

## Junior Members Competition Policy

Issued 2018/19 Season

### Purpose and Objective

Dixon Park SLSC is an inclusive family-oriented club, which aims to foster junior members within the surf lifesaving movement for competition, health, fitness, social well-being and community safety.

The club actively seeks to encourage any junior member to participate in Surf Lifesaving Carnivals in addition to the Nippers program run by the club at Dixon Park.

Junior Surf Lifesaving carnivals are open to children participating from **Under 8's to Under 14's**.

Various activities are included within the competitive environment, with Under 8 competitors starting in a modified format, which excludes deep-water activities.

To meet the requirement of Surf Lifesaving Australia (SLSA), SLSNSW and Hunter Surf Lifesaving (HSL) there are several requirements to be met by both the competitors, and by Dixon Park SLSC.

Dixon Park SLSC provides resources and policies to foster this competition.

### Eligibility to Compete at Carnivals

The eligibility to compete at carnivals is divided into two sections. Both sections must be satisfied for a competitor to be eligible to compete at carnivals.

#### **1 - Eligibility to compete – Education and Proficiency Swims**

- **Pool Proficiency** - All prospective competitors must complete the **Junior Competition Skills Assessment pool proficiency swim** to be eligible to compete in Carnivals.  
*\*\*Proficiency requirements are listed on the club website*
- **Ocean Proficiency** - All prospective competitors U9 to U14 (excludes Under 8's) are required to complete the **Junior Competition Skills Assessment Ocean Proficiency swim** prior to competing in any carnival. **\*\*This is irrespective of whether the competitor participates in water events or not.**  
*\*\*Proficiency requirements are listed on the club website*
- **Education** - All competitors must attend Sunday nipper sessions regularly at Dixon Park. Completion of the prescribed SLSA Education activity for the relevant age group is a pre requisite for entry to some carnivals. This includes the SLSNSW State Age Group Championships.

## 2- Eligibility to Compete – Parent Volunteers

Our policy aims to be equitable for all members. Dixon Park SLSC requires parents/carers to participate in a role at carnivals whether it be age managing, officiating, performing IRB duty, water safety or providing first aid.

**For prospective competitors U9 to U14's (excludes U8's)** Dixon Park SLSC requires at least one parent/care giver from each family group to volunteer in one of the following roles in order for their child to be eligible to compete at carnivals.

- Carnival Official (Level 1 Official Award)
- Water Safety (Bronze Medallion Award)
- Age Manager / Assistant Age Manager (Age Manager Award)
- First Aid Officer (Advanced First Aid Award)
- Junior Committee Member

***\*\*\*If a parent / caregiver does not volunteer in one of the roles listed above their child will not be eligible to compete in carnivals for Dixon Park SLSC.***

### Carnival Officials and Carnival Water Safety Information

A mandatory requirement for the club's participation in Carnivals is for Dixon Park SLSC to provide both Carnival Officials and Carnival Water Safety Personnel. Key attributes of this mandatory requirement are;

1. The ratio to be provided by the club is 1 Official and 1 Water Safety per 10 competitors.
2. In the event Dixon Park SLSC do not have sufficient Officials or Water Safety personnel the clubs participation may be limited by the governing body (SLSA, SLSNSW or HSLS) or heavily fined.
3. If the Club's participation is limited, as indicated above, competitors will be withdrawn to meet the required ratios.

For a parent/carer to do either of these roles at a carnival the minimum award requirement is:

- Level 1 Official Award (for Carnival Official) or
- Surf Rescue Certificate and/or Bronze Medallion (for Carnival Water Safety)
- Working with Children Check (for both Carnival Official & Carnival Water Safety)

#### Course Fees:

In order to encourage parents / caregivers to volunteer as a Carnival Official or Carnival Water Safety Dixon Park SLSC will:

- Cover 100% of the Carnival Official Course Fee
- Cover 50% of the Bronze Medallion Course Fee

## Uniforms

- Dixon Park SLSC Competitors must wear the current season club shirt to all carnivals. The shirt must be worn at all times when not competing.
- Competitors are encouraged to wear club swimwear when competing.
- All Dixon Park SLSC Competitors will wear a hi-visibility pink rashie during Ocean proficiency, competition and training.

## Competition Fees

- Dixon Park SLSC will cover the entry fees for all Nippers who wish to attend Hunter Branch SLS carnivals including the Hunter Branch Age Championship carnival.
- Dixon Park SLSC will also cover NSW SLS State Age Championship entry fees.
- ***Any late entry fees are payable by the competitor – this includes the standard fee and the late entry fee.***
- If a Competitor nominates for a carnival and fails to attend, the competitor must pay for the next carnival they nominate to enter.
- Competitors that wish to compete outside Hunter Branch SLS carnivals must pay their own entry fee

Competitors must nominate their entry for Hunter Branch SLS carnivals at the Nippers desk on the Sunday before the carnival at the Nippers desk.

Entry dates for other carnivals (such as NSW SLS Age Championships) may vary. Please check the NSW SLS Website for cut off dates.

## Code of Conduct

**Competitor Code of Conduct governs both Competitors and their Parents/Carers.**

### **Competitor Code of Conduct**

1. The Junior Surf Sports/Carnival Manager, the Dixon Park SLSC Junior Committee, Club Surf Sports Manager or the Dixon Park Executive Committee will direct all competitors as applicable.
2. Surf Lifesaving is a team environment. Surf Sports have both individual and team elements. It is expected that at all times, competitors will make themselves available for team selection. Team participation is a guiding principle at Dixon Park. Once selected in a team, competitors will compete to the best of their ability.
3. All Dixon Park Competitors and Parents / Caregivers are expected to compete in a fair and honest way, upholding the highest possible sportsmanship. Celebrate victory, be gracious in defeat but foremost try their best.
4. Competitors will also comply with Dixon Park SLSC Nippers Code of Conduct which is available on the club website.