



KINGSTON BEACH

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB



NIPPERS INFORMATION HANDBOOK



Version: 3 – September 2020

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WELCOME TO KINGSTON BEACH NIPPERS



This handbook sets out information about the Nippers program at Kingston Beach SLSC. It is intended to help both new parents that are considering signing their children up as well as renewing nippers.

Kingston Beach Surf Lifesaving Club is 10 years old this year and going stronger than ever! Our Nippers program continues to grow year on year and we now have well over 100 blue and yellow caps running, paddling and swimming on the beach every Sunday throughout the season which is fantastic!

Like most Surf Lifesaving Clubs, Kingston Beach SLSC is very family oriented and the focus is primarily to ensure that our Nipper program is both fun and educational, not only for the children but also for the parents and guardians who join us on the beach. Our aim is to safely teach kids beach awareness, and a life-long passion for the ocean. We are a very inclusive club and pride ourselves on making Nippers accessible to all and providing opportunities for all Nippers regardless of their abilities. We encourage kids to “have a go” at Nippers sessions, training and carnivals (if we have enough officials, any eligible child can enter carnivals).

We hope you find this handbook useful and look forward to welcoming you and your child/ren to our club!

-Junior Activities Team

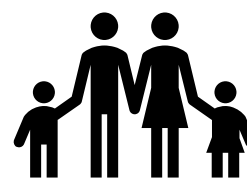
PARENTS RUN NIPPERS!

The Club operates entirely on volunteer help. There are many jobs, and for most of these you don't need surf lifesaving experience.

Our experience is that ***the more you get involved, the more your child will enjoy Nippers.***

Roles that parents can help with include:

- ❖ Equipment set-up and pack-up
- ❖ Age Managers
- ❖ Assistant Age Managers
- ❖ Water Safety
- ❖ Fundraising
- ❖ BBQ Roster
- ❖ Carnival Judge/Official
- ❖ Timekeeper for rotations



Your assistance on the beach will be regularly required and we count on volunteers to keep the sessions running smoothly. Age managers are a crucial part of our Nippers program and we require parents to fill these roles for the age groups. Head here -> <https://sls.com.au/role/age-manager/> for information on the age manager role.

Please let us know if you would like to be an age manager or want to be mentored by a current age manager. We have simple training options available and WOULD LOVE your help on the beach in these roles! Please talk to our Junior Activities Team if you are interested.

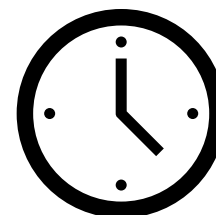
SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

Our main Nippers session traditionally runs on a Sunday morning in the middle of Kingston Beach. We begin the morning by assembling on the grass outside the toilet block and our storage facility and we aim to have everyone signed in by 10.00am. All nippers are to assemble behind their age marker on the beach for roll call and for the whole session must be wearing a nipper cap, pink vest or rash shirt and have sunscreen applied. The nipper cap and pink vest is an identity and safety requirement for all our nippers. It is important to note that each child must be marked off the roll prior to leaving with parent at the end of the session.

Each Sunday there is an age group ON DUTY. The parents for this age group are encouraged to come 15mins before nippers (9.45am) to help setup the BBQ and to bring gear over for the training session (boards, cones etc).

SESSION TIMES

Our Sunday nipper session runs for 2 hours* for our U8-U14 age groups.
Our seahorses run for only an hour.



Our nippers start time is 10.00am

Seahorses will run 10.00-11.00am

* Sessions can be cut short some weeks due to weather or short education session time slots.

PLEASE NOTE: A PARENT OR GUARDIAN IS REQUIRED TO BE ON THE BEACH AT ALL TIMES, DURING NIPPERS. YOUR CHILD IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, NIPPERS CAN NOT BE RUN LIKE A *CHILD-MINDING PROGRAM*.

