

Junior Assessment, Awards & Competition Requirements



AUSTRALIAN LIFESAVING
ACADEMY
NEW SOUTH WALES



SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES

U/8 to U/14 Membership

Age groups remain a minimum age of 7 years (U/8) up to a maximum age of 13 years (U/14) on a seasonal basis.

The age group for the season is determined as at midnight on the 30th September at the commencement of that season (33rd Edition, Surf Sports Manual).

Listed below are the age groups members will be in for the 2011/12 season if they are born between the following dates.

1 st October 1997 to 30 th September 1998	U/14
1 st October 1998 to 30 th September 1999	U/13
1 st October 1999 to 30 th September 2000	U/12
1 st October 2000 to 30 th September 2001	U/11
1 st October 2001 to 30 th September 2002	U/10
1 st October 2002 to 30 th September 2003	U/9
1 st October 2003 to 30 th September 2004	U/8

Please note: Proof of age/birth certificate must be shown for all new children joining a Surf Club or for any child that has not produced a birth certificate.

U/6 and U/7 Membership

U/6 and U/7 members may participate in activities on an **educational basis only**. Clubs are not compelled to run activities for these age groups. It is entirely up to the individual Club; however, children in these age groups may not compete in any point score/ championship events.

A child may join a Club as soon as he/she turns 5 years of age. **No Club is to accept membership of a child until they have reached the age of five years to comply with insurance requirements.** A child who reaches five years of age after 30th September 2011 may join Nippers at that time; however, this child will be required to stay in the U/6 Nippers age group the following season. It is the clubs responsibility to explain to the parents of each child that if a child reaches the age of five years after 30th September 2011, they may join Nippers for the remainder of the 2011/12 season, however will remain in the U/6 Nipper group in the 2012/13 season.

Listed below are the age groups members will be in for the 2010/11 season if they are born between the following dates:

1 st October 2004 to 30 th September 2005	U/7
1 st October 2005 to 30 th September 2006	U/6

Junior/Nipper Evaluations (Proficiencies)

The Junior Activities/Nippers Preliminary Skills Evaluation and the Junior Activities/Nippers Competition Skills Evaluation may be assessed by a SLS Official (*see table for qualifications*).

SLSNSW recommends a proficient SLSA Bronze/SRC Assessor is in attendance to supervise the evaluation. This is to ensure safety protocols and correct procedures are followed and to sign off the activity.

- **Junior Activities/Nippers Preliminary Skills Evaluation**
Every junior member is required to participate in this evaluation, conducted by the club, prior to any junior activity being undertaken each season (1st July to 30th June).
- **Junior Activities/Nippers Competition Skills Evaluation (Open Water Swim)**
 - The competition skills evaluation (open water swim) must be achieved before members are eligible to compete in any event.
 - The open water swim replicates the junior swim distances specified in the 33rd edition of the Surf Sports Manual
 - This is a minimum standard proficiency requirement.
 - Internal club competition is exempt from the competition skills evaluation

NOTE: U/14 members who have successfully completed the SRC award or SRC proficiency after 1st July 2011 and prior to commencing Junior Activities/Nippers for the 2011/12 season are not required to complete the Junior Activities/Nippers Preliminary Skills Evaluation or the Junior Activities/Nippers Competition Skills Evaluation.

All Junior Awards are to be recorded on SurfGuard. For more information on this process visit – <http://www.slsa.com.au/site/content/resource/00001715-docsource.pdf>

** NOTE: Clubs are able to go over and above the minimum standards set in this document, but are not able to drop below these standards.

Recording Junior Evaluations / Proficiencies

Junior Evaluations / Proficiencies can be completed on the Surf Life Saving NSW Proficiency Test Work Card. The card for the 2011/12 season is LAVENDER and is enclosed as part of this pack.

or

Junior Evaluations / Proficiencies can also be completed by creating spreadsheet from SurfGuard of current, financial Nipper members. This spreadsheet needs to mirror the information requirements on the Lavender cards. This spreadsheet must be signed in hard copy to satisfy the SLSNSW proficiency requirements.

