



Surf Life Saving Australia - Circular

Title:	Australian Pool Rescue Championships 2026 and 2027 – Call for Referee and Deputy Referee
Document ID:	Circular 89/25-26
Date:	07/08/2025
Department:	Sport
Audience:	State/Territory Centres, Branches
Summary:	SLSA is calling for and Referee and Deputy Referee/s for the Pool Rescue Championships 2026-2027

SLSA is calling for applications for the roles of Referee and Deputy Referee/s for the Australian Pool Rescue Championships 2026 and 2027.

EVENT DATES

	Date	Event
2026 Championships	7-9 August 2026	SA Aquatic & Leisure Centre
2027 Championships	TBA	TBA

APPLICATIONS

Applicants must be SLSA Club members with the appropriate current official qualification (Senior Official) and experience.

All appointments will be made jointly decided by:

- SLSA Chair, Sport
- SLSA Sport Manager
- National Officiating Advisor

A position description for Referee and Deputy Referee can be found within this Circular and in the Surf Sports Manual.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE: Monday 15th September 2025

An interview may occur with the shortlisted applicants after nominations close and the successful candidate will be finalised as soon as possible after selection.

Application process:

- Complete the [online form](#)
- Upload a cover letter addressing the relevant selection criteria found in the Position Description using the [online form](#)

Note: All applications must be submitted via the [online form](#).

If you have any queries regarding the nomination process, please contact the SLSA Events Team at events@slsa.asn.au.



POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

Position Description – Championship Referee	
Reports to	• Chair Championship Competition Committee • SLSA Event Manager
Consults with	• Championship Competition Committee • Championship Organising Committee • SLSA Staff – various positions, as appropriate • SLSA Volunteers, including SLSA Chair Sport, Technical Advisors and others
Purpose	The purpose of the Championship Referee is to ensure the successful delivery of the Championship event.
Responsibilities	Overall (extract from current edition of Surf Sports Manual) • In conjunction with the Competition Committee be responsible for all matters relating to the actual conduct of the competition and matters, of which the final settlement is not covered by SLSA rules. The Championship Referee will also implement the rules and regulations governing the competition or event being conducted. • Be aware at all times of the safety and welfare of competitors, officials and other personnel involved in the competition and have the authority to immediately suspend, wholly or in part, the competition and refer that decision to the Competition Committee. • Conduct pre and post briefings for senior Officials and/or Team Managers and/or coaches and/or competitors on the conduct and program for the competition including entry conditions, timetables, area layouts special events and safety and emergency arrangements. • Make any alteration to the program that they consider necessary and communicate these changes without delay to all interested parties. Any alterations should take into consideration the safety and welfare of both competitors and officials. • Consider and adjudicate upon reports, protests, breaches of rules and all matters relating to the conduct of officials, competitors, coaches, managers and events. Any decision made may be the subject of appeal as provided for in Section 14 – Protests, Appeals, Discipline. • Consider and adjudicate on any unbecoming conduct during the competition or event. If considered necessary, refer any offence or offenders to SLSA for consideration of further penalty. • If required, exercise the power to disqualify or penalise a competitor. The Championship Referee is not required to give notification of any disqualification or penalty until the conclusion of the relevant event. • Conduct any other briefings when considered necessary with Officials, Team Managers, coaches and competitors. • Report to the relevant SLSA authority on the conduct of the competition together with any appropriate recommendations. Prior to Event • Review and provide input into planning and communications of the Championship event • Input into the development of the Championship program and timetable • Liaise with specific competitive/officials representative groups where necessary and report to the Event Organising Committee • Ensure Official's accreditation and working with children checks are current. During Event • Be a member of the Championship Competition Committee.



	• Liaise with Deputy Referee on all issues in relation to the conduct of events and implement any revised programming/timetabling • Liaise with Medical Coordinator where necessary • Ensure recording of all competitor results is being conducted correctly. Post Event • Provide input and feedback as appropriate for continual event improvement.
SELECTION CRITERIA	Please address all four areas of the selection criteria below: qualifications, knowledge and experience and skills and attributes
1. Qualifications	1. Surf Life Saving experience 2. Accredited Senior Official 3. Minimum 5 years experience in overseeing major state conducted events including planning and timetabling. 4. Minimum 5 years senior level officiating experience at Australian Championships
2. Knowledge and experience	1. Experience working with fundraising/community associations/not-for-profit/membership organisations 2. Sports competition management and administration 3. Demonstrated understanding of WH&S including risk management procedures/requirements
3. Skills and attributes	1. Relationship focused leadership 2. Strong communication skills 3. Ability to meet deadlines 4. Ability to work with volunteers, employees, contractors, external partners and agencies 5. High level report writing, presentation and liaison skills 6. Communication and analytical skills 7. Mentoring skills 8. Physically fit
4.Culture	Actively demonstrate the organisational values: • Brave – We take calculated risks while striving for excellence • Connected – We seek opportunities to highlight the strengths of others • Buoyant – We are conscious of the energy we share • Compassionate – We walk a mile in their shoes



Position Description – Championship Deputy Referee	
Reports to	Championship Referee
Consults with	- Championship Competition Committee - Championship Organising Committee - SLSA Staff – various positions as appropriate - SLSA Volunteers
Purpose	The purpose of the position is to assist the Championship Referee in preparation and delivery of the Championship event.
Responsibilities	Overall (extract from current edition of Surf Sports Manual) - Assist in the conduct and organisation of the competition and in the absence of the Championship Referee assume their authority and responsibilities. - Take control of a particular area of the competition with the Championship Referee's authority or be assigned to a specific role or be designated a specific authority. - Be aware at all times of the safety and welfare of competitors, officials and other personnel involved in the competition and have the authority to immediately suspend wholly or in part the competition and refer that decision to the Championship Referee. Prior to Event - Review and provide input into the program, timetable and event circulars - Liaise with specific competitive/officials representative groups where necessary and report to the Championship Referee or Event Organising Committee During Event - Be a member of the Championship Competition Committee. - Liaise with officials on all issues in relation to the conduct of events and report to the Championship Referee - Work with the officials and SLSA Staff to communicate and implement and revised programming/timetabling - Liaise with Medical Coordinator where necessary - Ensure recording of all competitor results is being conducted correctly Post Event - Provide input and feedback as appropriate for continual event improvement.
SELECTION CRITERIA	Please address all four areas of the selection criteria below: qualifications, knowledge and experience and skills and attributes
1. Qualifications	- Surf Life Saving experience - Accredited Senior Official - Minimum 5 years experience in overseeing major state conducted events including planning and timetabling. - Minimum 5 years senior level officiating experience at Australian Championships
2. Knowledge and experience	- Experience working with fundraising/community associations/not-for-profit/membership organisations - Sports competition management and administration - Demonstrated understanding of WH&S including risk management procedures/requirements
3. Skills and attributes	- Relationship focused leadership - Strong communication skills - Ability to meet deadlines - Ability to work with volunteers, employees, contractors, external partners and agencies - High level report writing, presentation and liaison skills



	6. Communication and analytical skills 7. Mentoring skills 8. Physically fit
4.Culture	Actively demonstrate the organisational values: • Brave – We take calculated risks while striving for excellence • Connected – We seek opportunities to highlight the strengths of others • Buoyant – We are conscious of the energy we share • Compassionate – We walk a mile in their shoes