



2023/24 AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR WINNERS &
NOMINEES





SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Recognising the outstanding achievements and contributions of our Members and Clubs across all aspects of Surf Life Saving.
The 2023/24 Season awards presentation took place on;

SENIOR & YOUTH
SAT 25.05.24
ART GALLERY OF NSW

JUNIOR
SAT 01.06.24
HOYTS ENT. QTR.



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RECOGNITION

AOE



LIFE MEMBER INDUCTION

PETER CARNEY | ELOUERA

On the 2nd of April 2024 the Surf Life Saving Sydney Branch Council convened to bestow Life Membership upon Peter Carney, recognising his exceptional dedication and contributions to Sydney Branch.

In a Surf Life Saving career of over 50 years, Peter has shown unwavering commitment and excellence as a Lifesaver, Trainer, Assessor, Facilitator, Surf Sports Official and Leader. His profound impact on all those he has interacted with is undeniable.

Peter Carney's dedication is nothing short of inspiring, and his elevation to Life Membership of Sydney Branch is very well deserved.





PRESIDENTS MEDAL

RON HAMMOND | NORTH CRONULLA

This year, the Presidents Medal has been awarded to Ron Hammond of North Cronulla. Ron has demonstrated significant and outstanding voluntary service to Surf Life Saving since 1973, in all facets of SLS, including Lifesaving, Surf Sports, Club Administration, Officiating and Education.

Ron joined Surf Life Saving Sydney as a Surf Boat Official in 1979 and ceased officiating in 2020, having held the positions of Judge, Starter and Referee attaining the qualification of Level 2 Official.

He was the Sydney Branch Surf Boat Officials Advisor and Referee for 16 years before retiring and handing the position on in 2007, leaving a strong legacy. This service to SLSS alone totalled 41 years.

Ron was also an active Surfboat Sweep and Coach at North Cronulla, having successfully coached a number of Jnr Crews, including North Cronulla U/21 A Crew to the Australian Gold Medal in 1992. Many of these Crews also represented Sydney Branch. Ron also was North Cronulla Club Captain (3 years), Secretary (3 years) and President (3 years).

In 1981 he was a finalist for NSW Lifesaver of the Year and also joined the SLSS Board of Control, gaining his examiners certificate in 1982 where he was a member until it ceased in 2009. He also was a member of the NSW Board of examiners 1983-87.

Congratulations Ron on your amazing contribution to surf life saving Sydney.





BRANCH MEMBER OF THE YEAR

PHILLIP CARTER | MAROUBRA

Phillip has had an incredible year at Branch. He holds multiple administrative positions, such as the Branch Education Manager, an active facilitator of the silver medallion patrol captain's course. Phillip is an IRB, bronze medallion, A.R.T. assessor across the branch. He is also an active patrolling RWC operator and Duty officer having volunteered over 174 hours in support operations.

Phillip was instrumental in assisting Branch with onboarding our new Director of Finance all while maintaining his duties as the President of Maroubra SLSC. Congratulations Phil!





**MAJOR
AWARDS**

AOE



SURF LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Jonathan Golan | North Bondi
- Marc Schmandin | Coogee
- Brendan Wardrop | Maroubra
- Paul Watchman | Bronte
- Shelby Johnson | Clovelly
- Thomas Hough | Bondi
- Patrick Hughes | Elouera

WINNER - THOMAS HOUGH | BONDI

Tom has amassed 135 hours of patrol this season in addition to his deep commitment education training and assessing.

His selflessness, patience, dedication, and unwavering support reflect his commitment to the surf lifesaving mission of achieving zero preventable drownings.

His commitment to excellence is further demonstrated by his personal oversight of over 10 Bronze Medallion assessments and mock-assessments this year, ensuring a high standard of competency among newly certified lifesavers.

This rigorous assessment process has not only maintained but raised the quality of skills within our club, contributing to a safer beach environment and a more proficient lifesaving team.

Through these initiatives, Thomas has not only enhanced the skill level and operational readiness of our lifesavers but has also instilled a proactive and prepared mindset that is critical for effective surf lifesaving.

His leadership and dedication have significantly impacted the lifesaving community by fostering a culture of excellence and safety, enhancing operational effectiveness, and inspiring both current and future generations of lifesavers to continue pushing for higher standards and greater community engagement.

As a lifesaver, his innovative training programs have not only equipped active club members with essential lifesaving skills but have also instilled a confidence to take on challenging rescues together with leadership roles within the club. Tom's encouragement has led to an increase in the number of young lifesavers aspiring to become future leaders of Bondi Surf Bathers Life Saving Club.

Congratulations Thomas on your amazing contribution to lifesaving.





VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Basil Scaffidi | Bronte
- Andrew Newrick | South Maroubra
- Neill Hunt | Elouera
- Andrew Tooher | Coogee
- Thomas Hetherington | Clovelly
- Nicole Krite | Bondi
- Suzanne Matkowski | Maroubra
- David Staples | Era
- Donna Hargreaves | North Cronulla

WINNER - BASIL SCAFFIDI | BRONTE

Basil is a passionate, committed volunteer of Bronte SLSC and the wider surf lifesaving movement. In the 2023/24 season he consistently contributed (a conservative) 20-25 hours/week of personal time to the Club. That equates to 1000 voluntary hours over 40 weeks, his contribution is likely to far exceed that estimate.

