Final Event Information

2026 NSW Interbranch Championships

28 & 29 November 2026

Caves Beach SLSC

The 2026 NSW Interbranch Championships will be held at Caves Beach SLSC on 28 & 29 November 2026.

Timetable

Below is the event timetable and as with all event timetables, the schedule, order and start times are subject to change at the Referee's discretion. For further timetable information please refer to the order of events provided on page 7.

Wednesday 25 November 2026	
Time	**Description**
6:00pm	Team Managers Online Briefing Meeting Link
Saturday 28 November 2026	
6:30am	Officials Briefing & Breakfast, Caves Beach SLSC
7:00am	Team Managers Meeting, Caves Beach SLSC
7:30am	Start of Interbranch Day 1
9:10am	Welcome and Oaths
4:00pm	Estimated finish for Day 1
Sunday 29 November 2026	
6:30am	Officials Briefing, Caves Beach SLSC
7:30am	Start of Interbranch Day 2
1:00pm	Estimated finish for Day 2
2:00pm	Championship Presentation

The order for the Iron / Cameron Relay will be drawn at the Team Managers meeting on Saturday morning to ensure transparency.

Official Event Merchandise

Fine Designs is the Official merchandise partner for the Interbranch Championships. Make sure you pick up your official event merchandise from the Fine Designs stall or through the online merchandise stall.

The Fine Designs will be in the Vendor Stall area outside Caves Beach SLSC. The Online Store is now LIVE!

Pointscore - Placing in Finals

Individual Events

This year due to only 10 Branches attending the Interbranch Championships, the points allocations will be from 10 points down to 1 point.

In the individual events, the top competitor from each Branch will be awarded points according to the position they finish over the line. The points will be allocated from 10 points for the 1st Branch competitor down to one (1) point for the 10th Branch competitor over the finish line.

Team Events (Swim, Board, Ski, Iron & Sprints)

Individual events, where two (2) competitor entries are allocated per Branch, will have a team event added. The team results will be taken from the competitors finish position across the line in the individual event. Ie: U13 Male Board Team & U13 Female Board Team.

Competitors will compete in their age/gender event and will be allocated a finish position over the line. The finish positions of both competitors of the same gender will be combined and a winner of the team event will be determined by the lowest combined score.

Where a Branch is not able to field two (2) competitors per gender for an event, they will be allocated 10th place in that Team Event. If more than one (1) Branch is unable to fill allocated positions, the Countback system will be used to determine their places.

Team Events will include Swim, Board, Ski, Iron and Sprints.

Countback (Team Events)

Where two (2) Branches finish on the same points for a Team Event, a countback will take place. The team with their first competitor across the line ahead of the other branch competitor will determine the higher placed finish of these two (2) Branches.

Ie:

BRANCH	FEMALE PLACINGS	TEAM COMBINED	COUNTBACK (1st Branch competitor)	TEAM PLACE
HUN	6 & 19	25	6	7th
ILL	8 & 17	25	8	8th

Relay Events

In the relay events, the results shall be determined as per the finish order of correct completion of the race and points awarded as per the first paragraph. If it is not possible to conduct the Relays as finals, two heats shall be conducted. The first three place getters in each heat shall qualify for an "A" final and the remainder of the place getters in the heat shall contest a "B" final. Points shall be allocated in the "A" final on an 10, 9, 8, 7, 6 basis and 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 for the "B" final (note that the highest points that can be earned in the "B" final is 5 points). If any team/individual in either the "A" or "B" finals is disqualified, they will earn 0 points for their Branch.

Dead Heats

Dead heats in individual events shall be declared as per current Edition of the SSM (clause 2.24).

In finals, unless otherwise provided, a dead heat shall be declared as such, placings and any medals shall be awarded as follows: Equal first will result in no second place being awarded with the next placed competitor or team being awarded third place etc. In the event of a three-way dead heat for first the next placed competitor or team shall be awarded fourth place and so on.

Overall Branch Pointscore

The Branch with the highest aggregate of points at the conclusion of the competition shall be declared the winner. Further to this, when the event has concluded and there is a tied point score, the Branch team with the most 1st placings shall be declared the winner. Failing this, the Branch with the most 2nd placings to the last placing points awarded respectively will be considered to determine a winner. If, after this procedure there is no single winner, then the pointscore will be declared a tie and dual trophies will be presented.

