



ELOUERA Surf Life Saving Club

Elouera 'Sharks' Nippers Guidebook
Season 2023/24

Developed and approved by the Elouera Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC)
Junior Development Committee (JDC)
June 2022

For additional information:
www.eloueranippers.com.au



MESSAGE OF WELCOME

On behalf of the JDC, welcome to Elouera SLSC Nippers.

The aim of this document is to ensure that parents/guardians and Nippers are provided with up to date and relevant information on the Elouera Nippers program. It outlines the guidelines that our Age Managers, Coaches, Water Safety and other volunteers abide by during Nippers events and selecting teams and most importantly, details the standards that Nippers need to achieve when aspiring to represent Elouera SLSC.

The document also details Elouera's Inclusive Beaches Nippers Group, Yellow Fins. If any content differs for the Yellow Fins, it will be noted as a separate "YF" dot point.

At Elouera, all Nippers are expected to work as a team for the benefit and advantage of Elouera SLSC. The Sunday Nippers program is about inclusion, encouragement, education, awareness, sportsmanship, participation and fun.

The competitive pathway will provide an opportunity to represent Elouera SLSC at the various Carnivals and events throughout the Nippers Season.

Surf knowledge and techniques are gradually introduced to Nippers respective age and ability; ultimately at the age of 13, all Nippers will attain a Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC), which is one step below the Bronze Medallion (BM).

- YF – depending on ability, at the age of 13, Yellow Fins Nippers will be offered a modified SRC course to attend with the current SRC group.

Elouera SLSC has some fine traditions and it is hoped that the Nippers Program will ensure that our Nippers obtain maximum benefit from the opportunities that are presented to them at Elouera SLSC.

Mission

Our mission at Elouera SLSC is to encourage and educate our nippers to be competent and safe on the beach and in the surf so that, should the need arise, they are able to save a life.

Objective

To ensure that those Nippers who become part of the Elouera SLSC are provided with:

- The best possible facilities to enjoy their activities.
- The best possible opportunity to participate in Surf Lifesaving activities.
- The best possible tuition and coaching to complete the Surf Education Program.
- The best possible opportunity to compete for Elouera SLSC.
- A friendly, happy, and safe environment.
- An inclusive training program for Nippers who want to conduct additional surf lifesaving education and surf and beach training during the week.

Communication

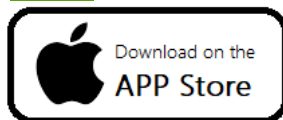
Communication between the JDC and parents/guardians, Age Managers and volunteers is crucial to the success of the Nippers program at Elouera. Communication and notifications will be conducted via the Elouera Nippers TeamApp.



TeamApp can be accessed via the weblink below or via the linked Apple store and Google play store.



Weblink: <https://www.teamapp.com> (search Elouera Nippers)



SEASON CALENDAR

Prior to the commencement of the season a calendar will be drafted and promoted throughout the club. All events on the season calendar are subject to change with little or no notice. Communication of any changes will be made via the Elouera Nippers TeamApp.

The 2023/24 season calendar can be located on the on website located [here](#).

SUNDAY NIPPERS

The Sunday Nippers program requires a large amount of assistance and coordination to ensure a smooth operation.

- Sunday Nippers commences at **08:45**. Nippers assemble behind their respective Age Group signs so attendance can be captured by their Age Managers.
- Nippers are to wear, an Elouera:
 - age Group cap, clearly marked with their name, &
 - pink rash vest or shirt (no exceptions).
- All parents/guardians are encouraged to become part of the club and register as water safety, or parent helper. Working with children checks (WCC) are required for any participation that includes interaction with Elouera Nippers participants.
 - YF – it is a requirement of all Yellow Fin registration, that one parent registers as a parent helper, which requires a current WCC.
- A reoccurring theme at Nippers is the parent/guardian participation. It takes many people to ensure that the Nippers program operates safely and smoothly. Assistance and participation is highly encouraged for all parents/guardians; you will appreciate Nippers progress far more when you play an active role in assisting their respective Age Manager.
 - Please note, under no circumstances will any parent or guardian be able to participate, or interact with any Nippers without a current WCC and being registered with Elouera SLSC in a volunteer capacity.
 - Elouera SLSC frequently offer courses which enable parents/guardians to become Water Safety volunteers.
- Parents/guardians will be expected to assist their Age Manager when Duty is assigned for their Age Group; this could be set-up, pack-up or working the BBQ.
- During Sunday Nippers activities a parent/guardian is required to be at the beach at all times.
- Conditions and the program can change at short notice.
- Any Nippers that need to leave the beach before the completion of the Nippers activities must inform the Age Manager before leaving.
- At the conclusion of the Sunday Nippers activities:
 - parents/guardians will collect their Nipper from the Age Managers.
 - all Nippers must obtain parent permission to enter the water.
 - Elouera caps and rashie must be removed after being signed off by the Age Manager. This is a safety consideration as there is the understanding that supervision is being provided by the Club to all Nippers wearing Elouera Nippers caps and rashies.



