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NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2020

SAWTELL

s/sc



Message from the President

The sight of a hundred or more nippers on our beach is one that always brings a smile to my face. This season has seen a large signup of Nippers - and it has been just great to see so much activity, learning and volunteering happening across all the coloured caps on a Sunday morning. Equally, the contribution from parents who are running the show is greatly appreciated and exciting that so many parents are signed up to do their bronze, have already started training or have recently gained their award. Congratulations to the Juniors team on such a positive start to the season.

The start of Nippers means the start of season Competition. Sadly some of our annual surf sports have already been cancelled due to Covid - in particular the much loved event Country Championships won't be happening in 2021. However, we still have some great branch competition to look forward to with the first branch carnival at Woogoolga in a couple of weeks. This will be a great opportunity for us to check out the brand-new Surf Club at Woopi that has just opened for the start of the season. I'm looking forward to seeing the Sawtell crew out in full force no doubt sporting some of the new clothing our uniform team have organised for the season.

I took the opportunity to do my patrol proficiency early (for a change) this season - and wanted to say that despite the limitations imposed by Covid, my experience was positive both from

the online learning point of view and also the practical components run by our club trainers and assessors who are always keen to make

it a constructive and fun learning experience. Thanks to everyone involved in running the proficiencies and if you haven't done yours yet - I'd encourage you to get it out of the way!

You might recall that Sawtell was chosen as a pilot location for a rescue tube program which was a joint project with our surf club and Coffs City Council - an initiative from our wonderful Life Member Mick McGavigan. The program involves installation of rescue tubes at strategic



points along our beach that can be utilised for rescues. While to our knowledge there has been no need to utilise the rescue tubes at Sawtell (a good thing!) - it is also encouraging that there have been no cases of tubes being vandalised ►

5 UPCOMING DATES

- | **PROFICIENCY**
Sunday 7 November
8am
- | **WOOLGOOLA CARNIVAL**
Sunday 13 November
- | **FAREWELL AND
THANK YOU TO
SHANNON WILSON**
Sunday 29 November
4pm
- | **PROFICIENCY**
Sunday 6 December
8am
- | **MINNIE WATERS
CARNIVAL**
Sunday 6 December

MUTUAL SERVICE OBLIGATIONS

Mutual obligation requirements are tasks and activities a person receiving certain payments from the Australian Government agree to undertake. This can include volunteer work.

Sawtell SLSC is in the process of registering to become an approved provider under this arrangement.

If you may be interested in assisting the Club please contact the Club. Absolute confidentiality is assured.

▶ or stolen. On the basis of a successful pilot at Sawtell, Council are now planning for a rollout of this program across other beaches in the region. I would ask all of you to spread the word about the rescue tubes at our beach - the more people that know they are there the better.

Big congratulations to those who were award winners at a Branch level for the 2019/2020 Season. Unfortunately we did not have the opportunity to celebrate these awards in the usual manner due to Covid 19. However there was a 'mini' presentation at the recent branch meeting. I'd like to recognise the following award winners for the season:

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Shelley Lantry - Female Lifesaver of the Year
Maggie McConnachie - Rookie of the Year
Finn Klinkers - U15 Male Champion
Libby Waugh - U17 Female Champion
Kate Murray - U19 Female Champion

CLUB AWARDS

Gear Inspection Award (jointly)
North Coast Branch Pointscore Competition
-7th year in a row Handicap Pointscore

I would like to recognise the efforts and contribution of Sawtell Life Member Kerry Clancy who recently stepped down from her role as President of the North Coast Branch. Due to constitutional changes at a State level, Kerry will continue in her State role as Director of Member Services with Les Pepper from Woolgoolga SLSC taking on the Branch President role in an interim capacity until the AGM in May 2021. We will still have the benefit of Kerry's knowledge, experience and connections as she continues to contribute at a branch level.



