



Circular 3797
20th October 2023



2024 Oakberry Acai NSW Country Championships
Entry Circular

Attention: Club Presidents, Club Secretaries, Club Competition Officers, Team Managers, Coaches and Competitors.

Actioned by: Persons responsible for club entries.

Date: 20 October 2023

Contact: Belinda Cooper - Competitions & Event Staging Coordinator
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Summary:	Outlines the requirements and procedures to enter the 2024 Oakberry Acai NSW Country Championships to be held at Warilla Barrack Point SLSC from Friday 26 th – Sunday 28 th January 2024.
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Entries open Monday 30th October 2023.○ Complete and submit entries via SEMS by 11.00pm Sunday 7th January 2024.○ Online late entries close 11.00pm Wednesday 17th January 2024 (<i>late fees apply</i>).○ NOTE: No late entries will be accepted after this date including at the Championships (excludes changes to team events)*○ SLSNSW will issue invoices to all Clubs after the Championships. Do not pay until the invoice is received.○ Complete the Team Manager Declaration Form and Rash Vest Order Form by 11.00pm Sunday 7th January 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- 1. INTRODUCTION 4
- 2. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES 4
- 3. GENERAL CONTENT 4
- 4. 2024 NSW COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS COMPETITION COMMITTEE 4
- 5. 2024 NSW COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS SAFETY & EMERGENCY COMMITTEE 5
- 6. VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS 5
 - 6.1 Officials 5
 - 6.2 Water Safety 6
 - 6.3 Powercraft 7
 - 6.4 First Aid 7
- 7. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE 7
 - 7.1 Age 8
 - 7.2 Opens & Masters 8
- 8. ENTRY FEES 8
- 9. ENTRIES – SEMS 9
- 10. LIVEHEATS 9
- 11. EVENTS 9
 - 11.1 Age Events 9
 - 11.2 Open & Masters Events 10
 - 11.3 Restriction of Events 13
 - 11.4 Supplementary Information 13
 - 11.5 Restriction of Masters Events 14
- 12. GENERAL INFORMATION 14
 - 12.1 Championship Point Score 14
 - 12.2 Results 14
 - 12.3 Handlers 15
 - 12.4 Team Managers Meeting 15
- 13. SCRUTINEERING 15
- 14. SPONSOR RASH VESTS 15
- 15. STACK TEAM APP 15
- 16. MEDIA AND PHOTOGRAPHY 16
 - 16.1 Drones 16
 - 16.2 Photography 16
 - 16.3 Media Statements 16
- 17. HEALTH & WELLBEING 17



18. ANTI-DOPING & MATCH FIXING 17

19. BEHAVIOUR/MISCONDUCT 17

20. PROTESTS..... 18

21. SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL 18

22. COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRY AND PAYMENT PROCESS 19



Your local club



1. INTRODUCTION

The 2024 Oakberry Acai NSW Country Championships attracts Country Branch competitors from the U8's to Masters, providing an opportunity to unite over a three (3) day period showcasing one of Australia's most iconic volunteer movements, Surf Life Saving.

This year's event will be held at Warilla Barrack Point SLSC, located in the Shellharbour Local Government Area, from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th January 2024.

This document outlines key information relating to the 2024 NSW Country Championships. Please note that SLSNSW may issue subsequent bulletins, memos or circulars which may supersede information provided in this Circular.

2. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Reference is made to:

- The current [37th Edition Surf Sports Manual \(Revised February 2023\)](#)
- The proficiency competition requirements for 2023/24 Season:
 - [Memo: 5.04 Eligibility to Compete and Exemptions 2023](#)
 - [SLSNSW Regulations 5. Competition Eligibility and Exemption](#)

3. GENERAL CONTENT

Entries are to be completed online using the [Sports Events Management System \(SEMS\)](#).

