



# Circular 3872 - UPDATED

Updated 27 November 2024



## 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships proudly presented by Your local club Entry Circular

- Attention:** Club Presidents, Club Secretaries, Club Competition Officers, Team Managers, Coaches and Competitors.
- Actioned by:** Persons responsible for club entries.
- Date:** 19 November 2024
- Contact:** Belinda Cooper - Competitions & Event Staging Coordinator  
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<b>Summary:</b>	This <b>UPDATED</b> circular outlines the requirements and procedures to enter the 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships to be held from Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2025 and includes the <b>ADDITION</b> of the <b>Mixed Distance Relays</b> .
<b>Action:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complete and submit entries via SEMS by <b>11.00pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>.</li> <li>○ Online late entries close at <b>11.00pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025</b> (<i>late fees apply</i>).</li> <li>○ <b>NOTE: No late entries will be accepted after this date including at the Championships (excludes changes to team events)*</b></li> <li>○ SLSNSW will issue invoices to all Clubs after the Championships. Do not pay until the invoice is received.</li> <li>○ Complete the <a href="#">Team Manager Declaration Form</a> by <b>11.00pm Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>.</li> <li>○ Complete the <a href="#">Open Rash Vest Order Form</a> by <b>11.00pm Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025</b>.</li> </ul>

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships attracts competitors from Under 15 to Open age groups, providing an opportunity for surf lifesavers to unite over a three (3) day period, showcasing one of Australia's most iconic volunteer movements, Surf Life Saving.

This year's event will again be held on the stretch of beach between Queenscliff SLSC and North Steyne SLSC in the Sydney Northern Beaches Council area from Friday 14<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Freshwater SLSC will host the R&R and Lifesaving events.

This document outlines some key information relating to the 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships. Please note that SLSNSW may issue subsequent bulletins, memos or circulars which may supersede information provided in this Circular.

## 2. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Reference is made to:

- The current [37th Edition Surf Sports Manual \(Revised July 2024\)](#)
- The proficiency competition requirements for 2024/25 Season:
  - [Memo - SLSNSW 5.04 Patrol Hour Exemption Process](#)

## 3. GENERAL CONTENT

Entries are to be completed online using the [Sports Events Management System \(SEMS\)](#).

- Entries open **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024**.
- Entries close **11.00pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.
- Online late entries close **11.00pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025** (late fees apply).
- **No late entries will be accepted after this date including at the Championships (excludes change to team events\*).**
- SLSNSW will send invoices to all Clubs after the Championships. Do not pay until the invoice is received.
- Clubs are reminded to complete the [Team Manager Declaration Form](#) by **11.00pm Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025**. This Team Manager Declaration Form includes Clubs logging their team manager contact details. This is to ensure all event communications such as changes to timetables, re-locations etc. can be sent via SMS and Email. Details about the Team Managers meeting format will be available soon.
- Clubs are to complete the [OPEN Rash Vest Order Form](#) by **11pm Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.
- **Note: Clubs are reminded to check all entries prior to the close of late entries on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025 for any omissions and errors.**
  - ***Note: SLSNSW will only respond to calls or emails from Team Managers/Club Registrars regarding entries. SLSNSW will be reverting all calls and emails from individual members back to clubs.***

#### 4. 2025 NSW OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS COMPETITION COMMITTEE

The 2025 NSW Open Championship Competition Committee (CC) will direct all matters relating to the actual conduct of the competition. The CC may (subject to the rules in the Surf Sports Manual [37<sup>th</sup> Edition] and event rules, any subsequent amending bulletins, and this Circular) postpone, cancel and/or alter any or all Championship events, and alter the venue of the competition.

Competition Committee Chairperson	Darren Moore
SLSNSW Director of Surf Sports	Donald van Keimpema OAM
Carnival Referee	Peter Carney
Local Organising Committee Representative	Craig Susans
Safety & Emergency Management Coordinator (SEMC)	James Crittenden
SLSNSW Chief Operating Officer	Phil Ayres
SLSNSW Sport Manager	Jim Pinnington

#### 5. 2025 NSW OPEN SAFETY EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

The 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Safety Emergency Committee (SEC) will direct all matters relating to the safety of the competition.

A review of the following will be conducted at each SEC meeting:

- a) Risk Assessment of the current conditions of the beach, environmental risks and back of beach area.
- b) Injury management statistics.
- c) Current weather predictions.
- d) Competition statistics.