Activities at Elouera Nippers

Surf lifesaving education

Each week all Nippers will receive Surf education, governed by Surf lifesaving Australia (SLSA) to enrich the lives of junior members through a delivery of surf lifesaving knowledge and skills.

Age Managers will be tutored on these lessons to, in turn, teach them to their groups each week. The lessons are age specific, covering topics on sun safety, Eco surf, club history, personal health & fitness, personal safety & well-being, the human body, emergency services, first aid, resuscitation, signs & signals, preventative action, as well as principals of flags, sprints, board & surf swimming.

This is a certificate course which is issued to all those who complete it. It is also accompanied by an individual "passport" for each child to have ticked off when they have covered each set topic - this may be kept by the AM/I for safety and returned to the child at the end of each season.

Note: the course must be completed each season before the end of December, persons joining late or missing lessons or in the incorrect age group may not receive the award.

Beach Events

Throughout the season and depending on conditions, below are examples of the beach activities that may be offered:

- *Beach Races*: running over a set distance on the sand (50m-75m depending on age).
- *Flags*: lying flat on sand, then getting up and sprinting a short distance to grasp a "flag" (or hose) standing in the sand. The event is run over several rounds with nipper/s eliminated each round until there is an eventual winner.
- *Beach Relays*: teams of 4 run a relay over a similar distance to the Beach Races. The baton hand over generates an additional degree of complexity, uncertainty and excitement.
- *Surf Wade*: running through shallow water around a heavily supervised course (usually just for younger Age Groups).

Specific activities focusing on running and flags, may be held to focus on the techniques and skills required for these beach events.

Water Events

- *Surf Swim*: swimming from the beach around a string of buoys and back to the beach.
- *Board Race*: like the Surf Swim, but around an apex of buoys.
- *Iron Person*: a combination of the Surf Swim and Board Race.
- *Board Relay*: a team of 3 race as a relay around the Board Racecourse.
- *Surf Team*: a team of 4 nippers enter the water together and swim around the Surf Swim course. Points are awarded for position. The points are then calculated to generate a winning team (usually the team with the fewest points).
- *Cameron Relay*: a 4-person relay involving a Surf Swim, Board Race and 2 Beach Sprints.
- *Board Rescue*: as a 2-person team, the swimmer swims to their respective buoy and is then 'rescued' by the board paddler; both nippers must then paddle back to shore on the same board.

March Past

The March Past is the ultimate team event with 12 nippers in a team. The team marches around a rectangular course and is judged on marching skills, body carriage and the team's ability to hold their formation throughout the march. All the nippers work together with the winning team scoring the lowest number of errors.



Rescue and Resuscitation (R&R)

R&R is another traditional surf lifesaving event with a proud history. The event simulates the rescue and resuscitation of a 'patient' and nippers are assessed on areas such as marching, uniformity and following the correct resuscitation procedure.

- 2-person R&R is for *u10-u13* nippers. One nipper will simulate the patient and the other performs the rescue. The competition takes place on the water's edge and does not require the patient to swim.
- 5-person R&R is for *u12-u14* nippers and is based on the traditional method of performing rescues with the reel, line and belt. The nippers fill the roles of patient, beltman, reel-man and linesmen and simulate a rescue, carry the patient from the water and resuscitate them. The rescue is done in waist deep water.