- Entries close **11.00pm Sunday 7th January 2024**.
- Online late entries close **11.00pm Wednesday 17th January 2024** (late fees apply).
- **No late entries will be accepted after this date including at the Championships (excludes changes to team events*).**
- SLSNSW will send invoices to all Clubs after online late entries close. Do not pay until the invoice is received.
- Clubs are reminded to complete the [Team Manager Declaration Form](#) and [Rash Vest Order Form](#) by **Sunday 7th January 2024**. This Team Manager Declaration Form includes Clubs logging their team manager contact details. This is to ensure all event communications such as changes to timetables, re-locations etc. can be sent via SMS and Email. Details about the Team Managers meeting format will be available soon.
- **Note: Clubs are reminded to check all entries prior to the close of late entries on Wednesday 17th January 2024 for any omissions and errors.**
 - ***Note: SLSNSW will only respond to calls or emails from Team Managers/Club Registrars regarding entries. SLSNSW will be reverting all calls and emails from individual members back to clubs.***

4. 2024 NSW COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS COMPETITION COMMITTEE

The 2024 Country Championships Competition Committee (CC) will direct all matters relating to the actual conduct of the competition. The CC may (subject to the rules in the Surf Sports Manual 37th (Edition) and event rules, any subsequent amending bulletins, and this Circular) postpone, cancel and/or alter any or all Championship events, and alter the venue of the competition.



SLSNSW Director of Surf Sports (Chair)	Donald van Keimpema OAM
Carnival Referee	Dennis Allen
Local Organising Committee Representative, Warilla Barrack Point SLSC	Alan Beveridge
Safety & Emergency Management Coordinator (SEMC)	Liam Drake
SLSNSW Chief Operating Officer	Phil Ayres
SLSNSW Sport Manager	Jim Pinnington

5. 2024 NSW COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS SAFETY & EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

The 2024 Country Championships Safety Emergency Committee (SEC) will direct all matters relating to the safety of the competition.

A review of the following will be conducted at each CCSEC meeting:

- Risk Assessment of the current conditions of the beach, environmental risks and back of beach area.
- Injury management statistics.
- Current weather predictions.
- Competition statistics.

The SEC may consult and seek advice from appropriate officials, athletes and other personnel on local weather, surf conditions and safety issues when required. The SEC will then advise the CC.

The SEC is responsible for enacting the contingency plan for this event. The Safety Operations Manual developed for this event is to be applied by the Referee when considering and making recommendations, in consultation with relevant emergency services and lifesaving authorities.

Safety & Emergency Management Coordinator (Chair)	Liam Drake
Deputy Carnival Referee	Mick Crowle
Powercraft Coordinator	Nigel Penn
First Aid Coordinator	TBC
Water Safety Coordinator	TBC
SLSNSW Competitions & Event Staging Coordinator	Belinda Cooper

6. VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

6.1 Officials

A quota system for clubs to provide Accredited Officials based upon the number of competitors entered (not the number actually competing) is in place for the 2024 Oakbarry Acai Country Championships. Online late entries will be added to the total number of competitors entered to ensure that the club's obligation is satisfied.

The Officials quota remains in place for 2024 and supersedes any prior versions of the Officials quota from previous years. Officials, as a minimum requirement, must have a current Core Official accreditation.



Officials Quota

Competitors Entered	Officials Required
0 to 8	Nil
9 to 15	1 Official
16 to 25	2 Officials
26 to 35	3 Officials
36 to 50	4 Officials
51 to 65	5 Officials
66+ Competitors	6 Officials

Officials who wish to share a role with someone else MUST communicate this to SLSNSW. Two (2) officials sharing one (1) role fulfils one (1) official in the quota.

Please be aware the quota system is based on the number of competitors entered into the event, not the number of competitors starting. Clubs are reminded before entering their competitors into the entry system that they **MUST** meet the official's quota.

If clubs do not provide sufficient officials according to the provided quotas, SLSNSW will stand down all athletes from that club from competition until such time as the required officials are present.

Officials undertaking duties to meet club quotas, who have not already been appointed, will be requested to report to the Deputy Referee at Warilla Barrack Point SLSC by 7:00am each morning of competition. Procedure for this to be confirmed.

It is essential that clubs work with their officials to ensure that they (the officials) understand the effect on the championships if they do not communicate with SLSNSW regarding non-attendance or changes to the Official's Appointments. Clubs should check that officials appointed are attending on the days that they are appointed for, as this could have a significant impact on whether athletes can compete or not.

6.2 Water Safety

All clubs are required to provide a minimum of two (2) water safety personnel per day on a roster system. SLSNSW will release the water safety roster prior to the Country Championships (after late entries close).