The majority of these hours are performed behind the scenes and while lacking in glamour, they are critical to the success and sustainability of the organisation.

Basil has worked tirelessly to secure the DA approval for a new, desperately needed clubhouse. This has been 9 years of Basil's contribution, this season being the most intense, with attendance at various weekly meetings of up to 10 hours per week, each week, during work hours.

He has been instrumental in negotiating with council the Project Agreement and Lease documentation, protecting the fiscal and legal position of the Club.

Basil drove to Canberra to personally speak to the federal minister to retain grant funding for the new build, explaining the complexity of the project and the role the new clubhouse will play in supporting both volunteer and paid lifesaving services on such a dangerous beach.

Basil has been advocating for all Waverley Clubs to have better Police support on beaches over the Christmas/New Year period and personally attending the Police briefing at Bondi Beach on Christmas Dy, Boxing Day, and New Years Day.

Following multiple out of hours rescues at Bronte over summer, the last sadly resulting in the tragic loss of a life, Basil coordinated and facilitated a meeting between Waverley Council & SLS NSW to consider possible risk mitigation options.

This has resulted in the council committing to the installation of an Emergency Response Beacon (ERB) at Bronte Beach.

Thank you basil for your amazing contribution to surf lifesaving and your community.





CLUB OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Bondi
- Coogee
- Tamarama

WINNER - BONDI

Bondi has moved from strength to strength this season. The focus this year was to be rescue ready therefore to "train like someone's life depends on it".

Training programs such as Champion Lifesaver, Nipper Development and IRB have assisted achieve this objective.

Bondi continues to maintain the highest education awards delivered this season which support the Club's focus developing great lifesavers. Bondi's Masters Athlete Team again became the National Masters Team of the Year Winning at Branch, State and Aussies. Bondi U17's won a Bronze at the Aussie titles Patrol Teams competition and Bondi proudly stands as having the largest group of Champion lifesaver participants at Branch and State.

This season the Club further enhanced its support for its members by increasing its number of patrols to decrease its member patrol time from 50 plus hours to 35 hours per season. It has rebuilt its nipper program with an increase in nipper intake together with delivering strong SRC capabilities transferrable on patrols.

Its community engagement has been at its highest with Silver Salties, Swim sisters and Ocean Lovers Festival to name a few.

A number of new programs have been developed to support Bondi's sustain of its various membership base such as the Women's "Choose to Challenge" IRB Training session and workshop, IRB Motor masterclass, a wellness patrol to build mental health awareness, connection and preparedness for our patrolling members with First Aid tools.

A cadets information and pathways evening, plus the Club's ongoing support for Rainbow Beaches and Pink Patrol events.

The Club continues to grow its gender diversity across roles with the Club from female participation on the Board, as Patrol Captains, IRB driver and crew, RWC operators, Duty officer, TAFs. It has been a fantastic year for the Club. Well done on all your achievements.





**LIFESAVING
AWARDS**

AOE



RESCUE OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Bondi | Rescue 30.01.24
- Burning Palms | Rescue 25.12.23
- Cronulla | Rescue 19.10.23
- Wanda | Rescue 28.10.23
- SLSS Support Operations, Wanda & Sutherland Shire Council Lifeguards | Rescue 31.03.24

WINNER - SLSS SUPPORT OPERATIONS, WANDA & SUTHERLAND SHIRE COUNCIL LIFEGUARDS | RESCUE 31.03.24

On Sunday the 31st March 2024, it was a sunny hot day, 28 degrees with good attendance at all Bate Bay beaches over the Easter long weekend. The swell was between 1 to 1.5 meters with a very slight wind. There were many banks and rips all the way along the Bate Bay beaches resulting in dangerous conditions for swimmers when they ventured outside the safety of the flagged areas. The incident unfolded 1km north of patrolled beaches in Bate Bay at Greenhills. 3 males were swept off the sandbank into deep water. They were calling for help. One male was able to pull himself back onto the sandbank. A member of the public acted heroically rescued the 2 males back to safety and then ran 1km to seek assistance from Sutherland lifeguards. The RWC also attending the scene seeing the lifeguard's SSV and called surfcom for urgent medical assistance. The 2 men were in critical condition. With limited resources, Wanda patrol acted immediately to accommodate further medical equipment to the scene. The 2 men were transported to = St George Hospital. The quick response and collaboration across all assets to provided critical care saved the lives of the 2 men. This is an outstanding demonstration of collaboration between lifesaving services in Bate Bay and the NSW Emergency Services.





PATROL OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Bronte SLSC Patrol 14 | Bronte
- Patrol 16 | North Bondi
- Coogee Bluey's Away Patrol | Coogee
- Patrol 1 | Tamarama
- Jeppesen Patrol | Bondi
- Elouera Pink Patrol | Elouera

WINNER - PATROL 16 | NORTH BONDI

Last year saw a 1% increase in drownings despite prominent safety campaigns and lifesaving infrastructure in place. 281 people died from drowning in Australia in 2022/2023. Patrol 16 wanted to start a Tik Tok account to capture the various experiences of volunteer lifesaving at North Bondi Beach. This unique and multifaceted approach allowed P16 to provide a behind-the-scenes experience for viewers both locally and internationally.

