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## JUNIOR PARENT HANDBOOK

# SEASON 2018/2019



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Welcome to the Somerton Surf Life Saving Club. Please read the following information regarding our nipper training, procedures and policies.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the people listed below.

We look forward to sharing a fun and successful season with you and your children.

**Junior Committee Members**

Chris Fear (Junior Activities Coordinator) [juniorcoordinator@somertonsurfclub.com.au](mailto:juniorcoordinator@somertonsurfclub.com.au)

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Please visit the club web site [somertonsurfclub.com.au](http://somertonsurfclub.com.au) for latest details about the Board of Management and Committee members.

## **1. Our Aims**

At Somerton Surf Life Saving Club we focus on having fun, teaching, enhancing skills and emphasising community awareness. We aim to ensure that Somerton beach is a safe place to swim; to prevent the loss of life and to develop and educate our youth.

The vision for our Nippers Program is to provide a safe, friendly and welcoming environment where both nippers and parents can learn about surf life saving and to prepare our nippers to eventually be patrolling members of our club.

The aims of the Nippers Program are to:

- Develop surf awareness;
- Increase confidence and skills in beach related activities;
- Offer training to those wanting to pursue competition or awards;
- Instil and re-enforce sun smart philosophies;
- Encourage enjoyable and healthy participation;
- Progress members towards surf awards for relevant age groups;
- Promote a positive non-threatening environment; and
- Meet new friends.

## **2. About the Nippers Program**

The Nippers Program provides a fun way for children to enjoy the beach in a safe environment. It is also educational as the children participate in the Surf Life Saving Australia Junior Development Program, a sequential program of skills and surf understanding.

Surf life saving is an amazing activity for developing a child's confidence, knowledge and skills in the beach environment.

To join the Nippers Program your child needs to be 5 years of age as at 30 September in the commencing year. The Nippers Program accommodates age groups from under 6 (U6) to under 13. A youth program runs for under 14 and above.

Each year our nippers are required to complete several competencies as part of their surf life saving experience. These requirements vary depending on the age group.

Age groups are determined by age on the 30<sup>th</sup> September each year (i.e. if your child is 9 on 30<sup>th</sup> September, he/she will be in the under 10 age group).

Your child's pathway through the nippers program is summarised in the following table:

Age Group	Preliminary Skills Assessment	Competition Proficiency	Surf Education
<b>Under 6</b>	From a standing position in waist deep water perform a front glide and recover to a secure position.	Perform a back or front float holding a buoyant aid and recover to a secure position.	Surf Play 1
<b>Under 7</b>	From a standing position in waist deep water perform a front glide, kick for 3m and recover to a secure position.	Perform a back or front float for a few seconds and recover to a secure position.	Surf Play 2
<b>Extended skill for U6 and/or U7</b>	From a standing position in waist deep water submerge, open eyes under water and blow bubbles and recover to a secure position (can be with assistance).		
<b>Under 8</b>	25 metre swim, (any stroke). 1 minute survivals float.	150m ocean swim within 12 minutes	Surf Aware 1
<b>Under 9</b>	25 metre swim, (any stroke). 1 minute survival float.	150m ocean swim within 12 minutes	Surf Aware 2
<b>Under 10</b>	25 metre swim, (freestyle). One and a half minutes survival float.	150m ocean swim within 11 minutes	Surf Safe 1
<b>Under 11</b>	50 metre swim, (freestyle). 2 minutes survival float.	288m ocean swim within 12 minutes	Surf Safe 2
<b>Under 12</b>	100 metre swim, (freestyle). 2 minutes survival float.	288m ocean swim within 10 minutes	Surf Smart 1
<b>Under 13</b>	150 metre swim, (freestyle). 3 minutes survival float.	288m ocean swim within 8 minutes	Surf Smart 2

**Preliminary assessments** start at the first Saturday training , subject to weather conditions. If your child misses this assessment they will be assessed at a subsequent training.

**Competition Proficiency** will also commence at the first Saturday training, subject to weather conditions. If your child misses this assessment they will be assessed at a subsequent training. This is only compulsory for those doing water activities at Junior State Carnivals.

### **2.1. Number of Participants in the Nippers Program**

The number of nippers participating in any given age group shall be at the absolute discretion of the Junior Activities Coordinator, the Junior Committee and the Board of Management. Membership and participation may be restricted so that each age group can maintain a healthy, manageable and safe level of participation.