TRIPS TO THE TOILET, SUN PROTECTION AND THE GENERAL WELFARE OF EACH CHILD ON KINGSTON BEACH IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR PARENT OR GUARDIAN.

NIPPER SEASON START

The 2020/21 beach season commences in late November. **This session will be our club open day so will not run like a normal Nippers session.** It is a day for the community to come down and see how our club runs and for interested kids to give nippers a try.

Three pool proficiency sessions will be run prior to our open day. More information on these days will be advertised internally closer to the time.



COMMUNICATION – TEAM APP & FACEBOOK

TeamApp is a new communication tool that our club now uses for nippers. It is the main communication tool we'll be using for getting information to our members so every FINANCIAL member should download and request to join. All events are listed in the calendar along with links to the website and the portal plus other things that are useful. And best of all, it costs nothing!

Each person using Team App must have their OWN sign in... in other words a parent member will be limited on what they can see if they are using another person's or their child's access... you will not be able to view very much hence limiting your information received.... [therefore, a parent using someone else's sign in will only be privy to the access given to that person/child].

Every member is placed into relevant group/s... i.e. age group for child or parents of child, water safety, age manager, official, nipper parent, SRC/Patrol etc... so depending on what role/s you have you will be placed into those categories by the registrar/admin of the KBSLSC Team App system

Team App is not just for the adults - if your kids have a smartphone, they can also download and join the team. Any children that have access are also linked to the parent that has access, this enables the parent to oversee messages etc that are sent through to the child and can respond on their behalf if they have not. Team App is continually improving its features.

Once downloaded and logged in you **MUST** have Notifications enabled on your device to get instant notifications of new entries into the app **[without this setting turned on, you will not receive the information being sent out]**.

During setup of your details – there is an option to allow some of your contact details to be added to the Members Directory within the app – this is used for your work ie Employer, Profession etc... if you would like to allow members to see your business, email & phone number, please complete those fields and allow access. It would be great if we can utilise this to grow and support our members and their local businesses.

NEW USERS of Team App

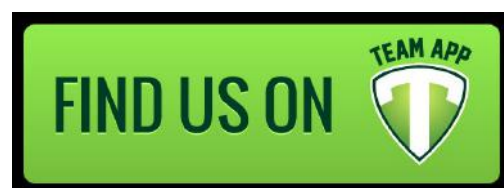
In iTunes/Google Play search for “Team App” and download

1. Open “Team App” to register
 - Click on **OK** to “Team App would like to send you notifications” popup question
 - Click on the SIGN UP button at the bottom of the page
 - Complete all the fields on the page and Agree to terms of service
 - An email will be sent to you for verification
2. Verify your registration by clicking on the link from the confirmation email sent to you
3. Proceed to the next step below in Existing Users **EXISTING USERS** of Team App
4. Open Team App and Login if not already
 - First time users – click on the “search for your team” in the middle of your screen
 - Current users – click on the magnifying glass at the top left of the screen
5. Search for “Kingston Beach SLSC”
6. Select “Kingston Beach SLSC” – it will open with the logo and tabs but you are not done yet
7. At the top of the screen, above the logo, there is a bar that says “Become a member of this team (tap here)” | - tap as instructed
8. Request to join by sliding the button access.
9. “Access Reason” pop up screen – click on OK and type your reason for requesting access
10. There is a “Required Info” pop up screen – click on OK and complete ALL fields including children(s) names if you’re a nipper parent
 - If anything is left unanswered, it will not proceed further
11. Click on SAVE in the top right hand corner
 - If you have missed any fields it will come up with an error message
12. If you have answered all questions you will get a “SAVED” pop up message – click on
13. OK and wait for your request to be approved
 - You **MUST** be a financial member to be given access
 - Once checked you will be approved and assigned to appropriate group/s

Once joined from your smart device, you can also access all Team App information online from your computer. Visit the website below and login from your computer

- <https://kingstonbeachslscnippers.teamapp.com/>

Need Help? Contact: Junior Activities Team. Email: kingstonbeachslsc@gmail.com



KBSLSC Website

Our website is a useful source of information. There is heaps of information available to you on the website. Every week updates are added pertaining to general news events, carnivals or anything else that is club related. Add this to your bookmarks <http://www.kingstonbeachslsc.com.au> and check the page every so often to keep yourself informed. There is information on the website that may not be found in Team App.



