



# Circular 3640

## Released July 2020

### 2020 SHARKSKIN NSW IRB Premiership Round & State Championships Expression of Interest Circular

**Attention:** Club Presidents, Club Secretaries, Club Competition Officers, Team Managers, Coaches, Competitors, Branch Directors of Surf Sports, Branch Presidents and Branch CEO/Secretaries

**Actioned by:** Persons responsible for club entries.

**Date:** 8 July 2020

**Contact:** Jake Lynch, Surf Sports Officer  
Phone: (02) 9471 8000  
Email: [surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au](mailto:surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au)

<b>Summary</b>	This Circular provides information for clubs regarding the 2020 Sharkskin NSW IRB Premiership Round and 2020 Sharkskin NSW IRB Championships. The full Entry Circular will follow.
<b>Actions Required:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Complete and submit Expression of Interest form by 12 July 2020 for entries via survey monkey here: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020IRBcompEOI">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020IRBcompEOI</a></b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Complete the <a href="#">Team Manager Contact Form</a> by 12 July 2020 to receive important updates</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete and submit entries via Sport Event Management System incl. Teams by:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>2020 Sharkskin NSW IRB Premiership Round at Umina SLSC:</b> Sunday 19 July 2020 at 11.00pm *TBC in Entry Circular</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>2020 Sharkskin NSW IRB Championships at Fingal Beach SLSC:</b> Sunday 26 July 2020 at 11.00pm *TBC in Entry Circular</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete the Team Support Contact Form via TeamApp at time of entry submission as directed in Entry Circular.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> If spectators are allowed at the event, complete the Spectator Contact Form via TeamApp as directed as directed in Entry Circular.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Team Managers, Team Support and Spectators to RSVP via TeamApp prior to event – Deadline TBC</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete the <a href="#">SR Number Survey</a> by TBC</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Submit copies of training logs and coach declaration for each competitor to <a href="mailto:surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au">surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au</a> Details TBC</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Select your Club’s time preference for the Sharkskin NSW IRB State Championships Scrutineering Session before <b>Friday 28 August 2020. Form will be made available soon.</b></li> </ul>

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## 1. Expression of Interest

Teams are asked to submit their expression of interest to compete in the 2020 Sharkskin IRB NSW Premiership Round and 2020 Sharkskin IRB NSW Championships by Sunday 12 July 2020 to equip SLSNSW with approximate competitor numbers for planning purposes in accordance with safety protocols and government mandates related to COVID-19.

Please contact Jake Lynch if you have any question on 9471 8000 or via email at [surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au](mailto:surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au)

Please see the information below regarding the IRB season. Further information will be provided once confirmed.

To submit your EOI for competition, please fill out the following form online:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020IRBcompEOI>

***Please note, it is unlikely that spectators will be allowed to attend the events due to social distancing restrictions, unless accompanying a participating minor.***

## 2. Entry Closing Dates and Times:

Clubs are advised of the entry closing dates and times as per below. Teams must be completed in SEMS at this time. **Please Note: there are no late entries.** Team member substitutions may be allowed in reasonable circumstances in consultation with the SLSNSW Surf Sports Team, however, please keep in mind with the COVID-19 Social Distancing restriction, these changes may not be as simple as usual and may require more time to facilitate. This process will be clarified in the updated entry circular.

More details on this plan will be released closer to the events, however, if you have questions relating to the submission of your entry, please contact [surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au](mailto:surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au)

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this. Your cooperation in these unique times is appreciated.

***We are aware that Father's Day falls on the Sunday of State Championships. Due to the challenges of COVID-19 and rescheduling of events, this was the only feasible weekend available. Thank you for your understanding.***

EVENT	VENUE	EVENT DATES	ENTRIES CLOSE
Premiership Round	Umina SLSC	Sat 29 – Sun 30 August	Sunday 19 July, 11pm TBC
State IRB Championships	Fingal Beach SLSC	Sat 5 – Sun 6 September	Sunday 26 July, 11pm TBC

***Note: Please be aware that weather at this time of year may be colder than usual and you will need to dress accordingly.***

## 3. COVID-19 Safety Plan

A number of precautions will be put into place to create a COVID Safe environment. SLSNSW will have a COVID-19 Safety Plan for these events.