NIPPERS PATHWAYS

Each Nipper will progress through age groups at Elouera and will take part in the Capability Pathway and can enter the Competitive Pathway as they increase their skills, knowledge and ability.

Capability Pathway

The Capability Pathway encapsulates all Sunday Nippers activities and will have different activities dependent on their Age Group, which is available for *u6* through to *u14*.

Competition Pathway

The Competition Pathway is available to those Nippers who show aptitude, ability and desire to compete and represent Elouera at [Carnivals](#).

Age Group	Capability Pathway	Competition Pathway Key Elements
<i>u6 & u7</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play-based activities designed to gain confidence on the beach and in the shallow surf. • Obstacle courses and sprint races. • Introduction to flag racing without the knock-out element. • Encouraged to venture into knee deep surf during games and wades. • Understanding the flagged area and appreciation for the power of the ocean and what a life saver is. • Wrap up each session with a fun activity. • Surf Ed – Surf Play 1 & 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA



Age Group	Capability Pathway	Competition Pathway Key Elements
U8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sprint races & Flags. ● Longer wades into deeper water. ● Introduced to Foam boards in flat conditions, such as Gunnamatta or Silver Beach. ● Discussion of the rips, flags and being surf safe. ● Significant transition from u8 to u9 in terms of proficiency requirements and activities they can get involved in. ● Surf Ed – Surf Aware 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Able to join the club's Sprint & flag training from October. ● Dedicated end of season u8's Transition to U9s foam Nipper board training. ● Encouraged to attend Winter Board training as transition to u9s. ● Pre-season Ocean training as they graduate to u9. <p>Optional Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carnivals on Bate Bay beaches, Sydney Branch, events include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sprints, sprint relays, flags, wade, wade
u9 & u10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sprints, Flags & deep wades ● Surf swimming (negotiating breaks) ● Paddling on foam boards ● Surf Ed – Surf Aware 2 & Surf Safe 1 (introduced to basic CPR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sprint & flag training from Oct ● Winter Board training ● Pre-season Ocean training ● Board training <p>Optional Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carnivals on Bate Bay beaches, Sydney, and SLS NSW State, event include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sprints, sprint relays, flags, surf swim, swim relay, board race, board relay, March past, R+R
u11, u12 & u13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sprints & flags ● Surf swimming & paddling ● Move to Fibreglass Nipper Boards ● Surf safety & basic CPR ● Board rescue & Ironman added to competition events ● Surf Ed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Surf Safe 2, ○ Surf Smart 1, & ○ Surf Smart 2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sprint & flag training from Oct ● Winter Board training, Pre-season Ocean training, Board training ● u13 Transition to Mal Board training <p>Optional Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carnivals on Bate Bay beaches, Sydney, and SLS NSW State, events include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sprints, sprint relays, flags, surf swim, swim relay, board race, board relay, March past, R&R ● New events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ironman/woman, Board Rescue, Cameron Race ● Trials for SLS Sydney development squad & Interbranch team



Age Group	Capability Pathway	Competition Pathway Key Elements
u14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sprints & flags, ● surf swimming, ● paddling in all conditions, ● board rescue ● Move to Mal Boards ● Surf safety & basic CPR ● Coaching junior age groups ● Surf Ed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Surf Rescue Certificate, ○ patrol Elouera Beach, ○ Water safety for Nippers ● Election of Junior Club Captains and Vice Captains by their peer group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● u14 transition to senior club to train alongside the Opens for most training ● Sprint & flag training from Oct ● Winter Board training with opens, Pre-season Ocean training, Board training with opens <p>Optional Competition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carnivals on Bate Bay beaches, Sydney, and SLS NSW State, events include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sprints, Sprint Relays, Flags, Surf Swim, Swim relay, Board race, Board relay, ○ Ironman/woman, Board Rescue, Cameron Race, March past, R&R ● Option to participate in SLS Sydney Junior Life saver Program ● Can race up in u15s for team events for Elouera SLSC at SLS NSW State ● Can compete at Aussies as u14 in Individual races and U15 in team races ● Option to be selected for SLS Sydney development squad & Interbranch team
U15 to Opens	<p>Nippers starts a lifelong connection to Elouera Surf Life Saving Club. Many Nippers continue to be active at Elouera Surf Club once they have graduated from u14s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opportunity to gain additional SLS qualifications, e.g. SRC to Bronze ● Patrol Elouera Beach ● Train and compete with Elouera's Open Competitors ● Learn new disciplines – IRB crew & racing, Surf Boats, First Aid etc., Surf ski 	



AGE MANAGERS

Age Managers are allocated to each Age Group and are responsible for organising and conducting all Nippers activities; they will play a very active and important role in your Nippers journey with Elouera SLSC.