Overall Country Branch Pointscore

The Country Branch with the highest aggregate of points at the conclusion of the competition shall be declared the winner. Further to this, when the event has concluded and there is a tied point score, the Branch team with the most 1st placings shall be declared the winner. Failing this, the Branch with the most 2nd placings to the last placing points awarded respectively will be considered to determine a winner. If, after this procedure there is no single winner, then the pointscore will be declared a tie and dual trophies will be presented.

LiveHeats

All competitors are required to have a Live Heats Wristband with them which will be used throughout the event. All competitors will be signed into the event using Live Heats, and all event racing will be marshalled and recorded using Live Heats.

SLSNSW will have a very small number of spare wristbands available which will be charged back to the Branch.

Competition Area

The 2026 NSW Interbranch Championship area will be made up of one (1) x Water Area and one (1) x Beach Area. Please note that due to beach conditions a final decision on beach set up and location will be made on Friday with maps to be uploaded to Team App on Friday afternoon.

Search and Rescue Teams

In the case of an inshore search and rescue, two (2) x SMAR (min Bronze Medallion) qualified members from each Branch are to register and be briefed by the SEMC each morning at 8am at the water area.

Water Safety Roster

Each Branch will be required to supply two (2) members to provide water safety as per the water safety roster. Water safety personnel will need to supply their own orange rash vest, cap, fins, rescue tube. Water safety personnel will be required to sign on with the SEMC at the **Administration Tent 20 mins prior to their shift start time**.

Water Area	Time / Events
Saturday 28 November 2026	
Sydney Northern Beaches x 2 Sydney x 2 Far North Coast x 1 Illawarra x 1	9am – 12.30pm Surf, Ski Race, Board Race & Iron Person events
Central Coast x 2 Hunter x 1 Far South Coast x 1 South Coast x 1 North Coast x 1 Mid North Coast x 1	12pm – End Iron Person and Board Rescue events
Sunday 29 November 2026	
Central Coast x 2 Far South Coast x 1 South Coast x 1 Hunter x 1 North Coast x 1 Mid North Coast x 1	9am – 11.30am Taplin, Cameron and Ski relay events
Sydney Northern Beaches x 2 Sydney x 2 Far North Coast x 1 Illawarra x 1	11.00am – End Board Relay events

- *The events listed are indicative only. Water safety will be required to be on during any U12-U14 events that fall within their allocated water safety shift.*
- ***All water safety is to report 30 minutes prior to the start of their allocated shift.***

Officials

All officials are required to bring their own Officials Shirt. Please contact surfsports@surflifesaving.com.au if you do not already have a shirt. Officials Breakfast and Briefing will be held upstairs in Caves Beach SLSC from 6.30am each day. Please ensure you bring your own refillable water bottle, refill stations will be available.

Team Managers Meeting

An online Team Managers meeting will be held via Microsoft Teams at **6:00pm Wednesday 25 November 2026**.

The Team Managers meeting will be held in the club room at Caves Beach SLSC, **7:00am Saturday 28 November 2026**. WhatsApp will be used to communicate directly with Team Managers if required.

*NOTE: All Team Managers meetings are compulsory – at least one representative from each Branch Team must attend these meetings. If a Branch is not represented, the Championship Referee may suspend a Branch from competing until such time that a representative has been briefed.

Stack Team App

Stack Team App will be used throughout the Championship as a platform to communicate important information and timetable changes to Team Manager and Competitors.

To register for these live event updates please follow the below instructions:

1. Download the "Stack Team App" application from the App Store or Google Play.
2. Log in / Sign up to receive live event notifications.
3. Once logged in search "2026 NSW Interbranch".
4. Click the "Become a member of this Stack Team App" icon at the top of the screen then select the "Competitors" Group. There will also be an "Officials" group and a closed "Team Managers" group.

By joining the event and turning on your mobile app notifications, you will receive an immediate text and email updates as they are posted, ensuring you never miss any important information.

It is the responsibility of individuals and teams to ensure they listen for announcements and marshalling. Not receiving a Stack Team App update is not an excuse for missing events.

Parking

Dedicated event parking will be available across the competition weekend. A site map is provided below along with a live hyperlink to our Event Parking Map: Event Parking Map - Live Venue Map

Note: ***We ask that all competitors park in the dedicated event parking area on the grass reserve of Mawson Close. Please avoid the dedicated public parking carpark (shown in blue below).***

- There's a dedicated Drop Off/Pick Up area adjacent to the surf club on Mawson Close.
- Trailer parking will be within the grass reserve – Event Parking Area *(shown in orange below)*
- NO LARGE BUSES are to enter Mawson Close turnaround adjacent to the surf club

Please ensure you arrive with plenty of time and park legally within designated locations. All vehicles are to be in defined parking areas and not to be parked across driveways or within no stopping / parking zones.



