



Somerton Surf Life Saving Club Inc.

Athletes, Parents/Guardian and Spectators

Code of Conduct - Sport

Code of Conduct:

All members of the Somerton Surf Life Saving Club (hereinafter referred to as 'the Club') must adhere to the SLSSA Code of Conduct for Members. [Link here.](#)

Adherence to Code of Conduct - Sport

Our club values respect, sportsmanship, and positive engagement among all members, including athletes, parents, spectators, coaches, and officials. Each individual contributes to creating a safe and supportive environment for everyone on the beach and in the surf.

Respect for All Participants

Respect for athletes, coaches, officials, and fellow spectators is non-negotiable. We expect all individuals to act with dignity and understanding, recognising that everyone is here to learn and grow. Negative comments, bullying, abusive behavior, undue pressure, or unsportsmanlike conduct are not acceptable in any club setting.

Consequences for Non-Adherence

Non-adherence to this Code of Conduct may result in immediate action, including but not limited to a request to leave the competition area. For repeated or severe breaches, the matter may be escalated for further review by our Member Protection Committee, which has the authority to conduct a formal investigation to uphold club standards and ensure the safety of all members.

ATHLETES CODE OF CONDUCT

- Agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.
- Be a good sport: show fairness, consideration, and honesty with others.
- Under no circumstances engage in the bullying, harassment, discrimination or vilification of other athletes'
- Be prepared to participate in all elements of the sport
- Operate within the rules of SLSA, including adhering to the Anti-Doping Policy Guidelines.
- Should take responsibility for their actions on and off the beach, upholding the standards detailed in this code
- Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured, particularly in aquatic environments.
- Be punctual and dress appropriately for both patrols and competitions.
- Act as a positive role model for peers.
- Remember that enjoyment is at the heart of being competitive.
- Strive for excellence in training and competitions.
- Work hard for your team as well as for personal goals.
- Treat teammates and opponents with respect; celebrate the achievements of others and promote team spirit, camaraderie, and the joy of participation.
- Respect and cooperate with team coaches, management, and officials.

PARENTS/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

Remember, there is no such thing as a "13-year-old champion". Our focus is on nurturing skills, growth, and a love for the sport. The journey and experience are more important than outcomes.

- Agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship to set an example for your son or daughter

- Communicate respectfully; refrain from ridiculing or yelling at any athlete for mistakes or losses
- Allow the coach to coach (including AGMs and endorsed Nipper volunteers) and support your child's surf sport development. Your role as a parent is to encourage, support, and provide positive reinforcement—leave the technical guidance and instruction to the coach. This helps create a balanced, respectful environment where everyone can contribute effectively to the athlete's experience.
- Promote a clear mind for Competition. Give athletes the space to focus and perform without constant feedback. It is well documented that a clear, calm mind helps athletes compete at their optimum level.
- Focus on your child's efforts and enjoyment rather than on winning or losing.
- Encourage honest effort, skill development, and team loyalty.
- Encourage participation in all elements of the sport. The ability to overcome fear or embarrassment are important life skills, and best done in a supportive environment.
- Do not interfere with the conduct of any surf carnival, State or Australian championship.
- Respect officials' decisions and encourage athletes to do the same.
- Show respect for all coaches, athletes and supporters, including those from opposing teams.

COACH/TEAM MANAGEMENT'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- Agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.
- Set a positive example for athletes and team members by embodying good sportsmanship and using positive language.
- Create opportunities to develop individual skills and recognize the unique talents, goals, and developmental stages of each athlete.
- Ensure that athletes' time with you is a positive and rewarding experience. All participants deserve equal attention and opportunities.
- Should demonstrate/show and teach respect toward officials and opponents
- Maintain appropriate professional conduct at all times.
- Obtain relevant qualifications and stay updated with coaching best practices and the principles of youth development.
- Observe gender-appropriate boundaries (such as in team change rooms) and avoid situations where you are alone with a team member.
- Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility, especially when working with members under 18.

OFFICIALS' CODE OF CONDUCT

- Agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.
- Be responsible for the development of surf lifesavers and the fair conduct of competitions.
- Maintain a "duty of care" toward all members and accountability for training and competition activities.
- Possess a solid knowledge of SLSA policies, rules, and regulations.
- Act impartially and take responsibility for all decisions and actions.