

## Circular

<b>Title:</b> Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2023 - Scrutineering Circular
<b>Document ID:</b> Circular 32/22-23
<b>Department:</b> Sport
<b>Audience:</b> State/Territory Surf Sport Managers, Directors, Club Secretaries, Branches, State/Territory CEO's Sport Standing Committee
<b>Summary:</b> This document contains information relating to Craft & Equipment Scrutineering for the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2023.

### KEY INFORMATION

- At Aussies 2023 there will be no compulsory scrutineering of boards, skis, reels, lines, belts, swim fins and rescue tubes.
- All boards & skis must carry manufacturer compliance decals.
- At the Aussies 2023 there will be no compulsory scrutineering of short and long boards used in Board Riding events.
- At Aussies 2023 surf boats shall be subject to a minimum of safety scrutineering and weight check before being taken onto the beach for competition.
- In addition to the above, all equipment used in competition shall be subject to random full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions and ancillary fittings against specifications at any time before, during or immediately after competition. i.e., SLSA reserves the right to carry out random scrutineering checks throughout the Championships.
- The Aussies 2023 Surf Boat Scrutineering location and timetable can be found as part of the information contained in this document.
- If craft are underweight and/or equipment is non-compliant after use in competition, the competitor may be disqualified from further competition in the Championships and further action may be taken.

**NOTE: the onus of compliance is with the competitor using the craft / equipment during competition**

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Should further information be required please contact the events team at:

[events@slsa.asn.au](mailto:events@slsa.asn.au)

Surf Life Saving Australia

PO Box 7773

BONDI BEACH NSW 2026

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## Surf Boats

All boats are to be scrutineered for safety as a minimum before they are taken onto the beach for competition. Scrutineering times are as follows (TBC):

Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	12pm-4pm
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	8am-4pm
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	8am-4pm
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	8am-4pm
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	8am-4pm
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	8am-4pm
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	8am-4pm

Times are subject to change pending availability of scrutineers.

**Location:** Boat Scrutineering (indicated by red) will take place on the grass area in the Surf Boat drop off area immediately behind the Surf Boat Area at Scarborough, access via corner The Esplanade & Manning St, Scarborough. Surf Boats and trailers will access the compound via the yellow marker below stored on beach throughout the Championships.



## 1. GENERAL

The Scrutineering Area Referee will have delegated authority over the eligibility, or otherwise of all competition equipment to be used in the Championships in conjunction with the Championship Referee. However, any matters determined may be subject to protest or appeal as outlined in the current edition of SLSA Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent bulletins and/or circulars.

For the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2023 there will be no compulsory scrutineering required of boards, skis, reels, lines, belts, swim fins and rescue tube before marshalling for competition provided that surf boards & skis carry manufacturer compliance decals.

For the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2023 there will be no compulsory scrutineering required of short and long boards used in Board Riding Events.

Surf Boats shall be subject to a minimum of safety scrutineering before being taken onto the beach for competition.

However, at any time before during or immediately after competition any equipment used in competition shall be subject to full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions, and ancillary fittings against specifications (refer [www.slsa.com.au](http://www.slsa.com.au)).

i.e., SLSA reserves the right to carry out random scrutineering checks throughout the championships.

### **Officials Nominations:**

If you wish to be apart of the scrutineering team at Aussies 2023, please fill out the following nomination form ([Click here](#))

## **2. SLSA SPECIFICATIONS & POLICY STATEMENTS**

All Surf Sports Manual references are in reference to the current Edition of the Surf Sports Manual ([Click here](#))

### **a) Surf Lines and Waxed Surf Lines**

Surf Lines and waxed surf lines used for belt races, R&R and March Past events may be tested for a minimum diameter of 6mm. In the case of waxed lines, excess wax shall be removed prior to testing.

**Note:** The purpose of this check is to ensure that the line has not been stretched beyond safe limits prior to waxing. The actual line is being tested - not the diameter of the wax in and around the line. The length of surf lines except for March Past and dry R&R events shall be a minimum of 250 metres with a minimum breaking strain of 273kg (at the time of manufacture). Such specifications may also be checked.

For more detailed information refer to the current Edition of the Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 04 - Swimming Events: Appendix A**).