Any relevant details will be released regarding this Plan closer to the events including any changes to competition procedures or beach set up. These will be shared on TeamApp, on the event webpages and through Surf Sports Weekly.

If there is any reason to believe you may have COVID-19 or have been in contact with anyone who has been diagnosed, you will not be permitted to attend the events unless you have a medical certificate clearing you of COVID-19.

#### **4. Contact Details**

Anyone attending the event will be required to submit their contact details to SLSNSW prior to the event. Officials will be required to do so upon nomination. Contact details for team managers, coaches and competitors will be required when entries are submitted. All attendees that are not entered into the SEMS entry system, will be required to enter their contact details and RSVP via TeamApp. More details regarding this process can be found in the next section.

#### **5. Communication:**

Memos and documentation will be available through Surf Sports Weekly and on the Event Webpages:

**Premiership Round:** <https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/events/2020-sharkskin-nsw-irb-premiership-round>

**NSW State Championships:** <https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/events/2020-sharkskin-nsw-irb-championship>

In addition to the usual memos and circulars, there may additional documentation released especially in relation to COVID-19 updates and/or changes to procedures.

Final event memos will be distributed with the draws at least 2 days prior to competition with updates as necessary.

Information regarding the IRB season will also be posted on the 2020 IRB Season page here:

<https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/2020-nsw-irb-season>

#### **6. TeamApp**

Important Information and updates will be communicated by TeamApp.

Team Managers, Coaches, Support Crew or any other attendees who are not registered competitors, will be required to register and RSVP via TeamApp. Please note that these numbers may be restricted. More details to follow.

TeamApp will be used in the lead up to and throughout the IRB Competitions as a platform to communicate information, documentation and updates including timetable changes to Team Managers and Competitors.

It is highly recommended that everyone planning to attend any IRB event download TeamApp when entries are submitted. If you cannot download the App onto a phone or tablet, you may also access TeamApp in a web browser on any computer.

#### **To register for these event updates please follow the below instructions:**

1. Download the "TeamApp" application from the App Store or Google Play
2. Log in / Sign up to receive live event notifications
3. Once logged in search "**2020 Sharkskin IRB Competition**"
4. Click the "Become a member of this TeamApp" icon at the top of the screen then select the "Competitors" group. There will also be an "Officials" group and a closed "Team Managers" group.

By joining the event and turning on your mobile app notifications, you will receive notifications and email updates as they are posted, ensuring you never miss any important information.

Please be aware that SLSNSW is trialing the new Team App functionality. It is an individual's/Club's obligation (SSM 2.17) to ensure they listen for announcements and marshalling. Not receiving a TeamApp update is not an excuse for missing events.

## 7. Officials Quota:

To support the on-going delivery and development of IRB competition, a quota will be implemented in 2019 based on Clubs individual entries per Round/Championship to grow the number of IRB technical officials. The below officials' quota will be enforced:

Competitors Entered:	Minimum Officials Required:
1 to 10	1 Official
11 to 18	2 Officials
19+	3 Officials

The Officials Nominations circular will be released and the general call for officials will be opened shortly.

## 8. Event List:

Due to the impact of COVID-19 there may be changes to the events conducted at both the Premiership Round and the State Championships.

*Due to the impact of COVID-19, it will not be possible to conduct the Relay or have a Novice division this season.*

*More information on event list will be updated and circulated once the Expressions of Interest to compete are received.*

## 9. Entry Conditions:

### 9.1. Proficiency and Patrol Hours

Team Managers are responsible to ensure that competitors comply with the pre-requisites and entry requirements at the completion of close of entries. The club will be notified of any non-compliant competitors and those competitors may be excluded from the event. To avoid any issues, Team Managers or the person completing the entries must check each competitors Bronze proficiency, IRB Driver or Crew proficiencies and patrol hours prior to the close of entries. **Handlers must also be entered in SEMS.**

### 9.2. Age Requirements

#### Quick Reference for Determining Minimum Age:

Refer to the SSM for the full descriptions, provided here as a quick reference only.