Tent Setup

Club tents can be set up from 3pm on Friday 27 November 2026. Tents must be pegged down and well secured.

Warm Up Area

Warm ups are to be conducted outside of the water competition area no earlier 8am. Full details to be advised at team Managers meeting on Saturday morning. Penalties may apply if it is seen that this is not followed. Each Branch will be responsible for their own water safety and a risk assessment should be carried out before competitors enter the water. Competitors will be required to wear high vis pink vests during warm up and for the duration of the Championship.

Contingency Location

Currently the contingency location for the carnival will be Swansea Belmont SLSC. Should conditions change, this may be reassessed. Should the contingency location be activated, this will be communicated to Team Managers via WhatsApp and Stack Team App as well as SLSNSW social media/website.

Security

Security personnel will be on site overnight on both Friday and Saturday evening., although Branches are encouraged to take all gear and equipment with them after training on Friday and competition on Saturday afternoon. SLSNSW and Caves SLSC accept no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage to equipment.

Any person/s found stealing signage, or any equipment owned by Caves Beach SLSC, SLSNSW or its sponsors will immediately be brought before a Carnival Disciplinary Committee or a SLSNSW Judiciary for further action.

Catering

Caves Beach SLSC will be operating a BBQ for the duration of the event. In addition to this coffee and food are available for purchase from surrounding businesses within short driving distance from Caves Beach SLSC.

Scrutineering

Each team shall be responsible for the provision of their own surf craft. All equipment used in competition is to comply with SLSA specifications and meet scrutineering requirements. There will be no formal

scrutineering of gear and equipment, however **random safety scrutineering** may take place throughout the Championship.

Photography & Media

Photography:

As a condition of entry, all competitors agree to have photos and video taken during the Championships used for promotional material by SLSNSW. SLSNSW will not be issuing media/photography accreditation to team members or team management. Professional photographers will be attending, and material will be available via social media and to Clubs on request. Branch Team Management are welcome to take photographs from outside the competition area. Go Pro's may only be used within the competition area on approved fittings and fixtures as set out in relevant SLSA bulletins.

Media:

No competitor, team manager, official or spokesperson for a club shall make media statements which could bring the Interbranch Championship, its sponsors, or officials into controversy or disrepute. Such statements will be a breach of policy and could potentially result in sanctions against members involved. Please note that statements to the media regarding about the Championships will be made only by approved authorised spokespeople.

Drones:

For the safety of competitors, officials, and spectators SLSNSW prohibits the use of drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) at these Championships by members and/or public unless approved by SLSNSW, 7 days prior to the event. The operator must supply an operation manual (including risk management plan), provide a copy of public liability insurance, and comply with all Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) requirements. SLSNSW will be using the services of Lifesaving UAVs to conduct aerial surveillance and monitor hazards.

Behaviour/Misconduct

Any misconduct while at the Championships will not be tolerated. This includes the days leading into competition and any official social activities following the conclusion of the Championship. Offending members risk disciplinary action against both themselves and their clubs/branches.

Parents and/or supporters are not allowed to assist competitors during the competition. Any breach of this policy may result in the disqualification of an athlete from the remainder of the competition and is at the discretion of the Referee.

Please refer to the Surf Sports Manual 38th Edition (revised September 2026) sections 2.27 SLSA Code of Behaviour and 2.28 Abuse/Inappropriate Behaviour and Policy 6.5 – Member Protection Policy.