Junior Awards

The Junior Development Program (Surf Education) is an integral part of our Junior Activities Program and must be completed by all participants in Junior Activities every season.

This program is based on clearly defined outcome statements and reflects an exciting change in children's lifesaving development. The requirements of the award are in no way linked with the Junior Participation Skill Evaluation and/or the Junior Competition Skill Evaluation.

All members are required to gain their respective Surf Education award for their age group every season prior to 31st December. These awards are to be entered into SurfGuard by the 7th of January.

All Junior Awards are to be recorded on SurfGuard. For more information on this process visit – <http://www.slsa.com.au/site/content/resource/00001715-docsource.pdf>

Junior / Nippers Preliminary Skills Assessment

	Preliminary Skills Evaluation	Competition Skills Evaluation	Surf Education
Under 6	Nil (shallow water activities only)	Nil (no competition)	Surf Play One
Under 7	Nil (shallow water activities only)	Nil (no competition)	Surf Play Two
Under 8	25 metre swim (any stroke) 1 minute survival float	Nil (no water competition, except for wade which takes place in waist deep water)	Surf Aware One
Under 9	25 metre swim (any stroke) 1 minute survival float	Minimum 150m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Aware Two
Under 10	25 metre swim (freestyle) 1.5 minute survival float	Minimum 150m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Safe One
Under 11	50 metre swim (freestyle) 2 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Safe Two
Under 12	100 metre swim (freestyle) 2 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Smart One
Under 13	150 metre swim (freestyle) 3 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Smart Two
Under 14	200 metre swim (freestyle, in less than 5 minutes) 3 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	SRC *
Assessors	Age Manager Level 1 SLSA Coach Level 1 SLSA Official Training Officer (SRC/Bronze) Assessor (SRC/Bronze) (* Assessment of SRC can only be completed by an approved Assessor)		
Notes	Every junior member is required to participate in this evaluation, conducted by the club, prior to any junior activity being undertaken.	The competition evaluation must be achieved before being eligible to compete. This is a minimum standard water proficiency requirement.	The relevant age Surf Education award must be completed each year prior to 31 st December.

Junior / Nipper Competition

To be eligible to compete, a junior member must have completed the Junior Activities/Nippers Preliminary Skills Evaluation and the Junior Activities/Nippers Competition Skills Evaluation. This is for competition outside of club competition, such as Sunday nipper club races and club championships.

To be eligible to compete at a championship event they also need to have achieved the appropriate surf education award for their age by 31st December.

Any member who has not completed these requirements by the 31st December who seeks to compete must apply in writing to the State Director of Lifesaving clearly identifying reasons for not completing requirements by 31st December.

Water Safety Requirements

SLSA have recently reviewed and updated SLSA Policy 1.1 Junior Activities and Water Safety, which has been re-named 1.1 Water Safety. The policy has been updated to satisfy the need for an all encompassing water safety policy that considers ALL SLS members, and also non members that participate in SLS activities. This policy provides clubs and services with clear instructions on standard operating procedures, minimum standards and standard risk assessment management process. The updated water safety policy is enforceable from the start of the 2011/12 lifesaving season.

The key principles of the policy are:

1. Water safety is to be provided for all SLS aquatic activities.
2. Each activity is to have an appointed water safety supervisor (a leader in the group to oversee safety of all participants)
3. Water safety supervisors must complete a risk assessment process and record the outcome before the event starts (an example form is provided in the policy or your State may have one available)
4. Minimum ratios: [Water safety personnel: participants in the water]
1:5 for groups of unqualified participants (with low/medium risk) and 1:4 for high risk
1:12 for groups of qualified participants (SRC/BM qualified).
5. Follow standard operating procedures relating to use of rescue equipment, uniforms and beach patrols.

This policy is also available on the SLSA website, and a 'frequently asked questions' section has been included in SLSA circular 12/2011-12 to assist clubs and services with the implementation of the new policy standards and operating procedures.

Insert water safety policy on next page