POSITION:	SSM:	DESCRIPTION:
Driver	3.3.2.4, a, (i)	Be minimum age of 17 years of age as at the date of competition (each round/State)
Crewperson	3.3.2.4, b, (i)	Be minimum age of 16 years of age as at the date of competition (each round/State)
Patient	3.3.2.4, c, (i)	Be a minimum age of 15 years of age before October 01 in the (19/20) season. (30/09/19)
Handler	3.3.2.4, d, (i)	Be a minimum age of 15 years of age before October 01 in the (19/20) season (30/09/19)

### Quick Reference for Determining Age Groups:

DIVISION	SSM:	DESCRIPTION:
All	2.3.2	For the purpose of determining an age group, all competitors must have a common birth date calculated as at midnight on 30th September each year, i.e. age at midnight on 30th September determines the competitor's age category (for individual events) in that competition season. (i.e. 19/20 Season)
U23	2.3.10	Members shall be eligible to contest the U23 division after attaining the minimum ages - refer to 3.3.2.4. Members shall be no older than 22 years of age as at the 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2019.
35+	2.3.14	(d) In Masters Team events, Masters may compete in the Open/Senior age group plus only one Masters Team age category in each event discipline conducted at a competition. (e) Masters Teams are permitted to compete only in their own Masters Team/crew age category in which their team/crew qualify by way of ages unless there are insufficient starters. In such cases the team may compete in the next youngest Masters Team age category.
45+	2.3.14	(f) (i) Two Person Events: The team age is determined by the age of the younger competitor (vi) IRB Events: 35 years plus. Refer also to Section 3
Note	N/A	<i>An example of (d) is a member must choose to compete in the 35+ Tube or 45+ Tube but cannot compete in both. However, a member may compete in the 35+ Tube and the 45+ Rescue as an example as they are different disciplines.</i>

### 9.3. Entry Limitations

IRB competition may be conducted in different categories of age, grade and gender. Due to the impact of COVID-19, it is unlikely that double dipping will be allowed in this season. Therefore, a competitor may not compete or nominate to compete in more than four events at any one competition. This will be confirmed once EOI to compete are received.

A driver and/or crew may compete in a particular event once e.g. a driver cannot compete in an event in one team as a driver and compete again in the same event as a driver or crewperson in a separate team. If eligible to compete in multiple grades or age categories, drivers and crewpersons may do so, but may only compete in a particular event once e.g. open male rescue is a different event to the under 23 male rescue. IRB patients are to be considered as gender neutral with respect to their participation in male and female IRB events. Patients may compete in any grade, age or gender category events but may only compete in a particular event once.

### 9.4. Competitor Audits

All competitors will be audited after the close of entries to the Premiership Round and the State IRB Championships to ensure the compliance with relevant rules set out in the Surf Sports Manual (SSM) and SLSA Policies (see appendix for a list of the most relevant).

Team Managers shall refer specifically to the following sections of the SSM:

- 3.3.2.4 Competitor Pre-Requisites (a-e)
- 3.3.2.5 Entry Limitations (a-g)

All entrants must meet SLSNSW award and proficiency requirements as detailed in the [Skills Maintenance \(Proficiency Check\) Requirements for 2019/20 Season Circular](#). **It is a Clubs responsibility to check and ensure that all members comply.**

#### **9.5. Rookie Division**

Due to the impact of COVID-19 it will not be possible to have a Novice division this season.

#### **9.6. Composite Teams:**

Due to the impact of COVID-19 and the likelihood of restricted numbers being in force at the events, composite teams will not be permitted this season.

### **10. Entry Process:**

#### **10.1. Sport Event Management System**

Club entries to the 2020 IRB Premiership Round and State Championships must be submitted using the new Sport Event Management System (SEMS)

Please view the SEMS Club Entry Guide for IRB Competition.