The main responsibilities of Age Managers are to:

- get to know and mentor each nipper in their group.
- encourage the nippers of their Age Group to participate, enjoy, co- operate, learn, and compete in all activities.
- Maintain records of each nipper's attendance.
- Maintain records of all results.
- introduce their Nippers to surf education and surf rescue techniques.
- organise the nippers of their Age Group at carnivals, which includes marking the attendance sheet, team selections and marshalling the nippers for their allocated events.
- keep the nippers and parents up to date with Age Group and Elouera SLSC information.
- make the nippers of the Age Group aware of sun protection.
- develop an esprit de corps between the nippers in their Age Group.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to make themselves known to their nipper's Age Manager and to offer their assistance.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

It takes many people to ensure the Elouera Nippers program is a safe and smooth operation; helpers are always needed.

Any person over the age of 18 assisting with Nipper activities such as, but not limited to Age Manager, Coach, Water Safety and Parent Helpers must:

- undergo and obtain a Working with children check (WCC) - which must remain current whilst a member of Elouera SLSC,
- submit the details to Elouera SLSC (info@elouera.com), and
- be a registered member of Elouera SLSC.

Throughout each season, training is arranged for any parent/guardian interested in obtaining their proficiencies which can enable them to assist Sunday Nippers Bronze Medallion and Surf Rescue Certificate.

It is essential that volunteers obtain their Bronze Medallion or Surf Rescue Certificate to meet the minimum water safety requirements for SLSA. It also helps teach our nippers, as well as being a great example to them.

Volunteers are not allowed to enter the water on a Sunday to assist with Nipper activities unless they hold their Bronze Medallion or SCR *and* are invited to assist by the Age Manager.

Parents/guardians without qualifications can also play a key role in Elouera Nippers, as:

- Parent helpers.
- Committee members.
- Age Managers & Age Managers' assistants.
- Carnival assistants (by gaining their Officials accreditation).



PARTICIPATION PROFICIENCY

Many of the activities that children participate in at Nippers are conducted in open water, to ensure that all children have suitable swimming ability every junior member is required to complete a swim proficiency evaluation.

As permitted by SLSA in instances where the pool swim proficiency evaluations cannot be completed by the Elouera Nippers Personnel, a qualified and accredited swim coach can sign off the pool swim proficiency. Swimming coaches are required to provide their Australian Swimming Teachers and Coaches Associate (ASTCA) number, name and email address. The completed form is to be scanned and emailed to the Elouera Nippers Surf Sports Manager at eloueranipperssurfssports@gmail.com.

Every junior member is required to *successfully complete* this evaluation prior to any water-based activities being undertaken.

For *U6* and *U7* proficiency evaluations are completed on the first days of nippers

For *U8 – U14* pool proficiency evaluations are completed on the specified registration days. Junior competition evaluations are completed in the first few weeks of normal Nippers activity.

Proficiency Requirements

Under 6: from a standing position in waist deep water, perform a front glide and recover to a secure position. Perform a back or front float holding a buoyancy aid and recover to a secure position.

Under 7: from a standing position in waist deep water, perform a front glide, kick for 3m and recover to a secure position. Perform a back or front float for a few seconds and recover to a secure position.