The messaging is engaging for younger audiences by leveraging viral content trends, teamed with the uniqueness of Patrol 16 to produce amazing content that ultimately supports the RLSA and SLSA goal of sharing water safety messages with family, friends and people in the community to help reduce incidents. A terrific initiative, well done North Bondi!





PATROL CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Paul Seymour | Elouera
- Paul Harrington | Bronte
- Rebecca Mister | Coogee
- Michael Nearhos | North Bondi
- Robyn Farmer | Bondi
- Rhys Telfer | Cronulla
- Michael Smith | Maroubra

WINNER - REBECCA MISTER | COOGEE

Rebecca's leadership on the beach has been characterised by a commitment to safety and service, and her ability to balance these priorities with a sense of enjoyment and camaraderie that sets her apart. Her unwavering dedication to patrolling, exemplified by her remarkable 15- year commitment and perfect attendance record, serves as a beacon of inspiration for her fellow members. Thank you Rebecca for your service and dedication.





**SUPPORT
OPERATIONS
AWARDS**

A O E



SUPPORT OPERATIONS MEMBER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Julie Pritchard | Bondi

WINNER - JULIE PRITCHARD | BONDI

Julie is an exceptional volunteer with an incredible work ethic and mindset in anything that she has been tasked to do. She has embraced becoming a RWC operator with 57 hours on patrol this season plus out of hours callouts and her dedicated contribution to saving the lives of flood victims across the state. She is an active patrolling member and an IRB trainer. Julie is a role model in the club promoting support operations for future membership. No task is too hard. Her positivity and commitment to the service in support operations is exemplary. Thank you Julie for your service.





UAV MEMBER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Stephanie Magiros | Elouera
- Joshua Fernandez | Coogee

WINNER - STEPHANIE MAGIROS | ELOUERA

As a UAV operator, Stephanie demonstrates proficiency in operating and manoeuvring drone technology effectively.

Her technical expertise in this area showcases her commitment to mastering specialised skills and leveraging technology to enhance lifesaving efforts, inspiring others to pursue excellence in their respective roles. Stephanie's proactive approach to promoting the use of UAVs for Surf Lifesaving and her efforts to encourage female engagement in this space demonstrate her commitment to addressing identified needs and challenges within surf lifesaving. Thank you Stephanie for your service





DUTY OFFICER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Ash Arundell | North Cronulla
- James McLennan | Bronte
- Andrew Gardiner | Coogee
- Lachlan Towns | Elouera
- Michael Byrne | Elouera

WINNER - ASH ARUNDELL | NORTH CRONULLA

Ash is a dedicated member of the SLS Support Ops team. He is always the first one to jump into cover shifts and has lead the SLS response at many major incidents, including drownings and callouts. This Season Ash has contributed 211 hours in addition to other surf lifesaving events such as community awareness programs at schools.

Ash's dedication has ensured no DO shifts goes uncovered. He is a committed team player and supports our Duty Officer and RWC teams at any opportunity. He is an outstanding ambassador for surf life saving Sydney. Thank you Ash for everything you do.





RWC MEMBER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Rachelle McCarthy | Maroubra
- Mark Taylor | Elouera
- John McGhee | Coogee

WINNER - MARK TAYLOR | ELOUERA

As a patrol captain and RWC operator who completed 91 hours on the ski this season, Mark encourages and supports the skill development of other members within the Elouera SLSC, resulting in other Elouera members to join the RWC Support Operations Group. By sharing his knowledge, providing mentorship, and leading by example during training sessions and patrols, he inspires others to improve their abilities. Mark's involvement in patrolling and RWC operations fosters a sense of teamwork and collaboration within the SLS community. Thank you mark for your Services.





SURF RESCUE 30 MEMBER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Rachelle McCarthy | Maroubra

WINNER - RACHELLE MCCARTHY | MAROUBRA

Coco has been a member of her group for several seasons and has this season completed over 100 hours on the boat being pivotal to keeping the boat online as a driver on many occasions. She has also completed her Coxswains Near Coastal 2 award through AMSA meaning she is now commercially qualified up to 5 nautical miles offshore. Thank you Coco for your dedicated services to Surf Rescue 30.





**EDUCATION
AWARDS**

AOE



FACILITATOR OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Tony Waller | Coogee
- Glen Clarke | Clovelly
- Marissa Saunders | Bondi

WINNER - MARISSA SAUNDERS | BONDI

Marissa constantly epitomises Bondi's spirit of service.

Known for her generous spirit and deep commitment to education, Marissa's ability to juggle multiple responsibilities while maintaining the highest standards of training, assessment and facilitation is nothing short of inspiring. By personally facilitating the ART awards for Bondi, she has enhanced the lifesaving capabilities at one of Australia's busiest beaches. Her involvement in the Silver Medallion Patrol Captain courses has helped shape the leadership landscape of future patrols. Her trainees often become mentors themselves, perpetuating a cycle of learning and leadership. Thank you Marissa for everything you do.