To be assigned SEMS functions the user must have an active Members Area log in account. If you have already been assigned access, please login to SEMS using your Members Area login details

If you do not have access to SEMS, kindly complete a [SLSA Form49](#) requesting SEMS access and return completed form by logging a support ticket at <https://help.sls.com.au>, Fax or Post as per details at the top of the form.

Entries may be altered by clubs at any time up to the closing date of each round listed in this Circular.

For assistance with SEMS, please contact [sems@slsa.asn.au](mailto:sems@slsa.asn.au)

#### **10.2. Team Names**

Clubs that have more than one team in any event should **give each team a name** rather than a letter or number **for the duration of the Premiership**. Team names must be alpha characters only **and must not** contain numbers or non-alphanumeric characters such as exclamation marks or commas. This affects the reports generated impacts on the calculation of the point score. SLSNSW reserves the right to reject team names deemed offensive.

If a team composition is changed from round to round, it is asked that clubs use the same team names as the previous round. If a new team is created and that team would like to accumulate points from a previously named team, a new team name must be created and entered.

### **11. Finance:**

#### **11.1. Competitor Entry Fee**

The cost of entry per competitor is \$39.80 (incl. GST) for the Premiership Round and State IRB Championships. **Members who are entered as handlers only are not required to pay an entry fee.**

**LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR TEAMS AFTER THE CLOSING DATES OUTLINED IN THE ENTRY CIRCULAR DUE TO THE IMPACT ON PLANNING REQUIRED TO CREATE A COVID SAFE EVENT.**

**Some flexibility will be possible for clubs experiencing technical difficulties provided SLSNSW Surf Sports Team is notified PRIOR to entries closing.**



The only entries accepted after the closing date will be for athletes replacing other athletes that have already been entered at that round.

Entry fees are **not** refundable if members withdraw or do not take part in these events.

Please see section 10 of this document for more details regarding refunds in the event of cancellation/suspension or change of contingency location.

#### **11.2. Additional entries**

Additional entries will incur a fee of \$20.60 per competitor. Entry fees are **not** refundable if members do not take part in these events.

#### **11.3. Invoicing**

SLSNSW will forward an invoice to each club after the close of entries. Clubs will be able to view a summary of the fees that are due within SEMS. Please do not pay until the invoice is received.

#### **11.4. Team Substitutions/Changes**

The replacement of a team member who is already entered into the competition is provided for under the General Competitive Conditions in the current edition of the Surf Sports Manual. The process for notification of any team member replacement will be clarified in the Entry Circular.

### **12. Event Cancellation/Suspension:**

#### **12.1. Background**

SLSNSW always strives to deliver the best competition experiences for our membership. Due to the COVID environment some changes will be necessary and as always, safety will remain the first priority.

As social distancing restrictions ease, we will endeavor to run appropriate events within the scope of the government regulations and the welfare of our members. These government regulations are subject to change in relation to the spread of COVID-19 and therefore our events will be subject to change also, to stay compliant and keep our events as safe as possible.

As has always been the case, weather, surf or other weather conditions may also present safety concerns resulting in postponement or cancellation of events.

#### **12.2. Go / No Go Dates**

In order to reduce the impact of cancellations, SLSNSW will be trialing a cancellation process for each Surf Sports event using multiple "Go" or "No Go" dates. At these scheduled dates, a review will take place to determine whether or not an event can go ahead.

These decisions will be made with the best judgement based on the information available at the time. This may include, but will not be limited to:

- Current NSW State Government restrictions
- Advice from medical or safety personnel

The intent is to provide fair and timely communications to avoid undue costs/impact to members travelling to an event where it is subsequently cancelled **before** the scheduled competition start time. It is noted that some members will not be able to access refunds for accommodation and although beyond the control of SLSNSW this new process aims to provide members with enough time to make alternative arrangements.

This builds on the standard risk assessment process in place and given that conditions change, there is still the possibility of cancellation or suspension of competition even after “Go” decision. The difference is the earlier notification where possible.