Water safety personnel will need to supply their own orange rash vest, cap, fins, rescue tube. All water safety personnel must have a minimum current proficient SRC. Rescue boards for water safety will be used at the discretion and direction of the Water Safety Supervisor in the respective competition area. In this instance boards will be made available by Warilla Barrack Point SLSC.



6.3 Powercraft

To ensure the safety of all competitors competing in the 2024 Country Championships, a Powercraft roster will be implemented. Clubs will be identified based on the total number of entries for the 2024 Championships.

Powercraft Drivers/Operators and crewpersons **must** fulfil the following requirements.

- **IRB Driver:** Be a current financial SLS member and be a proficient Silver Medallion IRB Driver.
- **IRB Crewperson:** Be a current financial SLS member, be a proficient IRB Crew Certificate.
- **RWC Operator:** Be a financial SLS member and hold a proficient RWC Operator Certificate.
- **Both IRB and RWC:** Be experienced in ALL levels of surf conditions and competent to deal in all surf conditions.

As the Powercraft requirements will be based on figures calculated after entries close for the 2024 event, **the Powercraft Roster will not be available until after normal entries close on Sunday 7th January 2024.**

Clubs will be required to nominate volunteer names and contact information for IRB Drivers and Crew personnel via the Powercraft Form which will be available the week commencing 8th January 2024. All IRB Drivers and Crew personnel must also bring with them their current SLSNSW Powercraft licence, personal compliant PFD, helmet, and appropriate clothing.

Some Clubs may also be required to bring IRB equipment to the Championships. All IRBs supplied must be registered with SLSNSW, have passed the 2023/2024 Gear and Equipment Inspection process, and be entered on SurfGuard.

6.4 First Aid

All first aid will be provided by SLSNSW's Australian Event Safety Services (AESS). This means there is no requirements on clubs to supply volunteers for these roles.

7. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

For clubs to be eligible for Championship Competition, clubs must have their Life Saving Agreement (LSA) in place for competitors to represent that club.

All competitors must meet SLSNSW award, patrol, and proficiency requirements as per the 2023/2024 proficiency competition requirements and any other subsequent bulletins issued.

Reference is made to the following documents which apply to this event:

- SLSA Policy 1.02 – Use of SLSA Equipment
- [Memo: 5.04 Eligibility to Compete and Exemptions 2023](#)
- [SLSNSW Regulations 5. Competition Eligibility and Exemption](#)

The Proficiency requalification must be completed by close of “normal” entries to be eligible to participate in a SLS Championship or other event i.e., late entries will not be accepted for members who have not completed their proficiency requalification by the normal close of entries.



Late proficiency exemptions are required to be endorsed by both Club and Branch (on letter head) before being received by SLSNSW. This can be sent to countrychampionships@surflifesaving.com.au and will be forwarded to the State Director of Lifesaving for consideration. Any late proficiency exemptions should be received no later than **Sunday 7th January 2024**.

Notwithstanding any flexibility/extension, all members must be proficient to participate in the Championships.

7.1 Age

For the 2024 Country Championships, competitors will be required to be proficient in the relevant Junior Activities Competition Skills Evaluation and/or SRC Award appropriate to their age group.

7.2 Opens & Masters

Reference is made to the following documents which apply to this event:

- SLSA Policy 1.02 – Use of SLSA Equipment
- [Memo: 5.04 Eligibility to Compete and Exemptions 2023](#)
- [SLSNSW Regulations 5. Competition Eligibility and Exemption](#)

8. ENTRY FEES

The entry fee per competitor at the 2024 NSW Country Championships is **\$54.18** (incl. GST).

The entry fee per March Past team is **\$100.00** (incl. GST).

SLSNSW will issue invoices to all Clubs after the event. Clubs must not pay their entry fees prior to the Championships. Payment terms are as stated on the invoice.

Entry fees are not refundable if members do not take part in these Championships, or if events or the entire Championships are cancelled.

Late Entries:

All online late entries received after the initial closing date will incur a late fee of **\$99.50** (incl. GST).