The SEC may consult and seek advice from appropriate officials, athletes and other personnel on local weather, surf conditions and safety issues when required. The SEC will then advise the CC.

The SEC is responsible for enacting the contingency plan for this event. The Safety Operations Manual developed for this event is to be applied by the Referee when considering and making recommendations, in consultation with relevant emergency services and lifesaving authorities.

Safety & Emergency Management Coordinator (Chair)	James Crittenden
Council Representative/Lifeguard	Steve Dowman
Deputy Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator	Darren Galea
Deputy Carnival Referees	Darren Warrener
Powercraft Coordinator	Adrian Hill
First Aid Coordinator	AESS
SLSNSW Competitions & Event Staging Coordinator	Belinda Cooper

## 6. VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

### 6.1 Officials

A quota system for clubs to provide Accredited Officials based upon the number of competitors entered (not the number actually competing) is in place for the 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships. Online late entries will be added to the total number of competitors entered to ensure that the club's obligation is satisfied.

**Note: the Sunday of the Open Championships does not count towards your official's quota.**

The Officials quota remains in place for 2025 and supersedes any prior versions of the Officials quota from previous years. Officials, as a minimum requirement, must have a current Core Official accreditation.

#### Open Championships Quota

Competitors Entered	Officials Required
1 to 4	—
5 to 10	1 Official
11 to 20	2 Officials
21 to 30	3 Officials
31 to 40	4 Officials
41 to 50	5 Officials
51 to 60	6 Officials
61 to 70	7 Officials
71 to 100	8 Officials
101 to 150	9 Officials
151+	10 Officials

Officials who wish to share a role with someone else **MUST** communicate this to SLSNSW. Two (2) officials sharing one (1) role fulfils one (1) official in the quota (the quota is based on attendance on the Friday and Saturday ONLY).

**Please be aware the quota system is based on the number of competitors entered into the event, not the number of competitors starting.** Clubs are reminded before entering their competitors into the entry system that they **MUST** meet the official's quota.

**If sufficient officials are not provided by clubs according to the provided quotas, SLSNSW will stand down all athletes from that club from competition until such time as the required officials are present.**

Officials undertaking duties to meet club quotas, who have not already been appointed to a position, will be requested to report to the Deputy Referee at Queenscliff SLSC by 7:00am each morning of competition. Procedure for this to be confirmed in the Final Event Information to be released prior to the start of the Championships.

It is essential that clubs work with their officials to ensure that they (the officials) understand the effect on the championships if they do not communicate with SLSNSW regarding non-attendance or changes to the Official's Appointments. Clubs should check that officials appointed are attending on the days that they are appointed for, as this could have a significant impact on whether athletes can compete or not.

## 6.2 Powercraft

To ensure the safety of all competitors competing in the 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships, a Powercraft roster will be implemented. Clubs will be identified based on the total entries from the 2025 Championships.

Powercraft Drivers/Operators and crewpersons **must** fulfil the following requirements.

- **IRB Driver:** Be a current financial SLS member and be a proficient Silver Medallion IRB Driver.
- **IRB Crewperson:** Be a current financial SLS member, be a proficient IRB Crew Certificate.
- **RWC Operator:** Be a current financial SLS member and hold a proficient RWC Operator Certificate.
- **Both IRB and RWC:** Be experienced in ALL levels of surf conditions and competent to deal in all surf conditions.

As the Powercraft requirements will be based on figures calculated after entries close for the 2025 event, **the Powercraft Roster will not be prepared until after normal entries close on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

Clubs will be required to nominate volunteer names and contact information for IRB Drivers and Crew personnel via the Powercraft Form which will be available the week commencing **10<sup>th</sup> February 2025**. All IRB Drivers and Crew personnel must also bring with them their current SLSNSW Powercraft licence, personal compliant PFD, helmet, and appropriate clothing.

**Clubs that fail to meet their rostered requirements: SLSNSW will stand down all athletes from that club from competition until such time as the required powercraft personnel are present AND undertaking their required shift.**

Some Clubs may also be required to bring IRB equipment to the Championships. All IRBs supplied must be registered with SLSNSW, have passed the 2024/25 Gear and Equipment Inspection process, and be entered in SurfGuard.