## **2.2. Compulsory Skills Assessments**

Many activities are conducted in the water. To ensure that all nippers have a suitable swimming ability to allow them to participate in these activities, Surf Life Saving Australia has developed a Junior Preliminary Skills Assessment for each age group.

Every nipper must participate in this evaluation, conducted by us, prior to participating in any water activity training. The evaluation consists of a swim and a float which is progressively increased by age group and must be achieved before the nipper may undertake any water related activities. We usually conduct this assessment at the beginning of each season.

If the nipper shows successful demonstration of the Preliminary Skills Assessment a second assessment known as the Ocean Timed Swim is conducted to assess the nipper for participation in water related events in competitions/carnivals. (<9 and above)

These are two different assessments and one cannot be used to qualify a child for the other requirement.

## **2.3. Special Requirements for U6 and U7 Age Groups.**

The emphasis in these age groups is to allow for nippers to have fun and experience a small taste of surf lifesaving. They will participate in a range of beach activities and shallow water activities and will also be introduced to life saving equipment such as foam boards, Inflatable Rescue Boats (IRB's) and rescue tubes.

Under 6 and under 7s may participate in shallow water activities only. Under 8s will commence ocean swims and boards.

Under 6 and 7s may not under any circumstances participate in Junior State carnivals or other formal competition outside the club.

All Nippers must wear their age group coloured cap at all times during activities.

Participation in the program is subject to the following non-negotiable conditions:

- Having completed an registration form for the child prior to participating; and
- The child being at least 5 years of age at the time of enrolment; and
- A parent/guardian remaining on the beach and assisting the Age Group Managers (AGMs) when requested and as required (except where a parent(s) is involved as an AGM with another group, is on General Life Saving Patrol or is performing another Active Member role); and
- At least one parent **MUST** be a current registered member of the club (as defined in the Club's Constitution).

### **3. Saturday's Training and Development Program**

#### **3.1. Times**

##### U6 & U7

1.30pm to 3:30pm

##### U8 – U14

1:30 pm to 4:00pm

At the beginning of each Saturday there will be a short information session starting at 1.30pm. All parents and nippers will then move to an area with their AGMs to be signed in and receive further information. It is important that all parents attend to these information sessions each Saturday.

*All parents/carers must sign their child(ren) in with their Age Group Managers. No child will be allowed to participate in any activity unless they have been signed in by their accompanying parent/carer prior to the commencement of the program. Parents/carers will sign their child(ren) out at the end of nippers with the appropriate Age Group Managers. This will enable us to account for all nippers on the beach.*

The club is not a child minding service and parents or an appointed carer are expected to be present on the beach for the duration of training. Please advise the Junior Activities Coordinator or your child's AGM of your designated guardian/carer if you are unable to be present.

As there is no water cover (see 10.1 Water Safety) provided before 1.30pm, no children will be allowed to take boards into the water. Children who go into the water prior to 1.30pm and after they are signed out are under the supervision of their parent/guardian.

TIME	ACTIVITY	Comments
12.30pm	Beach Set Up	
1.15pm	Age Group Manager Briefing	AGMs to meet with Junior Co-ordinator for pre-training briefing
1.30pm	Short information session for all juniors and parents.  Under 6-14 beach and water activities start.	On the beach
3.30 pm	Under 6 and under 7s activities conclude and sign out.  Stay for our BBQ and a drink	
4.00pm	Under 8-13 activities conclude and sign out.  Beach Pack Up, All Equipment Cleaned and Packed Up  Stay for our BBQ and a drink	
4.00pm	Club Swim (approximately 400 metres) - Seniors and competent juniors	Assemble on the beach north of the Gladstone Rd carpark



### **3.2. Uniform and Clothing**

Your child will need the following items each week:

- Bathers
- Fluorescent Visibility Vest (Under 8-13)
- Long sleeve collared shirt
- Wide brim or bucket style hat or legionnaire style cap
- Sun block (at least SPF 30+)
- Goggles (optional but recommended)
- Towel
- Water Bottle (filled with water only)
- Age Group Cap
- Clothes for after training (suggested only but recommended for cold weather days)

Club white long sleeved shirts, high visibility vests, bathers, wide brim hats and caps (age group and competition) are available for purchase at the Club. Please label all belongings (including water bottles & goggles) clearly.

### **3.3. Age Group (coloured) Cap and Competition Cap**

All nippers **must** wear a coloured cap that identifies them with a particular Age Group category. This assists AGMs in identifying those nippers in their age group and assists you in locating an Age Group on the beach. If your child competes at carnivals, you will need to purchase a Somerton Competition Cap. These caps can be purchased at the Club.

