

NORTH AVOCA NEWS

31/10/2023



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I'm very excited to kick off this newsletter with a very exciting announcement.....

North Avoca SLSC is now proudly supported by two new gold sponsors. These sponsors have been part of our North Avoca family for the last few years so have seen the unique community environment we boast and see potential for further future success. We are so happy you have come on board in support of our wonderful club and community.

**A very warm welcome and thank you to
Sprout Learn Play Thrive and
Central Coast Orthodontics.**



We were also lucky enough to welcome a new Silver sponsor Denair. As another club family, Denair now join Highgrove Bathrooms and 365 Assistance in our valued silver sponsorship program. Thank you for your support.



North Avoca SLSC is proudly Supported by:

FONA'S

**Kim Jackson/Scott Farquhar & Family
The Estate of Juleen High
The Carusi Family
The Clitheroe Foundation
The Freedman Foundation
The Petre Foundation
The Redman Family
The Webb Family**

GOLD SPONSORS

**Central Coast Orthodontics
Sprout ELC**

SILVER SPONSORS

**365 Assist
Highgrove Bathrooms
Denair Australia**

BRONZE SPONSORS

**Accom Property
Baily Constructions
Beachview Bookkeeping
Central Coast Luxury Homes
Coast Realty Terrigal
Enliven Housing
5 Star Swim School
G.F James Plumbing Services
Hotel Gosford
North Avoca General Store
Pesteco
Platinum Physiotherapy
Smith Construction
The Agency**

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

**Central Coast Council
SLSC, SLNSW, SLSA
NSW and Federal Governments**

The strength of our nipper and youth programs over the last few years was certainly realised in the lifesaving space this month as we welcomed 2 new patrol captains Brodie and Ella. Congratulations on your appointments as well as the high level preventative actions I have already seen you undertaking.

The new gym fit out is now complete. Active members can now enjoy a professional exercise space and facilities. Please also respect the new gear and gym rules.



Surf sports is now underway with training and competition in full swing with our nippers, opens and masters crews. It was so good to be back in the competition environment on Sunday as our nippers took on the other 14 clubs in our branch. As a growing club, North Avoca had the 4th highest number of entries on the coast joined by some great results.

Well done to the education team who have been busy working all of our requirements and meeting the demands into the calendar. The close integration between education and the lifesaving space this season is proving a great success. Please see the report below for details.

Social and family nights have proven a bit hit, in conjunction with our new bar menu. Continue to watch this space through our coms with some exciting events coming up. These events are great for kids, families and building community connection.

Stay Safe

Kim Findlay
President
president@naslsc.com.au

Director of Administration

The Special General Meeting was held on 16 October 2023, which unanimously voted to adopt the 2022/23 audited accounts and appoint Fortunity as the Club Auditors for the 2023/24 financial year.

If any members are holding a key to the Surf Club and are not on the Management Committee or a Patrol Captain or an appointed key holder for the 2023/24 season, can you please return your key to Sharon in the office this week.

Welcoming our new Bar Managers - Geeb Smith and Peter Waugh, thanks for stepping into this role! Geeb & Pete are seeking new volunteers to work the bar at Sunday SIPs (5-7pm) and other Surf Club events throughout the year. If you already have a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) licence or are keen to get one, please get in touch with Geeb & Pete. For the first five respondees wishing to complete their RSA, the Club will reimburse the cost of the course upon completion of five bar shifts. It's a great team and the commitment is approximately one shift every three to four weeks - less if we get more volunteers (or more if you're keen)! Please contact them at barmanager@naslsc.com.au or Geeb - 0408 207 088.



Kind Regards,

Penny Smith
Director of Administration
admin@naslsc.com.au

Lifesaving

The patrol season is progressing well with all patrols now finding their rhythm now that the season is underway. Please contact me if you have any patrolling requirements or if you have any ideas on how to make your patrolling experience better.

There are now 2 IRB's set up for patrol. The hard hull IRB has been fixed and is the primary boat, while the soft hull IRB is set up as a reserve. Feel free to use either or both IRB's while on patrol if you have the Drivers and Crew to take them out.

The ATV policy has been updated and placed in your patrol box. All drivers need to complete the assessment form if you are endorsed to drive the ATV.

Please focus on completing your requals during patrol. Anyone needing their ART requal will be contacted in the coming weeks about dates. The ART award has changed and all holders are required to complete the new ART award to be proficient. They must also hold a current First Aid certificate.

Just a reminder that the mandatory elearning needs to be completed for the 2023/23 season. Log onto elearning in your members portal, go to the training library and select

1. 2023 Skills maintenance
2. 2023 Bronze Medallion or SRC Skills Maintenance - whichever is applicable.