## 6.3 RWC

This year SLSNSW are trialling a revised model for powercraft. All RWC shifts will be provided by SLSNSW's Australian Event Safety Services (AESS). This means there is no requirement on clubs to supply any volunteers for these roles.

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The AESS invited all members who are qualified and have experience operating an RWC at Surf Sports Carnivals and are interested in undertaking shifts at the State Championships to complete the

[Expression of Interest](#). AESS will then reach out to suitably qualified and experienced members to seek availability and onboard you as an AESS staff member.

#### 6.4 First Aid

All first aid will be provided by SLSNSW's Australian Event Safety Services (AESS). This means there is no requirement on clubs to supply any volunteers for these roles.

#### 6.5 Commitment to Child Safety

##### Child Safe Awareness Course

All coaches and officials are required to complete the SLS Child Safe Awareness course as part of their accreditation and re-accreditation.

The course can be accessed via the member area eLearning platform and will automatically be recorded in SurfGuard upon completion.

##### Working with Children Checks

Coaches, officials and boat sweeps must have a [Working with Children Check \(WWCC\)](#) if they volunteer (or are likely to volunteer) with members under the age of 18 for more than 5 days in a calendar year.

Working with Children Check numbers must be provided to clubs who will verify through the Office of the

Children's Guardian and update SurfGuard with current WWCC information.

Clubs and Team Managers are reminded to use the [SLSNSW Child Safe Activity Guide](#) to help plan their touring team requirements when members under the age of 18 are involved.

### 7. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

For clubs to be eligible for Championship Competition, clubs must have their Life Saving Agreement (LSA) in place for competitors to represent that club.

All entrants must meet SLSNSW award, patrol, and proficiency requirements as per the 2024/25 proficiency competition requirements and any other subsequent bulletins issued.

Reference is made to the following documents which apply to this event:

- SLSA Policy 1.02 – Use of SLSA Equipment
  - [Memo - SLSNSW 5.04 Patrol Hour Exemption Process](#)

Late Proficiency and Exemption Requests are required to be endorsed by both Club and Branch (on letter head) before being received by SLSNSW. This process is detailed in the [SLSNSW 5.04 Patrol Exemption Process](#) and must be followed. All exemption requests **MUST** be received no later than **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025**. **No requests will be accepted after this date.**



## 8. ENTRY FEES

The entry fee per competitor at the 2025 NSW State Open Championships is **\$79.37**(incl. GST).

The entry fee per March Past team is **\$310.50** (incl. GST).

**This year SLSNSW will issue invoices to all Clubs after the Championships. Clubs must not pay their entry fees prior to the Championships. Payment terms are as stated on the invoice.**

**Entry fees are not refundable if members do not take part in these Championships, or if events or the entire Championships are cancelled.**

### Late Entries:

All online late entries received after the initial closing date will incur a late fee of **\$111.50** (incl. GST).

No individual late entries will be taken at the Administration Centre at North Steyne SLSC. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of SLSNSW e.g., a competitor must be a team member replacing another team member in a team already entered. It is suggested that Clubs still enter members if there is a chance that they will be competing and then withdraw their entry prior to the close of late entry.

### Additional Events:

When additional events are entered for competitors (individual and / or team) after normal entries have closed, a fee of **\$21.07** (incl. GST) per event / per competitor will be charged. Note: **The competitor must be already entered into the Carnival.**

Additional individual event entries must be received at the Event Administration Centre at North Steyne SLSC by no later than 8am on the day of competition.

### Team Substitutions:

No late fees will be charged for team event substitutions if the substitute is already entered into the carnival.

## 9. ENTRIES – SEMS

Club entries to the 2025 NSW Open Championships must be submitted online **DIRECTLY** into [SEMS](#).

Online entries will close **11.00pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

Online late entries will close **11.00pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025**.

Please refer to the [SEMS User Guide](#) and [SEMS Club Entry Webinar](#), before and during the entry process.

**Note: NO reserves are to be entered into SEMS for team events.**

## 10. SCHEDULED EVENTS

The following events shall be conducted in their respective age group areas in accordance with the requirements of the current edition of the [SLSA Surf Sports Manual \(37<sup>th</sup> Edition\)](#) and amending Bulletins and Circulars.