No individual late entries will be taken at the Administration Centre – Warilla Barrack Point SLSC. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of SLSNSW e.g., a competitor must be a team member replacing another team member in a team already entered. It is suggested that Clubs still enter members if there is a chance that they will be competing and then withdraw their entry prior to the close of late entry.

Additional Events:

When additional events are entered for competitors (individual and / or team) a fee of **\$20.30** per event / per competitor will be charged. Note: **The competitor must be already entered into the Carnival.**

Additional individual event entries must be received at the Event Administration Centre at Warilla Barrack Point SLSC by no later than 8am on the day of competition.

Team Substitutions:

No late fees will be charged for team event substitutions if the substitute is already entered into the carnival.



9. ENTRIES – SEMS

Club entries to the 2024 Country Championships must be submitted online **DIRECTLY** into [SEMS](#).

Online entries will close **11.00pm Sunday 7th January 2024**.

Online late entries close **11.00pm Wednesday 17th January 2024** (*late fees apply*).

Please refer to the [SEMS User Guide](#) and [SEMS Club Entry Webinar](#), before and during the entry process.

Note: Entries are restricted to Clubs from the Country Branches of NSW only. No interstate or metropolitan branch competitors can enter the Carnival.

Note: NO reserves are to be entered into SEMS for team events.

10. LIVEHEATS

SLSNSW will be using LiveHeats for on-beach carnival management. All competitors are required to have a Live Heats Race Tag with them which will be used throughout the event. All competitors will be signed into the event using LiveHeats, and all event racing will be marshalled and recorded using LiveHeats.

Team Managers will be responsible for team changes via LiveHeats throughout the competition.

Athletes must bring their allocated LiveHeats wristband. Replacement wristbands can be purchased from the Event Administration Centre at Warilla Barrack Point SLSC for \$5.00 per band.

11. EVENTS

The following events shall be conducted in their respective age group areas in accordance with the requirements of the 37th Edition Surf Sports Manual and amending Bulletins and Circulars.

11.1 Age Events

Under 14 Events	Under 13 Events	Under 12 Events
Male Surf Race	Male Surf Race	Male Surf Race
Female Surf Race	Female Surf Race	Female Surf Race
Mixed Surf Teams	Mixed Surf Teams	Mixed Surf Teams
Male Board	Male Board	Male Board
Female Board	Female Board	Female Board
Mixed Board Relay	Mixed Board Relay	Mixed Board Relay
Ironman	Ironman	Ironman
Ironwoman	Ironwoman	Ironwoman
Male Beach Sprint	Male Beach Sprint	Male Beach Sprint
Female Beach Sprint	Female Beach Sprint	Female Beach Sprint
Mixed Beach Relay	Mixed Beach Relay	Mixed Beach Relay
Male Beach Flags	Male Beach Flags	Male Beach Flags
Female Beach Flags	Female Beach Flags	Female Beach Flags
Male 2km Beach Run	Male 2km Beach Run	Male 1km Beach Run
Female 2km Beach Run	Female 2km Beach Run	Female 1km Beach Run



Under 11 Events	Under 10 Events	Under 9 Events
Male Surf Race	Male Surf Race	Male Surf Race
Female Surf Race	Female Surf Race	Female Surf Race
Mixed Surf Teams	Mixed Surf Teams	Mixed Surf Teams
Male Board	Male Board	Male Board
Female Board	Female Board	Female Board
Mixed Board Relay	Mixed Board Relay	Mixed Board Relay
Ironman	Male Beach Sprint	Male Beach Sprint
Ironwoman	Female Beach Sprint	Female Beach Sprint
Male Beach Sprint	Mixed Beach Relay	Mixed Beach Relay
Female Beach Sprint	Male Beach Flags	Male Beach Flags
Mixed Beach Relay	Female Beach Flags	Female Beach Flags
Male Beach Flags		
Female Beach Flags		
Male 1km Beach Run		
Female 1km Beach Run		

Under 8 Events	Special Events	
Male Wade	Senior Board Rescue (U13/14)	
Female Wade	Junior Board Rescue (U11/12)	
Mixed Wade Relay	Senior Cameron Relay (U13/14)	
Male Beach Sprint	Junior Cameron Relay (U11/12)	
Female Beach Sprint	Junior & Open March Past	
Mixed Beach Relay	All Age Beach Relay (U8-U14)	
Male Beach Flags	All Age Board Relay (U9-U14)	
Female Beach Flags	Buchanan Relay (U8-U10)	