Pool Proficiency

Preliminary Skills Evaluation Standards, which contribute towards a Nipper's Surf Education certificate, are as below:

Age Group	Attempt Distance	Minimum to be achieved	Float Time Required
<i>Yellow Fins</i>	<i>Ability to swim recommended, but not essential</i>		
<i>Under 8</i>	25m	25m any stroke	1 minute
<i>Under 9</i>	200m	25m any stroke	1 minute
<i>Under 10</i>	200m	25m freestyle	1.5 minutes
<i>Under 11</i>	200m	50m freestyle	2 minutes
<i>Under 12</i>	200m	100m freestyle	2 minutes
<i>Under 13</i>	200m	150m freestyle	3 minutes
<i>Under 14</i>	200m	200m freestyle	3 minutes

Additionally, an Elouera Nippers Proficiency Swim is to be completed prior to a Nipper completing the Competition Skills Evaluation in open water. The Elouera Nippers Proficiency Swim standards are as below:



Age Group	Attempt Distance	Minimum to be achieved	Time Required
<i>Yellow Fins</i>	<i>Not required</i>		
<i>Under 9</i>	200m	200m	6 minutes
<i>Under 10</i>	200m	200m	6 minutes
<i>Under 11</i>	200m	200m	5 minutes
<i>Under 12</i>	200m	200m	5 minutes
<i>Under 13</i>	200m	200m	5 minutes
<i>Under 14*</i>	200m	200m	5 minutes
* and complete SRC during season			

Competition Proficiency

To maintain safety and life-saving standards, SLSA has set a minimum standard of proficiency that Nippers must achieve before being eligible to compete in a carnival. To participate in a carnival, a Competition Skills Evaluation must be completed, this includes beach competitors.

Competition Skills Evaluation Standards are as below:

Age Group	Attempt Distance
<i>Yellow Fins</i>	<i>Not required</i>
<i>Under 8</i>	<i>Preliminary Skills Evaluation Standards</i>
<i>Under 9</i>	150m open water swim
<i>Under 10</i>	150m open water swim
<i>Under 11</i>	288m open water swim
<i>Under 12</i>	288m open water swim
<i>Under 13</i>	288m open water swim
<i>Under 14</i>	288m open water swim











There is no set time to complete the swim, however the assessor must be confident that the Nipper can complete the swim safely and with confidence.

Uniforms

- Elouera SLSC official competition uniform is a royal blue, sky blue and white cap (different from Age Group caps) and an Elouera SLSC swimming costume.
- Club costume and caps are compulsory for all nippers competing at carnivals.
- Club costumes can be purchased from the friendly Elouera Nippers Shop which is open throughout the season or via www.ohanaswim.com.au/collections/elouera.
- Nippers who are selected to represent Elouera SLSC at the State Championships will also be expected to purchase an Elouera State Championships uniform which will be available through Elouera SLSC.



Age Groups Caps Season 2023/24

Age Group	Colour	Design	Age Group	Colour	Design
U7	Aqua		U11	Blue & yellow	
U8	Yellow		U12	Red	
U9	Green		U13	Purple	
U10	Yellow & Black		U14	Sky Blue	
U6	Red & white		U15	Red & white	

SLSA EDUCATION AGE AWARDS

An important aspect of our Elouera Nippers' Sunday morning activities is surf education training and awareness. The topics that are taught include:

- Surf Awareness
- Surf Skills
- First Aid
- Resuscitation

The extent to which each of these topics will be taught will naturally depend on the Age Group and is covered in the SLSA Instruction and Examination Manual.

The Elouera Nippers Surf Sports Manager will co-ordinate and supervise the training regularly throughout the season.

The *u14* Age Group, will attain their SRC through the Senior Section of the Club. There are several courses held each season and it is important to remember that prior to competing in Senior Section *u14* events nippers must have passed their SRC and be up to date with their patrol hours.

CARNIVALS

All Nippers encouraged to compete and represent Elouera SLSC. Carnivals are fun and engender fine team spirit. Often the support offered to an up-and-coming Nipper by their team members is quite humbling and can be as beneficial as a parent/guardian's support

Carnivals are sub divided, by the Elouera Nippers' JDC, into 4 categories as follows:

