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○ FEBRUARY | ○ 2018



Message from the President



*February is the pointy end of the season from a competition point of view. We have had record numbers of Nippers, Seniors and Masters competitors training and preparing for NSW Country Championships being held at South West Rocks this weekend **3-4 February**. Country is a first 'big' carnival for some of our newer nippers and hopefully will be a chance for us to shine as a club competing against other non-metropolitan clubs from all over the state. We are lucky to have it so close to home again this year as many other clubs travel long distances to participate. We will be putting in our best effort at Country and I know that all the competitors, families and supporters of Sawtell SLSC will do the club proud as athletes and ambassadors.*

This week has seen the end of an era with the Surf Club café proprietor Janice Pietralunga hanging up her apron and finishing trading. Janice has been operating the Café for 14 years and is a much loved and valued local who has contributed hugely to the Sawtell community. We wish Janice and her team well as they move on to new roles and life adventures.

With Janice's imminent departure, the Committee has been working with an external agent to seek Expressions of Interest from prospective new café operators. Applications for this process close with our agent on **Sunday 11 February 2018**.

We are more than half way through the season with around 12 patrolling weeks to go. The committee is planning for the commencement of construction for the Stage 1 of our club

redevelopment plan – being the addition of a new patrol/first aid room at the northern end of the building. We expect this work to start in May/June 2018.

I want to acknowledge the contribution that Steve Foster has made to our club over a number of years. While Steve continues to be a patrolling member and active in many areas including training, he has stepped down from his role as Registrar due to personal commitments. Steve has had a massive positive impact on our systems and processes within the club – and has been instrumental in leading our crusade towards Silver accreditation for the Quality Club Program. Thank you Steve for your commitment and for all that you have done in this role – and thank you for staying on in other capacities!

▶ Running and managing the club is a big job for our committee and we are always looking for people who are willing to take on roles. If you are considering getting involved in some way please come and speak to us and find out how you can contribute. Our committee members do not want to stay in their roles forever – so don't be afraid to put your hand up.

Go Sawtell!

Sheena McTackett

0423 022 362

Message from Club Captain

The Christmas School Holidays are finally over and we can now resume the usual patrol finish time of 4:00 pm instead of the holiday requirement of 5:00 pm. The holiday period is traditionally one of our busiest times and this year was no exception. By all measures we had a successful patrol effort – we met all SLS requirements easily and there were relatively few preventative actions, rescues and First Aid incidents. So congratulations to all the patrolling members who did so much to ensure the safety of visitors to the beach over this period. There is no doubt that our efforts are really appreciated as demonstrated by the number of people who came up to me just to say thank you for being on patrol.



Patrol 3 was subjected to a patrol audit by the Branch Director of Lifesaving (Jayne Morrison) on Saturday 21 January. It is a real credit to the patrol and the club members who do the maintenance that we again scored 100% for these audits which look at 3 major components. These components are Personnel including numbers, qualifications and patrol uniforms; Beach Management including beach set up, patrol activities and log books etc and finally Gear and Equipment including tubes, boards, IRB, ATV, AEDs, Oxygen equipment and First Aid kits.

The IRB Captain and I are becoming increasingly concerned that the IRB procedures which exist to ensure the safety of the IRB people and the public and to ensure that the IRBs are always operationally ready are not being adhered to at all times.

These procedures include diligent pre and post operational checks including refuelling and completion of the IRB log book. There have been several occasions recently when patrolling members arriving for the Saturday morning patrol have needed to refuel the IRB before it could be used for patrol. This is simply unacceptable.

The IRBs must be carefully washed, checked and refuelled after

use so that they are always available for after hours emergency call outs. I know that most IRB people do the right thing all the time. However the actions of a very small number cause concern and are unacceptable. If anyone is in doubt as to what is required they should talk to Scott or myself. If an IRB or motor needs repairs it should be tagged out of service, the fault written in the IRB log book and a phone call or text made to **Scott on 0429 805 602** so that the repair can be made without delay.

Every year our club supports the BCU Tri and Coffs Ocean Swims with an IRB for water safety and to position the swim cans and with additional personnel for water safety and First Aid (for the Ocean Swims only). The first of these events, the BCU Tri will be on **Sunday 4 March**. If you are able to help on **Sunday 4 March** please let me know.

See you on the beach,

Steve Rayson

0429 025 845

Message from Chief Training Officer

The next Bronze course is commencing **11 February 2018** with an induction in the training room at **9am**. Lead trainer will be Shannon Wilson.

Cost is \$175 which covers 2 years membership fees plus manual with the course running over 8-10 weeks. There is both an on-line component & practical assessments.

An IRB Crewpersons course will start in April. Names please to Steve Rayson.



Andrew Martin 0419 485 401

Message from Sawtell Nippers

The New Year is well underway now as our Nippers have returned to school and many parents are back at work. The first weekend after the resumption of school for many at Sawtell Nippers automatically means 'Country Championships' and I would like to wish everyone from our Masters to under 8's the very best of luck.