TRAINER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Remi Defina-Sperando | South Maroubra
- Glen Watson | Wanda
- Michael Byrne | Elouera
- Jennifer Austin | Bronte
- Athenia Pascoe | Coogee
- Christopher Thompson | Clovelly
- Daniel Rosado | Bondi
- Nelson Da Silva | Maroubra

WINNER - REMI DEFINA-SPERANDO | SOUTH MAROUBRA

Remi is a current trainer at South Maroubra where he is always 'problem solving' and or looking for better ways to do things in how training is delivered. He is always happy to offer extra sessions for candidates who may be struggling with certain skills and is eager to learn himself by taking steps to become an ART and IRB trainer this season, knowing these are areas where we need more trainers. Remi has also stepped up this season to learn the CTO role to be able to become a leader when needed. Well done Remi for a great training season.





ASSESSOR OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Brett Walker | Wanda
- Athena Pascoe | Coogee
- Stewart Wells | Clovelly
- Thomas Hough | Bondi
- Frederic Testard | Maroubra

WINNER - FREDERIC TESTARD | MAROUBRA

Fred started assessing IRBs in 2022. Over the course of his TAF career Fred has trained and assessed over 20 powercraft awards. Fred is skilled in ensuring participants are fully informed of their responsibilities, whilst also ensuring they experience the assessment as positive and an opportunity to display their skills. His respectful behaviour, positive demeanour and enthusiasm extends to TAF colleagues as well as participants. Thank you for your endless contribution to education.





MOST EDUCATION AWARDS PER OPERATIONAL AREA

NOMINEES

- Waverley
- Randwick
- Cronulla / Sutherland
- Royal National Park

**WINNER - BONDI
| WAVERLEY**

**WINNER - COOGEE
| RANDWICK**

**WINNER - CRONULLA
| CRONULLA / SUTHERLAND**

**WINNER - BURNING PALMS
| ROYAL NATIONAL PARK**

Awarded to the club in each operational area, Waverley, Randwick, Cronulla/Sutherland and the Royal National Park who have delivered the Most Awards within that area.





CLUB & COMMUNITY AWARDS

AOE



SAFE365 INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Elouera Surf Awareness Clinic | Elouera
- Bondi IRB Motor Masterclass | Bondi
- Wavewise Inclusive Nippers | Coogee
- IRB Drivers Guest Program | Tamarama

WINNER - SURF AWARENESS CLINIC | ELOUERA

In January 2024, Elouera SLSC held the 40th Annual Surf Awareness Clinic being a 5-day education program aimed at teaching surf, beach and sun safety to children aged 7-12 years old. Activities include surf swimming, nipper and body board riding as well as IRB rides (just for fun). The education component is made up of learning where it is safe to swim, including rip identification and what to do if you are caught in a rip as well as what equipment can be used to help yourself or someone else in trouble.

With between 250 and 300 children attending the clinic, approximately 100 Elouera members volunteer their time for the week. An amazing innovation, thank you.





ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Michael Delaney | Bondi
- Barbara Maythers | North Cronulla

WINNER - BARBARA MAYTHERS | NORTH CRONULLA

Barbara is the North Cronulla Marketing and Communications Director. Beyond her immediate duties as Marketing and Communication Director, Barbara is responsible for competitors' carnival entries and directly supports the other members of the board in their duties, particularly the administration director.

This support has meant assisting in event management, meetings and other gatherings as well as offering her skills and time to organise the logistics for North Cronulla's Touring Team. Her administration skills and capabilities benefit all sections of our club, and her calm and personable demeanour means she can effectively communicate with all members. Thank you for your service!





COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Beach Safety Awareness Program | South Maroubra
- Beach Ocean Safety Program | Coogee

WINNER - BEACH SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM | SOUTH MAROUBRA

Within their role as South Maroubra Youth Club Captain, Ffyon McCabe (SRC) was motivated to act, when she read the statistics that highlighted the fact that approximately 75 people drowned on our Australian beaches last year.

With the support of the South Maroubra Nippers Committee and the club, Ffyon initiated a Beach Awareness Program that they hoped would reduce this statistic and make a difference in their community. The program was delivered successfully across 3 primary schools in the Randwick local government area for approximately 300 students, targeting kindergarten and Year 1 students. An amazing achievement Ffyon!





SERVICES TEAM OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- IRB Training Team | Bondi
- Education Team | South Maroubra
- Rescue Water Craft Team | SLSS
- Surf Rescue 30 | SR30

WINNER - IRB TRAINING TEAM | BONDI

The Bondi IRB Trainers Team is composed of dedicated volunteers focused on enhancing the skills and safety of IRB operators at Bondi Beach. This season the club team delivered on a series of initiatives such as expanding the group to 40 new crew and 11 drivers, introducing an IRB motor masterclass and successfully implementing quality succession planning by increasing the number of IRB Trainers. A very big congratulations to the team.





**SURF SPORTS
AWARDS**

AOE



ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Riquie Miroshnik | North Bondi
- Michael Hanna | Elouera
- Chloe Gentle | Wanda
- Jackson McCleery | Maroubra
- Cruz McKee | North Cronulla

WINNER - CRUZ MCKEE | NORTH CRONULLA

Cruz has outstanding results in his surf sport focus area of Surf Board riding and Board Racing at all levels with 3 gold medals at Aussies and Aussies final 8th position in the Board Race across the Open and U19 categories as an U19 athlete. Excellent results across U19's and Open categories as an U19 athlete in very competitive disciplines in surf sports. Cruz is also the Vice Captain for board riding at North Cronulla. He mentors other younger athletes in board riding disciplines across bate bay clubs. He is an exceptional role model and a very deserved recipient.