11.2 Open & Masters Events

Swimming Events	
Under 15 Male Surf Race	Under 15 Female Surf Race
Under 17 Male Surf Race	Under 17 Female Surf Race
Under 19 Male Surf Race	Under 19 Female Surf Race
Open Male Surf Race	Open Female Surf Race
30-39 Male Surf Race	30-39 Female Surf Race
40-49 Male Surf Race	40-49 Female Surf Race
50-59 Male Surf Race	50-59 Female Surf Race
60 + Male Surf Race	60 + Female Surf Race
Under 15 Mixed Surf Teams	90-149 Mixed Surf Teams
Under 17 Mixed Surf Teams	150+ Mixed Surf Teams
Under 19 Mixed Surf Teams	Under 15 Male Rescue Tube
Open Mixed Surf Teams	Under 15 Female Rescue Tube
30-39 Male Rescue Tube	30-39 Female Rescue Tube
40-49 Male Rescue Tube	40-49 Female Rescue Tube
50-59 Male Rescue Tube	50-59 Female Rescue Tube
60+ Male Rescue Tube	60+ Female Rescue Tube



Ski Events		
Under 17 Male Ski		Under 17 Female Ski
Under 19 Male Ski		Under 19 Female Ski
Open Male Ski		Open Female Ski
30-39 Male Ski		30-39 Female Ski
40-49 Male Ski		40-49 Female Ski
50-59 Male Ski		50-59 Female Ski
60+ Male Ski		60 + Female Ski
Under 17 Male Ski Relay		Under 17 Female Ski Relay
Under 19 Male Ski Relay		Under 19 Female Ski Relay
Open Male Ski Relay		Open Female Ski Relay
90-149 Mixed Ski Relay		150+ Ski Relay
Under 19 Male Double Ski		Under 19 Female Double Ski
Open Male Double Ski		Open Female Double Ski
Open Mixed Double Ski		30+ Mixed Double Ski

Board Events		
Under 15 Male Board		Under 15 Female Board
Under 17 Male Board		Under 17 Female Board
Under 19 Male Board		Under 19 Female Board
Open Male Board		Open Female Board
30-39 Male Board		30-39 Female Board
40-49 Male Board		40-49 Female Board
50-59 Male Board		50-59 Female Board
60 + Male Board		60 + Female Board
Under 15 Mixed Board Relay		Under 17 Female Board Relay
Under 17 Male Board Relay		Under 19 Female Board Relay
Under 19 Male Board Relay		Open Female Board Relay
Open Male Board Relay		90-149 Mixed Board Relay
		150+ Mixed Board Relay

Beach Events		
Under 15 Male Sprint		Under 15 Female Sprint
Under 17 Male Sprint		Under 17 Female Sprint
Under 19 Male Sprint		Under 19 Female Sprint
Open Male Sprint		Open Female Sprint
30-39 Male Sprint		30-39 Female Sprint
40-49 Male Sprint		40-49 Female Sprint
50-59 Male Sprint		50-59 Female Sprint
60 + Male Sprint		60 + Female Sprint
Under 15 Male Beach Relay		Under 15 Female Beach Relay



Under 17 Male Beach Relay
Under 19 Male Beach Relay
Open Male Beach Relay
90-149 Mixed Beach Relay
Under 15 Male Beach Flags
Under 17 Male Beach Flags
Under 19 Male Beach Flags
Open Male Beach Flags
30-39 Male Beach Flags
40-49 Male Beach Flags
50-59 Male Beach Flags
60 + Male Beach Flags
Under 15 Male 2km Beach Run
Under 17 Male 2km Beach Run
Under 19 Male 2km Beach Run
Open Male 2km Beach Run
30-39 Male 2km Beach Run
40-49 Male 2km Beach Run
50-59 Male 2km Beach Run
60+ Male 1km Beach Run