### **3.4. High Visibility Vests**

All children who enter the water from Under 8s upwards are required to wear a fluorescent high visibility top. This is essential for the child's safety as well as to help water cover identify swimmers. A child without a vest will not be allowed to enter the water.

### **3.5. Sunscreen**

It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that their child is adequately covered with protective sunscreen at all times during the program.

### **3.6. Board Usage**

During Saturday afternoon training only foam boards will be used. Some fibreglass boards may be used at the discretion of the Boards Coach. Fibreglass boards maybe used during weekday training at the discretion of the Boards Coach.

### **3.7. Registration and Records**

All new members must complete a Registration Form. Details of approved applicants are entered on SurfGuard.

Parents of children with **pre-existing medical and/or behavioural issues must inform their AGM** a.s.a.p. to ensure that AGMs are fully aware of the issues and how to deal with them. Parents must remain with their child's group at all times in case of any emergencies that may arise. (Please remember to bring asthma inhalers, Epi-pens, etc to the beach if required.)

### **3.8. Hot Weather Policy**

Saturday Training: If the forecast temperature is 38c or higher, junior activities will usually be held as a modified program that is based on water activities. We have found that training is possible in high heat if a sensible approach is adopted, shade and additional water is provided and the training is water based. However, attendance is discretionary and parents should decide whether their child attends. Parents should monitor the club's communication channels (SMS, email, and Facebook) for information updates. In some circumstances training may be cancelled at the discretion of the Junior Activities Coordinator.

Carnivals: For high temperatures, a modified carnival may be run (8am start with no beach events). The decision to modify or cancel is up to the discretion of the carnival referee on the day.

### **3.9. Inclement Weather Policy**

Inclement weather shall be deemed as low temperatures, high winds, and high seas. The junior activities training program will be modified depending on the conditions (in adopting our duty of care), or may be cancelled. The decision to cancel junior activities will be the responsibility of the Junior Activities Co-ordinator and/or the on duty Patrol Captain. Where possible notification will be sent via the club's communication channels (SMS, email and Facebook).

### **3.10. Toilets, Change Rooms and Showers**

Toilets, change rooms and showers are available for all club members. The facilities are not for the use of the general public, however these areas are not supervised. Please follow the corridor that is behind the gymnasium to find the toilets and change rooms or ask another member if you need help to find them.



THE USE OF CAMERAS, VIDEOS  
AND CAMERA PHONES  
**ARE NOT PERMITTED**  
IN THE CHANGE ROOMS.



### **3.11. Photographs of Training and Carnivals**

Please be mindful of the privacy and cultural values of other members when taking photographs.

Photographs of children competing at carnivals can only be taken by the pre-nominated volunteer club photographer. The club will post photographs of carnivals and some training sessions and events on our closed Facebook site.

If you have concerns regarding someone taking photographs of children at the beach please advise a club representative.

#### **4. ADDITIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

The club provides additional training opportunities for those that want to improve their skills and fitness. These will be scheduled based on the availability of volunteers to coach.

Fluorescent Visibility Vests must be worn when carrying out activities in the ocean.

The times for these additional training opportunities are subject to change due to weather and availability of coaches. Please monitor our Facebook page and SMS communications for training opportunities and times and or any alterations to the schedule.

#### **5. COMMUNICATION**

There are 4 main points of contact for information

##### **AGE GROUP MANAGERS AND SATURDAY BRIEFING**

- At 1.30 pm at the commencement of Saturday training there will be a brief information session.
- Age Group Managers (AGMs) are happy to answer any of your questions about the club and nippers.

##### **FACEBOOK**

- We post information on a designated Facebook Page. This is a closed page so you will be required to search for "Somerton SLSC" and then request to be added.

##### **E-MAIL**

- It is vital that you have provided the Club with a designated e-mail address for Nipper communication throughout the season. Our system only allows for **one** email address per child/family, so please use the parent's email address that is most likely to get checked.

##### **SMS**

- Please provide your mobile number for SMS updates (no charge to you), you are able to opt out of this service

#### **6. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

The schedule of current membership fees and the various options available is on our website. We encourage parent/family membership which is vital for our operational success.