### 10.1 Lifesaving Events

Lifesaving events will be held at Freshwater SLSC and will be held on the following days:

- U15 & U17 Champion Lifesaver will be held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025.
- U19 & Open Champion Lifesaver will be conducted on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025.
- U17 & Open Champion Patrol will be conducted on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025.
- U17 & U19 First Aid Competition will be conducted on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025.
- U15 & Open First Aid will be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

For more information, please see the Lifesaving Championships Entry Circular.

- **Surf Belt events will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025. (1.30pm Marshall)**
- **Rescue Tube Rescue Events will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025. (1.30pm Marshall)**

## 10.2 Surf Boat Events

Masters Surf Boat Events will be conducted on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

Open Surf Boat Events will be conducted on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

For more information, please see the Surf Boats Championships Entry Circular.

## 10.3 Lifesaver Relay

It is intended that the components of the lifesaver relay are to be run separately at their own Championships i.e., water legs to be run during Open Championship and boat leg to be run at Surf Boats, as in 2024. The Lifesaver Relay entry conditions are described in the 37<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Surf Sports Manual and age and gender requirements will be strictly adhered to.

## 10.4 R & R Events

R & R for the 2025 NSW Open Championships will be held at Freshwater SLSC on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025. R&R events scheduled for this day are:

U17 2 Person R & R	U17 5 Person R & R
U19 2 Person R & R	U19 5 Person R & R
U23 5 Person R & R	Open Male 5 Person R & R
Open Female 5 Person R & R	Open Mixed 5 Person R & R
Open 2 Person R & R	Open 6 Person R & R

## 10.5 March Past

The March Past will be held at Queenscliff SLSC at 5.00pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

Open March Past	Under 23 March Past
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## 10.6 Scheduled Open Events

Surf Belt Events	
*** Please note Surf Belt Races will be held from 2pm on Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025 ***	
Open Male Belt Race	Open Female Belt Race
Under 19 Male Surf Belt Race	Under 19 Female Surf Belt Race
Under 17 Male Surf Belt Race	Under 17 Female Surf Belt Race

Swimming Events	
Open Male Surf Race	Open Female Surf Race
Under 19 Male Surf Race	Under 19 Female Surf Race
Under 17 Male Surf Race	Under 17 Female Surf Race
Under 15 Male Surf Race	Under 15 Female Surf Race
Open Male Surf Teams	Open Female Surf Teams
Under 19 Male Surf Teams	Under 19 Female Surf Teams
Under 17 Male Surf Teams	Under 17 Female Surf Teams
Under 15 Male Surf Teams	Under 15 Female Surf Teams

Multi-Discipline Events	
<b>*** Please note Rescue Tube Rescue will be held from 2pm on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 ***</b>	
Open Ironman	Open Ironwoman
Under 19 Ironman	Under 19 Ironwoman
Under 17 Ironman	Under 17 Ironwoman
Under 15 Ironman	Under 15 Ironwoman
Open Male Board Rescue	Open Female Board Rescue
Under 19 Male Board Rescue	Under 19 Female Board Rescue
Under 17 Male Board Rescue	Under 17 Female Board Rescue
Under 15 Male Board Rescue	Under 15 Female Board Rescue
Open Male Rescue Tube Rescue (4 person)	Open Female Rescue Tube Rescue (4 person)
Under 19 Male Rescue Tube Rescue (4 person)	Under 19 Female Rescue Tube Rescue (4 person)
Open Male Taplin Relay (6 person)	Open Female Taplin Relay (3 person)
Open Mixed Taplin Relay (6 person)	
Under 19 Male Taplin (3 person)	Under 19 Female Taplin (3 person)
Under 17 Male Taplin (3 person)	Under 17 Female Taplin (3 person)
Under 15 Male Cameron Relay (4 person)	Under 15 Female Cameron Relay (4 person)

Ski Events	
Open Male Single Ski	Open Female Single Ski
Under 19 Male Single Ski	Under 19 Female Single Ski
Under 17 Male Single Ski	Under 17 Female Single Ski
Open Male Single Ski Relay	Open Female Single Ski Relay
Under 19 Male Single Ski Relay	Under 19 Female Single Ski Relay
Under 17 Male Single Ski Relay	Under 17 Female Single Ski Relay
Open Male Double Ski	Open Female Double Ski
Open Mixed Double Ski	U19 Mixed Double Ski
Under 19 Male Double Ski	Under 19 Female Double Ski