February also brings the State Championships which are being held in Swansea, and again I wish all competitors the best of luck. For both carnivals competitors have been training extremely hard, for which the coaches must be acknowledged and thanked for their contributions to the development of our Nippers.

The Junior Activity Sub Committee will hold our next meeting on **Sunday 11 February** straight after Nippers, and I would like to extend a warm

invitation to any parent who would like to attend. These meetings are great way to find out how the club is run, and to contribute ideas.

Tiffany Easman
Secretary, JASC

4 UPCOMING DATES

- | **COMMITTEE MEETING**
7pm 12 February
- | **BRANCH MEETING**
7pm 21 February
- | **bcu COFFS TRI**
3-4 March 2018
- | **COFFS OCEAN SWIMS**
8 April 2018

RETURN AND EARN

Your Committee investigated becoming a Return and Earn centre but the various options available to the Club meant it was not viable.

The closest centre to the Club is at Sawtell Hotel. How that centre operates manually does not allow for the refund to be donated directly to our Club as they only give back cash.

GOOD SPORTS CLUB

Your Club is now a Level 2 Good Sports Club.

CARNIVAL DATES

○ | COUNTRY TITLES

3 – 4 February

South West Rocks

○ | BRANCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

18 February

North Beach

○ | STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

24 February – 11 March

Swansea Belmont

○ | MASTERS CARNIVAL

3– 4 March 🌸

Brunswick Heads

○ | CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

18 March 2018

Sawtell

○ | AUSTRALIAN TITLES

14 – 22 April 2018

Western Australia

For further information contact either Julie Blaxland (Nippers) 0474 454 977 or Sean or Leigh Golding 0418 666 196.

🌸 Competitors can camp in Brunswick Heads clubhouse grounds for free.



ACTIVE KIDS FOR SPORT

The NSW Government is helping kids get active with the new Active Kids program.

From 31 January 2018, parents, guardians and carers can apply for a \$100 voucher per calendar year for each student enrolled in school.

The voucher may be used with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and membership costs for sport, fitness and active recreation activities. The voucher can be used at any time during the calendar year it was issued.

To use the voucher, give your voucher details to an approved Active Kids Provider. **Sawtell SLSC is an approved provider.**

The program runs year-round, so kids can get active at any time!

For more information go to <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/activekids> or contact the Club.



Survey on coastal erosion and coastal inundation

UNSW Sydney is conducting a study about what the NSW community knows about their coast, particularly in terms of climate change, coastal erosion and flooding. We're surveying teachers, surf life savers, coastal accommodation visitors and managers and coastal management decision makers. We're interested in hearing from all NSW Surf Life Saving Club members, whether you're a new member or have been part of a SLSC for years, your opinions will greatly assist this study.

We've prepared a 12 minute survey to get your perspectives on the NSW coast and what concerns you about its' future. Participants can go into the draw to win 1 of 3 iPads. The survey can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/SLSC-mycoastsurvey>.



HOTEL RAFFLE

For the past 4 years the Club has been running the Friday night meat raffle at the Sawtell Hotel.

This raffle generates around \$13000 for the Club. Alas the role has fallen on the same few members (usually patrolling members). This is blatantly unfair.

This raffle income will be vitally important in the short term due to the uncertainty of future income flows from the cafe due to change of licensee and building renovations.

The Club has a roster up until 4 May 2018.

Unless more support from all the membership is received the Club proposes relinquishing this role to another sporting body from that date unless the Hotel advises our services are no longer required earlier.

Your Club will, without this income, have to cut various items of expenditure. One such item to go will be that the Club no longer will pay carnival entry fees. Most members would not be aware that the carnival entry fees alone for the Country Championships for both Seniors and Juniors exceed \$3600.

Are members prepared to assist?

If so please go to the Club webpage at <http://www.sawtellsurfclub.com.au/patrols/> click on hotel roster and the following link and contact the team leader for a particular group you will help out on a **regular** basis.

A final decision will be made by end February.



CLUB HISTORY

Whilst there is a record of our Club history up until 1957 unfortunately there has been no research into subsequent years. Whilst the Blue Board in the training room has captured some of the most important facts there is still much unrecorded.

Apparently no current member is interested so at this time our Club history after 1957 will not be documented.

MEMBERS SHOWERS

All members are advised that the member's showers are NOT unisex and any member found to be using the incorrect shower will have their competition rights immediately suspended and will be subject to other penalties as determined by the Committee.

Finding such showers running all night is also not acceptable so please ensure when you leave that the water is turned off and the doors closed.

If the Club cannot gain your support in these matters access to such showers will be severely limited.

PATROL UNIFORMS

To provide some semblance of control over patrol uniforms please be advised that patrol uniforms (including caps and hats) will no longer be available at short notice.

If you need a replacement you need to advise Club Captain Steve Rayson on 0429 025 845 or email the secretary on secretary@sawtellsurfclub.com.au at least 1 week in advance.



coffs solar energy



G.J. Gardner. HOMES

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