child?

Each age level award has sessions that they participate in to acquire relevant skills and knowledge. They will need to attend and participate in all the compulsory sessions to attain the award.

Does my child have to be able to swim?

It certainly helps. However, they will complete a preliminary skills assessment including a swim and a float which clubs can complete at the beach or can be conducted in a pool environment, particularly if beach conditions are not the best. This is usually carried out before participating in any junior activity to assess their swimming and self survival ability in the water. This will determine whether they can progress to the water based junior activities under normal water safety supervision or they will require closer supervision.

NOTE: Some Clubs may not have the personnel or program to provide supervision to non-swimmers and may ask that these children seek swimming lessons externally (recommended anyhow) and then return to join in junior activities when the preliminary skill assessment can be competently completed.

The next step is for them to train to complete the competition skills evaluation ocean timed swim over a particular distance for their age group. This allows them to compete in the swim and board related events at interclub carnivals are not compulsory to attend. These are usually held on Sundays.

The club will enter these assessments into the membership database 'SurfGuard' which keeps track of these awards and are used to assess eligibility to compete at State Championships.

Is this a "Learn to Swim" program?

NO. Although your child will benefit enormously and increase their confidence from exposure to water based activities including swimming and board paddling we do not provide specific learn to swim training or stroke correction. This is strongly encouraged to be taken up externally. However, some Clubs may be better placed to assist with the provision of this coaching and links to these programs.



What and who are Age Managers?

An Age Manager is a member of the club who takes responsibility for the instruction of a particular age group throughout the season. All Age Managers have participated in the Age Managers Course and Member Screening – Criminal History Assessment and National Police Certificate check.

What can I do to help?

Parents can become involved in many areas of club activity. Areas can include – helping with training, coaching, officiating, fundraising, providing water cover (if you gain your SRC or Bronze medallion), cooking the Club BBQ, etc, etc but most of all supporting your child in their junior activities.

What happens when my child finishes all the various junior age groups?

The Junior Development Program is designed to gradually introduce your child into the role of a qualified surf lifesaver and assist in patrolling the beaches. They can continue to be involved in a variety of competition events if desired. They will undertake various other awards and learn many facets of community service involvement. They can be taught specialist areas of competition and compete both at a state and a national level.

FEEDBACK

Surf Lifesaving has many programs, procedures etc. Should any information that you feel is necessary however not be contained in this manual, please let us know. The aim is to provide a booklet that should assist with most questions regarding all aspects of Junior Activities.

NOTES