Board Events	
Open Male Board	Open Female Board
Under 19 Male Board	Under 19 Female Board
Under 17 Male Board	Under 17 Female Board
Under 15 Male Board	Under 15 Female Board
Open Male Board Relay	Open Female Board Relay
Under 19 Male Board Relay	Under 19 Female Board Relay
Under 17 Male Board Relay	Under 17 Female Board Relay
Under 15 Male Board Relay	Under 15 Female Board Relay

Beach Events	
Open Male Beach Sprint	Open Female Beach Sprint
Under 19 Male Beach Sprint	Under 19 Female Beach Sprint
Under 17 Male Beach Sprint	Under 17 Female Beach Sprint
Under 15 Male Beach Sprint	Under 15 Female Beach Sprint
Open Male Beach Relay	Open Female Beach Relay
Open Mixed Beach Relay	
Under 19 Male Beach Relay	Under 19 Female Beach Relay
Under 19 Mixed Beach Relay	
Under 17 Male Beach Relay	Under 17 Female Beach Relay
Under 17 Mixed Beach Relay	
Under 15 Male Beach Relay	Under 15 Female Beach Relay
Under 15 Mixed Beach Relay	
Open Male Beach Flags	Open Female Beach Flags
Under 19 Male Beach Flags	Under 19 Female Beach Flags
Under 17 Male Beach Flags	Under 17 Female Beach Flags
Under 15 Male Beach Flags	Under 15 Female Beach Flags
Open Male 2km Beach Run	Open Female 2km Beach Run
Under 19 Male 2km Beach Run	Under 19 Female 2km Beach Run
Under 17 Male 2km Beach Run	Under 17 Female 2km Beach Run
Under 15 Male 2km Beach Run	Under 15 Female 2km Beach Run
Open 2x 1km Male Beach Run Relay	Open 2x 1km Female Beach Run Relay
U19 2x 1km Male Beach Run Relay	U19 2x 1km Female Beach Run Relay
U17 2x 1km Male Beach Run Relay	U17 2x 1km Female Beach Run Relay
U15 2x 1km Male Beach Run Relay	U15 2x 1km Female Beach Run Relay
Open Mixed 2 x 1km Beach Run Relay	U19 Mixed 2 x 1km Mixed Beach Run Relay
U17 Mixed 2 x 1km Beach Run Relay	U15 Mixed 2 x 1km Beach Run Relay

## 10.7 Restriction Of Events

- For the Open Championships, Clubs may enter a maximum of five (5) teams per team event, with the exception of the **Mixed Beach Run (Distance) Relay**, which is capped at two (2) teams per club.
- The Lifesaver Relay is restricted to two (2) teams per metropolitan branch, and one (1) team per country branch. Qualification is via nominated Branch events. As per [Section 8.4.1](#) of the Surf Sports Manual 37<sup>th</sup> Edition (July 24), Excluding the Surf Boat sweep within each team there must be four (4) female and four (4) male competitors. Also included in the team from this gender mix must be at least one (1) U17 competitor and one (1) U19 competitor (as determined by their age for participation in individual events). Entry to this event will not be available on the online entry system. **Note: this is not included in SEMS. Entry information will be sent to branches directly.**
- Teams entered in 'mixed' events must contain two (2) male and two (2) female competitors.
- Open Mixed Taplin (6 person) must contain three (3) male and three (3) female competitors. Each leg must be completed one (1) male and one (1) female competitor.

## 10.8 Clashing of Events

While every effort will be made to avoid clashes in the timetable, athletes will have to decide to contest one or the other.

## 10.9 Special Circumstances

Any competitor wishing to obtain special circumstances approval **MUST** supply documentation regarding their disability by close of entry nominations. Documentation will not be accepted during the carnival. For more information, please see Section 2.4(c) and Section 2.2.1(e) of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual 37<sup>th</sup> Edition.

Please supply Surf Sports SLSNSW with the required information and documentation at [statechampionships@surflifesaving.com.au](mailto:statechampionships@surflifesaving.com.au)

## 10.10 Handlers

Handlers must be current financial members of a SLSNSW club. Those who handle for a competitor who are not financial members of a SLSNSW club will not be covered under the SLSNSW Insurance Policy. Handlers are required to wear a high visibility vest (or at the discretion of the referee; may wear a high visibility bib/jacket type garment).

