



Circular 3968

Released 29 July 2026

2026/27 NSW CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS SAFETY COORDINATOR & OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Attention: Branch Directors of Surf Sports, Safety Officers, Branch Secretaries/CEO's, Club Secretaries

Actioned by: Safety Officers wishing to nominate for 2026/27 NSW Championships Events

Date: 29 July 2026

Contact: Victoria Cuthbert – Sports Officer
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Summary	SLSNSW is calling for nominations for Safety Coordinator & Officer positions for 2026/27 NSW Championship Events
Action	Complete and submit nomination via Microsoft Forms by 11pm Sunday 30 August 2026

INFORMATION

SLSNSW is now calling for nominations for Safety Coordinators & Officers for 2026/27 NSW Championship Events

Safety Coordinator & Officer appointments will be made by the SLSNSW Chair of Surf Sports & Director of Lifesaving. Successful appointments will be notified via an email appointment letter.

CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	REFEREE
28-29 Nov	Interbranch	Caves Beach	Darren Moore
22-27 Jan	Country	South West Rocks	Peter Allsopp
26-28 Feb	Lifesaving	Caves Beach	Adrienne Lowe
26-28 Feb	Surf Boats	Swansea Belmont	Mick Lang
4-7 March	Age	Swansea Belmont	Darren Moore
10-11 March	Masters	Swansea Belmont	Peter Carney
12-14 March	Opens	Swansea Belmont	Michael Wasley

NOMINATIONS

All nominations are to be submitted via: [Microsoft Forms](#)

Nominations will close 11pm Sunday 30 August 2026

The appointment of Safety Coordinators & Officers will be made after the close of nominations and an appointment letter will be sent to successful officials via email in due course.

SAFETY COORDINATOR & OFFICER REQUIREMENTS

Surf Life Saving NSW is looking for capable Safety Officers who meet the following requirements:

- Be a current financial member of a club for 2026/27 season.
- Desirable to hold a current Safety Officer accreditation.
- Uphold the responsibilities of the position as detailed below and in the Surf Sports Manual

JOB DESCRIPTION – SAFETY COORDINATOR

The Safety Coordinator shall chair the Safety Committee, provide advice as a member of the Organising Committee and the Competition Committee and shall:

- a) Work in conjunction with the Referee.
- b) Formulate and implement a safety, search and rescue and contingency plan which will provide prompt and effective safety, rescue, and recovery in an emergency situation. This program shall be approved by the Competition Committee conducting the competition.
- c) Respond immediately to and record any reports of safety concerns directly received from competitors, power craft, water safety personnel, officials and lifesaving/lifeguard personnel and liaise as appropriate with the Referee and/or the Competition Committee.
- d) Be aware at all times of the safety and welfare of competitors, officials and other personnel involved in the competition and non-competition support functions and have the authority to immediately suspend, wholly or in part, the competition whenever there is a credible basis for concluding there is an unacceptable risk of serious injury occurring and refer that decision to the Competition Committee. This safety responsibility and authority includes being alert for, and responding to, infection transmission risks at a competition.
- e) Co-ordinate other services to provide essential communication, transport, and trained personnel in an emergency.
- f) Brief all associated services prior to the competition to ensure that all:
- g) Other involved services are aware of their responsibilities; and
- h) Referees are aware of the safety and emergency plans.
- i) Liaise and coordinate with SLSA Medical/First Aid/Emergency/Safety personnel including local emergency groups such as Police, Ambulance, Fire services and relevant government agencies.
- j) Be located in a convenient position during the competition and be available for communication with the Referee at all times.
- k) Brief any lifesaving service and any other designated personnel on the emergency plans and assistance required in case of an emergency.

- l) Provide reports and recommendations to the Referee or the relevant SLSA authority on the conduct of the safety and emergency management systems.
- m) The Safety Coordinator has the authority to immediately initiate and coordinate (command and control) any search and rescue actions if necessary and notify the Referee and the Competition Committee.

JOB DESCRIPTION – SAFETY OFFICER

- a) The Safety Officer(s), if appointed, are responsible for competition arena(s) and report to the Safety Coordinator.
- b) Safety Officers work with the Area Referees and course supervisor to:
 - i. Undertake an initial risk assessment of the area and then continually monitor competition conditions by conducting further risk assessments on a regular basis, and as requested by Referees.
 - ii. Monitor the time events take to complete and note any issues with the competition conditions.
 - iii. Monitor trends in the ratios of competitors starting and finishing events and the reason why competitors do not finish a race.
 - iv. In the absence of a statistician assume the duties of this role including recording the number of starters and finishers and account for any non-finishers in each race. If there is any competitor not accounted for in a race, immediately advise the Safety Coordinator and then the Sectional Referee/Referee.
 - v. Obtain, record, and immediately convey feedback from competitors, powercraft water safety personnel, officials and lifesaving/lifeguard personnel as to the conditions and immediately escalate any reports of safety concerns directly with the Safety Coordinator and the Area Referee.
- c) The outcomes of such tasks are to be conveyed to the Safety Coordinator.
- d) Safety Officers must 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 whenever there is a credible basis for concluding there is an unacceptable risk of serious injury and refer that decision to the Safety Coordinator and Referee or their delegate.
- e) In conjunction with the Area/Sectional referee, the Safety Officer has the authority to initiate any search and rescue actions and immediately notify the Safety Coordinator and Referee or their delegate.
- f) The Safety Officer may be required to take and keep control as forward coordinator under direction of the Safety Coordinator or representatives of government agencies. This is to avoid confusion and conflicting directions being given to personnel and contradictory instructions being given in respect to the use of rescue assets and crowd control.