



# Surf Life Saving Australia – Circular

Title:	Single Surf Ski Weight Reduction
Document ID:	Circular 55/23-24
Audience:	Presidents & Secretaries State / Territory Centers, Branches & Clubs SLSA Directors, Advisors, Committee Chairs Gear Stewards, Coaches, Athletes
From:	SLSA Sport Team
Date:	6 March 2024
Subject:	Lowering the Single Surf Ski Weight – Phased Implementation Process
Summary:	Please refer to this circular for instruction on the implementation process for lowering the single surf ski weight

## Background

- SLSA in collaboration with approved surf craft manufacturers and the Sport Advisory Committee (SAC) endorsed a staged reduction of the weight of single skis to 16.5kg over a nine (9) year period. The reduction of weight over an extended time provides for the following. :
- No change in design or manufacture to surf skis except the reduction of weight.
- The 3-year period between weight reductions provides a reasonable “usable life span” for skis for serious competitors. This eliminates the potential for members to believe they need to purchase a new ski each year.
- The extended period of the time (3-year increments) between the staged reductions allows better time for all manufacturers to experiment and change processes as required to build craft to the new specification.
- The extension of time also reduces the potential for unnecessary financial burden on members and families by allowing for craft to have a reasonable competitive life of 3-years.

## Implementation

That the schedule of reduction will be implemented as follows.

- The ski weight will reduce progressively from 18kg to 17.5kg to 17kg to 16.5kg in 3-year increments.
- The commencement of the process will be after the 2025 Australian Championships on the Gold Coast. (1 May 2025) From this date surf skis can be manufactured and raced at 17.5kg.
- The weight specification schedule will then progress across a nine (9) year period as follows:
  1. 17.5kg minimum for 25-26, 26-27 and 27-28 competition seasons.
  2. After the 2028 Australian Championships from 1 May 2028 the weight will reduce to 17kg and shall remain as the minimum weight for 28-29, 29-30 and 30-31 competition seasons.
  3. After the 2031 Australian Championships from 1 May 2031 the weight reduce to 16.5kg and the minimum weight be retained for future racing seasons unless changes are required.
- After each three-year increment has expired, SLSA will publish a bulletin outlining the next phase of the weight reduction process.



- SLSA will brief Championships scrutineers on the implementation schedule. Surf Ski found underweight during the implementation schedule for that particular season, will be deemed non-compliant and athletes not permitted to race on these craft.

### **Further Information**

Please email the SLSA Sport Team [events@sls.com.au](mailto:events@sls.com.au) if further information is required.