### ***Go Decision***

This refers to the event going ahead as per plan and/or with amendments to the procedure in place. A Go Decision is determined by the organisers being confident as at the specified Go / No Go date & time, that the event is able to start safely with a likelihood of completion within the scheduled timeframe.

Amendments may include, but are not limited to:

- Further restriction of attendees e.g. no spectators
- Change to schedule of events, including cancellation of some events

### ***No Go Decision***

This refers to the event not going ahead as per plan. A No Go Decision is determined by the organisers\* having a low confidence in the event starting and/or reduced likelihood of completion within the scheduled timeframe, due to COVID-19 risk OR weather, surf and other environmental conditions.

Primary Go / No Go: Weeks in advance.

At this point, accommodation and travel plans are not likely to attract cancellation fees.

Final Go / No Go: Approx. 72 hours prior to commencement of competition. At this point, most people will not have commenced travel. In many cases credits may be possible for travel and accommodations. In many cases a refund or credit of sort may be possible for travel bookings.

This does not preclude SLSNSW from making a decision that is in the best interest of the event and the safety of event attendees.

## **12.3. Timeline 2020**

### **JULY**

Friday 17 Jul  
Sunday 19 Jul

Primary Go / No Go for IRB Round 1 \*subject to change  
Entries close Round 1 \*TBC in Entry Circular

Friday 24 Jul  
Sunday 26 Jul

Primary Go / No Go for IRB State Championships \*subject to change  
Entries close – State Champs \*TBC in Entry Circular

### **AUGUST**

Saturday 29 – Sun 30 Aug

IRB Premiership Round

### **SEPTEMBER**

Saturday 5 – Sun 6 Sep

IRB State Championships

### **The week of competition**

- **Monday – Wednesday:**
  - Daily - As per usual, monitor weather conditions and forecasts using inputs from host venue club and forecasting sites, including but not limited to: Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) and Coastal Watch.
- **Thursday:**
  - 3pm - Competition Safety Committee (CSC) to meet on site or via zoom to determine a Go or No Go decision for Saturday & Sunday.

- 5pm - Go or No Go decision communicated to Team Managers and posted in the TeamApp.
- **Friday:**
  - 4pm - Competition Safety Committee (CSC) to meet on site and further risk assessments conducted.
  - 5pm - Update communicated to Team Managers and posted in the TeamApp.
- **Saturday/Sunday:**
  - 6.30am - Competition Safety Committee (CSC) to meet on site and further risk assessments conducted.
  - 7.25am - Decision relayed to Team Managers at the Team Managers Meeting.

#### **12.4. Refund Policy**

- No refunds for competition withdrawals or did not compete.
- If a No Go decision is made;
  - **Primary Go / No Go:** In the event that a “No Go” decision is made at this point, there will be no charge.
  - **Final Go / No Go:** In the event a “Go” Decision is made at the Primary Go/No Date and subsequently competition is suspended, postponed or cancelled, 75% of the fees of the affected round(s) will be credited to the Club (invoice will be reversed and fees paid will be credited). 25% will be retained for administration costs.

#### **Disclaimer:**

**This policy is intended as a guideline for competitors, officials and spectators when making their accommodation and travel plans and/or taking time off work. It is the responsibility of competitors, officials and spectators to investigate their own personal situation and potential financial consequences and make their own decisions as to whether they wish to attend the Championships.**

#### **13. Back Up Round:**

Given the restricted timeframe as a result of COVID-19, the back up round was not able to be rescheduled.

#### **14. Point Scores:**

##### **14.1. Premiership Point Score**

Points will be awarded from 1st to 8th in each event point score:

(1<sup>st</sup> =10 points | 2<sup>nd</sup> = 8 points | 3<sup>rd</sup> = 6 points | 4<sup>th</sup> = 5 points | 5<sup>th</sup> = 4 points | 6<sup>th</sup> = 3 points | 7<sup>th</sup> = 2 points and 8<sup>th</sup> = 1 point).

As there is only one Premiership Round scheduled, the winner of the club point score will be determined after the first and only round at the IRB Premiership. This will be the club with the highest point score.