MASTERS ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Dean Scarff | North Bondi
- Helen Deas | Coogee
- Michael Georgaris | Wanda
- Rodrigo De Sebastian Martin | Maroubra
- Jo Emery | Clovelly
- Warwick Cavanagh | North Cronulla
- Simon Nothling | Bondi

WINNER - SIMON NOTHLING | BONDI

Simon is a highly talented athlete who has achieved outstanding results in Masters competition as well as open events this season. At Aussies, Simon achieved 4 gold and 2 silver medals. At NSW Championships 3 gold and 3 silver medals and twice placed 5th. At Branch Championship, Simon achieved 3 gold and a bronze medal.

Simon is highly regarded among his peers, he has a fantastic work ethic, positive attitude and is a key member of the Bondi's masters team. He has been instrumental in the success of the team as Masters champions at Branch, State and Aussies. Congratulations Simon on your incredible season.





COACH OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Joel Maybury | North Bondi
- Cameron Habler | Coogee
- Andrew Newrick | South Maroubra
- David Briggs | Elouera
- Lisa McGuigan | Maroubra
- Jock Campbell | Wanda

WINNER - ANDREW NEWRICK | SOUTH MAROUBRA

Andrew's success with the South Maroubra beach team is very impressive. Andrew develops youth and open competitors to assist with training and mentor the younger athletes. Andrew has great results at Aussies 6 x gold, 4 x silver, 6 x bronze, NSW champs 22 x gold, 14 x silver, 16 x bronze. Branch champs 27 x gold, 20 x silver, 11 x bronze. Andrew's development of his athletes in the team saw 7 of the athletes selected in the Sydney Branch interbranch team and all achieved excellent results and contributed to the achievement of Sydney branch at interbranch champs.





TONY HUGHES OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Sophie Guilbert | Cronulla
- Andrew Bloxsom | Coogee
- Tina Ros-Ekins | North Bondi
- Natasha Seidel | Wanda
- John Georgas | Maroubra
- Jamie Vueti | Bondi

WINNER - ANDREW BLOXSOM | COOGEE

Andrew has had a great season since completing his Senior Officials course earlier in the year and has delivered an outstanding job throughout the season. NSW Championships he was the Open R&R Sectional Referee, chief judge at NSW Age champs, Carnival Referee at Open Branch Championships and beach referee for age championships.

Andrew led the Branch carnival and did a great job. Andrew also made himself available remotely for the Australian Youth championships to support when he could not be there. Thank you Andrew for everything you do for the sport.

HIGHLY COMMENDED - JAMIE VUETI | BONDİ





SURF SPORTS TEAM OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Blade Runners (Men's A Grade Boat Crew) | North Bondi
- U17 Male Distance Team | Coogee
- The Weapons | Wanda
- L Platers | Maroubra
- Bof's Reserves | North Cronulla
- Under 17 Patrol Competition Team | Bondi

WINNER - THE WEAPONS | WANDA

The Weapons have had outstanding results the season and made the selection to representative team NSW as the open male surfboat crew state team, gaining 2nd place at Lorne interstate championships. The team were also successful at the NSW state championships positioned 2nd place. The team were also selected to represent Australia nationally and internationally in NZ taking out 1st place. Well done to the team for have an amazing season.





BRANCH CHAMPIONSHIPS POINT SCORE WINNERS

OPENS WINNER - WANDA

AGE / YOUTH - NORTH BONDI





**YOUTH
AWARDS**

AOE



BETTY'S BURGERS YOUTH SURF LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Jade Melvey-Lester | North Bondi
- Kaitlyn Byrnes | Elouera
- Amy Hetherington | Clovelly
- Cooper Duque | Bronte
- Ruby Thomasyu | Coogee
- Alexandra Schacht | Bondi
- Ben Sutton | Wanda
- Daniel Morrissey | Maroubra

WINNER - RUBY THOMASYU | COOGEE

As the Director of Youth Services on Coogee SLSC's Management Team, Ruby fosters an inclusive, fun, and passionate culture for youth members aged U13-U18. Ruby was a key driver for the Club's Blueys Patrol and Corrimal in the 2023-24 season, which saw 30 Blueys members head down to Corrimal in the Illawarra to provide patrol support. On the beach, as Patrol Captain for Patrol 10, Ruby demonstrates leadership and dedication to beach safety through impressive qualifications to equip her to effectively lead her patrol team. Thank you Ruby for your endless contribution to lifesaving and empowering our future leaders.





YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Sophia Garvin | North Bondi
- Rocco Taylor | Coogee
- Tess Jeevaratnam | Bondi
- Mikaela Mead | Elouera
- Noah Teitler | South Maroubra
- Dominic Winkle | Clovelly
- Emma Murphy | Maroubra

WINNER - NOAH TEITLER | SOUTH MAROUBRA

Noah started the season joining the South Maroubra IRB racing team and won at NSW State and a commendable 5th at Aussies. Noah became one of the youngest Branch members to receive the Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue and the Club's youngest Age Manager, successfully taking on the U10 Boys Age Manager role with 49 boys under his care.