*I look forward to seeing you on
the beach. Go Sawtell!*
Sheena McTackett
0477 771 481

AWARDS

Your Club salutes Greg Jensen, Jeff Holmes and Scott Rayson on their recent award of the National Medal.

This medal is awarded to any active member who has undertaken a minimum of 30 hours of patrol during a season for 15 years or seasons commencing from when they achieved their Bronze Medallion.

Whilst the Club tries to ensure all those entitled to awards do receive them, it is a time-consuming task and it is possible to unfortunately overlook some members.

Awards which members may be entitled to (other than the above-mentioned National Medal) include:

National Patrol Service Award – provided in recognition to members who have completed

all patrol service requirements. Sawtell uses as a basis for this award those who have completed 100% of their allocated patrols. Clubs do interpret this requirement in different ways but Sawtell is of the view that if you cannot undertake an allocated patrol but arrange for a patrol swap that is acceptable.

SLSA Long Service Award – based solely on membership of a club (clubs)

Assessing/Coaching/Officiating Service Certificates

Conditions for these awards are set out in the National Recognition Framework available in the Members Portal library.

If you believe you have been overlooked (the Club apologises) please contact the Secretary on secretary@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

Donation from Faircloth & Reynolds

The IRB Captain and training team are always seeking to improve our equipment and facilities. To this end we decided to replace the existing broken work bench top with a custom-made stainless steel top. We are absolutely stoked that Dave Reynolds from Faircloth and Reynolds has agreed to supply the new work bench top at no cost.

We are grateful to acknowledge this kind donation from Faircloth and Reynolds.

Message from the Club Captain

The 2020 – 2021 patrol season has got off to a good start with all patrol's embracing the patrol COVID restrictions and I thank you for taking the extra duties and precautions within your stride. It is nice to be back on the beach patrolling and mixing with the Sawtell locals and visitors to the area. What has been particularly heart-warming is the wonderful culture that exists within our Club. There have been a number of occasions where some patrols have needed urgent assistance; the overwhelming response from patrolling members volunteering to help out other members to ensure patrols are operational is incredible. It doesn't go unnoticed. The Club thanks you.



Some stats from patrols so far – four rescues to date this patrolling season, 1 in the IRB and 3 by board. I have heard the younger members of Patrol 6 were instrumental in 2 rescues recently and had the maturity above their years, remaining calm and putting their training into practice, which resulted in successful rescues. Well done to those involved. You should feel very proud!

You may have noticed the use of a drone on the beach during patrolling hours, providing surveillance and an additional layer of protection for beach goers. SLS would like to continue to assist our Club building volunteer UAV (drone) Operator Capability. Their aim is to have at least 1 Operator or Pilot present for the summer school holiday period. To facilitate this, SLS will be organising a Club Operator Induction Program to train our future operators. If you are interested, please contact me via email to express your interest. I will pass your details onto the Administrators of this course. **You do not require a bronze medallion to be eligible to be an Operator.**

I would like to thank every patrol for using the Patrol Operations App either on the Club's Samsung Tablet or on their own phone. While the App still has its quirks and is not nearly as reliable as we would all expect its continued use is valuable to the Club and to SLS generally. The most common issue found to date is not ensuring the patrol members attendance and sign on and off times in the app are the same as those recorded in the Patrol Log books so give this more attention please. If anyone needs some guidance or help in how to use the app, please do not hesitate to reach out.

If members are needing a swap for their rostered patrol, in the SLS Members portal, there is the ability to self-manage this process. If you need a patrol swap:

Log onto the SLS Members Portal. Select "View Full Roster", scroll down and indicate which patrol you require a substitute for. Members should also regularly view the "Patrol" section of the Members portal to indicate which patrol they can substitute or do a voluntary patrol for. After logging onto SLS Members Portal, from the menu options - select "Patrols" > "Patrol Swap". Scroll down and select which patrol you are able to assist with.

