



Surf Life Saving Australia - Circular

Title	Shaw and Partners Iron Series Nipper Challenge Entry Circular
Document ID	Circular 28/26-27
Audience	State/Territory Surf Sport Managers, Directors, Club Secretaries, Branches, State/Territory CEO's, SLSA Chair of Sport and Advisers, Officials and Team Managers
Department	Sport
Date	24 September 2026
Summary	This Circular contains the entry and event information for the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Nipper Challenge to be held at Thirroul Beach on 14-15 November 2026

DATE & LOCATION

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION	AGE GROUPS
Shaw and Partners Iron Series Nipper Challenge Day 1	Saturday, 14 November 2026	Thirroul Beach, NSW	U11 and U12
Shaw and Partners Iron Series Nipper Challenge Day 2	Sunday, 15 November 2026	Thirroul Beach, NSW	U13 and U14

ENTRIES

- All competitor entries for the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Nipper Challenge will be completed via Liveheats: <https://liveheats.com/events/563754>
- For information on how to enter via Liveheats, check out the [Liveheats SLS Entries Help website](#)
- Competitors must meet competition eligibility rules and age groups as per current edition of SLSA Surf Sports Manual.
- Cost of entry for the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Nipper Challenge will be \$55.00.
- Entries will be capped at 32 competitors per gender per age group for each discipline.
- Entries for the Nipper Challenge close at 5pm, Friday, 6 November 2026. No entries will be accepted after this date or on the day of competition.

COMPETITION BRIEFINGS

- A briefing for Team Managers and Officials will be conducted by the Event Referee each morning before competition commences.
- The location of the briefings shall be in the main competition area.
- Please ensure you are listening to announcements to ensure you attend the relevant briefings.
- Team Managers will be required to complete the [Team Managers Nomination form](#) by 30 October 2026 to ensure they receive all event updates.



FORMAT & TIMINGS

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER

- **Warm Up Competition Area** - Separate swim/craft warm up times will be implemented to ensure the safety of all competitors. There will be a 5-minute break between craft and swim warm ups to clear all craft from the warm up area.
 - Board 7.00am to 7.25am
 - 5 Minute break to clear water of craft
 - Swim 7.30am to 7.45am
- **Marshalling** – will commence at **7.45am**
- **Start time** – The first race will commence at **8am**.
- The order for all iron events will be **Swim-Board**

EVENT	ROUND	START TIME (APPROX)
U11 Male Board Race	Semi Final	8:00AM
U11 Female Board Race	Semi Final	
U12 Male Board Race	Semi Final	
U12 Female Board Race	Semi Final	
U11 Ironman	Semi Final	8:20AM
U11 Ironwoman	Semi Final	
U12 Ironman	Semi Final	
U12 Ironwoman	Semi Final	
U11 Male Surf Race	Final	10:00AM
U11 Female Surf Race	Final	
U12 Male Surf Race	Final	
U12 Female Surf Race	Final	
U11 Male Board Race	Final	10:20AM
U11 Female Board Race	Final	
U12 Male Board Race	Final	
U12 Female Board Race	Final	
U11 Ironman	Final	10:40AM
U11 Ironwoman	Final	
U12 Ironman	Final	
U12 Ironwoman	Final	

Note, timetable is subject to change based on entry numbers and surf conditions. An updated event timetable will be shared once entries close in the Final Carnival Circular.

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER

- **Warm Up Competition Area** - Separate swim/craft warm up times will be implemented to ensure the safety of all competitors. There will be a 5-minute break between craft and swim warm ups to clear all craft from the warm up area.
 - Board 7.00am to 7.25am
 - 5 Minute break to clear water of craft
 - Swim 7.30am to 7.45am
- **Marshalling** – will commence at **7.45am**
- **Start time** – The first race will commence at **8am**.
- The order for all iron events will be **Swim-Board**

EVENT	ROUND	START TIME (APPROX)
U13 Male Board Race	Semi Final	8:00AM
U13 Female Board Race	Semi Final	
U14 Male Board Race	Semi Final	
U14 Female Board Race	Semi Final	
U13 Ironman	Semi Final	8:20AM
U13 Ironwoman	Semi Final	
U14 Ironman	Semi Final	
U14 Ironwoman	Semi Final	



U13 Male Surf Race	Final	10:00AM
U13 Female Surf Race	Final	
U14 Male Surf Race	Final	
U14 Female Surf Race	Final	
U13 Male Board Race	Final	10:20AM
U13 Female Board Race	Final	
U14 Male Board Race	Final	
U14 Female Board Race	Final	
U13 Ironman	Final	10:40AM
U13 Ironwoman	Final	
U14 Ironman	Final	
U14 Ironwoman	Final	

RESULTS

LIVE HEATS

The Shaw and Partners Iron Series Nipper Challenge will be utilising LiveHeats wristbands for marshalling and recording processes across all events.

All competitors who have an existing LiveHeats wristband from any Australian Surf Sports events are to bring these wristbands. **If you have already been issued a wristband and require a new one, you will be charged \$10 for a new one.**

For those who do not have a wristband, or are required to purchase one, please do so at the administration tent.