Under 17 Female Beach Relay
Under 19 Female Beach Relay
Open Female Beach Relay
150+ Mixed Beach Relay
Under 15 Female Beach Flags
Under 17 Female Beach Flags
Under 19 Female Beach Flags
Open Female Beach Flags
30-39 Female Beach Flags
40-49 Female Beach Flags
50-59 Female Beach Flags
60 + Female Beach Flags
Under 15 Female 2km Beach Run
Under 17 Female 2km Beach Run
Under 19 Female 2km Beach Run
Open Female 2km Beach Run
30-39 Female 2km Beach Run
40-49 Female 2km Beach Run
50-59 Female 2km Beach Run
60+ Female 1km Beach Run

Multi-Discipline Events	
Under 15 Ironman	Under 15 Ironwoman
Under 17 Ironman	Under 17 Ironwoman
Under 19 Ironman	Under 19 Ironwoman
Open Ironman	Open Ironwoman
30-39 Ironman	30-39 Ironwoman
40-49 Ironman	40-49 Ironwoman
50-59 Ironman	50-59 Ironwoman
60+ Ironman	60+ Ironwoman
Under 15 Male Board Rescue	Under 15 Female Board Rescue
Under 17 Male Board Rescue	Under 17 Female Board Rescue
Under 19 Male Board Rescue	Under 19 Female Board Rescue
Open Male Board Rescue	Open Female Board Rescue
30-39 Male Board Rescue	30-39 Female Board Rescue
40-49 Male Board Rescue	40-49 Female Board Rescue
50-59 Male Board Rescue	50-59 Female Board Rescue
60+ Male Board Rescue	60+ Female Board Rescue
Under 17 Male Taplin Relay	Under 17 Female Taplin Relay
Under 19 Male Taplin Relay	Under 19 Female Taplin Relay
Open Male Taplin Relay	Under 17 Female Taplin Relay



Under 15 Mixed Cameron Relay

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Board Riding *	
U13 Male Short Board *	U13 Female Short Board *
U14 Male Short Board *	U14 Female Short Board *
U15 Male Short Board *	U15 Female Short Board *
U17 Male Short Board *	U17 Female Short Board *
U19 Male Short Board *	U19 Female Short Board *
Open Male Short Board *	Open Female Short Board *
30-39 Male Short Board *	30-39 Female Short Board *
40-49 Male Short Board *	40-49 Female Short Board *
50-59 Male Short Board *	50-59 Female Short Board *
60-69 Male Short Board *	60-69 Female Short Board *
70+ Female Short Board *	70+ Female Short Board *
30-39 Male Long Board *	30-39 Female Long Board *
40-49 Male Long Board *	40-49 Female Long Board *
50-59 Male Long Board *	50-59 Female Long Board *
60-69 Male Long Board *	60-69 Female Long Board *
70+ Male Long Board *	70+ Female Long Board *

* These events will only go ahead if entry numbers are sufficient to require the resources that are needed for these events.

11.3 Restriction of Events

Please note that there is a restriction to the number of teams that can compete for certain events. Please see the list below:

Buchanan Relay (U8-U10) – Two (2) teams per club

Senior Board Rescue (U13/14) – Two (2) teams per club

Junior Board Rescue (U11/12) – Two (2) teams per club

Senior Cameron Relay (U13/14) - Two (2) teams per club

Junior Cameron Relay (U11/12) - Two (2) teams per club

All Age Beach Relay (U8-U14) – One (1) team per club

All Age Board Relay (U9-U14) – One (1) team per club

Beach Relays – Two (2) teams per club

11.4 Supplementary Information

Open Mixed Events:



Your local club



- Mixed events across U15s, U17s, U19s, Opens and Masters age groups must have a minimum of one (1) male and one (1) female in each team.

U8-U14 Relays:

- All U8-U14 Relays are mixed and must have a minimum of one (1) male and one (1) female in each team.

Buchanan Relay:

- Buchanan Relays consists of six (6) athletes:
 - Four (4) U8 Competitors: One (1) x Wade & three (3) x Runners.
 - One (1) U9 Competitor and One (1) U10 Competitor who will either be the swimmer or board paddler.

Junior & Senior Cameron Relay:

- The Junior (U11/12) and Senior (U13/14) Cameron Relays will be run with four (4) person teams.
- In the Junior and Senior Cameron Relays, as a minimum, a female must take the position of either board paddler or swimmer.