Facebook

Club Page – Kingston Beach Surf Lifesaving Club

- Public page | Only publicly viewable information will be posted here

Group Page – Kingston Beach Surf Lifesaving Club - Members

- CLOSED to public
- In order to be granted access you must be a financial member of the club
- This is where members can ask general questions and get replies from other members and the club/committee – ie member forum
- We will occasionally post pictures and information from events, carnivals, etc.



Instagram

Our club has an Instagram page where we regularly share photos of our Nippers program. Follow us at **kingstonbeach_slsc**

Email

Regular newsletters are emailed from the club database email no-reply@surfguard.slsa.asn.au and other email notifications come from kingstonbeachslsc@gmail.com during the season.

These TeamApp messages, Facebook posts and emails are an important source of information for our members so please take the time to read them – we often get people saying “*I never knew it was on*”, yet it was emailed and in the newsletter for 3 months! Add these email addresses to your safe senders list and visit our Facebook page soon. **Stay on top of club news and information!**

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Kingston Beach SLSC may choose to offer additional training for interested members in the following areas:

U10-U14 Board Training Thursday 5-6pm (see our Facebook Members page for updates)

CADET TRAINING: Thursday evening and Sunday Mornings (see TeamApp Chat Room for updates)

UNIFORM & GEAR SALES

For safety reasons ALL children MUST wear a cap during all activities on the beach. Our seahorses wear a plain **aqua blue cap** and all other nippers wear our **blue/yellow club cap**. ALL participants in aquatic activities must also wear a high visibility pink vest. This is a national safety requirement.

It's very helpful to your Age Managers and helpers if the kids have their name written on their cap (big letters) and it helps with lost property also.

Club apparel and caps, vests, etc. are on sale most Sunday mornings at the beach. We have a great range of kids and adult swimwear, and polo shirts, hoodies, caps etc. They all make great gifts too!

AGE GROUP CALCULATION

When your child joins nippers, they will be placed in an age group category. Often a source of confusion, we've tried to make this as easy as possible for our members! The age group for your child is calculated from the age they are on or prior to 30 September.

For example, if your child is 11 on the 30th September of this year, they will be in the Under 12 age group for the season.

CHILDS AGE at SEPT 30th	NIPPERS AGE CATEGORY
6	Under 7 (seahorses)
7	Under 8
8	Under 9
9	Under 10
10	Under 11
11	Under 12
12	Under 13
13	Under 14

If your child has friends in neighbouring age groups we can be flexible in allowing them to train on Sunday with their friends, however, due to the age groups being set by Surf Life Australia the age groups are fixed for competition and children cannot move into different age group categories at carnivals unless they are competing up an age group to assist with numbers.

BRONZE MEDALLION OR SRC TRAINING

At the beginning and during the season training is arranged for any parent (who is an active member) interested in obtaining their Surf Rescue Certificate or Bronze Medallion. The Bronze Medallion course can be one of the most rewarding courses you can attempt.

Once qualified it helps us meet our water safety requirements as SLSA mandates that nippers' water safety must be performed by qualified members. Courses are normally run over four-five weeks and we are very flexible in working around parent schedules.

For more information on these awards, get in touch with Bridget (Training officer) on the beach.



CHILD PROTECTION

Kingston Beach SLSC is committed to the Safeguarding of Children and Young People, under the age of 18, and acknowledges that a child-safe organisation doesn't just happen; it requires conscious action to protect children from harm.