- Junior Membership (for all age groups 5 to 13 as at 30 September 2018), including one parent/caregiver as an Associate/Senior member is \$315. This is reduced to \$290 if paid by 1 November 2018.
- Family Membership (includes all family members - up to two parents, children under 18 and those young adults studying fulltime is \$370. This is reduced to \$340 if paid by 1 November 2018.

A full schedule of membership options is available from the club website.

## **7. PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

As parents, you have an important role in the delivery and support of sporting activities for your children. We encourage you to share the experiences of the Nippers Program with your children, especially with the younger age groups.

We **welcome involvement** within other aspects of the Club. This may include gaining various qualifications to assist in providing water cover, coaching specific disciplines, officiating, assisting with general administration and participating in social and fundraising activities.

**We need help every week** with the following activities:

- Setting up the beach 30 minutes before training
- Assisting with “sign on” and “sign off” on Saturdays
- Washing surf boards at the end of training
- Assisting with packing up beach equipment at the end of training
- Assisting or becoming an AGM
- Assisting with fundraising activities
- Assisting with the BBQ on Saturdays
- Volunteering in the Buddy Bar – food sales
- Assisting with water safety (by first gaining a Surf Rescue Certificate or Bronze Medallion)
- Becoming an Official to assist at carnivals (short training courses are provided by Surf Life Saving SA)
- Sponsorship of Junior Equipment such as boards

## **8. PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

It is important that you **NEVER** leave your child **unattended** at nippers. If a child is left unattended we may exclude that child from future participation in the program.

A parent/guardian must remain on the beach and assist the Age Group Managers (AGMs) when requested and as required (except where a parent(s) is involved as an AGM with another group, is on General Life Saving Patrol or is performing another Active Member role)

As parents, you have a clear responsibility to act in a constructive and encouraging manner at all times. As part of this responsibility we have adopted the following codes of behaviour:

### Parents, Caregivers & Spectators' Code of Behaviour

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment and development.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts.
- Encourage children to play according to the rules and settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child.
- Appreciate good performances by all participants.
- Respect officials' decisions.
- Show appreciation for coaches, age managers, officials and administrators.
- Respect the rights and dignity of others.

### Junior Member Code of Behaviour

*Please take time to discuss this code of behaviour with your child:*

- Play by the rules.
- Do not argue with an official.
- Control your temper.
- Work hard for yourself and your team.
- Treat all participants as you would like to be treated.
- Cooperate with your coach, AGM, teammates and opponents.
- Participate for your own enjoyment.
- Respect the rights and dignity of all other participants.
- Respect the equipment you use.
- Respect the club house.
- Be a good sport and applaud all performances.

### Coaches/Officials' Code of Behaviour

- Remember that young people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at a young competitor for making a mistake or not coming first.
- Be reasonable in your demands on a competitor's time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of surf life saving and teach your competitors to do the same.
- Ensure that the time competitors spend with you is a positive experience. All young people are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Afford all competitors equal time.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet the safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all competitors.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with surf life saving. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Encourage competitors to do the same.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured competitors. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Any physical contact with a young person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the competitor's skill development.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Treat each competitor as an individual. Respect the talent, development stage and goals of each competitor, and help each competitor reach their full potential.
- Don't interfere with the progress and/or conduct of competition unless called to do so by another official.
- Abide by the officials' decisions.

By joining Somerton Surf Life Saving Club you acknowledge and accept these codes of behaviour.

## **9. SWIMMING POLICY**

Being able to swim competently is an integral part of making children safe at the beach as well as allowing them to actively participate and enjoy surf life saving activities.

**The Nippers Program is not a “learn to swim” program.** We strongly encourage you to enrol your children in “learn to swim” classes depending on their current ability.

We do recognise that swimming in the sea is a new experience for many children and that even competent pool swimmers can find this challenging at first. Our aim is to encourage children and to help develop their confidence and skills swimming in the sea as well as provide surf education.

## **10. SAFETY**

Safety is our first priority for all activities. Safety extends to safety on the beach, in the water and also gives consideration to the protection of all children.

### **10.1. Water Safety**

We endorse the guidelines laid down by Surf Life Saving Australia (which can be found on our website). An Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB or “duck”) is present during all water events but we need as many *qualified* parents as possible to assist in the water to accompany the children during water activities.

**Please note that parents are not to accompany swimmers unless they have achieved their Bronze Medallion**

The minimum ratio for water cover for nippers is one qualified adult to 5 children.

We cannot commence any race or activity unless there is the correct number of water safety officers. To be a water safety officer you need to hold a Bronze Medallion or Surf Rescue Certificate. This is a great way to become involved with your children and we appreciate any assistance. We regularly run courses so please contact us if you are interested.