The Members portal should be one of the preferred methods to find a substitute, other than contacting another member directly. Failing that, both Steve Rayson or myself will put a notification on Surfguard upon advice of your patrol unavailability.

Every year the club submits one order for wind and (somewhat) waterproof Patrol Jackets. These cost \$55 each which is payable by the member on delivery of the jacket. The sizes range from XS to 3XL. If anyone wants to purchase a patrol jacket please email me with your size. There will only be one order for this season, likely to be done early December.

And most importantly a gathering will be held to farewell current Patrol Captain and past Gear and Maintenance Officer Shannon Wilson at the Clubhouse on **29 November at 4pm**. BYO Nibbles and drinks. Our IRB team are in high demand as Shannon has already been earmarked as IRB Captain for Fingal.



Thank you for your commitment,

Shelley Lantry 0438 518 103

clubcaptain@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

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Congratulations to those members who have recently gained awards.

IRB CREW CERTIFICATE

Kieran Ayshford
David Eiler
Ruby Ensbey
Hayley Fischer
Alexander Newman
Cloe Nolan
Isaiha Phillips
Troy Pinder
Murray Vine

Congratulations also to 3 of our patrolling members Mitchell Hickey, Isaiha Phillips and Syllas Phillips who have qualified to go to Nationals to compete in the 5km Open Water swim!

MESSAGE FROM REGISTRAR

Please be advised if you intend to renew your membership please do so now as, come the end of November, all non-financial members will be archived.

Amanda Ensbey 0438 587 711

GYM

A reminder that the Club gym is now operational but please comply with all Covid protocols. For your information the gym is reserved from **4-5pm Tuesdays and Thursdays** for the Club competitors.

Building Development Update

On-going work continues apace.

DRIVEWAY Thanks to the efforts of Victor Lindsay, Jeff Holmes and Steve Rayson the area to be planted out has been mulched with the Club awaiting on a delivery of woodchip from CHCC prior to planting. Garry Murray will be pleased when it arrives as he ensures the plants, already purchased, remain alive. **Huge thanks to Victor Lindsay** who spent 3.5 hrs with his mini digger and bobcat to incorporate 30m³ of Biomass Compost and refused to take any payment from the club even just for fuel.

WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPOUND

Evidence that parts of the local economy continue to do well can be seen with the delay in having the necessary plans completed prior to construction.

PAVING REPLACEMENT To assist with the seating of kiosk patrons and entry into the auditorium the Club proposes to remove all existing pavers up to the members room



door and replace with concrete. This will also involve moving the kiosk seating area further to the south. At the same time the Kiosk is looking at making changes to improve their operations to the benefit of both staff and patrons. Weather permitting it is planned for this work to commence on **Monday 7 December** with the Kiosk closed for 1 week. Community classes will not be affected by this closure.

Garry Murray 0428 517 665

Message from Junior Activities

There has been a great start to the 2020/2021 season with over 150 Nippers registering with Sawtell. A successful presentation was held after Nippers for the 2019/2020 season, with Age Managers presenting awards to their age groups after the first day of Nippers. Congratulations to all Nippers who achieved the award for their age and point placegetters.



Training has also recommenced successfully across all ability groups, from the beginner board training group to longboards. A reminder that training is held on **Tuesday mornings at 6am at Sawtell, Wednesday afternoons at the Jetty at 4pm, and Saturday mornings at 8.30am at the Jetty.**

With Covid safety protocols in place, two Branch carnivals have been announced. One at **Woolgoolga on Sunday 15 November** and one at **Minnie Waters on Sunday 6 December**. These carnivals will be held in a

block format, with U8-U11 competing between 8am and 11am, U12-U14 competing between 11am and 12:30pm and U15 and up from 12:30pm. All the best to competitors at these carnivals.

Look out for our new Sawtell Nipper t-shirts, muscle shirts and polos. They look great and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsor of these shirts RJK Optometry.

See you on the beach.