The top placed crew from each club in the final will only receive points towards the overall point score. i.e. If Forster A finish 1<sup>st</sup>, Forster B finish 2<sup>nd</sup> and Windang A finish 3<sup>rd</sup>, only Forster A will receive points towards the overall point score, Forster B will not and Windang will get points for 3<sup>rd</sup>. The next highest placed club will be awarded the points for the consecutive places.

If a team is disqualified or fails to finish an event, then that team fails to gain points for the event and club point score.

Where a dead heat (as defined in Section 2 of the [Surf Sports] Manual) occurs in the final of an event the teams will share the placing points. The club of the next teams to finish will receive the relative placing points based on the number of teams finishing ahead of them. For example, if two teams finish equal 1st, both teams shall receive 10 points each. The next placing team shall be awarded the 6 points and the bronze medal for coming

The overall point scoring winner for each event in the **Premiership** will be the team who accrues the greatest number of points in all the carnivals. In the event of a tied overall point score, a 'count back system' will be enforced where the club with the greater number of first or higher placing positions will determine the winner.

#### **14.2. State IRB Championships Point Score**

Points will be awarded from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> in each final:

(1<sup>st</sup> place = 6 points | 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 5 points | 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 4 points | 4<sup>th</sup> place = 3 points | 5<sup>th</sup> place = 2 points | 6<sup>th</sup> place = 1 point).

Where a dead heat (as defined in Section 2 of the [Surf Sports] Manual) occurs in the final of an event the teams will share the placing points. The club of the next teams to finish will receive the relative placing points based on the number of teams finishing ahead of them. For example, if two teams finish equal 1st, both teams shall receive 6 points each. The next placing team shall be awarded the 4 points and the bronze medal for coming

Unlike the IRB Premiership, if 2 crews from the same club earn points from a final, both teams **will be** eligible for points towards the club point score. If a team is disqualified or fails to finish an event, then that team fails to gain points for the event and club point score. The Club with the highest accumulated total at the completion of all finals will be deemed the Overall Champion Club.

#### **15. Approved Gear and Equipment:**

##### **15.1. IRB Surf Rescue Registrations:**

All IRBs taking part in the IRB Premiership and the NSW IRB Championships must be registered with SLSNSW and carry the appropriate 'SR' number. If you have any questions regarding registering of IRBs with SLSNSW please contact Laura Schuetz on 9471 8000.

Prior to the Premiership Round, all Clubs will be required to submit the SR numbers of the vessels which will be used throughout the Premiership Round and the NSW Championships. Please Complete the [SR Number Survey](#) by **TBC**

##### **15.2. Scrutineering:**

###### **IRB Premiership: Round**

Team Managers **MUST** complete Scrutineering forms for Motors/Hulls/Fuel/Propellers with all the required information and submit the forms to the scrutineering registrar prior to entering the competition area. Premiership Round scrutineering will take place on Saturday morning, prior to competition.

This will be focused on safety only, however, during competition, (on Saturday & Sunday) random scrutineering will take place in the competition area and some clubs may be selected to present all their equipment to the scrutineering team for a detailed technical examination at the end of the day.

Date / Times.

- Saturday 29 August from TBC
- **Note: Competition Commences by 8:30am (or earlier) if all Clubs have completed scrutineering.**

###### **State IRB Championships**

Due to feedback received in the post event surveys, The IRB State Championships will require '**Full Technical Scrutineering**'. As a result, scrutineering will take place on Friday, the day before competition.

Date / Times.

- Friday 4 September TBC

Please register your time preference for scrutineering via the online form to be supplied by 16 August. Preference will be given to clubs travelling the greatest distance and allotted timeslots will be published Tuesday 18 August.

Clubs are to **be ready 30 minutes** prior to their allocated timeslot with completed paperwork and equipment ready for inspection.