## 11. LIVEHEATS

SLSNSW will be using LiveHeats for on-beach carnival management. All competitors are required to have a Live Heats Race Tag with them which will be used throughout the event. All competitors will be signed into the event using LiveHeats, and all event racing will be marshalled and recorded using LiveHeats.

Team Managers will be responsible for team changes via LiveHeats throughout the competition.

Athletes must bring their allocated LiveHeats wristband. Replacement wristbands can be purchased from the Event Administration Centre at North Steyne SLSC for \$5.00 per band.

## 12. GENERAL INFORMATION

### 12.1 Championship Point Score

A point score will be kept for the highest overall club point score for each respective Championships.

### 12.2 Results

In the case of a dead heat for positions 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> each competitor will receive a respective medal and the following medal allocations will apply:

- Dead heat for 1<sup>st</sup> place: Two (2) gold and one (1) bronze will be awarded (no silver will be awarded).
- One competitor in 1<sup>st</sup> place, dead heat for 2<sup>nd</sup> place: One (1) gold and two (2) silver will be awarded (no bronze will be awarded).
- One competitor in 1<sup>st</sup> place, one competitor in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, dead heat for 3<sup>rd</sup> place: One (1) gold, one (1) silver and two (2) bronze will be awarded.
- Dead heat for 1<sup>st</sup> place and dead heat for 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Two (2) gold and two (2) bronze will be awarded (no silver will be awarded) .

## 13. SCRUTINEERING

Whilst it is encouraged that Members and clubs have their craft and equipment inspected regularly by an accredited scrutineer/s, all surf craft carrying manufacturers compliance decals and/or a SLSA endorsed sticker should guarantee the craft meets SLSA standards and therefore, does not require a Scrutineering Sticker.

Random scrutineering of craft and equipment will take place throughout the duration of the carnival. No craft or equipment is exempt from random scrutineering as deemed appropriate by scrutineers. Finalists may be required to have their craft scrutineered prior to racing in event finals. Scrutineering will be available for all members at no cost however members should expect to experience significant delays.

## 14. SPONSOR RASH VESTS

All competitors entered into the 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships will be issued an official high visibility pink competition lycra vest. It is a requirement for all competitors to wear the supplied Lycra vest in competition at the 2025 NSW Surf Life Saving Open Championships.

Clubs must ensure that competitors wear the approved lycra vest in competition, no other branded vests may be worn. Competitors may be requested to wear the approved lycra vest as part of medal presentations.

The Open [Rash Vest order form](#) must be completed by **11.00pm Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

Rash Vests orders are to be collected from the Administration Centre within North Steyne SLSC by Team Managers only during the collection times below:

Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	2.00pm – 4.30pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	6.15am – 7.30am

## 15. MEDIA AND PHOTOGRAPHY

### 15.1 Drones

For the safety of competitors, officials, and spectators, SLSNSW prohibits the use of drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) at these Championships by members and/or public. SLSNSW and its telecast production contractors will be operating UAVs for both surveillance and capturing of event footage.

### 15.2 Photography

As a condition of entry, all competitors agree to have photos and video taken during the Championships, which may be used for promotional material by SLSNSW.

SLSNSW will not be issuing media/photography accreditation to team members or Clubs.

Professional photographers will be in attendance and material will be available via social media and to Clubs on request. Clubs are welcome to take photographs from outside the competition area.

Go Pros may only be used within the competition area on approved fittings and fixtures as set out in relevant SLSA bulletins.

### 15.3 Media Statements

No competitor, team manager, official or spokesperson for a club shall make media statements which could bring the State Championships, its sponsors, or officials into controversy or disrepute. Such statements will be a breach of policy and could potentially result in sanctions against members involved. Please note that statements to the media regarding the State Championships will be made by authorised spokespeople.

## 16. HEALTH & WELLBEING

The welfare of all competitors is of paramount importance and athletes or their parent/guardian in the case of underage competitors should seek advice prior to the competition from a qualified professional for any health concerns, if required.

Any competitor or official who suffers illness or injury prior to or at the 2025 State Championships **MUST** seek medical clearance before resuming their normal activities which includes training and competition.

