



Aussies 2027 – Officials Nomination Circular

Title:	2027 Australian Surf Lifesaving Championships– Officials/Volunteers/Assessors Nomination Circular
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Audience:	State Sport Managers, Officials, Competition, State and Clubs Presidents, Secretaries and State and Club Directors of Surf Sports, Team Managers, Officials
From:	SLSA Sport Events
Date:	09/10/2026
Summary:	Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) is calling for nomination from Core, Technical and Senior Officials, Support Services Officials/Volunteers and Lifesaving Officials/Assessors/Volunteers for the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2027 to be held from Saturday, 10 April – Sunday, 18 April 2027 across Maroochydore, Alexandra Headland, Mooloolaba and Coolum SLSCs, on Queensland's the Sunshine Coast.

Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) is calling for nominations from all qualified Surf Sport Officials, Volunteers and Assessors wishing to volunteer at the 2027 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships to be held on Saturday, 10 April – Sunday, 18 April 2027 across Maroochydore, Alexandra Headland, Mooloolaba and Coolum SLSCs, on Queensland's the Sunshine Coast.

APPOINTMENTS AND CLOSE OF NOMINATIONS:

The appointment of Officials will be made jointly by the National Officials Advisor working with Championship and Area Referees. Officials' appointments will be finalised as soon as possible after close of nominations.

The first round of applications will close on **Friday, 20 November 2026** and will be announced mid-December 2026, with unfilled roles highlighted.

The second round will close on **Friday, 15 January 2027**, and updated appointments will be announced by 30 January 2027. Please note that if a position is already filled in the published circular, you should not apply for that position.

Nominations will remain open up until Friday, 5 March 2027, however preferred positions may not be available by that time. Appointments will remain a draft up until the start of the Championships and changes may still be made during the Championships.

Final official appointments will be published and circulated via email, the Aussies Website and Stack Team App on 12 March 2027.

All appointments will be **posted on the SLSA Hub** (formerly known as the Members Area), and on **The 'Aussies 2027' Website Event Page** as well as on **'Stack Team App'** under 'The Aussies 2027'. You will receive an email advising you when appointments have been published.

Late nominating officials will be added to the 'Officials Pool' and appointments made will be subject to availability of roles.



INFORMATION ABOUT NOMINATING:

Many people apply for roles at the Australian Championships. Roles will be allocated according to experience and skill level in most instances (for starters for example) but new and Youth Officials are welcome to apply for most roles.

Roles that you can apply for include all technical (except Referee/s roles), support services and lifesaving roles. Please make sure you apply for at least two roles, preferably three. If you only apply for one and are not appointed to that role, we will have to make that role decision for you. As the event will be conducted over a number of days, locations and areas, SLSA is looking for officials to fill a range of positions. If you are officiating to fulfil your club's quota (see Aussies Quota Circular), please understand that the minimum amount of time you can be appointed is:

- Half a days for Masters
- One day for Youth and Opens

You are also not able to swap appointed positions with other officials unless done through the SLSA Officials Advisor (Jenny Kenny).

OFFICIALS QUOTA – YOUTH, MASTERS AND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

SLSA has implemented a quota system, based on entry numbers (in most cases from 2026), for the appointment of Surf Sports Officials/Assessors for the 2027 Australian Youth, Masters and Open Surf Life Saving Championships.

The quota system is in place to ensure that all Championships are conducted in a safe, fair and efficient manner.

The quota system will apply to ocean and beach events, and to Lifesaving team events. Board Riding, Surf Boats, RNR and Champion Lifesaver events will not be included in the quota system.

For further information, please refer to: [Officials Quota Information Circular](#)

Queries about appointments, and changes/withdrawals, should be communicated to officials@sls.com.au.

OFFICIALS ALUMNI PROGRAM

The Officials Alumni Program is a program being trialled this year to welcome and recognise long-standing officials who can no longer officiate at the Championships, allowing them to reconnect with friends/colleagues and watch Australia's best athletes compete. It acknowledges the significant contribution you have made to the Aussies over many years and allows you to remain a part of the Aussies family as a valued spectator, mentor and friend.

Please refer to the separate Officials Alumni Circular, which tells your more about the program: [The Aussies 2027 – Officials Alumni Program](#). You will also find the circular on the Aussies 2027 Event Page, the Members Hub as well as on Stack Sport Team App.

If you opt for the Alumni program for one or two Championships you will be appointed to the Alumni Program. You will pick up a lanyard (pass) and hat at the Officials Welcome Area, and will be able to attend the Aussies debriefs and have priority seating in different areas at the Championships.

There is a separate link to nominate for the Alumni Program. Please refer to the Alumni Circular and click on the link to complete the form. Do not finish this nomination.