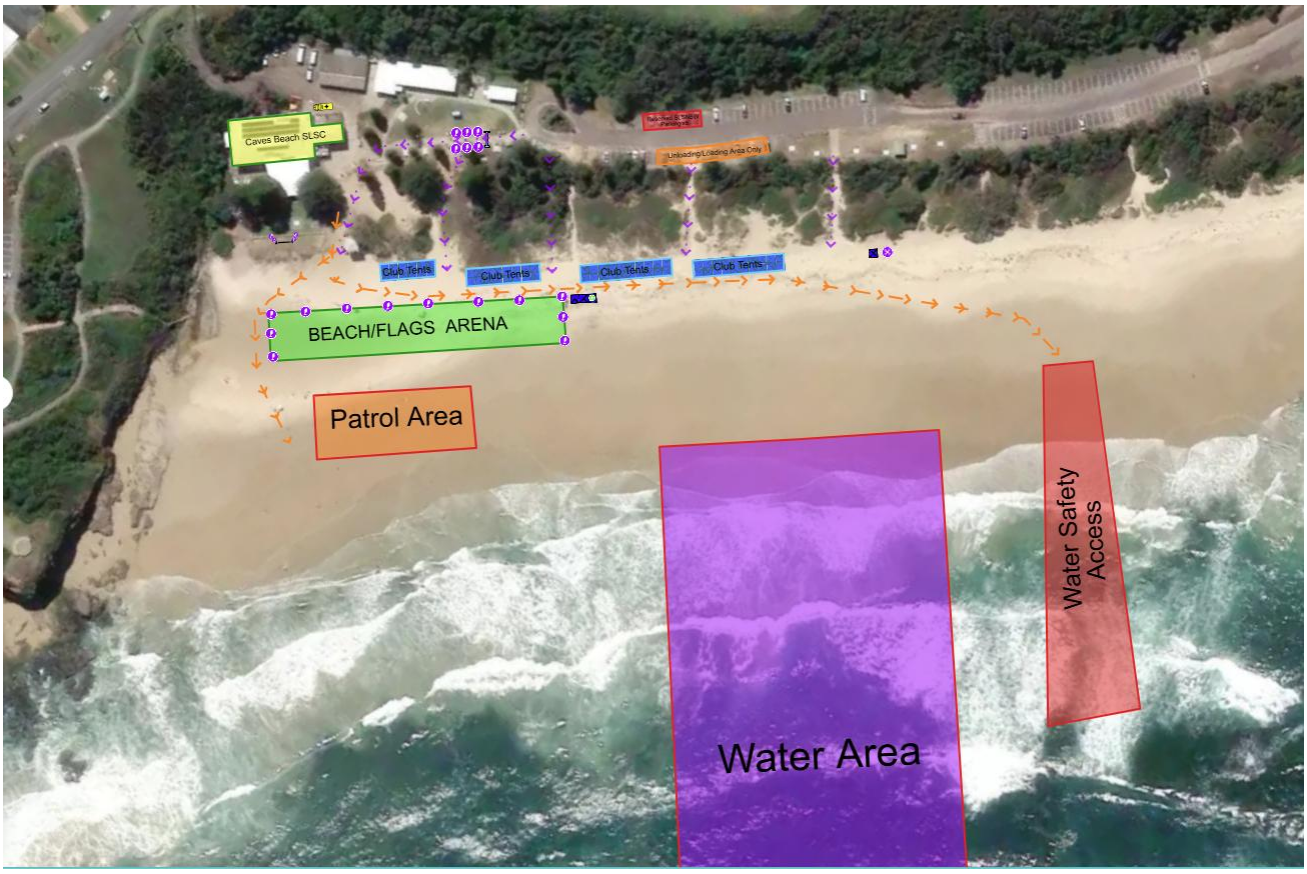
Protests

All protests shall be lodged with the appropriate Liaison Officer in each Area in accordance with the procedures set down in the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent bulletins and shall identify the specific sections/clauses in the Competition Manual and or event rules upon which the protest is based.

Protest Forms are available from the Liaison Officer. An "Appeals Fee" of $150.00 must accompany all documentation when the process is officially submitted to the Appeals Committee for adjudication.

Event Site Map - Caves Beach

Please note that this is a guide only. Due to beach conditions a final decision on beach set up and location will be made on Friday with maps to be uploaded to Team App on Friday afternoon.