In addition, SLSNSW may, at its sole discretion, require a competitor and/or official to be assessed for physical and/or psychological fitness to participate in the competition. This ensures the safety and wellbeing of the athlete concerned and fellow competitors while also ensuring all parties and Surf Life Saving NSW are not placed at risk.

## 17. ANTI-DOPING & MATCH FIXING

It is strongly recommended that all Team Managers complete both the [Sport Integrity Australia](#) Level 1 Anti-Doping and Match Fixing e-learning courses. Both courses are free of charge and provide an opportunity to develop a knowledge and understanding of anti-doping and match fixing in sport. Moving forward, SLSNSW strongly believe this is a great addition to the structure of any touring team and/or squad and is vital for elite competition and athlete development.

SLNSW fully supports the new SLSA Anti-Doping and Match Fixing policies (SLSA Members Area > Library > Governance > SLSA > Policy 5.1 1 & 5.02). Following the completion of each course, a completion certificate/email must be forwarded to Surf Sports [surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au](mailto:surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au). SLNSW have organised with SLSA to have these courses uploaded on to SurfGuard as an award. Once completed, the courses do not have to be completed again, unless there is an update in information from the organisations. If anyone has previously completed either course, proof must be sent through to Surf Sports in order to be recognised.

*For further information regarding the courses please contact Surf Sports, on (02) 9471 8000 or [surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au](mailto:surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au)*

## **18. BEHAVIOUR/MISCONDUCT**

Any misconduct while at the Championships will not be tolerated. This includes the days leading into competition and any official social activities following the conclusion of the Championship. Offending members risk disciplinary action against both themselves, and their Clubs.

Parents or supporters, particularly those appointed as Officials, are not allowed to assist competitors during the competition. Any breach of this policy may result in the disqualification of an athlete from the remainder of the competition and is at the discretion of the Referee.

Parents or supporters must also understand that they are role models for young athletes. Clubs should make sure that parents and supporters understand that abuse of officials, other competitors or clubs will not be tolerated. Team Managers and Club Presidents should ensure that their parents and supporters understand their role at this competition and that expected standards of behaviour are clearly explained.

Please refer to 37<sup>th</sup> Edition Surf Sports Manual sections 2.27 SLSA Code of Behaviour and 2.28 Abuse/Inappropriate Behaviour and the Policy 6.05 – Member Protection Policy (available online at Members Area > Library > Governance > Policy > SLSA > Policy 6.05).

## **19. PROTESTS**

All protests shall be lodged with the appropriate Liaison Officer in each Area in accordance with the procedures set down in the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent bulletins and shall identify the specific sections/clauses in the Competition Manual and or event rules upon which the protest is based.

Protest Forms are available from the Liaison Officer. An “Appeals Fee” of \$110.00 must accompany all documentation when the process is officially submitted to the Appeals Committee for adjudication.

## **20. STACK TEAM APP**

Important Information and updates will be communicated by Stack Team App.

Stack Team App will be used in the lead up to and throughout the Competition 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 event download Stack Team App when entries are submitted. If you cannot download the App onto a phone or tablet, you may also access Stack Team App in a web browser on any computer.

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

1. Download the “Stack Team App” application from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Log in / Sign up to receive live event notifications.
3. Once logged in search “**2025 NSW State Championships**”.
4. Click the “Become a member of this Stack Team App” icon at the top of the screen then select the appropriate group you wish to receive notifications from.

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 NOTE: It is an individual’s/Club’s obligation (SSM 2.17) to ensure they listen for announcements and marshalling. Not receiving a Stack Team App update is not an excuse for missing events.

## **21. NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL**

Northern Beaches Council is thrilled to welcome the return of NSW Surf Life Saving State Championships to Queenscliff in 2025.

The Northern Beaches offers an array of ocean beaches, coastal rock pools, a 36km coastal walkway, five (5) aquatic reserves brimming with sea life, national surfing reserves at Manly-Freshwater and Narrabeen, and so much more.

With an unlimited list of things to see, do, eat, drink, and buy, you’re going to want to stay for a few days! Choose from 5-star hotels, holiday apartments, B&Bs or camping.

While you are here, enjoy delicious food and drinks and outdoor adventures. If you need a steer in the right direction, head to our online visitor information centre, Hello Manly at [hellomanly.com.au](http://hellomanly.com.au)

## 22. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRY AND PAYMENT PROCESS

