

Noosa Heads Surf Life Saving Club



SURF SPORTS HANDBOOK

2023-2024

Code of Conduct

Members and all people involved in any way with SLS will:

- a) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others—treat others as you would like to be treated yourself
- b) Be ethical, considerate, fair, courteous and honest in all dealings with other people and organisations
- c) Be professional in, and accept responsibility for your actions
- d) Be aware of and follow—at all times—SLS' standards, rules, policies and procedures and promote those standards, rules, policies and procedures to others
- e) Operate within the rules and spirit of the sport, including the national and international guidelines that govern SLS
- f) Understand the possible consequences of breaching the codes and/or this policy
- g) Report any breaches of the codes or this policy to the appropriate PPA
- h) Refrain from any form of abuse, harassment, discrimination and victimisation towards others
- i) Raise concerns regarding decisions of PPA through the appropriate channels and in a timely manner
- j) Provide a safe environment for the conduct of activities in accordance with any relevant SLISA policy
- k) Show concern, empathy and caution towards others that may be sick or injured
- l) Be a positive role model to all
- m) Respect and protect confidential information obtained through SLS activities or services; whether individuals and/or organisational information
- n) Maintain the required standard of accreditation and/or licensing of professional competencies, as applicable to the role(s)
- o) Ensure that any physical contact with others is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development
- p) Refrain from intimate relations with persons over whom you have a position of authority
- q) Agree to abide by the codes
- r) Maintain a duty of care towards others
- s) Be impartial and accept the responsibility for all actions taken

Person in Position of Authority (PPA): PPA include everyone who holds a position of authority in SLS, whether paid or unpaid, and includes, but is not limited to, all SLS Entity Individual Members. For the avoidance of doubt, PPA also includes Child or Young Person (CYP) who may hold a position of authority in SLS over other CYP

Insurance

One benefit within your membership subscription is the Workcover Qld Injury insurance policy by SLSQ to cover you whilst undertaking approved club activities.

The policy is limited to SLSA, SLSQ and NHSLSC approved activities of which your involvement has been endorsed by the NHSLSC Board.

***THIS POLICY DOES NOT COVER YOU FOR PERSONAL TRAINING!** i.e. your own training program, individual fitness training in the Gym, training with an alternative coach who is not approved by the Club.

All members are required to declare any injury, illness, or medical condition that may impact their fitness to participate.

Please note SLSA Membership declaration items:

- Item 3 Warning: SLS Activities can be inherently dangerous. I acknowledge that I am exposed to certain risks during SLS Activities including but not limited to physical exertion, contact with surf lifesaving equipment, body contact and surf, sea and weather conditions. I acknowledge that accidents can and often do happen which may result in me being injured or even killed, or my property being damaged. I have voluntarily read and understood this warning and accept and assume the inherent risks in participating in SLS Activities.
- Item: 6 Fitness to Participate: I declare that I am medically and physically fit and able to participate in any SLS Activities. I am not and must not be a danger to myself or to the health and safety of others. I will immediately notify SLSA in writing through my Club of any change to my medical condition, fitness and ability to participate.

Eligibility to Train

To be eligible to train or compete, a member must be;

- A member of NHSLSC or approved association member outside Sunshine Coast Branch by the Surf Sports Committee.
- A financial active and proficient Surf Life Saving Australia Award holder for the relevant discipline.

IRB Competitor Pre-requisites

IRB COMPETITOR PRE-REQUISITES

At the date of entry closure for the competition to be contested:

(a) Drivers are required to:

- (i) Be a minimum of seventeen years of age as at the date of competition.
- (ii) Hold their relevant state/territory maritime licence required to operate an IRB.
- (iii) Hold their IRB drivers award and be currently proficient as required by SLSA and have logged twenty (20) hours specific in-water IRB competition driving training under the supervision of a currently accredited SLSA Coach – IRB Events Elective.