Upcoming patrols are:

Sat 4/11 - 6 (AM) & 8 (PM)
Sun 5/11 – 10 (AM) & 9 (PM)

Sat 11/11 – 3 (AM) & 4 (PM)
Sun 12/11 - 7(AM) & 2 (PM)

Sat 18/11 – 8 (AM) & 6 (PM)
Sun 19/11 – 9 (AM) & 1 (PM)

Sat 25/11 – 5 (AM) & 10 (PM)
Sun 26/11 – 2 (AM) & 3 (PM)

Have fun patrolling

Josh Duggan
Director of Lifesaving
lifesaving@naslsc.com.au

Education

Bronze Medallion – Session 1, Course Overview and General Information

When - Wednesday 1st November
Time – 7.15pm
Where – NASLSC

SRC to BM Transition Course

When – Saturday 18th November
Time – 9am – 3pm
Where – NASLSC
Please watch out for an email from Sharon with further information and course pre-work

SRC Course

This will commence in November and run over several weeks. There will be 1 theory session and 1 practical session each week. Please watch out for an email from Sharon with further information and course pre-work

SLSCC Education Calendar – Please click on the link below. If you wish to register for any of these courses please email Sharon office@naslsc.com.au

<https://slscc.com.au/gwswp/2023-24-slscc-calendar/>

Please forward any questions or express interest by contacting education@naslsc.com.au

Dean Clatworthy
Director of Education
education@naslsc.com.au

Child Safe Commitment

Along with Surf Lifesaving NSW, our Club is commitment to keeping children and our young people safe. Below you will find the SLSNSW Child Safe Newsletter, which outlines key information on the Child Safe Standards, self-assessment tools and the legal implications around reporting.

Our Club's Child Safe Co-ordinator is Evelyn Dwyer. Evelyn is eminently qualified to take on this role for our Club. This volunteer task provides a point of contact for communication regarding child safety and ensures that child safety requirements and requests are actioned. Note, this role does not handle child safety complaints. Evelyn can be contacted be email childsafecoordinator@naslsc.com.au

Nippers

Nippers is Back!!!! We are now four weeks into the 2023/2024 season and we are so excited to see the beach flooded with Black and yellow caps again. This year we are excited to say, we have our highest nipper registration rate in the past 5 years. Go Team.

Training is going strong with our Tuesday and Thursday sessions back in full swing. Training is for any child U9 and above that has a board. We meet at Terrigal Haven at 4:15 for a 4:30 start. Just a reminder, in order for training to take place we need sufficient water safety. If you are interested in completing your Bronze medallion in order to assist, please email Shaz office@naslsc.com.au

Sunday 29 October saw our first of many carnivals for the season kick off at Terrigal. We had a fantastic turnout with 84 entries at the carnival across most age group, which was the fourth most entries in the carnival. For our under 8's this was their first Carnival, U 9's first carnival on a board, Under 11's first iron person and for the under 14's it was their first carnival on the mal. So many new experiences. Carnivals are always a sea of emotions but meant to be fun. And there was no lack of smiles on our nipper's faces, from cheering our team mates and other clubs on, to playing clapping games in the sand, and fallen nipper pyramids, endless fun was had by all. Thank you to all the water safety, officials and age managers for making the day a success and thank you to the parents for your support. Finally congratulations to all the nippers involved, we could not be more proud of you all.

Next Nipper carnival is the 26/11/23 at Avoca. This is a team's carnival, so all team events only.

Building nippers confidence on the beach and in the water is of utmost importance. This year we have purchased a number of body boards to help our little ones get in the water more frequently get a feel for the waves and the ocean in a fun learning environment. A huge thank you to Denair Australia for sponsoring the boards.

The Newcastle Permanent is coming up on the 10th and 11th November 2023, at the Lakes Beach. If your child is interested in Participating, please have a chat to your age manager ASAP.

John Avis
Director of Junior Activities
nippers@naslsc.com.au

Megan
Assistant JAC
nippers2@naslsc.com.au

Youth

Surf Life Saving Central Coast (SLSCC) invites all youth members between U13 - U19 to the SLSCC Youth Day Forum.

Information on the forum can be found via the following circular link:

[Circular-1598-Youth-Day.pdf \(slscc.com.au\)](#)

Youth Day Forum Details

Date: Saturday 25th November 2023

Venue: Central Coast Leagues Club 1 Dane Drive, Gosford NSW 2250

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Cost: No cost to youth or clubs.

Please note – this is open to all youth within SLSCC Branch in the U13 to U19 age group.

RSVP: Sunday 19th November 2023

For attendance and catering please RSVP via Youth Day Forum RSVP Form (click on below link)

<https://form.jotform.com/232968026093057>

Last Friday night 12 of our Rookies attended the Branch Rookie Disco. We also had 4 of our youth, Ella, Brooke, Kale and I attend as Youth facilitators, helping to run the evening and ensure all our branch rookies had a great experience. The night was a lot of fun.



This weekend we have some of our U14s attending the Rookie Camp. I'm sure you all will have a great time, make new friends and awesome memories.

Please reach out if you have any questions or would like further information regarding any of Branch or the Clubs youth programs.

Bailey Green
Youth Representative Committee
youthdevelopment.coordinator@naslsc.com.au

CHILD SAFE Scheme

Surf Life Saving NSW first communicated with clubs and branches about the Child Safe Scheme in the 2021/22 Pre-season Information Pack, shortly before the Children's Guardian Amendment (Child Safe Scheme) Bill 2021 was passed in NSW Parliament in November 2021. At that time, clubs and branches were encouraged to familiarise themselves with the [Guide to the Child Safe Standards](#).