Tiffany Easman 0437 000 030

Message from Chief Training Officer

UPCOMING TRAINING

SURF RESCUE CERTIFICATE / BRONZE

Induction/Information session

Sunday 29 November 11am – training room – Sawtell Surf Club

Cost: \$175.00 includes online manual, 2 yrs membership (if already a member, fee is taken off), patrol uniform, certificate/medallion.

If you are not a strong swimmer, recommend that you start adult swim squads either at Sawtell Swim Centre or Park Beach Rd Swim Centre.

Duration: Approx. 4-6 weeks (SRC)
Approx. 10 - 12 weeks (Bronze)

COURSE AIM The aim of these courses is to provide participants with skills and knowledge related to surf awareness, aquatic rescue operations, communication systems and equipment and resuscitation. For Bronze candidates it also provides participants with skills and knowledge related to emergency care, spinal management, communication, teamwork and Surf Life Saving patrol operations. It is recommended for SLS members who wish to:

- perform in the role of SLS water safety personnel
- take on a lifesaving cadetship and join a lifesaving patrol.

SURF LIFE SAVING ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To commence training for the Surf Rescue Certificate you must:

- be a financial member of an SLS club
- be at least 13 years of age on the final assessment date
- complete an unaided swim of 200 m in 5 minutes or less (goggles and masks permitted) in a swimming pool of not less than 25 m, or over a measured open water course which will be observed prior to you undertaking any water training or assessment activities. Evidence of this must be provided to the assessor prior to commencement of the assessment for these units of competency/this SLSA award.

To commence training for the Bronze Medallion you must:

- be a financial member of an SLS club
- be at least 15 years of age on the final assessment date
- complete an unaided swim of 400 m in 9 minutes or less (goggles

and masks permitted) in a swimming pool of not less than 25 m, or over a measured open water course which will be observed prior to you undertaking any water training or assessment activities.

Evidence of this must be provided to the assessor prior to commencement of the assessment for these units of competency/this SLSA award.

ADVANCE RESUSCITATION TECHNIQUES CERTIFICATE (HLTAID007)

Saturday 12 December Sawtell Surf Club – Training Room

Cost: Free for patrolling members
\$50 for non-patrolling members

Names to Chief Training Officer by **6 December 2020**

Online training to be completed prior to attendance

To commence training for the SLSA Advanced Resuscitation Techniques Certificate you must meet the following entry requirements:

- be at least 15 years of age on the date of final assessment
- be a financial member of an SLS club.



PROFICIENCY: Next proficiency is

- **Saturday 7 November – 8am start** – Must have completed online skills maintenance prior
- **Sunday 6 December – 8am start** – Must have completed online skills maintenance prior (same day as Minnie Waters carnival)

Before any member can successfully complete a proficiency for any award, you must have completed the online skills maintenance. No exceptions.

To access online skills, log onto your members portal account, navigate through to e-learning portal, select 'My Training' and start your skills – once you have successfully completed this, you will receive an email confirming this. Any problem accessing the online skills, contact Chief Training Officer via email training@sawtellsurfclub.com.au

Andrew Martin 0419 485 401

The Armidale School (TAS) The annual Bronze Medallion training program for TAS will be completed this year in November. This year there will be 26 students in the program. They will be here on **Thursday 12 & Friday 13 November** and then again for the week commencing **Monday 23 November**. On both the 12th and 23rd the training will commence about 10:00am whilst on the other days it will be at 8:30am. For the 12th and 13th we will probably go to the Jetty so that initial board training, in particular, can be undertaken in flat conditions. As such an IRB will not be required on those days. However for the week commencing 23 November they will be on Sawtell beach with water based activities until about 1:00pm each day except for Friday. While some people have already volunteered to help, additional water safety will be required for the week commencing **23 November**.

If you can help please contact
Steve Rayson on 0429 025 845

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COFFS COAST **ISUZU UTE**



G.J. Gardner. **HOMES**



CONTACT

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MANY THANKS♥

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