U15 R&R Competition may use alternative reels or lines based on competition conditions outlined ([Members Area](#) > *Document Library > Sports > R and R Chapter 3 (U12-U15 5A Person)*)

For March Past, refer to Surf Sports Manual > **Section 10.1.1 (b) – March Past Event**).

### **b) Reels and Surf Belts**

These items of equipment used for Belt Races, R&R and March Past may also be subject to scrutineering for safety and compliance with their respective specifications.

For more detailed information refer to the current Edition of the Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 04 - Swimming Events: Appendix A**).

### **c) Rescue Tubes**

The rescue tubes used at The Aussies 2022 must be in strict accordance with the requirements of the Lifesaving Gear & Equipment Specifications, page 8 ([Members Area](#) > *Document Library > Governance > 4 Specification > SLSA > (Lifesaving Gear & Equipment Specifications)*)

### **d) Swim Fins**

Swim fins used at the Aussies 2022 must be in strict accordance with the specifications contained in the Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 3 – Lifesaving events and Section 4 – Swimming Events**).

### **e) Boards & Skis**

Boards and skis shall be constructed in strict compliance with the current Surf Craft Specifications. ([Members Area](#) > *Document Library > Sports > Craft and Boat Specifications*)

**Note:** If an approved SLSA rescue board is to be used in the Champion Lifesaver and/or Patrol Competition or other competition events it is required to meet only the specification of the Malibu Racing Board. In this regard it is not compulsory to have a manufacturers compliance sticker on rescue boards. **Scrutineers will accept approved registered rescue board manufacturers for scrutineering prior to the commencement of lifesaving event competition.**

**f) Boats**

Boats shall be constructed in strict compliance with the Boat Specifications ([Members Area](#) > > Document Library > Sports > Craft and Boat Specifications) which details the specifications of these craft.

**g) Board Riding**

Short and Long Boards must at least comply with the specifications contained in the Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 07 – Surfboard Riding Events**). Such craft may be subject to random scrutineering at the request of the relevant Referees.

**h) Use of video cameras on Surf Boards and Skis**

The use of one video camera is permitted in competition on all surf boards (except Nipper Boards) and skis provided the camera is installed on a mounting device and toggle strap supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

**Note:** The use of video cameras is not permitted on any Nipper Craft.

Installation on 3.2m racing surf boards shall be placed anywhere between the hand grips closest to hand grips closest to the nose and the nose of the craft.

**Note:** Any video cameras attached to a SLSA rescue board used for competition must be placed in a similar position as described for 3.2m racing surf boards.

Installation on single and double skis shall be in front of the foot well.

The weight of any plugs permanently installed into the craft to attach the video camera shall be included in the overall weight of the craft. The weight of other (not permanently installed) mounts and camera are NOT to be included in the overall weight of the craft.

Installation on board riding short and long boards shall up to the discretion of the rider provided that the video camera is installed on a mounting device and toggle strap, supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

As per Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 2.7.4 – Use of Video Camera on Surf Boards and Surf Skis**).

**k) Use of video cameras in Surf Boats**

The use of video cameras is permitted in competition provided they are installed on a mounting device and toggle strap supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

Installation shall be permitted on the splash board (front deck), on the tank opposite the rowers' seats and rear deck.

The weight of any plugs permanently installed into the boat to attach the video camera shall be included in the overall "*bare weight*" of the boat.

The weight of other (not permanently installed) mounts and camera are NOT to be included in the overall "*racing weight*" of the craft.

The Boat Sweep (only) is also permitted to have a video camera on a helmet (worn by them) provided that the camera is installed on a mounting device and toggle strap supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

As per Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 2.7.5 – Use of Video Camera on Surf Boats**).

### 3. PROCESSES

#### Australian Youth, Masters and Open Surf Life Saving Championships 2023

##### a) Reels, Lines, Belts, Rescue Tubes and Swim Fins

If equipment is non-compliant after use the in competition, the competitor/s may be disqualified from further competition in the championships and further action may be taken.