All water safety officers must wear an orange cap during water activities and must sign the Water Cover Log Book on each occasion.

### **10.2. Sun Safety**

We aim to teach children about all aspects of surf/beach safety, including sun protection. We encourage all participants and spectators to follow these procedures:

- Seek shade wherever possible
- Wear a long sleeve top
- Wear a wide brimmed hat, bucket style hat or legionnaire style cap to protect face, ears and back of neck
- Use a maximum protection broad spectrum sunscreen (at least SPF 30+) even on overcast days and re-apply after water activities
- Slip, Slop, Slap and Wrap.

### **10.3. Medical Conditions**

Please advise your child's Age Group Manager if your child has a medical condition that you think is relevant or could affect your child's safety eg. Asthma, severe allergies etc.

### **10.4. Nipper Safe**

Nipper Safe is a Member Protection Strategy developed with collaboration between the South Australian Police and Surf Life Saving SA, with support from Department for Families and Communities, the Sexual Offender Treatment and Assessment Program and the Office for Recreation and Sport. It has a very simple objective:

*"to reinforce surf life saving nippers as a safe and positive environment for children to learn and develop."*

Any adult assisting with any activity must hold a current police clearance certificate.

We have members trained as Club Child Safe Officer/Complaints Handlers for the Nipper Safe program. They are trained to recognise behaviours, and have the resources and knowledge to assist others through any reporting process (be it victim or witness).

Further details of the program are on our website in Juniors section of the site (under Nipper Safe).

### **10.5. Dangerous Conditions**

Dangerous conditions will include:

- extreme low or extreme high weather temperatures; or
- high or strong winds; or
- rough or dangerous seas; or
- any other condition which causes concern for the safe participation of all members.

It should be assumed that Saturday training will proceed regardless of the inclement conditions but that such activities will be modified to take account of those conditions and to ensure the safe participation of all members.

In the rare event that it is deemed necessary to cancel training this will be at the sole discretion of the Junior Activities Coordinator and/or the on duty Patrol Captain. In such a case the Coordinator or Patrol Captain will advise parents and/or guardians of the cancellation as soon as practicable by SMS and email. Notification of any cancellation will also be posted on our website. If unsure it is advisable to check our web-site before leaving home.

## **11. AGE GROUP MANAGERS**

All age groups will be allocated AGMs who are parents or interested members, who have volunteered to manage the age group. They are responsible for the coordination of activities on Saturday afternoons along with overseeing event entries and activities at Sunday Carnivals.

### **Qualifications of AGMs:**

All AGMs must:

- Be current registered members of the club; and

- Have a current National Police Clearance certificate or DCSI Clearance; and
- Be a minimum 15 years of age; and
- Complete the Age Managers Course
- Complete the online Child Safe Course

We also encourage AGM's to gain their Bronze Medallion.

AGMs are allocated to age groups and their responsibilities may be interchangeable with other interested parents who are willing to participate and assist the AGMs with their responsibilities. We strongly encourage any person who is keen to assist to speak to the Junior Activities Coordinator or a member of the Junior Committee.

## **12. INSURANCE**

All members who sign the SLSSA membership form, pay the Club's designated fees and are proficient in their age/category requirements, are insured under Surf Life Saving South Australia's policy. This includes participation in Club training and competing at sanctioned SLSSA events. For further details, contact a member of the Somerton SLSC Board of Management (refer to website) or SLSSA on 8354 6900.

## **13. COMPETITION & CARNIVALS**

### **13.1. Informal competition**

Each Saturday we encourage all nippers to achieve, do their best, and develop to their full potential, whilst having fun. Challenging competition is just one element of this development process. We will hold a Club Championship day during the season.

### **13.2. Interclub Training**

The club will hold interclub training days with our neighbouring clubs. These are fun training events and allow our juniors to train with local children from other clubs.

### **13.3. Formal competition – Junior State Carnivals**

We also encourage formal competition for nippers in under 8-13 through Junior State carnivals. There are 3 regular season carnivals, Junior State Titles Qualifying Carnival followed by Junior State Championships.

To compete in water events, nippers must have achieved their "Ocean Timed Swim". This is to ensure capability of completing the competition course in a reasonable time. The U/13s compete at Senior Carnivals.

As part of our commitment towards developing our nippers, we engage specialist coaches to help train and develop those nippers who compete at Junior State Carnivals.