**The time allocations are not flexible. Late arrivals of clubs on Friday will not be accepted and there will be no scrutineering on Saturday to ensure competition runs on time.**

Any clubs found to be using equipment in the 2020 Premiership Round or 2020 NSW State Championships that does not meet manufacturers or SLSA specification as set out in the current SLSA Bulletin Surf Sport IRB Competition - Gear and Equipment Regulations could be excluded from the event and may face disciplinary action.

***More detailed information about scrutineering will be provided in a subsequent Memo to be released in due course and may supersede any information detailed above.***

### **15.3. One Hull Policy**

From January 1, 2024, SLSA will implement the one hull policy in IRB sport racing. NSW IRB competition Clubs are reminded of this transition whereby all hulls in competition shall be as per the one hull policy applicable to the IRB competition season of 2024. Clubs using previous models of Class 1 soft hull and former Class 2 rigid hull IRB's, will be allowed to continue to use these hulls for surf sport purposes until 1 January 2024. Approved technical specifications are available online in the Members Area [https://members.sls.com.au/members/document\\_library](https://members.sls.com.au/members/document_library)

### **16. Training Logs:**

Due to the impact of COVID-19 to IRB competitors' ability to train, it has been agreed that for this season only, the 2020 Sharkskin NSW IRB Premiership Round and 2020 Sharkskin NSW IRB State Championships, the following training requirements will apply:

- All competitors must have logged ten (10) hours specific in-water IRB competition driving training under the supervision of a currently licensed IRB Surf Coach
- Training logs documenting these hours must be submitted for all competitors
- Declaration must be provided by the coach for all competitors confirming that they are competent to compete in a safe and controlled speed and manner.

More details on this process to follow.

### **17. Safety:**

The purpose of this section of the circular is to provide awareness of the various safety components related to IRB competition. To be clear, competitors & team management shall refer to the appropriate sections of the current Surf Sports Manual for full reference.

#### **17.1. Safety Essentials**

**WARNING:** IRB competition can be inherently dangerous. IRB competition participants acknowledge that they are exposed to certain risks during IRB competition including but not limited to leg, spinal and neck injuries, physical exertion, contact with the IRB, temperature, weather and water conditions and even drowning. IRB competition participants acknowledge that accidents can and often do happen which may result in IRB competition participants being injured or even killed. All members through their participation in IRB events agree with, acknowledge and understand this warning and accept and assume the inherent risks in IRB competition.

### **17.2. Safety Infringements**

(a) A strong emphasis will be placed on safe driving, crewing and patient safety practices. All competitors must complete each event in a safe and controlled speed and manner or will face immediate disqualification from the event, and/or issue of a safety infringement and consideration for further penalties.

(b) A safety infringement shall be issued to any competitor deemed to have committed an unsafe practice. This will result in immediate disqualification of the competitor and their entire team (i.e. crew and patient/s) from the event in which the infringement occurred. The name of the competitor and the details of the infringement shall be logged through the safety infringement register of the relevant State and National Office.

(c) If a competitor receives more than one safety infringement in any one competition they shall be disqualified from the entire competition.

(d) Should a history of safety infringements be identified by an SLSA office or official in a twelve-month period, the matter shall be referred to the relevant state or national officer/s for consideration of further penalties or disciplinary action.

### **17.3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Note: In all training and competition it is compulsory for competitors to wear high visibility (conspicuous colour) SLSA approved level 50 Australian Standard (AS4758) lifejackets or Type 2 (AS1499-1996) lifejackets. (Level 50S lifejackets unless listed on the SLSA Approved Gear and Equipment List are not approved.) It is not required for high visibility safety vests to be worn over the top of lifejackets. See also Section 2 of the Surf Sports Manual.

SLSNSW will not be issuing lifejackets (PFDs) – this is the responsibility of the individual/club.

### **17.4. High Visibility Garments**

Due to the PFD requirement, pink high visibility vests are not required if wearing a PFD as stated above.