Over the past two seasons, Surf Life Saving NSW has been working closely with the Office of the Children's Guardian (OCG), the NSW Office of Sport and Surf Life Saving Australia to ensure that we are well positioned to support clubs and branches to be child safe, and to satisfy their requirements under the legislation.

Introduction to the Child Safe Standards

The OCG attended SLSNSW's State Conference in July 2022 to present on the Child Safe Scheme, and recently delivered another introductory session on the topic as part of SLSNSW's Club Executive Training Calendar. If you are not yet familiar with the Child Safe Scheme, please watch this [7-minute explanatory video](#) about the scheme.

Clubs are not expected to meet every standard and requirement straight away - the OCG recognises that some organisations are further along than others and is taking a proactive approach to supporting clubs with continuous improvements over time.

Child Safe Self-Assessment

If you're interested in identifying areas of strength and opportunities for improvement in how your club implements the NSW Child Safe Standards, you can access the OCG's Child Safe Self-Assessment.

The self-assessment is a free online resource to support organisations improve their child safe practice. It takes around 30 minutes to complete, and your responses hold no legal or regulatory implications for you or your club.



Child Safe Coordinators: Standard 1

To help your club feel confident that it is taking the right steps to implement the Child Safe Standards and meet its requirements under the legislation, we've asked all clubs to nominate a Child Safe Coordinator (CSC) this season.

Your CSC will be the main point of contact for all communication regarding child safety and will be responsible for ensuring that child safe requirements and requests are actioned. We have already delivered training on Child Safe Standards for new CSCs, and will be offering a Child Safe implementation workshop in late October. Recordings can always be requested from Jenni Darwin - Club Services Manager (jdarwin@surflifesaving.com.au).

So far, 92 clubs have recorded their CSC in SurfGuard. We will reach out to clubs who are yet to nominate someone to see how we can support.



Child Safe Reporting: Standard 6

There are certain circumstances where you will be legally required to report club complaints to the OCG via the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

To enable the most appropriate and efficient response and to ensure that you fulfil your legal requirements, it is important that you follow the Child Safe Policy and lodge any and all complaints, allegations or disclosures involving children or young people (anyone under the age of 18) via the [SLSA Reporting System](#) as soon as you are aware of them.

It's important to note that our legal reporting requirements extend to allegations that a member or employee has engaged in conduct that may be reportable conduct. At the allegation stage, there does not need to be any proof that the alleged conduct occurred, or that it is likely to have occurred.

It's also important to note that reportable conduct includes any ill-treatment of a child, or any behaviour that causes psychological harm to a child (e.g. yelling, ridiculing or threats). It does not just relate to sexual offences or misconduct.

All allegations, concerns and disclosures will be reviewed by SLSNSW's Complaints Manager, who will be able to support your club with any external reporting that you are required to complete.

Children at risk of significant harm

In addition to organisational reporting via the SLSA Reporting System, if you suspect on reasonable grounds that a child is at [risk of significant harm \(ROSH\)](#) you should report your concerns to the Child Protection Helpline on 13 21 11. In an emergency, where there are urgent concerns for the child's health or life, call the police on triple zero (000).

'Failure to Report' and 'Failure to Protect'

While we're talking about reporting, we wanted to take the opportunity to remind you that from 2018, it has been a criminal offence to conceal a child abuse offence and to fail to remove the risk that an individual will commit a child abuse offence.

Complying with the SLSA Child Safe Policy in relation to reporting complaints, allegations or disclosures involving members under the age of 18 helps to protect you, as well as to protect children and young people.

For more information, take a look at this factsheet on [child safeguarding and the law](#).

Child Safe Training: Standard 7

A huge thank you for your support so far in rolling out the Child Safe Awareness course in your clubs. Over 7,500 NSW members have completed this course and are working to create a child safe culture.

In addition to the online module, SLSNSW is hosting another live webinar with [Morgan Lander from Not On My Watch](#) on Thursday 26th October 6:30-7:00pm. If you have any members who have not completed the module, please promote this option to them and encourage them to attend.



Coming soon...

SLSNSW Child Safe Officer

To provide enhanced support for clubs to implement the Child Safe Standards, SLSNSW will be appointing a part-time Child Safe Officer in our Membership Team. Recruitment has now commenced.

Child Safe Risk Assessment Support: Standard 1

Whilst many clubs apply risk management to activities involving children and young people, few have formalised risk management plans. To support clubs with this, SLSNSW has been working with a company called Child Safeguard on a risk management toolkit. More information will be communicated to Child Safe Coordinators later in the season.



Disabled Surfers Association

Would you like to get involved in putting Smiles on
Dials?
You don't need to be a surfer to volunteer



Volunteer Training



Saturday 25th November - 8.45am for 9.00am start
Upstairs Umina Surf Club

Theory session followed by in water training. Rash shirt provided. BYO wetsuit