



2026 BRANCH CHAMPIONSHIPS | Event Guide

Surf Sports | Water Safety v1

1. EVENT DATES

DECEMBER 2025		
Wednesday 3 December	9.00am	Water Safety Nominations open
Wednesday 17 December	5:00pm	Last chance to submit any questions to Branch Office
JANUARY 2026		
Friday 16 January	11:00pm	Water Safety nominations close
FEBUARY 2026		
Sunday 8 February	7:30am	Championships Day 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Age Championships U9s& U10s Water- Age Championships U11s to U14s

2. WATER SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Clubs will be rostered to assist with water safety for Age Championships on Sunday 8 February 2026 at Elouera / Wanda beaches. Clubs are to register all water safety personnel by 11:00pm Friday 16 January 2026 using the online [Water Safety Form](#).

Each club will need to ensure that at least two (2) of their water safety team are SMAR trained personnel. They will form the SMAR team if required.

Each area will have an appointed water safety supervisor who will be responsible for the water safety team in their area. Directions will be given by this supervisor to the appointed club water safety team leader.

Below are the requirements for each club based on previous years of competitor numbers. This can change once entries close.

If clubs do not provide rostered water safety as per their notified requirements, Surf Life Saving Sydney will stand down all athletes from that club from competition until such time as the required are present.

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Shift 1: 7am - 10.00am Briefing 645 am			
Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
North Bondi x 10	Maroubra x10	Bronte x 10	Coogee x 10
Shift 2: 10am - 1pm Briefing 945am			
Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Wanda x 5	Bondi x 10	South Maroubra x 10	Coogee x 5
North Bondi x 5			Cronulla x 5
Shift 3: 1pm - 4pm Briefing 12.45pm			
Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4
Wanda x 10	Elouera x 10	North Cronulla x 10	Cronulla x 10

NOTE: The numbers per club required above are subject to change dependent on the number of competitor entries received for each club

3. EQUIPMENT

This year Sydney Branch will be providing the orange water safety long sleeve rash shirt to each person on the day. You will be required to bring:

- Orange water safety hat (no person is to enter the water without the approved water safety shirt and cap.
- Water Bottle (water filling stations will be available on the beach in each area)
- Sunscreen & Sunhat (if desired)
- Each club is to provide:
 - At least one (1) board per five (5) water safety with the balance being rescue tubes.
 - Each water safety officer must have a piece of rescue equipment

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4. WATER SAFETY AREA RULES

- No Boards in the Wave Zone
- Only highly experienced bronze medallion board paddlers to be on the rescue boards. No SRC
- The water safety team is not permitted to assist, give directions, or handle boards for any competitor. They are there as safety officers only.
- Should the Water Safety Team be concerned that the area is unsafe for the competitor, they are to advise their team leader and/or area supervisor immediately.
- If the water area referee signals a competitor or competitors to be removed, the water safety team must act immediately.

5. SIGN ON / SIGN OFF

Each team member will be required to sign on and off with Central Control who will advise on which area you need to attend and ensure you have all the required equipment. You will be provided with your water safety rash shirt at the sign on area.

6. ADAPTIVE

For those competing in aquatic events, it is mandatory that each competitor provide their own Water Safety personnel. This person must hold a surf lifesaving bronze medallion and be proficient for this season.

7. CONTINGENCY PLAN / ALTERNATE VENUE

If the surf and/or weather conditions prevent the program being conducted as scheduled, a decision will be made by the Competition Committee as to contingency arrangements. If it is deemed that there is no contingency available, only events that are the Age and Open qualifying events, will be conducted as detailed by the competition committee.

In the event the Championships are either cancelled, or the program amended, prior to the day, the event details, including water safety requirements, will be emailed to Club Presidents and Secretaries and placed on the Surf Life Saving Sydney website and Facebook page.

8. BEHAVIOUR / MISCONDUCT

Any misconduct while at the Championships will not be tolerated. This includes the days leading into competition and any official social activities following the conclusion of the Championship. Offending members risk disciplinary action against both themselves, and their Clubs.

Parents or supporters, particularly those appointed as Officials, including water safety, are not allowed to assist competitors during the competition. Any breach of this policy may result in the disqualification of an athlete and/or club from the remainder of the competition and is at the discretion of the Referee.



Please refer to 38th Edition Surf Sports Manual sections 2.27 SLSA Code of Behaviour and 2.28 Abuse/Inappropriate Behaviour and the Policy 6.05 – Member Protection Policy (available online at Members Area > Library > Governance > Policy > SLSA > Policy 6.05).

For any questions related to the Surf Life Saving Sydney Branch Championships, please submit by 5:00pm on Wednesday 17 December 2025.

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