



# **CARNIVALS & COMPETITION GUIDE**

**2018/2019 SEASON**

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# Introduction

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Surf sports has many facets, one of which is carnivals. A surf carnival is an event where nippers race against other clubs in the key surf sports disciplines. Typically, carnivals are for those nippers in the u9 to u14 age groups, some carnivals will also be open to u8's take part in. A carnival is a lot of fun and there are many on offer throughout the season. Participation is optional, but it is a rewarding experience for the nippers and their parents alike, so we like to encourage our nippers to give it a try!

## Target Carnivals

### Sydney Water Surf Series

- Round 1 : Sat 27<sup>th</sup> October
- Round 2 : Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> November
- Round 3 : Sat 10<sup>th</sup> November
- Round 4 : Sat 17<sup>th</sup> November

### Cronulla Short Course Carnival

- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November, Cronulla Beach

### Wanda One Carnival

- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January, Wanda Beach

### Manly Nipper Nats

- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January, Manly Beach

### North Cronulla Australia Day Iron-person Carnival

- Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January, North Cronulla Beach

## Team Selection Carnivals – All Nippers Encouraged to attend

**Bate Bay 4 Way Carnival**, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November, North Cronulla Beach

**Sydney Branch Championships**, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February, venue TBC

**State Age Championships**, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, Swansea Belmont.



# A Carnival Day

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## Typical carnival day

### Pre-requisites

Junior Competition Proficiency is to be completed before taking part in the first carnival of the season (see proficiency requirements here)

Fibreglass boards are required to have the appropriate scrutineering sticker present. This is a SLSA requirement, to check if your board needs to be re-scrutineered, [click here](#)>>

Liaise with our Gear Steward before race day if you require a loan board for the carnival or consider hiring a board for the season. More details on board hire will be on our website shortly

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### The night before

Pack your bag for tomorrow – make sure you have checked the forecast to know if you need extra wet weather gear, or extra drink for the day

Get an early night to make sure you are well rested for the carnival day

Check email or website to know what time the carnival starts and what time warm ups are scheduled for – aim to get to the beach early so you don't have to rush

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### At the beach

Aim to arrive early so you have time to check your name off with the carnival organisers – sometimes there will be a competitors arm band you have to collect and wear for the day.

Head to the beach to find your age manager or the Wanda team to help set up for the day.

Make sure you listen and watch for where your competition area will be – different age groups often have different water areas or there could be two sprint tracks for the runners.

Make sure your age group is noted on your arm in marker pen, you have your pink hi-vis vest (or carnival supplied hi vis vest) on and your Wanda race cap ready to go.

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### During the carnival

Listen and watch for the marshalling call for each event – race officials will check you are in the correct race and get all competitors in the required order for the race.

Once your race is finished, wait in the order as directed by the race officials, until they dismiss you.

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Always keep an ear out for changes to either the order of events or the water sections – this could change due to surf conditions or to help keep the carnival events to schedule

Remember to drink plenty of water and have a bite to eat between races – you use a lot of energy when racing so its important to make sure you keep your body properly fueled and hydrated throughout the day.

Try your best, have fun and smile!

### After the last event

When the carnival is over for the day, repack your bag making sure you have all your gear with you.

Help pack up the Wanda tents and gear – with everyone lending a hand it doesn't take very long

Pop your rubbish in the bin and make sure we leave our area of the beach clean and cleared of all gear

Find your Age Manager or our Wanda Team Manager to let them know when you are done for the day and heading home. Don't forget a quick thank you to all the Wanda parents who were water safety, official, age manager or helped you out during the day!

*Sometimes carnivals involve a lot of time waiting – use this time to have a bite to eat, get yourself into the shade and make friends with competitors from other clubs!*





## What to bring

Its best to be prepared for when you are attending a carnival. Sometimes the weather conditions can change drastically during the course of the carnival, swimming caps can come off in the surf, or gear can rip or break. Below is a list of items you might want to consider taking to a carnival with you:

- Wanda race cap and a spare
- Pink hi-vis rashie and a spare
- Swim cap, goggles and spares
- Sunscreen, zinc and sunhat
- Spare swimmers – sometimes your race pair may rip or chafe on race day
- Nipper board and duct tape – sometimes accidents do happen on race day!
- Towels
- Swim jacket for carnivals on cold days
- Marker pen, paw paw crème for chafe, spare hair ties
- A foldable umbrella – for shade while marshalling on hot days or for protection from the weather on rainy days
- Water or sports drink to keep you hydrated – consider freezing some the night before for extra hot days
- A cooler bag or lunch box of healthy snacks – consider food that can last all day in the heat and is easy to eat in between races
- A fresh change of clothes for the trip home at the end of the day



# Carnival Helpers

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Just like Sunday nippers, carnivals too are run entirely by volunteers. When we attend carnivals, Wanda is always required to provide a strict ratio of water safety and officials to the number of nippers entered, plus extra hands are always required to help out with transporting gear, setting up or packing up our team area and managing our excited nippers over the course of the day. As many hands make light work, when you enter your nipper for a carnival you will also need to nominate at least one parent from the family and the task they will help with on the day. You might not be needed at every carnival – the more helpers we have, the more the load is shared.