PROGRAM

Saturday 28 November 2026			
	Water Events		**Beach Events**
7:30am	Warm Up - Swim		
7:45am	Warm Up - Craft		
8:10am	Welcome		
8:30am	U19 M/F Surf Race (F)		U12 M/F Beach Sprint (SF)
	U17 M/F Surf Race (F)		U13 M/F Beach Sprint (SF)
	U15 M/F Surf Race (F)		U14 M/F Beach Sprint (SF)
	U14 M/F Surf Race (F)		U15 M/F Beach Sprint (SF)
	U13 M/F Surf Race (F)		U17 M/F Beach Sprint (SF)
	U12 M/F Surf Race (F)		U19 M/F Beach Sprint (SF)
	U19 M/F Ski (F)		U12 M/F Beach Sprint Final
	U17 M/F Ski (F)		U13 M/F Beach Sprint Final
			U14 M/F Beach Sprint Final
	U15 M/F Board (F)		U15 M/F Beach Sprint Final
	U14 M/F Board (F)		U17 M/F Beach Sprint Final
	U19 M/F Board (F)		U19 M/F Beach Sprint Final
	U17 M/F Board (F)		
	U13 M/F Board (F)		U12 Mixed Beach Relay (F)
	U12 M/F Board (F)		U13 Mixed Beach Relay (F)
			U14 Mixed Beach Relay (F)
	U19 M/F Ironperson (F)		U15 Mixed Beach Relay (F)
	U17 M/F Ironperson (F)		U17 Mixed Beach Relay (F)
	U15 M/F Ironperson (F)		U19 Mixed Beach Relay (F)
	U14 M/F Ironperson (F)		
	U13 M/F Ironperson (F)		Male All Age Beach Relay (F)
	U12 M/F Ironperson (F)		Female All Age Beach Relay (F)
	U19 M/F Board Rescue (F)		
	U17 M/F Board Rescue (F)		
	U15 M/F Board Rescue (F)		
	U14 M/F Board Rescue (F)		
	U13 M/F Board Rescue (F)		
	U12 M/F Board Rescue (F)		
Program is subject to change			

Sunday 29 November 2026			
	Water Events		**Beach Events**
		7:30am	U19 Mixed 2x1km Beach Run Relay (F)
			U17 Mixed 2x1km Beach Run Relay (F)
			U15 Mixed 2x1km Beach Run Relay (F)
			U14 Mixed 2x1km Beach Run Relay (F)
			U13 Mixed 2x1km Beach Run Relay (F)
			U12 Mixed 2x500m Beach Run Relay (F)
8:40am	Warm Up - Swim		
8:55am	Warm Up - Craft		
9:25am	U19 Mixed Taplin Relay (6P) (F)	**9:30am**	U12 M/F Beach Flags (F)
	U17 Mixed Taplin Relay (6P) (F)		U13 M/F Beach Flags (F)
	U15 M/F Cameron Relay (F)		U14 M/F Beach Flags (F)
	U14 M/F Cameron Relay (F)		U15 M/F Beach Flags (F)
	U13 M/F Cameron Relay (F)		U17 M/F Beach Flags (F)
	U12 M/F Cameron Relay (F)		U19 M/F Beach Flags (F)
	U17 Mixed Ski Relay (F)		
	U19 Mixed Ski Relay (F)		
	U12 Mixed Board Relay (F)		
	U13 Mixed Board Relay (F)		
	U14 Mixed Board Relay (F)		
	U15 Mixed Board Relay (F)		
	U17 Mixed Board Relay (F)		
	U19 Mixed Board Relay (F)		
	Male All Age Board Relay (F)		
	Female All Age Board Relay (F)		
Program is subject to change			

This is a draft program only. Due to beach conditions a final decision on beach set up will be made on Friday with updated maps to be uploaded to Team App on Friday.

Rolling Draw

**Note: This draw will continue to rotate throughout the carnival.

Event:	Lane 1	Lane 2	Lane 3	Lane 4	Lane 5	Lane 6	Lane 7	Lane 8	Lane 9	Lane 10
#1	SYD	ILL	MNC	SC	SNB	HUN	FNC	NC	FSC	CC
#2	CC	SYD	ILL	MNC	SC	SNB	HUN	FNC	NC	FSC
#3	FSC	CC	SYD	ILL	MNC	SC	SNB	HUN	FNC	NC
#4	NC	FSC	CC	SYD	ILL	MNC	SC	SNB	HUN	FNC
#5	FNC	NC	FSC	CC	SYD	ILL	MNC	SC	SNB	HUN
#6	HUN	FNC	NC	FSC	CC	SYD	ILL	MNC	SC	SNB
#7	SNB	HUN	FNC	NC	FSC	CC	SYD	ILL	MNC	SC
#8	SC	SNB	HUN	FNC	NC	FSC	CC	SYD	ILL	MNC
#9	MNC	SC	SNB	HUN	FNC	NC	FSC	CC	SYD	ILL
#10	ILL	MNC	SC	SNB	HUN	FNC	NC	FSC	CC	SYD