Noah is regularly called upon by the South Maroubra Trainers to 'role model' board rescues for SRC and Bronze courses. He also extended himself further by volunteering as Sydney Branch Youth Lifesaving co-ordinator and Youth Social Media advisor. Thank you Noah for your exemplary Service

HIGHLY COMMENDED - SOPHIA GARVIN | NORTH BONDI

HIGHLY COMMENDED - DOMINIC WINKLE | CLOVELLY





YOUTH ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Ben Christensen | North Bondi
- Ronan Sheppard | Coogee
- Jackson McCleery | Maroubra
- Kyle Mason | Wanda
- Laura Barnett | Elouera
- Kobe Sorensen | North Cronulla

WINNER - KOBE SORENSEN | NORTH CRONULLA

Kobe has represented Sydney Branch as part of the Interbranch team for the past 2 successful years. He is an integral part in the culture of the team. His results at Aussies were exceptional coming away with medals in both the Flags (gold) and Sprints (silver). At state championships at U17's and Opens events he took gold and a 6th place in the open beach sprint final. Kobe is the Branch champion for the U17 (sprints), U19 (flags and sprints) & Opens (flags) across beach sprints and flags. Kobe has had an outstanding season and is a well-deserved winner.





**UNDER 15
AWARDS**

AOE



BETTY'S BURGERS UNDER 15 SURF LIFESAVER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Scarlett Levy | North Bondi
- Carter Duque | Bronte
- Xavier Byrne | Elouera
- Caitlyn Lee | Coogee
- Miah Georgas | Maroubra
- Jack Castles | Bondi

WINNER - SCARLETT LEVY | NORTH BONDI

Scarlett has helped reinvigorate the youth and cadet members at North Bondi. Her positive attitude and helpful approach have helped her become a trusted mentor to other young women in her cohort.

At the same time, Scarlett has overcome her fear of the ocean to perform several rescues whilst on patrol, performed countless hours of water safety for nippers and has helped other young women see the paths open to them in Surf Lifesaving.

On a typical patrol day, Scarlett can be found keeping swimmers within the flags (no mean feat with 10,000 + swimming in her patrol of Bondi on a hot summer day!) and rescuing those requiring help.

Scarlett's lead trainer for the SRC and Patrol Captain (Jonathan Golan) has this to say – "Never in all my years in Surf have I see a young person so dedicated to the movement and so committed to its goals and values. Scarlett has been a pleasure to work with both as a trainer and as a patrol captain and I look forward to having her take on a leadership role in our patrol team one day".

Scarlett's passionate for the surf, public service and helping others, rapidly undertaking advanced awards of First Aid and ART. Scarlett has assisted this season with the training of 2 SRC squads and assisting the U10 Age Manager at nippers.

We have no doubt we will see Scarlett in a future leadership role in the senior club as she progresses through the avenues and opportunities Surf Life Saving has opened to her.

Congratulations Scarlett on an outstanding season.





UNDER 15 ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Elizabeth Somerville | North Bondi
- Kathryn Jordon | Coogee
- Christopher Kondilios | South Maroubra
- Charlotte Bowmer | Wanda
- Kaitlyn Williams | North Cronulla

WINNER - CHARLOTTE BOWMER | WANDA

Charlotte is a positive role model, a good sportsperson and an ambassador to Surf Life Saving demonstrated through many commitments including :

- * Age Manager U10 Wanda boys
- * Coaching member of the U9 transition program involving board and surf swim skills and development
- * Mentor to U9 & U10 Girls nipper group

Results for the season included :

- * Member of Sydney Branch Team and NSW State Team
- * Member NSW Surf Sports Development Academy
- * Aussies - 3 gold medals
- * State Championships – 3 silver medals and 2 other finals
- * Branch Championships - 4 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze medals
- * Winner Sydney Water Series
- * Summer of Surf - 4 x podium finishes

Charlotte is to be congratulated on an outstanding season achieving such great results.





**JUNIOR
AWARDS**

AOE



ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 9-10 YEARS | FEMALE

NOMINEES

- Jasmine Shardlow | Cronulla
- Ella Jenkin | Coogee
- Kelsey Georgaris | Wanda
- Emily Snow | Bronte
- Maddison Antonio | Maroubra
- Emerson Hoo | North Bondi
- Pearl Mason | Bondi

WINNER - EMERSON HOO | NORTH BONDI

Within surf sports, Emerson's main focus is on water events. Outside of surf, Emmerson is a competitive swimmer and diver. Emerson represented North Bondi in both individual and team events throughout the season with great success.

Results this season included:

State Championships results :

- Gold medals in both U10 Surf Race and Board Race
- Gold medal in U10 Board Relay
- Gold medal U10 Surf Teams
- Gold medal U10 All Age Board Relay
- Silver medal U11 Board Rescue

Emerson was rewarded this season at the Club with the honour of Water Competitor of the Year.

Emerson's goal for next season is to be selected in the Sydney Branch Team.

Emerson's attitude and commitment to training and competition is always a fundamental part of any team she is a member of. Her desire to always perform to the best of her ability inspires everyone around her and she is commended for her ongoing hard work dedication.