All Age Relays

- All Age Beach Relay: U8-U14.
- All Age Board Relay: U9-U14.

11.5 Restriction of Masters Events

Masters competitors may only compete in their own age group in individual events and in only one age category in each different team event entered.

Note: This section does not preclude a qualified Master competitor from participating in their Masters individual Age Group and also in Open age events. A minimum of one (1) starter is required provided that the competitor/team correctly completes the course. Where Championship events are contested all place getters shall be awarded placing medals (1st, 2nd & 3rd).

12. GENERAL INFORMATION

12.1 Championship Point Score

A point score will be kept for the highest overall point score for the championships (1st through to 6th).

12.2 Results

In the case of a dead heat for positions 1st, 2nd, or 3rd each competitor will receive a respective medal and the following medal allocations will apply:

- Dead heat for 1st place: Two (2) gold and one (1) bronze will be awarded (no silver will be awarded).



- One competitor in 1st place, dead heat for 2nd place: One (1) gold and two (2) silver will be awarded (no bronze will be awarded).
- One competitor in 1st place, one competitor in 2nd place, dead heat for 3rd place: One (1) gold, one (1) silver and two (2) bronze will be awarded.
- Dead heat for 1st place and dead heat for 2nd place: Two (2) gold and two (2) bronze will be awarded (no silver will be awarded).

12.3 Handlers

Handlers must be current financial members of a SLSNSW club. Those who handle for a competitor who are not financial members of a SLSNSW club will not be covered under the SLSNSW Insurance Policy. Handlers are required to wear a high visibility vest (or at the discretion of the referee; may wear a high visibility bib/jacket type garment).

12.4 Team Managers Meeting

A compulsory Team Managers Meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday 24th January 2024. It is expected that Team Managers and/or dedicated Club personnel are in attendance to receive vital event specific information.

Further information to be provided at a later date.

13. SCRUTINEERING

Whilst it is encouraged that all Members and clubs have their craft and equipment inspected regularly by an accredited scrutineer/s, all surf craft carrying manufacturers compliance decals and/or a SLSA endorsed sticker should guarantee the craft meets SLSA standards and therefore, does not require a NSW Scrutineering Sticker.

Random scrutineering of craft and equipment may take place throughout the duration of the carnival. Finalists may be required to have their craft scrutineered prior to racing in event finals. No craft or equipment is exempt from random scrutineering as deemed appropriate by scrutineers.

14. SPONSOR RASH VESTS

All competitors entered into the 2024 Oakberry Acai NSW Country Championships will be issued an official high visibility pink competition lycra vest. It is a requirement for all competitors to wear the supplied lycra vest in competition at the 2024 Oakberry Acai NSW Country Championships. See SSM 2.5.1.

Clubs must ensure that competitors wear the approved lycra vest in competition, no other branded vests may be worn. Competitors may be requested to wear the approved lycra vest as part of medal presentations.

The [Rash Vest Order Form](#) must be completed by **11.00pm Sunday 7th January 2024**.

Lycra Vests will be available for collection by Team Managers at the 2024 Oakberry Acai NSW Country Championships Administration and Help Desk which will be located at Warilla Barrack Point SLSC. Further information to be provided at a later date.

15. STACK TEAM APP

Important Information and updates will be communicated via Stack Team App.



Stack Team App will be used in the lead up to and throughout the NSW Country Championships as a platform to communicate information, documentation and updates including timetable changes to Team Managers and Competitors.

It is highly recommended that everyone planning to attend any NSW State Championships event download Stack Team App when Entry Nominations are submitted. If you cannot download the App onto a phone or tablet, you may also access Stack Team App in a web browser on any computer.

To register for these event updates please follow the below instructions:

- 1) Download the “Stack Team App” application from the App Store or Google Play.
- 2) Log in / Sign up to receive live event notifications.
- 3) Once logged in search “2024 NSW Country Championships”.
- 4) Click the “Become a member of this Stack Team App” icon at the top of the screen then select the appropriate group you wish to receive notifications from.

By joining the event and turning on your mobile app notifications, you will receive notifications and email updates as they are posted, ensuring you never miss any important information.