CHAMPIONSHIP PREFERENCE:

Your nomination should identify the preferred roles you wish to fulfil at the event, with three preferences for each Championship, listed in priority order.

Please note, that we will, in most cases, appoint the officials to two of the three Championships only to assist with officials wellbeing. You should indicate the priority order of the championships you wish to officiate at.

MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES:

The Aussies Scholarship Program

The Aussies Scholarship Program supports the development of three (3) Surf Life Saving Officials by providing training, mentorship and officiating experience at the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships (The Aussies).

It is a two-year commitment and provides some financial support to attend the Aussies and officiate at two Championships (your choice of Championships). It is open to anyone who has not attended the Aussies as an Official more than once before.

The scholarship experience will include working with appointed mentors, exposure to carnival set up and carnival meetings, and a networking evening with the selector's panel and senior carnival officials.

See the accompany circular for more details: [The Aussies 2027 – Officials Scholarship Program](#)

Mentoring outside the Scholarship Program

If you are interested in mentoring opportunities outside the scholarship program at the Australian Youth Surf Life Saving Championships, please nominate as a mentor or a mentee for the Youth Championships.

- **Being a Mentor:** People who are experienced, and prepared to share their expertise, would do so on days they are appointed as an official. You must be interested in and prepared to mentor someone in a role that you are going to apply for at the Youth Championships. You would do so for one hour to half a day of the Championships (dependent on the mentee).
- **Being a Mentee:** People who want to learn more about a role (e.g. a senior role or a role such as a Starter). This would be done on days when you are NOT appointed as an official so if you are applying to officiate for both days of the Youth Championships you cannot be a mentee. You will not get appointed to the Youth Champs but would be mentored during the Youth Champs for one hour to half a day (depending on what you wanted). You would NOT count as part of the quota.

**There will be limited availability so please understand if you are not selected.*

APPEALS:

Appeals panel members must satisfy position descriptions, as described in the SLSA Sports Manual, and may be allocated to specific areas at the Championships on different days. If applying for the Appeals panel, you should be prepared to work in a range of competition areas and be across the rules for each of those areas.

HEALTH STATEMENT

All officials should ensure they are physically capable of carrying out their important functions over the course of the Championships.



In nominating for this event, all Officials warrant that they are and must remain, mentally and physically capable of carrying out all the functions of their appointed role(s) over the course of the event/s to which they are appointed.

To work out whether you can officiate at this event, please take this little self test:

- *Can you walk a kilometre on sand or sand/footpaths at least a couple of times per day?*
- *Can you climb 3 or 4 steps on a ladder to get on a judging tower?*
- *Can you concentrate for 5-6 hours with short breaks between races?*
- *Can you recall the names of 4-5 clubs in order?*
- *Can you stand for 4-5 hours?*
- *Can you cope with weather variations (rain, wind, hot, sun)?*

All Officials should undertake a medical check prior to departure for the event. SLSA may request Officials to provide a medical clearance if the Official has had a medical incident at a previous SLS event or if SLSA reasonably considers such request is reasonable and/or necessary. If requested, the Officials must provide the medical clearance before undertaking their rostered duties.

Please understand that the Championships are considered a workplace for the lead up and duration of the event, and as such, all Queensland WHS requirements must be met by SLSA and its appointed officials.

SLSA reserves the right in its absolute discretion to:

- a) Not appoint an Official to any position whether an Official has nominated or not;
- b) Remove an Official from any position at any time (whether before or during and SLSA event)

SLSA is not obligated to give reasons where it acts under this clause.

SAFETY PLAN

Our event safety plan requires that all officials must be able to make their own way to and from their appointed position at the Championships. The only exception to this would be if someone has a physical disability and they require some support moving to and from the location of their appointment, particularly in an emergency. If you **will or may** require support, you must indicate this to us in your nomination, so that Championship safety plans can take account of this.

OFFICIALS UPDATES AND BRIEFINGS

It is crucial, when applying to volunteer at the Aussies, that you provide **an email address that is monitored**, as key information will be communicated through this, NOT through SMS or phone calls.

Updates about the Aussies will be sent to States and Territories, posted on The Aussies 2027 website and Stack Team App.

All appointed officials will be required to attend all Official Briefings, whether online or face-to-face. All times and locations for briefings and other key information will be outlined in the Officials Memo that will be sent out closer to the event and after all officials have been appointed.

The Championships' safety procedures and contingency plans will be communicated via these briefings. Therefore, the Officials briefings are mandatory and failure to complete and/or attend may result in your appointment being terminated and/or referred to the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships Competition Committee for further action.

OFFICIALS OUTFITTING

All appointed officials will receive some appropriate clothing/gear for the Championships. A table of the allocation per days worked will be distributed early in 2027.