Congratulations Emerson on an outstanding season.





ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 9-10 YEARS | MALE

NOMINEES

- Jude Thorpe | North Bondi
- Asher Hill | Cronulla
- Jack Sciberras | Wanda
- William Kelliher | Bronte
- Marlo Davis | Bondi
- Nicholas Kondilios | South Maroubra

WINNER - NICHOLAS KONDILIOS | SOUTH MAROUBRA

Nicholas is a well respected athlete and nipper who has a passion for the beach, surf lifesaving and competition. He is a quiet achiever and very humble with his accomplishments. Nicholas is a role model for his fellow nippers with his kind and caring nature. He certainly is a talent and has a gift as a beach athlete which is demonstrated by the outstanding season of results Nicholas achieved.

Results this season included :

- State Championships – 3 gold and 1 silver medal. Nicholas is a member of the back to back state champions All Age Beach Relay team from South Maroubra
- Branch Championships – a complete set of medals – Gold, Silver and Bronze
- Manly Nipper Nats - 1 Gold, 1 Silver medal
- Sydney Water rounds – Gold medals
- Wanda Carnival – 3 gold medals

The impact of Nicholas achievements is something he is not aware of, because of his young age, however it is evident at weekly club nippers. His achievements show what you can become through training, having fun and enjoying what you do.

Congratulations Nicholas on an outstanding season.





ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 11-12 YEARS | FEMALE

NOMINEES

- Scarlett Tracy | Cronulla
- Charli Moses | Elouera
- Mia Hoo | North Bondi
- Sophie Rowles | Coogee
- Millicent Ashlely | Bondi

WINNER - CHARLI MOSES | ELOUERA

Charli is a passionate and focused competitor who has developed connections and friendships with other competitors across the state. Charli's passion for the sport often sees her supporting her friends from other clubs as well as Elouera. This is testament to her character and her understanding of the larger community within the sport.

Charli is and will be an exceptional role model for our nippers and in particular our young girls within the club, as she moves towards the final years of her nippers journey.

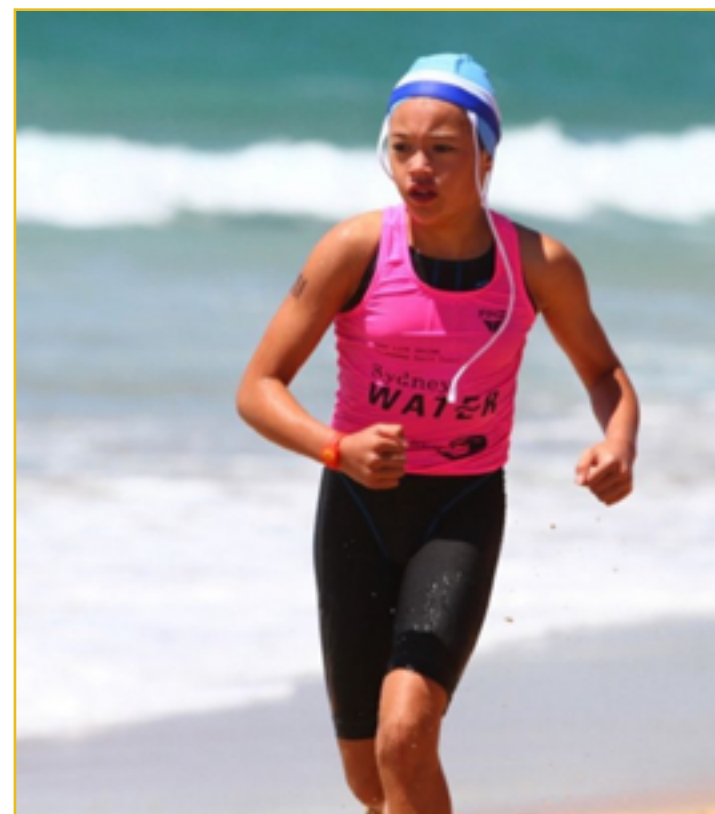
Results this season included :

- 3rd overall Sydney Water Series
- State Championships – 2 gold medal and 1 silver medal
- Branch Championships – 1 gold medal, 1 silver medal, 4 bronze medals

As a member of the Sydney Branch Team, Charli's results of 3 gold, 1 bronze and 2 4th placings contributed greatly to the Sydney Branch Team winning the Interbranch Championships.

Charli is developing into a mentor to her peers and younger age groups in lifesaving, surf sports and beach activities, who assists with Elouera Yellow Fins program, beach set up and uniform sales at the club. An all round outstanding member of the club.

Congratulations Charli on an outstanding season.





ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 11-12 YEARS | MALE

NOMINEES

- Bart Carmondy | North Bondi
- Willem Botha | Elouera
- Matthew Donovan | Maroubra
- Braydin Karauria-Henry | Cronulla
- Thomas Penny | Bronte
- Lenny Rafferty | Bondi

WINNER - WILLEM BOTHA | ELOUERA

Willem is an U11 water competitor competing in all individual and team events for Elouera. He is a high-level competitor who competed in 19 major races this season. Willem is a natural born leader and displays exceptional sportsmanship. He understands he has talent but is the most modest individual with respect to that talent. He trains extremely hard and encourages his team mates to give their best.