PLEASE NOTE: It is an individual’s/Club’s obligation (SSM 2.17) to ensure they listen for announcements and marshalling. Not receiving a Stack Team App update is not an excuse for missing events.

16. MEDIA AND PHOTOGRAPHY

16.1 Drones

For the safety of competitors, officials, and spectators SLSNSW prohibits the use of drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) at these Championships by members and/or public. SLSNSW and its telecast production contractors will be operating UAV’s for both surveillance and capturing of event footage.

16.2 Photography

As a condition of entry, all competitors agree to have photos and video taken during the Championships used for promotional material by SLSNSW.

SLSNSW will not be issuing media/photography accreditation to team members or Clubs.

Professional photographers will be attending, and material will be available via social media and to Clubs on request. Clubs are welcome to take photographs from outside the competition area.

Go Pro’s may only be used within the competition area on approved fittings and fixtures as set out in relevant SLSA bulletins.

16.3 Media Statements

No competitor, team manager, official or spokesperson for a club shall make media statements which could bring the State Championships, its sponsors, or officials into controversy or disrepute. Such statements will be a breach of policy and could potentially result in sanctions against members involved. Please note that statements to the media regarding the State Championships will be made by authorised spokespeople.



17. HEALTH & WELLBEING

The welfare of all competitors is of paramount importance and athletes or their parent / guardian in the case of underage competitors should seek advice prior to the competition from a qualified professional for any health concerns if required.

Any competitor or official who suffers illness or injury prior to or at the 2024 Country Championships **MUST** seek medical clearance before resuming their normal activities which includes training and competition.

In addition, SLSNSW may, at its sole discretion, require a competitor and/or official to be assessed for physical and/or psychological fitness to participate in the competition. This ensures the safety and wellbeing of the athlete concerned and fellow competitors while also ensuring all parties and Surf Life Saving NSW are not placed at risk.

18. ANTI-DOPING & MATCH FIXING

It is strongly recommended that all Team Managers complete both the [Sport Integrity Australia](#) Level 1 Anti-Doping and Match Fixing e-learning courses. Both courses are free of charge and provide an opportunity to develop a knowledge and understanding of anti-doping and match fixing in sport. Moving forward, SLSNSW strongly believe this is a great addition to the structure of any touring team and/or squad and is vital for elite competition and athlete development.

SLSNSW fully supports the new SLSA Anti-Doping and Match Fixing policies (SLSA Members Area > Library > Governance > SLSA > Policy 5.1 1 & 5.02). Following the completion of each course, a completion certificate/email must be forwarded to Surf Sports surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au. SLSNSW have organised with SLSA to have these courses uploaded on to SurfGuard as an award. Once completed, the courses do not have to be completed again, unless there is an update in information from the organisations. If anyone has previously completed either course, proof must be sent through to Surf Sports in order to be recognised.

For further information regarding the courses please contact Surf Sports, on (02) 9471 8000 or surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au

19. 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, are not allowed to assist competitors during the competition. Any breach of this policy may result in the disqualification of an athlete from the remainder of the competition and is at the discretion of the Referee.

Parents or supporters must also understand that they are role models for young athletes. Clubs should make sure that parents and supporters understand that abuse of officials, other competitors or clubs will not be tolerated. Team Managers and Club Presidents should ensure that their parents



and supporters understand their role at this competition and that expected standards of behaviour are clearly explained.

Please refer to 37th 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).

20. PROTESTS

All protests shall be lodged with the appropriate Liaison Officer in each Area in accordance with the procedures set down in the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent bulletins and shall identify the specific sections/clauses in the Competition Manual and or event rules upon which the protest is based.

Protest Forms are available from the Liaison Officer. An “Appeals Fee” of **\$110.00** cash must accompany all documentation when the process is officially submitted to the Appeals Committee for adjudication.

21. SHELLHARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

Shellharbour Council proudly welcomes the 2024 Oakberry Acai NSW Country Championships!

There are plenty of accommodation options on offer for competitors and guests from caravan parks, hotels/motels, and self-contained homes.

Why not extend your stay and further explore this unique and scenic coastal region of NSW?

For more information please visit – [Shellharbour City Council](#)



Your local club



22. COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRY AND PAYMENT PROCESS