##### b) Surf Craft:

The following conditions will be in operation for the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2023:

- There will be no compulsory scrutineering required of boards before marshalling for competition provided that the craft carry manufacturer compliance decals.
- There will be no compulsory scrutineering required of surf skis and double skis before marshalling for competition provided that the craft carry manufacturer compliance decals.
- There is no compulsory scrutineering required of short and long boards used in the Board Riding Events.
- However, competitors are urged to check their craft for safety and compliance prior to use in competition. Scrutineers will be available to assist in this process.
- At any time before during or immediately after competition any boards or skis used in competition shall be subject to full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions, and ancillary fittings against specifications i.e., random scrutineering may take place at any time throughout the championships.

Craft being checked and failing scrutineering shall be treated as follows:

- i) If craft is found to be underweight at scrutineering prior to its first use in competition the competitor may rectify the fault or provide a substitute craft for scrutineering.
- ii) If craft is underweight after use the competitor may be disqualified from further competition in the championships and further action may be taken.
- iii) If craft is deemed unsafe, the competitor may rectify fault or provide a substitute craft for scrutineering.
- iv) If craft fails to comply with specifications [apart from i) and ii)] then such craft shall not be permitted to be used in further competition. In addition, if such failure is deemed to have occurred due to alterations being carried out on the craft after manufacture, then the competitor may also be disqualified from further competition in the championships and further action may be taken.

It should be clarified that, in the event of a competitor (and/or team) being excluded from an event, then any other competitor (and/or team) who would otherwise not have qualified in that heat, would then be advanced in the competition.

However, the exclusion of a competitor (and/or team) for non-specification equipment found in a scrutineering check before a round/event, will not be retrospective to earlier heats or competitions and will not advance (other) competitors (and/or teams) who were thus eliminated.

##### c) Surf Boats:

Surf boats shall be constructed in strict compliance with the Design and Manufacture of Surf Craft and Surf Boats Specifications ([Members Portal](#) > [Document Library](#) > [Sports](#) > Surf Craft and Surf Boats Specifications) which details the specification for surf boats, electric pumps and other equipment and any subsequent bulletins that have been released.

- All surf boats shall be subject to a basic safety and specified approved equipment check and shall be weighed in, all of which must be presented for inspection prior to entering the competition arena.
- Clubs are to ensure sufficient members are available to assist with carrying and presenting all boats to scrutineering.
- Boats will be required to be presented in their "Racing Weight" (197kg) condition i.e., "Bare Structural Condition" including seats, foot blocks, pumps but excluding oars, rowlocks, batteries, rescue tubes and any other additional equipment.

- Any protective padding etc. placed around the quarter bars and in other places in boats may be left in place for weighing but if a weight problem is noted, this may also be required to be removed from the boat along with other equipment for reweighing to determine the “Bare Structural Condition” weight.
- Boat sweeps to check keel strips before presenting to scrutineering
- Once scrutineering has been completed and approved, the craft will receive an Aussies 2023 sticker.
- In addition, at any time before during or immediately after competition any equipment used in competition shall be subject to full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions, and ancillary fittings against specifications (refer [Members Portal](#) > *Document Library* > *Sports* > Surf Craft and Surf Boats Specifications) i.e., random scrutineering may take place at any time throughout the championships.
- Failure to comply with any of the above may render your club disqualified from the Championships.
- Please refer to the timetable of events for the days and grade of events that will **take priority** for scrutineering process. The timetable of events will be released by the end of 2022 and will be located at <https://sls.com.au/aussies/>

~~In addition, at any time before during or immediately after competition any equipment used in competition shall be subject to full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions, and ancillary fittings against specifications (refer [Members Portal](#) > *Document Library* > *Sports* > Surf Craft and Surf Boats Specifications) i.e., random scrutineering may take place at any time throughout the championships.~~

In addition to the above at marshalling boats may be further checked for safety that may include a check that any rowlock fixing devices are taped over where necessary with waterproof tape to prevent injury.

**Boat Scrutineering will take place in the surf boat drop off area as per map on Page 2. Surf Boats will be scrutineered and taken onto the beach, including trailers for storage throughout the event.**

**Note:** Competitors, team managers coaches and boat, board, ski, and swimming captains are strongly urged to familiarise themselves with the specification details set out in the above-mentioned bulletins/circulars/policies and to ensure their boats/craft/reels/lines/belts/rescue tubes comply with these specifications.

Clubs that have no knowledge of the above Bulletins/Circulars/Policies, will not be excused if the contents and directions contained herein are not followed.