Any parent assisting on the beach must be registered as an associate member this season for safety reasons. All lifesavers and parent helpers also need to apply and show proof of approval of a "Working with Vulnerable People" card for child protection. Please complete the registration process at:

<https://www.cbos.tas.gov.au/topics/licensing-and-registration/registrations/work-with-vulnerable-people> and once you receive your approval email (from 1 week, but up to 4 weeks), please email your approval WWVP number and details to our club email. If you already have a card, please show our Nippers team on the beach on a Sunday so the club can record the details.

EQUIPMENT USE

On Sundays and during mid-week training sessions nippers are provided with lots of equipment to use to supplement their training and skill development. Surf lifesaving gear is really expensive to purchase and repair, so we ask you to please remind your children to take care in all our gear! The steps on the beach are a HOT SPOT for damage on our boards so please look out for this when children are transporting gear to be washed.

At carnival time, club boards are able to be issued out to families to take to carnivals. Please discuss this with our Junior Activities Coordinator before entering your child in a carnival.

SUN PROTECTION

Our club is very aware of the importance of proper sun protection and encourages all surf lifesavers, nippers, parents and visitors to the beach to be sun smart.

Please make sure your child has their sunscreen applied before they join their age group on Sunday morning. Please note: Age Managers are neither responsible nor allowed (child protection laws) to apply sunscreen to the children, this is your job as a parent.



NIPPER BBQS

To help fundraise, we hold regular Sausage Sizzles after Nippers on a Sunday morning at our new shed across the road from the beach, adjacent to the new toilet facilities – please support the club, come over, check out our facilities and buy a snag or two when you can. This is a weekly occurrence and we rely on the age group on duty to run this initiative. All funds raised go towards new nipper equipment including boards, balls, flags etc.



SURF EDUCATION

The SurfEd program is what Nippers is all about and is based on a clearly defined structure and outcomes to aid the children's lifesaving development. During the season, all Nippers can gain their respective SurfEd award for their age group.

These certificates are only issued to children participating in their correct age group who have met the minimum requirements regarding attendance and participation. SurfEd awards are tracked against your child's name in the national database system and is a great pathway for them to gain their SRC and Bronze Medallion.

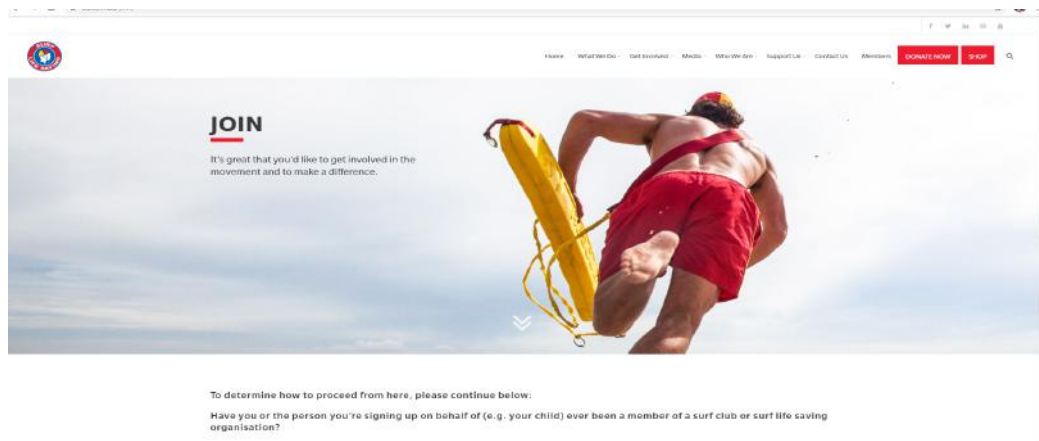
All SurfEd awards are issued to the nippers at our annual nipper break up function at the end of the season.



REGISTRATION

Surf Life Saving Australia (SLSA) requires all nippers to be current financial members of a club. Non-financial members will therefore not be able to participate until their membership is renewed and paid online. New members need to create an individual account with SLSA. For families joining, create an account for each family member. We also have a [parent policy](#) in place which requires at least one parent to join when they join a nipper/s up to our club.