(b) Crewpersons are required to:

- (i) Be a minimum of sixteen years of age as at the date of competition.
- (ii) Hold their IRB crewpersons award and be currently proficient as required by SLSA and have logged twenty (20) hours specific in-water IRB competition driving or crewing training under the supervision of a currently accredited SLSA Coach – IRB Events Elective.

For further information please refer to Section 3 Life Saving Events of the Surf Sports 36th Manual. The Manual can be found in the Members Portal Library under the category Sports

Proficiency - Competitors

All members from U15 to and including Masters who wish to compete at any Club, Branch, State and Australian competition are required to undertake the SLSA Proficiency Test by 31 December each year.

Competition Eligibility

2.2.1 Competition Qualification

(a) To be eligible to compete in SLSA Championship competition all members from the U15 age group up to and including Masters must, by the close of normal entries for the relevant Championship:

- (i) Be a registered and current financial member of SLSA.
- (ii) Be the holder of the appropriate SLSA award relevant to the age category as detailed in the current edition of the Surf Sports Manual or hold the equivalent overseas ILS member country award.

(iii) Be SLSA proficient as prescribed for the relevant SLSA Award required for competition eligibility as at the normal closing date of entries.

(iv) Be eligible under the necessary age category.

(v) Have met their patrol and/or service commitments as detailed in SLSA Policy 5. 04 and required by their Club, Branch, State and SLSA. (vi) Not be in default with their Club, Branch, State Centre or SLSA (or overseas ILS member associations) in relation to their service, financial or discipline obligations.

(vii) Have met any other competition eligibility qualification requirements for specific events e.g. IRB, Surf Boat (sweep), Patrol Competition, First Aid.

Note 1: Continuing U14 and U15 age proficient award holding members may continue to participate in events with their existing age award and proficiency up until 31 December each year.

Coaching & Training

Noosa Heads Surf Sports Committee supports competitor's interests in SLSA, SLSQ, Branch and Club events. Our Club facilities and coaching program provide:

- Swimming
Good Shepherd Lutheran College – Noosaville
Monday and Thursday at 6:00-7:00 pm
(Seasonally adjusted to suit the Club's needs predominately for patrolling members swim fitness)

See Website for details.

- Gym
The Gym is open between the hours of 5:00 am and 9:00 pm. Rules are posted on the Gym wall and must be adhered to at all times. Remember to bring a towel, covered shoes, and a shirt. The Gym is for all active members over 16. U15's must be supervised by an active member. If any member is found to have brought a guest into the gym who is not an active member they will have their membership suspended. Members who wish to use the Gym must complete a Gym Access form. *See Gym Policy in the Members library on the website.*
- Competitions
Board, Swim & Ski, Beach, Surf Rescue, Champion Lifesaver, Patrol Competition, First Aid, Pool Rescue, Board Riding, Surf Boats, IRB Racing & March Past.

Craft Allocation

Craft allocation will be determined by a panel comprising the Director of Surf Sports, Head Coach, Captain of the Discipline and Discipline Coach(es).

Preference is given to Active Junior Cadet members, in their first season of competition with the Club. Club craft allocation is available for one season only or at the discretion of the above panel. Subsequent year Craft allocations are only available if/when the craft is available. Craft allocation may be withdrawn if a competitor does not fulfill their commitments/obligations to the Club. Failure to fulfill the requirements of the allocation will initiate a review of the allocation by the above committee.

The competitor will compete at all carnivals including State and Aussies as determined by the Surf Sports Director and Head Coach unless special circumstances arise. The competitor will attend three board training and three ski training session per week depending on their preferred discipline.

Competitors will acknowledge that the cost of ALL repairs will be the member's sole responsibility unless the damage occurred during an Inter-Club Carnival or at the discretion of the Director of Surf Sports or the Head Coach. Any damage must be reported to the Head Coach and or Team Manager, Discipline Captain within 24 hours of the carnival. Repairs must be carried out by a reputable repairer authorised by the Head Coach or Discipline Captain.