- *Category 1* - these are carnivals when Nippers enter on an individual basis. Though the carnival will be endorsed, it is not officially supported by the Elouera Nippers' JDC. An example maybe entering a carnival whilst in Queensland on holiday. Naturally, the respective Age Manager will be interested in your results but they will not contribute to any future team selection.
- *Category 2 Carnivals* - these are carnivals that are being officially supported by the Elouera Nippers' JDC. Team events selection will be at the Age Manager's discretion, with the aim of



encouraging maximum participation from all Nippers. Results will be formally recorded and will influence future team selection. Category 2 Carnivals are:

- Sydney Water Series,
 - NSW Premiership Series, and
 - any Sydney Branch endorsed carnival that the Elouera Nippers' JDC decrees will be a Category 2 Carnival.
- *Category 3 Carnivals* – these are carnivals that are being officially supported by the Elouera Nippers' JDC. Team events selection will be at the Age Manager's discretion, with the aim of entering the strongest possible teams and achieving the best possible results. Attendance at the carnivals must be endorsed by respective Age Managers. Category 3 Carnivals are:
 - the Cronulla IMB,
 - South Maroubra,
 - Elouera, 4-way Carnival,
 - Sydney Branch Carnival, and
 - the State Championships.
 - *Participation Carnivals* – during the season Elouera Nippers will run a number of "Sunday Morning Carnivals" with the aim of encouraging maximum participation and having fun.
 - *Inclusive Carnivals* – Yellow Fins are encouraged to attend the 4-way Fun Day Carnival and will be supported by their Age Managers. All other inclusive Carnivals are open to Yellow Fins Nippers but will only be supported by Age Managers if they are available.

ELOUERA NIPPERS' JDC SELECTION CRITERIA

Category 1 Carnivals, inclusive and participation Carnivals

- There are no selection criteria for these Carnivals.

Category 2 Carnivals

- Age Managers will select teams, the following will be considered when selecting the teams:
 - Attendance,
 - enthusiasm,
 - potential, and
 - the interests of the Nippers.
- It is expected that all teams will be promulgated 2-weeks prior to a Carnival. Participation is to be confirmed by parents/guardian to the Age Manager, at least 1 week prior to the carnival.
- Where numbers permit, Girls & Boys teams will be entered.
- The JDC Executive Committee will resolve issues governing team selection.
- Any notice of appeal against a selection must be raised and submitted in writing 10 days prior to the carnival to the JDC Executive, through the Elouera Nippers' JDC Secretary. This will allow sufficient time for the
- JDC Executive to convene and announce its decision at least 1 week prior to the carnival^{1*}.
- The JDC Executive gives an undertaking to provide a fair and impartial assessment of each hearing. Should a conflict of interest exist with a member of the JDC Executive they shall be excused from that particular hearing.
- Age Managers will formally record results, and these will be passed to the Elouera Nippers' JDC within 5 days of the carnival.

Category 3 Carnivals

- The strongest nippers will be selected by Age Managers.

^{1*} See State Championships Team for separate appeal process for relay team selection for State teams only



- Age Group teams will be promulgated 2 weeks prior to a carnival.
- From the Age Group team, the strongest relay teams will be selected by Age Managers.
- The teams selected shall comprise of the strongest competitors so that
- Elouera has the best team possible in the race.
- All relay teams will be promulgated 2 weeks prior to the carnival*.
- There are no sibling rights.
- Participation is to be confirmed by parents/guardians to the Age Manager at least 1 week prior to the carnival.
- The JDC Executive will resolve issues governing team selection.
- Any notice of appeal against a selection must be raised and submitted in writing 10 days prior to the carnival to the JDC Executive, through the Elouera Nippers' JDC Secretary. This will allow sufficient time for the JDC Executive to convene and announce its decision at least 1 week prior to the carnival*.
- The JDC Executive gives an undertaking to provide a fair and impartial assessment of each hearing. Should a conflict of interest exist with a member of the JDC Executive they shall be excused from that particular hearing.
- Age Managers will formally record results and these will be passed to the Elouera Nippers' JDC within 5 days of the carnival.
- The State Championships Team will be limited to 8 nippers (as a guide 4 Beach and 4 Water) from each gender and Age Group (March Past and R&R nippers are counted separately). The Elouera Nippers' JDC will hold 15 'wildcard' entries which can be awarded at the discretion of the JDC Executive.
- Only nippers selected for the State Championships will be allowed to order and wear the Elouera State Championships Uniform.

