

CARNIVAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

The **Sawtell Fast Fives** offers surf sports events for age groups u8's through to u17's, with entrants completing five (5) events each in a round robin format, in disciplines set out in the carnival program and flyer. Unless otherwise set out in this circular, all events will be conducted in accordance with the current 38th edition of the Surf Sports Manual.

All competitors must have their age group clearly marked on the outside of their upper left arm/shoulder.

M BOARD EVENT

The M Board is a variation of the Ocean M which is set out in section 8.5 of the 38th edition of the Surf Sports Manual. The event will adopt an adjusted (shortened) M-shaped board course (as per 8.5.4 (l)) and will consist of one (1) single board leg around the course before competitors finish at the designated finish line.

The distance and alignment of the turning buoys will be proportionate to the board course distances recommended for the u11-u17's age groups set out in the 38th edition of the Surf Sports Manual. Buoy position, alignment and distance from the shore will be set at the discretion of the Carnival Referees in consultation with the Safety Coordinator and subject to prevailing sea conditions.

AMENDMENTS TO / CANCELLATION OF THE EVENT FOR SAFETY REASONS AND CARNIVAL FINISH TIME

In the event that the surf and/or weather conditions prevent the program being conducted as scheduled, a decision will be made by the Competition Committee as to any changes to, suspension and/or cancellation of events. The safety of competitors is paramount, and the Carnival Committee therefore reserves the right to make any amendments to the program or events as may be required to ensure that the carnival can

proceed safely. If such changes occur prior to the date of the event, they will be communicated via the Sawtell SLSC Facebook page. Any variations to the program or events on the day of the carnival will be communicated to team managers.

Having regard to safety considerations and the provisions set out for heat sizes in the 38th edition of the Surf Sports Manual, both male and female competitors from the same age group may be called to race together during the carnival. This decision will rest with the Carnival Referee and Sectional Referees in consultation with the Safety Coordinator and will be communicated to team managers on the day of the event. Results from any combined races will still be recorded separately as per the programmed events.

Sawtell Fast Fives is scheduled to end at around 1pm on Saturday 2 January 2027. This is an approximate time, and while every effort will be made to finish as close to 1pm as possible, competitors should be prepared for the carnival to finish later, with adequate water and sun protection on hand.

HIGH VIZ COMPETITOR AND HANDLER REQUIREMENTS

Pink Hi-Viz Rash Vests (not supplied) and club caps (securely fastened under the chin) must be worn for all events. Competitors in faded pink rash vests may be asked by officials to change into a more appropriate quality rash vest. Failure to comply will result in the competitor not being able to compete in the event.

Handlers for the Iron person events must wear hi-vis vests, club caps, and they must also meet SLSA handler eligibility requirements set out in section 8.2.1 of the 38th edition of the Surf Sports Manual.

REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEES

Registration for **Sawtell Fast Fives** is via Liveheats and must be made prior to the closing date of **Sunday 27 December 2026 at 10pm**. Entries will not be accepted after this date.

Liveheats is being used for carnival entry purposes only and competitors will NOT require their wristband to compete. All competitors must report to the sign-on tent between 7:30-8:30am on the morning of the carnival.

The entry fee for each competitor is $25 (incl GST). Entry fees are non-refundable if members do not take part in the carnival or if the event is cancelled or suspended.

NEW – Youth Division (U15 & U17)

This year, we are introducing a Youth Division to allow our older competitors to take part in Fast Fives. The Youth Division will include U15 and U17 competitors, with both male and female competitors racing together. While competitors will race in the same events, **results and placings may be recorded separately for each age group (U15 and U17).**

The minimum award requirements for participation are:

- U15 competitors: Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC)
- U17 competitors: Bronze Medallion

The race format may be adjusted depending on entry numbers to ensure fair and enjoyable competition for all participants.

PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE EVENT

Competitors are advised that during the course of the event they may be photographed or filmed by a club-approved representative of Sawtell SLSC ('the event photographer') who will be dressed in a hi-vis vest. It is a condition of entry to **Sawtell Fast Fives** that competitors (and their parents) consent to the use of any photos or film containing their image, by Sawtell SLSC or related parties in pursuit of the objectives of Sawtell SLSC.

Competitors who do not consent to this use must inform the event organisers prior to the carnival date.

For further information about photographing minors at SLSA events, please see SLSA Policy 6.21.

OFFICIALS

The success of Sawtell Fast Fives relies on the support of our volunteer officials. Sawtell SLSC welcomes and encourages all qualified SLSA Officials to get involved and help us deliver a safe, enjoyable and well-run carnival for our competitors.

If you're available to assist, we'd love to have you on board!

Officials can nominate via the following link: Sawtell Fast Fives Officials Nominations

WATER SAFETY

Water safety is essential to the safe running of Sawtell Fast Fives. The carnival will operate across two (2) water areas, junior and senior, with qualified water safety personnel required in both areas to maintain the appropriate ratios.

Sawtell SLSC kindly asks that qualified personnel attending the carnival consider assisting with at least one (1) water safety shift, if available. Your support would be greatly appreciated and will help us maintain the required safety ratios throughout the event.

All water safety personnel are required to bring their own high-visibility orange rash shirt. Sawtell SLSC will provide rescue boards and tubes as required.

PRIZE INFORMATION

At the conclusion of the carnival, competitor points from each round will be added to determine overall place getters in each age group / gender.

Lucky door prizes will also be awarded, with the winners of these drawn randomly out of all competitors in attendance at the event. **Sawtell Fast Fives** prizes have been generously sponsored by Kracka and Engine.

For further information on Sawtell Fast Fives, please contact jaccompetitionsawtellslsc@gmail.com


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