NEW MEMBER: Head to <https://sls.com.au/join/>

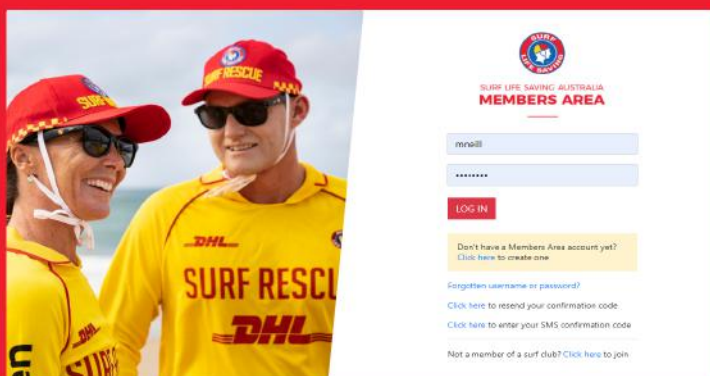


Select that you have not been a member of a Surf Club before – select that you want to join a Surf Life Saving Club – **select Kingston Beach SLSC** – select join a family. **(It is important to select Family as we have a Nipper Parent policy which requires at least one parent/guardian to become a member alongside their child/children).**

Your request will then go to the club to be accepted by the club registrar.

RETURNING MEMBER:

Head to: <https://members.sls.com.au/SLSA Online/modules/login/index.php>



Our returning members need to log into their Members Area Account to renew memberships. Please note that some members will need to create a Members Area Account to access this area. Please use the Parent/Guardian details to log in (ensuring the parent/guardian is a club member as pre the Nipper parent policy). Once in the Members Area you can renew your family

MEMBERSHIP FEES

2020-2021 Membership Fees

CATEGORY	EARLY BIRD RATE (1 st September – 1 st November)	NORMAL SEASON FEES
Family*	\$315	\$350
Active (18 years and older)	\$126	\$140
Cadet (14 – 17 years old)	\$126	\$140
Nipper (6 – 13 year old)	\$117	\$130
Seahorse (5 year old)	\$85	\$95
Associate	\$72	\$80
Nipper Parent	\$45	\$50

* Family is assumed to be up 2 adults and their children who are Under 18 or full-time students.

Early Bird Membership Renewal is open until 1/11/2020. Renewals and payments can be made through the Members Area Account. For any questions please contact our registrar via the club email kingstonbeachslsc@gmail.com

SWIM PROFICIENCIES

Water proficiencies are a very important part of the Kingston Beach Surf Life Saving Club's initial assessments for safety and competence. We are not a learn-to-swim school. All children wishing to enter the water during nipper activities **MUST** have a basic level of competency in a pool. Further, anyone wishing to compete in water events or attend board and swim training must successfully complete the competition evaluation at the beach.

All nippers are required to participate in this evaluation (conducted by Kingston Beach SLSC) prior to any water activity at the beach on a Sunday, mid-week training or carnival participation.

Age group requirements:

Age	Preliminary Skills Evaluation	Competition Skills Evaluation	Surf Education
Under 6	From a standing position in waist deep water perform a front glide and recover to a secure position. Perform a back or front float holding a buoyant aid and recover to a secure position.	Nil (no competition)	Surf Play One
Under 7	From a standing position in waist deep water, perform a front glide, kick for 3m and recover to a secure position. Perform a back or front float for a few seconds and recover to a secure position.	Nil (no competition)	Surf Play Two
Under 8	25 metre swim (any stroke) 1 minute survival float	Nil (no water competition, except for wade which takes place in waist deep water)	Surf Aware One
Under 9	25 metre swim (any stroke) 1 minute survival float	Minimum 150m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Aware Two
Under 10	25 metre swim (freestyle) 1.5 minute survival float	Minimum 150m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Safe One
Under 11	50 metre swim (freestyle) 2 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Safe Two
Under 12	100 metre swim (freestyle) 2 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Smart One
Under 13	150 metre swim (freestyle) 3 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	Surf Smart Two
Under 14	200 metre swim (freestyle, in less than 5 minutes) 3 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim (competition course as per competition manual)	SRC *
Assessor	Age Manager	Age Manager Level 1 Coach, or Level 1 Official Training Officer (SRC/Bronze) Assessor (SRC/Bronze) (* Assessment of SRC can only be completed by an approved Assessor)	