Age Managers Selection Protocols

Age Managers will utilise the JDC Selection Criteria and the following protocols when it comes to team selection:

- a Nippers results at other Category 3 carnivals; these results will carry greater weighting than results at Club Championship Days.
- results at Club Championship Days; these results will carry greater weighting than Club Training Days.
- results in the 6 weeks (or part thereof if the season is less than 6 weeks old) leading up to the team selection; these results will carry greater weighting than results prior to that team selection. These results shall be used to confirm team selection and settle any dispute.

Age Managers will consider a nipper's attendance, attitude and application at all Elouera Nipper events when making team selections.

State Championships Team

The State Championships Team will usually be selected prior to the mid-season Christmas break with Nippers selected based on results to that point. Age Managers will utilise the JDC Selection Criteria and the Selection Protocols set out in this Guide.

- Please note, relay teams will be finalised and advised to the nipper's parents/guardians following the Branch Championships. Again, Age Managers will utilise the Selection Protocols when determining relay teams. Whilst individual performances are paramount, competitors ability to "work well together" will be taken into consideration along with overall team balance.
- Any notice of appeal against a selection for the State Championships Team must be made as per Category 3 Carnival set out above except for relay teams where the notice must be lodged within 48 hours that relay teams selection announcement with the JDC Executive undertaking to respond with a decision within 24 hours.



ELOUERA NIPPERS' JDC CARNIVAL PROTOCOL

- Competitors are to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of a carnival.
- Nippers should be well rested and Elouera SLSC costumes and Elouera SLSC competition caps must be worn.
- If a nipper is sick and unable to attend a carnival it is the responsibility of the nipper's parent or guardian to inform the Age Manager as soon as possible.
- Should a nipper be suffering illness or injury they have a responsibility to advise their Age Manager prior to competing.
- Nippers will register with their Age Manager on arrival at the carnival.
- During the carnival, Nippers are to stay around the Elouera SLSC tents, keep in contact with their Age Manager and not go anywhere without asking their Age Manager or parent/guardian. When an event is called, the Age Manager will advise relevant Nippers and arrange for them to proceed to the Marshalling area.
- Should a Nipper feel they have been unfairly impeded by another competitor or that an irregularity has occurred, there may be grounds for a protest. Note that "luck of the prevailing conditions" is an integral part of surf sports and not a basis for protest, nor is the judges' order of finishing. Should a protest be considered warranted, the nipper must immediately notify the Age Manager. A protest must be lodged within 5 minutes of the finish of the race. In the first instance, the decision as to whether a protest is justified rests solely with the Age Manager.

If the Age Manager determines a formal protest should be lodged the Elouera Nippers' JDC Director and Surf Sports Manager will be notified.

- The procedure to withdraw from an event for any reason begins with the nipper discussing the reason with their Age Manager or carnival official if the nipper is "on the line" or already started in an event. The Elouera Nippers' JDC encourages responsible decision making and will respect the right of a nipper to choose their level of involvement within the team.
- Nippers should have plenty of fluids, high energy food, keep in the shade and reapply sun-screen regularly.
- At the conclusion of a carnival, the Age Manager will 'release' the nippers and ensure they are passed into the care of a parent or guardian. Parents/guardians are requested to assist in packing up the tents and equipment and to ensure the area is left clean.

ELOUERA NIPPERS' JDC CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ALL ELOUERA NIPPERS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Age Managers shall coordinate and organise competitors for all Category 2 and 3 carnivals. They are held responsible to the Elouera Nippers' JDC and must comply with the rules of SLSA for the conduct of the nippers under their care.
- All Nippers must be under the supervision of an adult, or a person appointed by the Age Manager.
- Age Managers will not tolerate any bad behaviour at a carnival.
- The consumption of alcohol by parents, whilst at a carnival, will not be tolerated.
- Any Nipper or parent found by the Age Manager to be in contravention of the Code of Conduct shall be suspended from the carnival by the Chairman of the Elouera Nippers' JDC or his representative. The offender will be cited to appear before the Elouera Nippers' JDC for further action.
- This Code of Conduct shall apply to all Elouera nippers and their parents.