Craft Allocation forms are emailed out at the beginning of the new season

Swim Subsidy Applications

To be eligible for a Swim Subsidy reimbursement, you are required to do a minimum of 16 squad swimming sessions per month and will provide evidence of attendance signed by your coach. Reimbursements to approved competitors of squad fees will be processed on presentation of a valid tax invoice and a fully completed reimbursement request form on or before the 14th of each month following the relevant training month to avoid payment not being processed. These Tax Invoices must be linked to your name. Generic tax receipts will not be accepted. You will need to make this arrangement with your swim school at the start of the season.

Application forms are emailed out at the beginning of the new season

Carnival Guidelines

As a Member of Noosa Heads Surf Lifesaving Club, when you are touring or competing at Carnivals you are representing your Club and are expected to behave accordingly. The Team Manager must sign a declaration form for each Carnival guaranteeing the Members attending will not breach the SLSQ or SLSA Code of Conduct. In the event, a breach occurs, the Team Manager, competitor, and possibly the Club will face disciplinary action. Any breaches of the "Code of Conduct" will be dealt with in accordance with the Clubs disciplinary procedures.

Should you feel that any rule of fair competition has been breached, DO NOT enter into a disagreement with officials or other competitors. Report your issue immediately to your Team Manager. ONLY a Team Manager can submit and follow through with a competition protest.

ALL members must assist with the loading and unloading of trailers, the packing up of the team tent and gear from the Carnival, and offer assistance. This is not the job of one person.

Patrol Obligations

A member who wishes to compete individually and/or in teams must be a current, proficient, and financial member of the Club and must also have satisfied his/her patrol obligations as defined by the Club from 1st January to 31st December annually.

Please refer to the Patrol Operations Manual Section No: LS0006 for hours required to compete in any championships - this is generally 25 hours by December 31st.

Competitors who are in default will be referred to the Surf Sports Committee for review and possible disciplinary action. This may be (but not limited to):

- Subsidies may be cancelled
- Club benefits may be reviewed ie. Gym usage etc.
- Invoiced for monies spent and/or allocated ie. Swim subsidies accommodation etc.
- Excluded from attending Club training sessions.
- Excluded from attending carnivals

Patrol captains are required to enforce Patrol obligations. If you are running 10 -20mins late due to unforeseen circumstances please ring your Patrol Captain to inform them of your situation. If you fail to contact your Patrol Captain or Club Captain of your non-attendance the following will apply. A letter will be sent advising one of the following:

a) First Default

The member must do one full make up patrol within four (4) weeks of the missed patrol.

b) Second Default

Where the member has not cleared the first default, and or has incurred a second default the member must now do two (2) make up patrols and one (1) penalty patrol. In addition, the member is not able to use Club Gym, Club owned gear and equipment, attend Club training or compete for the Club in any capacity until all make up and penalty patrols have been completed.

c) Third Default

In the case of a third default irrespective of whether the member still has outstanding make up and/or penalty patrols to complete or not, the member will be removed from the Patrol Roster and asked to show cause in writing as to why they should not be suspended from the Club. At this level continued disciplinary action is at the discretion of the Club Management Committee.

Remember: - It only takes a phone call or email to communicate your intentions to the Patrol Captain.

Patrol Roster

The Patrol Roster will be sent to all Patrol Members however copies are available for viewing on the Notice Board or the Club Website

http://www.noosasurfClub.com.au/active_members.php.

Hard Copy (if required) can be obtained from the Administration office.

Carnival Entries

Carnival information and nomination links will be emailed out to athletes to be completed online by the closing date stated on the form. Please Note: It is your responsibility to complete the nomination form by the due date and verbal nominations will not be accepted.

It is the Competitors responsibility to communicate any changes to the Head Coach and or Team Manager and the office. Non-attendance at a carnival or non-participation in an event that you have nominated will mean that you may be charged the entry fee if you fail to attend. An exemption will only be granted if you can produce a Medical certificate. Extenuating circumstances will be determined by the Surf Sports Committee.