Handlers are required to wear a competition cap and shall be required to wear a distinctive high visibility pink coloured vest if entering the water beyond knee depth. Alternatively, handlers may wear a high visibility (conspicuous colour) SLSA approved level 50 Australian Standard (AS4758) lifejacket or Type 2 (AS1499-1996) lifejackets. (Level 50S lifejackets unless listed on the SLSA Approved Gear and Equipment List are not approved.) It is not required for high visibility safety vests to be worn over the top of lifejackets.

SLSNSW will not be supplying High Visibility Garments – this is the responsibility of the individual/club.

To assist with judging coloured rash shirt sleeves or belts for each lane will be worn with the lifejacket. This will apply to the IRB Driver only. SLSNSW will be providing these garments.

### **17.5. Helmets**

The wearing of approved helmets is compulsory for patients in all events (other than the Rescue Tube Race). IRB patients are to wear helmets in both training and in competition. See also Section 2 of the Surf Sports Manual.

SLSNSW will not be issuing helmets – this is the responsibility of the individual/club.

### 17.6. Warm Up Areas

Competitors who enter the competition area and 'warm up' will be deemed to have committed an unsafe practice in terms of section 3.5 above. A designated 'warm up' area will be communicated closer to each event.

### 17.7. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and Drones

SLSNSW prohibits the use of drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) at IRB competition by members and/or public unless approved by SLSNSW, 7 days prior to the event. The operator must supply an operations manual (including risk management plan), provide public liability insurance and comply with all Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) requirements.

### 17.8. Injuries & Return to Surf Duties

Members who receive treatment from First Aid are to ensure their details are recorded in an incident report. If you Workers Compensation may be payable under the Workers Compensation Act. An iCare form must be completed within 48 hours of injury to make a claim.

More information can be found on the workers compensation page here:

<https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/resources/workers-compensation>

Members who seek further medical treatment/advice will be required to complete the Return to Surf Duties process.

## 18. Prizes:

SLSNSW is again providing fantastic prizes throughout the 2019 IRB Competition Season, giving clubs a terrific incentive and reward to all competing in the 2019 IRB season with Clubs in the running to win vouchers to the value of \$150. The overall club point score winners for the State Championships will receive 1x IRB Motor with the support of Lakeside Marine.

### 18.1. Premiership Prizes

Due to the impact of COVID-19, only 1 Premiership Round will be held this year. Therefore, there will not be an overall Premiership pointscore or premiership medals presented for this season. The following prizes will be awarded.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Random Draw
Premiership Round	\$150 Voucher	\$100 Voucher	\$50 Voucher	N/A

### 18.2. State IRB Championships Prizes

Championship Medals will be awarded at the State Championships for each event at the conclusion of competition. In addition, the overall Champion Club at the conclusion of the State Championships will receive a new IRB Motor

	1st	2nd	3rd	Random Draw
State IRB Championships	IRB Motor	\$150 Voucher	\$100 Voucher	\$50 Voucher

### 18.3. Sharkskin Prizes

Sharkskin and SLSNSW are proud to announce that for the 2020 Sharkskin NSW IRB Championships, the overall winners in each category/division will receive Sharkskin store credit. More details will be provided once the event list is confirmed.

## **19. SLSA Rules and Policies Index:**

Reference is made to the following circulars and bulletins issued by SLSA and SLSNSW. This is not an exhaustive list and SLSA circulars and updates are available on the Members Portal:

[https://members.sls.com.au/members/document\\_library](https://members.sls.com.au/members/document_library)

It will be up to the individual to review the SLSA Member's Portal for any updates that may affect IRB competition.

### **36<sup>th</sup> REVISED Edition Surf Sports Manual (SSM) – Updated December 2019**

#### **SLSA – Gear & Equipment Regulations – Updated June 2019**

- Fuel Safety and Compliance Record Check
- Hull Compliance Check Record
- IRB Competition – Gear and Equipment Guidelines
- IRB Competition Judging Guide
- Outboard Motor and Propeller Guard and Compliance Check Record
- Propeller Safety and Compliance Check Record

#### **SLSA Policy 5.04 - Eligibility to Compete in SLSA Competitions – Updated August 2017**

#### **SLSA - IRB Motor Sealing Requirements – Issued July 2017**