Results this season included :

- At the State Championships Willem contested 7 events gaining 2 Gold medals, 2 Silver medals, 1 Bronze medal.
- Branch Championships Willem won the Iron and Board Rescue events.

Willem's impact and influence at the club among nippers continues to grow as he becomes more confident and this will continue each year of maturity. He is a role model and always displays positive behaviours which influence those around him.

Congratulations Willem on an outstanding season.





ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 13-14 YEARS | FEMALE

NOMINEES

- Elizabeth Somerville | North Bondi
- Kyah Gallen | Wanda
- Marli Mayne | South Maroubra
- Kathryn Jordan | Coogee
- Jacqueline Bugg | Bondi

WINNER - MARLI MAYNE | SOUTH MAROUBRA

Marli was a member of the Sydney Branch team where she successfully won the beach sprint and flags for her age group. She was also selected in the NSW State Team where she repeated the wins as well as the beach relay.

Results this season included :

- Branch Championships – 3 gold medals
- State Championships – 2 gold medals
- Aussie Youth Championships – 1 silver and 1 bronze medal

Marli has found her love again for this sport after a year off and her results speak for themselves. The camaraderie and respect her club mates have for each other are second to none and a lot of that is due to the South Maroubra club culture of family. Completing her SRC award this season has also made her year so much more enjoyable as she is doing something for the community with her friends.

Congratulations Marli on an outstanding season.





ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 13-14 YEARS | MALE

NOMINEES

- Noah Bowler | North Bondi
- Thomas Giles | Cronulla
- Richard Nestor | Coogee
- Ryan Mcnamara | South Maroubra
- Max Christensen | Wanda
- Alexander Spencer | Bondi

WINNER - RYAN MCNAMARA | SOUTH MAROUBRA

Ryan is a multi-talented athlete who has demonstrated sporting excellence this season with his main focus on pool rescue and lifesaving. However he is also a talented each events competitor. Ryan is a valued member of all his teams and he actively contributes to their success both in and out of the competition arena as a strong team player. Ryan is a positive role model taking time to mentor, encourage those around him at the Club. He is a wonderfully modest young man who has represented South Maroubra, Sydney Branch and NSW State this season with pride and excellence.

Results this season included :

- State Pool Lifesaving Championships - 6 Gold, 2 Silver medals
- Australian Pool Rescue Championships – 5 Gold, 2 Silver medals
- Australian Pool Lifesaving Championships – 5 gold and overall U14 Champion
- State Age Championships (beach events) – 2 Gold, 1 Bronze medal
- Branch Championships (beach events) - 3 gold medals

Beyond competition, Ryan has always been a positive role model at nippers, supporting his peers particularly in the water to assist with building their confidence and surf skills. Ryan was a confident participant in his recent SRC cohort, leading the CPE training as a result of the skills he learnt from training and participating in CPR competition at the Australian Pool Lifesaving championships.

Congratulations Ryan on an outstanding season.





AGE MANAGER OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Keli McGuinness | Wanda
- John Georgas | Maroubra
- Caroline Tumeth | Cronulla
- Matt Elliott | Elouera
- Paul Wallace | Bondi
- Dan Lawson | North Cronulla

WINNER - CAROLINE TUMETH | CRONULLA

Caroline has been involved with Cronulla Crays for over 13 years having been an Age Manager for two separate age groups. With children who have transitioned to cadets, Caroline is part of the Youth committee which is focused on the transition between nippers into cadets and ongoing engagement at the Club.

Caroline has played an integral role in the development and execution of the Sunday Nipper program at Cronulla focused on delivering a robust program to help U14 nippers remain actively involved in the club. Her leadership is the type of leadership we need to continue to engage our teenagers to continue to love surf lifesaving and what it represents.

Congratulations and thank you Caroline for the leaders of the community you support as an Age Manager.

HIGHLY COMMENDED - PAUL WALLACE | BONDI





TEAM OF THE YEAR

NOMINEES

- Under 9 Boys Board Relay | Cronulla
- Coogee U11 Surf Team | Coogee
- Beach All Age Relay | South Maroubra
- U12 Board Rescue | Wanda
- U13 Male Beach Relay Team | North Bondi
- U11 Female Beach Sprint Relay | Elouera
- March Past | Maroubra
- Axolotls U13/14 Mixed 2 Person R&R | North Cronulla

WINNER - AXOLOTLIS U13/14 MIXED 2 PERSON R&R | NORTH CRONULLA

Sophia Heron and Anna McCrone are exemplary members of North Cronulla. Both completed their SRC award this season and have become reliable and competent patrolling members. As members of the R&R section, they have learnt a great deal from those that have gone before them, becoming a key part of North Cronulla's rich tradition in R&R, supporting and mentoring both the younger R&R competitors and nipper age groups.

Results this season included :

- Aussies – Gold medal U13/U14 Mixed 2 person R & R, 4th in the U14/U15 Mixed 2 Person R & R
- State Championships – Silver medal and Bronze medals in these event.

In addition to their competition, both girls are active fundraisers with the club and also assist with U6 & U7 nippers.

Congratulations Sophia and Anna on an outstanding season.





We acknowledge the traditional custodians across all the lands on which we live, work and patrol, and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