NO late nomination fees will be paid for by the Club. The competitor will be liable for the late nomination fee. Late entries must be approved by the Director of Surf Sports and Head Coach.

Selection for Team events will be undertaken by the Director of Surf Sports, Head Coach, Team Manager, and Coaches. If you are selected in a team you are expected to compete in that team to represent the Club. If you wish to be granted exclusion from the team selection or you need to pull out on the day, you are required to show cause why this is the case to the Coach/Team Manager. Competitors must not be in default at the time of nomination.

Competitor's entry fees for all SLSQ, SLSA & Sunshine Coast Branch events will be paid by the Club. If you are unsure about SLSQ events please seek clarification from the Surf Sports Director or office.

Please note that the following event is not paid by the Club: Coolangatta Gold. It will be the competitors option as to whether they nominate for this event. (When representing the Club ie. Club cap required Club will pay).

Athletes who compete at State &/or Aussies must have a minimum of 25 PATROL HOURS (or applicable pro-rata hours) by the 31st of December

Carnival Information

Club Selectors are Director of Surf Sports, Head Coach and Discipline Captain and/or Team Manager.

All competitors are free to nominate for individual events as they see fit. If you train with the Club coaches, have a swim subsidy or Club allocated craft you will make yourself available for team selection. Failure to make oneself available for teams may see their subsidy, allocated craft or training with the Club coaches revoked.

All competitors are free to nominate for individual events as they see fit. These nominations will be accepted and supported as submitted, however, if the relevant Coach/Director/Team Manager has a concern with the individuals health or safety arising from any nomination, they have a duty of care to discuss these concerns directly with the competitor.

Any competitor who nominates for individual events representing NHSLSC must make themselves available for team events at the same event. The competitor is, however, encouraged to nominate preferred events for which they wish to be considered and those they prefer not to be considered for. These are not binding nominations on the Club and the teams selected by the relevant Coach/Director/Team Manager as the final decision maker.

Once again, the Coach/Director/Team Manager has a duty of care to all competitors to select teams consistent with the best interest of all the individual competitors involved and will, of course, consider the individual team preferences noted.

They will particularly consider the workload and individual competitive aspirations of the competitors. In other words, the coach picks the teams to get the best results, but he must consider, first and foremost, the health and safety of any individual competitors in that selection process.

In considering the Selection Criteria the Selectors may give weight to extenuating circumstances. Extenuating circumstances may include but are not limited injury or personal bereavement.

- TEAM SPIRIT

Whilst many of the rules relating to the Clubs expectation of members focus on what not to do, the Surf Sports team is also highly motivated and wants to harness the Team Spirit and positive atmosphere at Carnivals.

We encourage all members to present a positive and encouraging attitude at all times. This can be as easy as going down to the beach and cheering on your fellow competitors or offering positive encouragement back under the tent. Applaud good performances and sportsmanship. Turn any defeats or disappointments into a positive by focusing on the competitor's effort, good sportsmanship and what can be learnt from the experience.

- PRIZE MONEY

Any prize money won from carnivals shall be kept by the individual or divided between the team members who attended the event.

- TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

All carnival accommodation and travel costs shall be met by the competitor, including State Championship and Australian Championships unless they have contributed to the State and Aussie fundraising

- FUNDRAISING & RAFFLES

Members (excluding designated elite athletes) are required to complete water safety at selected events as advised by Surf Sports via email & social media. E.g. Seahorse Nippers, Noosa Tri, Milk Swim. Being an official or age manager for Nippers does not count to Surf Sports Subsidies. You will gain points that will determine your share of the raffle money from the Supporters Club.

You MUST sign the Attendance Log at each event that you do, or your name will not be recorded for the points.

If there is more than one family member receiving a subsidy the payment will be paid to one account.

All money that we receive from the Supporters Club goes into the pool & is divided amongst the members who qualify. The amount that you receive can differ significantly each year depending on the dollars raised & the number of people claiming a subsidy. The subsidy does not always cover your full accommodation expenses. U14 & U15's can access the Accommodation Subsidy for Aussies by completing water safety at the selected events.