Our commitment to formal competition is to field our "A" Teams with nippers who exhibit high performance and commitment to the club. We select those nippers based on the individual performance as well as contribution to the team. Our AGMs and specialist coaches are responsible for selecting the teams. Please respect and support their decisions.

To ensure the safety of all nippers when competing in water events at a carnival, the AGM will only enter nippers who have achieved their competition skills evaluation for their relevant age group.



We will also consider the conditions, the course and the physical and emotional state of each nipper on the day of the Carnival. Only nippers, who are confident, competent and in a fit state to complete the course in a safe and timely manner, will be allowed to compete.

Junior State Carnivals are a great way for nippers to practice their skills in a friendly atmosphere. We encourage our nippers to improve their personal bests. Carnival attendance is not compulsory. **Under 6 and Under 7s do not compete at Junior State Carnivals.**

### **Parent Involvement at Junior State Carnivals**

It is expected that parents will be present on the beach for the duration of the carnival. Parents can assist AGMs on the day. Parents are reminded that they are to stay outside of the roped competition areas. This will enable the AGMs and officials to complete their tasks without interference. Parent code of conduct is important and if there are any issues then please raise them with the Somerton Carnival Team Manager not the AGMs.

### **Officials**

Due to our large numbers of competitors at carnivals, Somerton is required to provide 9 officials for each carnival. Parents of children who compete at carnivals are encouraged to become an official.

### **Junior State Carnival Days**

There is an entry fee payable prior to the carnival by each nipper who competes.

Generally nippers must report to their AGM in the Somerton tent by 7.00 am. Most events usually start at 8:00am with marshalling prior to this. Communications will be released before each carnival that confirm the specific arrangements for the day. Nippers must stay with their AGMs for the duration of the Carnival. We encourage you to assist at Carnivals by carrying towels, water bottles, goggles, boards and sun block. Any variations to this will be advised to you on the preceding Saturday afternoon training session.

It is a requirement for all competitors to wear a high visibility vest when competing in water events. These vests can be purchased from the club.

We expect that our nippers will attend a minimum of two full Junior State Carnivals prior to attending the Junior State Qualifying Carnival, immediately preceding the Junior State Championships. Children who do not attend a minimum of two full carnivals may not be included in team events. This will be at the discretion of the AGMs. Nippers who only wish to compete in individual events at the Qualification and State championships may not be entered as the club places a high emphasis on team events. Nippers who do not compete at State Qualifications may not be included in the State Championship events. (in both individual and teams.)

### **13.4. Junior State Championships**

These are held in early March, at the end of the season. There is an entry fee payable by each nipper who competes. The fee is usually announced by SLSSA in January each year and will be posted on our website.

## **14. SURF EDUCATION AWARDS**

Surf Life Saving Australia has developed a comprehensive training program for nippers. The content is tailored to each age group and with the exception of the Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC), the program is based on participatory evaluation and not assessed on competence.

In other words, nippers need only be actively involved in the training to be eligible for an award. We believe this is the best way to introduce children to surf life saving where fun takes priority over being 'tested'. There is a surf education award for each age group. Please look at our website for a summary of each award.

The SRC is the introductory award for patrolling members of the club. This is usually obtained as an U14 member and **does** require assessment which includes:

- Written or oral examination
- Performance of basic skills
- Simulation of rescue scenarios

## **15. CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS, PRESENTATION DAY AND AWARDS**

### **Club Championships, Saturday 10 November 2018, 15 December 2018, 2 February 2019**

Junior Club championships will be held on three days during the season. The results of the best two of these days for each nipper will be used to determine the age group winners (ie the total score of the worst day will be dropped from that nippers tally).

Medals will be awarded to overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place getters in each age group from U/8s to U/13s for both boys and girls.

### **The Junior Long Swim, 9 March 2019**

Trophies to be given to overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> swimmers as well as certificates for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> boys and girls in each age group from U/11 to U/13.

The winners of the Long Swim will be announced and awarded with trophies/certificates.

### **Last Day of Nipper Training and Presentations, Saturday 16 March 2019**

Presentation of Club Championship Medals and Surf Awareness Certificates to all Age Groups as well as season break up.

Presentation of Commitment Awards for under 8 to under 13 children who pass the following criteria;

- Miss no more than 3 Saturday Training Sessions at Somerton throughout the season,
- Attend at least 2 out of 3 Junior State Carnivals, and
- Compete in State Championships in both individual and team events.