## Surf Sports Official

Officials are the people responsible for the conduct of surf sports events, carnivals. Officiating roles include referees, starters, judges, recorders and marshalls across all of the surf sports disciplines (flags, sprints, surf race, board etc).

Accreditation comes in two levels, Core and Technical, and lasts for 4 years – we recommend the Technical Course. To become an official:



- Find the online course to become a Technical Official from the [SLSA Members Portal](#).
- Accreditation for the course is \$60, however Wanda Nippers may reimburse this.
- Make sure you have Wanda SLSC full membership for insurance purposes – this is different to the parental membership you may have.
- After completing the online course, complete a practical assessment at a carnival to be granted your officials accreditation

## Water Safety and IRB Crew

The water safety crew is one of the most vital volunteer roles required – this is the orange shirt crew who ensure the safety of the nippers in the water. Likewise for the IRB crew, who monitor the safety of the competitors out across the back of the race areas in the inflatable rescue boats.

Surf Life Saving Australia sets strict ratios for water safety to nippers, with carnival organisers ensuring that each club competing provides sufficient water safety volunteers for the number of competitors the club has participating. Water Safety volunteers are required to hold a current Bronze Medallion certification, IRB crew also have to hold a current Bronze and have completed the required IRB training.

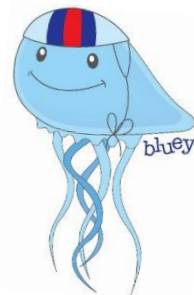
### Bronze Medallion Certification

- Complete the training course which combines theory and practical, covering knowledge of basic patrolling and surf awareness. A course outline is on the [SLSNSW website>>](#)
- The course is run by Wanda SLSC trainers at Wanda (or nearby) and is free for nipper parents
- Its generally held over a few weeks, including weeknights and weekends
- Wanda SLSC full membership is required for insurance purposes
- Completing the annual proficiency assessment ensures your Bronze remains current

IRB Training: In addition to the Bronze Medallion Certification requirements, IRB crew must also undergo specific IRB training.

Courses for Bronze and IRB crew are advertised throughout the year, but if you'd like to register your interest early, drop a note to the Wanda SLSC clubhouse so you can be added to the next available course – [clubhouse@wandaslsc.com.au](mailto:clubhouse@wandaslsc.com.au)

*Both officiating and water safety are achievable for most parents – plus at Carnivals, you get the best race viewing spot on the beach!*



Carn





Upcoming carnivals are advertised through the Weekly Nipper News email and on the carnivals page of our website. If you wish to enter your nipper(s), follow the steps noted on the website for how to enter. As carnival participation is optional, families will need to make sure they notify our Carnival Co-ordinator before the advertised closing date. Some carnivals may accept late entries on the day, but this may not apply to all carnivals – this is at the discretion of the carnival organisers and not something that Wanda can influence.

For the NSW Sydney Branch Carnival (Branch) and NSW Surf Life Saving State Age Championship Carnival (State), Wanda typically send a big team and encourage all eligible nippers to give it a go. Entries for Branch and State are a bit different to other carnivals, so keep any eye on the Weekly Nipper News email for details on these. Preparations start in November, with Branch taking place in mid February and State taking place in early March.

[Carnivals calendar>>](#)

## General Competition Info

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- Competition rules and regulations are set out by Surf Life Saving Australia and detailed in the [35<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Surf Sports Manual](#)
- All nippers and their parents are bound by the rules and regulations of SLSA, SLS NSW, Wanda SLSC while attending carnivals. This includes adherence to the [Wanda Codes of Conduct](#)
- Team selections for Wanda teams at carnivals are made in accordance with the Team Selection policy – this can be found on [our website>>](#)
- At a carnival, competition areas are limited to the nominated officials, competitors and water safety – please ensure supporters, parents and Wanda nippers not in the race taking place remain in the designated spectator areas
- At a carnival, the Wanda Team Manager will liaise with the Carnival Referee and senior carnival officials. Only the Team Manager is permitted to approach the officials in the event of an issue or dispute. Please notify your Age Manager if there is an issue, your Age Manager will contact the Team Manager.
- Always remember this is a nippers event - be supportive, respectful and make sure our Wanda nippers have fun and demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.