- UNIFORM

Club cap and swimwear must be worn at carnivals per Surf Life Saving Australia requirements.

A uniform for the Australian Championship is generally supplied for competitors, coaches and officials.

When on tour all athletes are expected to wear their Club uniform.

Blue Cards

All patrolling members or volunteers in roles that are involved in child-related activities at the Club are required to gain and hold a current Working With Children Blue Card.

No Card, No Start

Members and Parents

The Club recognises the valuable contribution and role that parents and members play in our successful Surf Sports Program. It is essential to have this support given the large number of competitors in our Club.

To ensure that training programs and carnival weekends are successful, the Club asks for members and parental co-operation in the following ways:-

Members and Parents are asked to

- Read this Handbook and ensure that they and their child are familiar with Club requirements.
- Encouraged to attend carnivals both local and away to assist with the supervision of members under 18
- Assistance with the loading and unloading of gear and tents.
- It is in the best interest of competitors, if parents recognise the role of Coaches and Team Managers at carnivals and training sessions and NOT interfere in these activities or in team selection. The Coaches are the best qualified people to offer advice and pick the right teams based on previous carnival results, attendance and attitude in training etc. You are encouraged to discuss any issues with Head Coach / Team Managers at the appropriate time. Good communication is important.
- Remember you are a valuable and important part of Noosa Heads so please share your positive support with all team members.
- We encourage all senior members to assist with offering positive instruction or advice to junior members.

Membership

Noosa Heads SLSC membership year is from 1st July through to 30th June each year. Renewal applications will normally be forwarded during June. Membership includes insurance and affiliation with both SLSQ and SLISA.

Membership applications are to be completed on the Members Portal (website <https://portal.sls.com.au>). All applications must be approved by the Management Committee and fees must be paid prior to participation in any club activities including training and courses. Be sure to update any changes of your details, including your driver's license and blue card details.

Club Office Hours

Noosa Life Saving Club member's area facilities, including kitchen and changerooms, are for active members only and can be accessed via security toggle. Access is tailored by membership category and generally covers any time between 5:00 am and 9:00 pm 7 days a week. Access to the gym facilities is according to criteria being met, which you can find in the Club policies on the website.

Noosa Administration Office is open for all Noosa and Peregian queries:

Monday 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Access to the Administration Office is via the forecourt on the beachside of the building.

The Noosa Heads Supporters' Club and restaurant are open from:

Monday to Sunday 11:00 am to 8.30 pm



If you would like to be a member of the Surf Sports private Facebook page please click on the icon and request to join the group.



Follow Noosa Surf Sports on Instagram

Surf Sports Committee

Director of Surf Sports
Alan Rogers

Surf Boat Captain
Adam Hammersley

Deputy Director
Peter Borain

Surf Rescue/Lifesaving Captain
Brian Goulding

Head Coach
Darren Mercer OAM

Boardriding Captain
Megan Mackie

Senior Team Manager
Mel Pinchbeck

Beach Captain
Joanne Carroll-Thompson

Craft Captain
Stephen Porter
M: 0488 780 201
E: stephen.porter@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Swim Captain
Scott Elmslie

Surf Sports Administration
Jan Nel
(T) 07 5448 0900
E: surfsports@noosasurfclub.com.au

