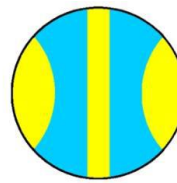


Welcome to the 23/24 Nippers season!



The Nipper season will start on the 15th OCTOBER!

Nippers

Nippers is focussed on play, participation and fun. It offers an educational pathway to becoming a knowledgeable lifesaver. Nippers is a junior activities programme that introduces children aged 5 to 14 to Surf Life Saving. It's a great way for children to make friends, be active and learn how to enjoy the beach safely.

Rookies

All U/13s and U/14s nippers are encouraged to participate in the Rookie Program, this aims to introduce 13 and 14 year olds to patrol duties and to encourage them to continue in the SLSC movement, so they can become active patrol members. Rookies can assist in all rescue operations and perform any patrol duty under the guidance of the patrol captain or senior member. They are not expected to perform alone. There are also some additional activities during the year for this group.

Assemble in the club house upstairs in your **age groups** for announcements and **roll call at 9.25** with your **Age manager, ready to hit the beach at 9.30.**

Look for your age flag on the beach as it should move around with the groups.

We need YOU to help.

The club is run entirely on volunteers and many hands make light work. We strongly encourage all parents to get involved. There are many tasks, both in and out of the water, and most do not require a season long, weekly commitment. Please indicate to your age manager an area where you could offer a hand. Eg, BBQ, Water Safety, Setting up Beach, Age Manager, Officials etc.

There will be information regarding officials' courses coming out soon.

BBQ

The BBQ is not only super tasty after nippers but also raises funds that go directly back into our club. It will operate again this season and a roster will be sent out so that all age groups have a turn.

Communication

Don't forget to follow us on socials.

Emails and Text messages are sent depending on urgency.

There are "WhatsApp" groups set up between the different age managers if you would like to be included.



Uniform

The nippers are required to wear a nippers cap. These are available from the uniform shop that is open most Sunday mornings during nippers.

The U6 and U7 age group are given a cap and do not need to purchase one – this is so that they are easily identified on the beach.

All nippers who are in the water must wear a pink vest – these are available from the uniform shop.

MacMasters Beach Swimmers are encouraged but only required when competing at carnivals.

We encourage wetsuits be worn in the early season when the water is still cold.

Proficiency Swims

Not applicable to U6 & U7. To ensure that children have a suitable swimming ability to allow them to participate in these activities, SLSC has developed a Junior Preliminary Evaluation for each age group. SLSC also sets a minimum ratio of water safety for SLS Clubs to maintain safety and lifesaving standards at Nippers. MacMasters Beach SLSC, along with the expert skills of Five Star Swim School, are offering the opportunity for all Macs Nippers to undertake their proficiency swim in a closed pool environment on **Sunday 8th October 2023.** This Proficiency Swim session is free to all MacMasters SLSC Nipper members and will run between **8am and 10am**. No need to book in - but please arrive before 9:30am to allow time for your assessment. Five Star Swim School is located at **Kerta Road, Kincumber**. If you are unable to attend this session, there will be opportunity to complete an assessment at the beach during nippers.

Club Swim

There is a weekly swim before nippers at 9am that all parents are encouraged to attend, it is a social event, and all abilities are welcome. This event operates on a handicap system and is a fantastic way to start a Sunday!

Board Training

Board training is encouraged for nippers to attend from under 9's (once a swim competency has been completed). **Friday** afternoons at the beach, **4.30 – 5.30**. Remember the bar is open on a Friday afternoon at the club and on a warm afternoon when the conditions are perfect, it is the best way to finish the week!

Board Hire

Boards are available for hire for members for a \$50 fee. Txt **Lucinda 0413 296 196** for information.

If you have further questions or would like to find out a bit more about nippers and how you can volunteer, please contact nippers@macmastersbeachslsc.com

Calendar

The calendar below is provided for planning but subject to change. Carnival and competition venues* will be updated by branch. The schedule from SLS is a live document and best to check here for updates [2023/24 SLSCC Calendar - Surf Life Saving Central Coast](#)

MacMaster Beach Nippers 2023/2024 Season Calendar				
OCTOBER				
Sun 8th	Sun 15th	Sun 22nd	Fri 27th	Sun 29th
Swim proficiencies Kerta Rd 8am to 10am	FIRST NIPPERS	NIPPERS	Rookie Disco Nth Entrance 7-10pm	NIPPERS Nipper Carnival*
NOVEMBER				
Rookie Camp Sat 4 th – Sun 5 th				
Sun 5th	Sat 11th	Sun 12th	Sun 19th	Sun 26th
NIPPERS	Newcastle Permanent Ironperson Weekend*	NIPPERS	NIPPERS	NIPPERS Nipper Carnival*
DECEMBER				
Sun 3rd	Sun 10th	Sun 17th	Sun 24th	Sun 31st
NIPPERS	NIPPERS	Twilight Nippers	NO NIPPERS	NO NIPPERS
JANUARY				
Rookie Challenge Fri 12 th 3-6pm				
Sun 7th	Sun 14th	Sun 21st	Sun 28th	
NO NIPPERS	NIPPERS Nipper Carnival	NIPPERS Club Champs	NIPPERS With Copa and Kilcare SLSC @Macs	
FEBRUARY				
Sun 4th	Sun 11th	Sun 18th	Sun 25th	
Nippers Branch Champs*	NIPPERS	NIPPERS	NIPPERS With Copa and Kilcare SLSC @Copa	
MARCH				
Sun 3rd	Thurs7th - Sun 10th		Sun 10th	Sun 24th
NIPPERS	STATE TITLES LAST NIPPERS		LAST NIPPERS	PRESENTATION DAY (TBC)