OFFICIALS ROLES & NOMINATION

Please click the following link to nominate for the 2027 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships:

[Aussies 2027 - Officials Nomination](#)

Please see a list below of all Official Roles at the Aussies 2027:

*Some roles may be adjusted or shared for some Championships (one person might be allocated two or three roles).

TECHNICAL ROLES (YOUTH, OPEN, MASTERS)

Beach Area

- Chief Judge (Senior Officials only for Youth and Open)
- Competition Liaison (Senior Officials only)
- Finish Judge
- LiveHeats Coordinator
- Marshall (with LiveHeats)
- LiveHeats Recorder
- Starter
- Video Judge
- Video Chief Judge (Sprints)
- iPad Judge (Flags)

Water Area

- Chief Judge (Senior Officials only for Youth and Open)
- Competition Liaison (Senior Officials only)
- Course Supervisor (Senior Officials preferred)
- Course Judge
- Course Statistician
- Finish Judge
- Video Judge
- Video Chief Judge (Sprints)
- LiveHeats Coordinator (only two/three will be appointed for the whole championships)
- Marshall (must be able to use LiveHeats)
- Live Heats Recorder

Boat Area

- Boat Area Coordinator
- Chief Judge (Senior Officials only)
- Course Supervisor (Senior Officials preferred)
- Competition Liaison (Senior Officials only)
- Course Judge
- Finish Judge
- Video Review Judge
- Recording Judge
- Computer Recording Judge
- Marshall
- Starter
- Boat Announcer (appointed for Tue-Sat only)

Board Riding



- Judge (must have Level 3 Surfing Australia Judging Accreditation)
- Head/Chief Judge
- Spotter
- Marshall
- CompuSurf Technical Operator
- Competition Liaison

Lifesaving

Champion Lifesaver:

- Resuscitation Assessor (do not need to be an accredited official)
- Chief Judge (Beach)
- Chief Judge (Off-beach)
- Marshall
- Course Supervisor/Statistician
- On-beach Recorder (LiveHeats)
- Judge (on beach)
- Isolation Judge
- Recording Judge
- Competition Liaison
- Timekeeper

Champion Patrol:

- Chief Judge Open (Off-beach and scenario)
- Chief Judge U17 (Off-beach and scenario)
- Chief Judge (On-beach)
- Resuscitation Assessor (do not need to be an accredited official)
- Scenario Judge/Assessor
- Timekeeper (Resuscitation)
- Timekeeper (Beach/Water Events)
- Marshall
- Starter
- Course Supervisor/Statistician
- On-beach Recorder (LiveHeats)
- Judge (on beach)
- Isolation Judge
- Recording Judge
- Competition Liaison
- Open Scenario Surf-Com Operator
- U17 Scenario Surf-Com Operator
- Briefing and Timing

Champion First Aid:

- Chief Judge
- Scenario Judge (MUST have experience with First Aid Competition)
- Scene Judge
- Timekeeper (No experience required)
- Start/Finish Whistle
- Surf com operator
- Paperwork runner (No experience required)
- Isolation Judge



- Recording Judge
- Make-up
- Kit checking
- Competition Liaison

March Past

- Chief Judge
- March Past Judge
- Marshall
- March Past Coordinator
- Competition Liaison
- Appeals
- March Past Results Coordinator

R&R

- Chief Judge (Senior Official preferred)
- RNR Judge
- Competition Liaison (Senior Official only)
- Course Supervisor (Senior Official preferred)
- Marshall
- Recorder/Time-Keeper
- Starter

Support Services

- Radio Coordinator (preference will be given to someone who can do all three championships)
- Radio Personnel (may not be appointed)
- Electronic/Video Operator Coordinator
- Officials Welcome Coordinator
- Officials Welcome Team (In this role you will visit new (first time Aussies) Officials, check in with them, make sure all is going well for them and help rectify any issues.)
- Officials Administration (undertaking some admin tasks with the SLSA Officials Advisor, 1-2 hours per day)
- LiveHeats Coordinator
- Presentations Manager
- Presentations Personnel
- Presentations Announcer
- Surf Sports Announcers
- Scrutineers
- Officials Assessment Team (Senior Official Only. Undertaking assessments of officials)
- Appeals Panel Member (Senior Official only, with extensive surf sports experience and a good understanding of how to interpret and apply the rules of Surf Life Saving)
- Welcome Team - In this role you would visit new (first time Aussies) Officials, check in with them, make sure all is going well for them and help rectify any issues.
- Gear and Equipment Coordinator
- Gear and Equipment Deputy Coordinator
- Gear and Equipment Workforce

FIRST ROUND NOMINATIONS CLOSE: Friday, 20 November 2026
SECOND ROUND NOMINATIONS CLOSE: Friday, 15 January 2027
FINAL NOMINATIONS CLOSE: Friday, 5 March 2027



Further Information

Should further information be required please contact: officials@sls.com.au