Surf Sports Coaches

Head Coach Darren Mercer OAM

M: 0414 683 800

Board Coach Clint Irwin

Ski Coach Jordan Mercer

Beach Coach

Surf Boat Coach Mick Gardner

Surf Boat Coach Stuart Cooper

Board Riding Kirra Molnar

Management Committee

President

Ross Fisher

Deputy President

Brett Leckie

Director of Finance

Robert Harney

Director of Administration

Barry Leek

Director of Lifesaving

Roger Aspinall

Director of Surf Sports

Alan Rogers

Director of Junior Activities

Shaun Baker

Administration Staff

General Manager

Byron Mills

Club Administrator

Tanya Duncan

Education Manager

Sacha Tapara-Beaton

Surf Education Coordinator

Lyndon Forlonge

Lifesaving Administration

Anna Widdicombe

Finance Administration

Sharon Hendersonon

Surf Sports Administration

Jan Nel

Reception/Administration

Justine Gorton

JAC/Nippers Administration

Sheridan Bird

POLICIES

Visitors

For a visiting member to obtain reciprocal rights, they must be a current and financial member of another Surf Life Saving Club within Australia and proficient in the relevant category

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Visitor-Policy-V1.pdf>

Injured Members

The objective of this Policy is to provide clear and concise definitions of permissible Club activities for injured Members.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Injured-Members-Policy-v-2.pdf>

Competition Rights Only Transfers

This Policy applies to all Active and Competing Members of Noosa Heads Surf Life Saving Club who wish to transfer their Competition Rights to another Club. This Policy also applies to Members of other Clubs wishing to transfer their Competition Rights to Noosa Heads SLSC.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Competition-Rights-Only-Transfer-Policy-V1.pdf>

Bursary

This Bursary is designed to recognise our members, aged between 15 and 25 years (inclusive) who have provided outstanding lifesaving efforts and contributions, and to provide them with an opportunity to grow and develop their lifesaving knowledge and skills, whilst completing High School or commencing study at University or another Tertiary Institution or commencing an Apprenticeship (except in exceptional circumstances as considered relevant by the Panel).

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Bursary-Policy-V3.pdf>

Chaperoning

This policy aims to assist Clubs and Branches to provide a safe and enjoyable Surf Life Saving activities and programs for members particularly children and young people under the age of 18 years, when traveling away with teams or involved in SLS programs or activities.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Chaperoning-and-Supervision-of-Minors-Policy-v3-FINAL.pdf>

Team Selection

The objective of this policy is to ensure that all club athletes understand the requirements and procedure of squad and/or team selection for competitions.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Team-Selection-Policy-V2-Final-1.pdf>

Swim Subsidy

This policy applies to members of Noosa Heads SLSC who are financial and proficient Surf Rescue Certificate or Bronze Medallion holders and who wish to apply for a subsidy to assist with swim squad training fees in order to compete in senior surf sports carnivals to the best of their ability.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Swim-Subsidy-Surf-Sports-Policy-V4-Final.pdf>

Officials Reimbursement

This policy applies to all NHSLSC Officials who seek to claim reimbursements for accommodation and/or fuel costs for officiating at carnivals on the Clubs behalf.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Officials-Reimbursement-Policy-V2-Final.pdf>

Craft Damage & Insurance Requirements

The objective of this policy is to ensure that all Club members understand the requirements and procedures involved in the incident of craft damage.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Craft-Damage-Policy-Insurance-Requirements-V2-Final-.pdf>

Gym

This policy is to ensure all members and visitors understand their obligations concerning the use of the club gymnasium.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Gym-Policy-V4-updated-Jan-2018-1.pdf>

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Gym-Form1.pdf>

Lockers

Lockers may be allocated to active club members providing there are enough lockers, and the member is financial and has no outstanding monies owing to the club.

<https://www.noosasurfclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Locker-Policy-Final.pdf>

GOOD LUCK FOR THE SEASON

Noosa Heads is a great Club, made up of many great members, achieving great things.

With combined unity this is why our Club was awarded the best Club in Australia.

With your commitment and dedication our goals can be achieved.

CONTACT DETAILS

**Noosa Heads Surf Life Saving Club
P O Box 7, Noosa Heads QLD 4567
P: (07) 5474 5688; F: (07) 5448 0866**

**Email: admin@noosasurfclub.com.au or
surfsports@noosasurfclub.com.au**

**Find the information you need on our website:
www.noosasurfclub.com.au or
Noosa Heads Surf Sports Facebook Group.**