2020/21 proficiency dates:
TO BE CONFIRMED

CARNIVALS

Carnivals are a great way for kids to test the skills they have developed at nippers. We encourage all Nippers to go along and have a go. It's about building up confidence and enjoying the events. Carnival dates are tentatively:

Date (provisional)	Carnival	Location
Sat 12 December	State-wide Junior Carnival #1	TBC
Sun 10 January	State-wide Junior Carnival #2	TBC
Sat 30 January	State-wide Junior Carnival #3	TBC
Sun 26 January	Australia day swim (Nippers invited)	Kingston Beach
Sat 13 February	State-wide Junior Carnival #4	TBC
Sat 27 February	Junior Tas Surf Life Saving Championships Day 1	Carlton Park
Sun 28 February	Junior Tas Surf Life Saving Championships Day 2	Carlton Park

The team events like Beach Relay, Board Relay, Cameron Relay, and Board Rescue are a great way for the kids to get involved as a group. We don't have selection criteria for carnival team events but your attendance at regular nippers and team training may be considered if we have a limited number of teams.

The only restriction to entering nippers in carnivals is that we provide 1 official for every 10 competitors from KBSLSC. With many the club's current officials no longer having kids in nippers they have stopped officiating at junior carnivals.

In 2020/21 we URGENTLY need more carnival officials for our nippers to continue to be benefiting from these organised events. The carnival official course has no pre-requisites and is open to anyone. Furthermore, you can pick the area in which you wish to officiate on the day and you have the best beach-side view of what's going on!!



NIPPERS CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020/2021 – FOR THE FRIDGE



TO be added to the handbook soon!

NIPPERS COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2020/21

Our junior activities team meet regularly to discuss the club's Nippers program. The team is always open to new members. Please talk to Mark if you would like to join.

Position	Name
Junior Activities Committee	Michelle Neill
Junior Activities Committee	Mark Cubit
Junior Activities Committee	Janelle Kingston
Junior Activities Committee	Bryony Mason
Junior Activities Committee	Sandra Gadsby

EXTRA RESOURCES

- ❖ SLST Training Pathway for nipper parents -> <https://www.slst.asn.au/media/81124/surf-sports-enabler-award-pathways-19-20.pdf>
- ❖ Safeguarding children information packs and videos -> <https://sls.com.au/safeguarding/>
- ❖ Surf sports manual -> <https://www.manula.com/manuals/surf-life-saving-australi/surf-sports/1/en/topic/introduction>
- ❖ Surf Life Saving Tasmania website -> <https://www.slst.asn.au>
- ❖ Starfish nippers program (Kingston Beach SLSC will be running this program in 2019/20 -> <http://www.starfishnippers.com.au>
- ❖ Surf Life Saving Australia Payment Gateway -> https://pnpnet.qvalent.com/OnlinePaymentServlet?cd_community=SLSA&cd_currency=AUD
- ❖ SLS Members area login page -> <https://members.sls.com.au/SLSA Online/modules/login/index.php>
- ❖ Nipper education -> <https://www.slst.asn.au/clubs-members/nippers/>
- ❖ Working with Vulnerable People Fact Sheet -> <https://www.slst.asn.au/media/65113/Guide for those working or volunteering in Clubs and Associations-2.pdf>