PRIZES

The first, second, and third competitors in each division will receive a gold, silver and bronze medal, respectively.

COMPETITION DETAILS

START OF RACES

Unless otherwise advised, all races shall be started on the beach approximately 15 meters from the water's edge (run start). Craft will be placed in front of the start line and as close as practicable to the water's edge. Handlers are not required for the start of events.

FINISH OF RACES

Unless otherwise advised, all races shall finish just prior to the arch at the rear of the run course. The finish line will be between 2 flags (or poles) positioned just prior to the arch. Craft may be abandoned after rounding the last turning buoy of the swim course. Handlers are to be used to remove craft and paddles from the course.

COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

The Nipper Challenge for the Shaw and Partners Series 2025/26 will be conducted as per the 37th edition SLISA Surf Sports Manual.

COMPETITOR CHECK IN

Competitors will be required to check in from 7:00AM on each day of competition at the administration tent behind the Iron Series Arch. Competitors should bring their Liveheats band to check in where they will also receive a Shaw and Partners Iron Series Swim Cap. The swim cap is not compulsory to be worn while competing.

HI-VIS LYCRA

Competitors are to wear a high-vis pink lycra of their choosing. Lycras will not be supplied at this event. Lycras must be worn when competing.



CLUB CAPS

Competitors must wear their club cap during competition.

PROTESTS

In the event of a protest by a competitor there will be no right of appeal as the Referee's decision, in consultation with the Deputy Referee shall be final.

In dealing with the protest – the Referee has the discretion to **(but not obligated to)**:

- Speak to any further person he/she believes is appropriate and /or
- View any video or broadcast footage that may assist in his/her decision.

All Placings are deemed final upon the Referee declaring the results as confirmed. No protest can be lodged after the confirmation of the results.

SCRUTINEERING

Team Managers and competitors are strongly advised to ensure that their boards strictly comply with the scrutineering conditions, detailed in the current edition of the Surf Sports Manual before departure for the event. SLSA reserves the right to randomly scrutineer all competition related surf craft. I.e., boards and surf skis

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

GEAR & EQUIPMENT / SECURITY

SLSA will provide overnight security to monitor event and competition area for competitor gear & equipment. Competitors are encouraged to safely store and secure own equipment overnight as SLSA takes no responsibility for loss or damage of equipment remaining on beach overnight.

Reports of missing craft and equipment and personal belongings, are not uncommon at major events and all club Team Managers and competitors are reminded of their responsibility towards the security of their own equipment at the event.

Whilst general security surveillance personnel will be provided, the security of this equipment remains strictly under the control of the clubs and competitors and no responsibility will be accepted by Surf Life Saving Australia.

Any person/s found stealing signage or any equipment owned by Surf Life Saving Australia, the hosting authority, states or another individual may be immediately reported to the police and that person/s be brought before a SLSA Disciplinary Committee.

Please note that automatic disqualification of individuals from the event may occur if any member is found guilty of theft

UAV'S ON SITE

Please ensure that all competitors and travelling family members are aware that no unauthorised UAVs are permitted at the event, including the competition area and surrounding locations.

EVENT COMMUNICATION

Communication about this event will be directly to Team Managers who have completed the Team Manager form.

SPONSORSHIP

Please be aware that the following National Sponsors have exclusivity in the following categories for the Shaw and Partners Iron Series 2025/26.

COMPANY	EXCLUSIVITY CATEGORY
Shaw and Partners	Financial Services
DHL	Logistics



Isuzu	Automotive
Ampol	Fuel
Westpac	Financial Services
Engine	Swimwear
BRP	SeaDoo water craft & Can-Am/Power craft
Bond University	University

***SLSA reserve the right to amend this list at any time should additional organisations sponsor the event.**

PHOTOGRAPHY

No club photographer passes will be issued for this event – this is in line with SLSA's Photography Policy - Policy 6.21. Please contact media@slsa.asn.au if you have any enquiries in this space.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Only accredited media will be granted access to the competition area. All media enquiries should be directed to Surf Life Saving Australia Media Team.

No competitor, Team Manager, competitor, Official or spokesperson for a team, shall make media statements that could bring the Shaw and Partners Iron Series, its sponsor, or officials, into controversy. Such statements shall be deemed to be a breach of SLSA discipline and may be dealt with accordingly.

Complaints regarding the organisation of the Series, or any other matters, should be directed through the appropriate SLSA channels and will be dealt with by the responsible section, or officers. Such official complaints will be acknowledged.

Please contact media@slsa.asn.au if you have any enquiries in this space.

SLSA CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

SLSA expects that all members involved in the event will co-operate to ensure a positive public image and to participate in a spirit of goodwill and sportsmanship.

The SLSA Code of Conduct, competing unfairly and abuse/inappropriate clauses are contained in the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent Bulletins.

Any incidents or behaviour likely to cause embarrassment or damage to the reputation and/or image of lifesaving competition will be managed as prescribed in the current edition of SLSA's Rules, Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent Bulletins.

MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions please reach out to the SLSA event team at events@slsa.asn.au