



WESTERN
AUSTRALIA



YOUTH U14 TO U17 PATHWAYS

SURF LIFE SAVING WESTERN AUSTRALIA YOUTH PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This guide is part of a suite of documents that have been produced to provide information on the pathways available to our youth members as they transition from Nippers to senior members within their Surf Club environment.

WHO ARE YOUTH?

Youth are categorised by SLSWA as those members aged from 13 to 16 years of age. In surf terminology these youth members are categorised in the following age groups:

- Under 14s (13 years of age as at the 1st October)
- Under 15s (14 years of age as at the 1st October)
- Under 17s (15 or 16 years of age as at the 1st October)

WHAT PATHWAYS ARE AVAILABLE?

As a youth member, you will participate in a program at your club that is designed to develop participants across the core activities of surf life saving (our Pillars). These are represented as four components within the Youth Program:



For those youth members interested in additional opportunities, Surf Life Saving Western Australia (SLSWA) offers a range of additional programs that complement the learning provided through your club's programs.

All youth members are provided with the opportunity to pursue development pathways in one or all of these areas, as summarised in the table below.

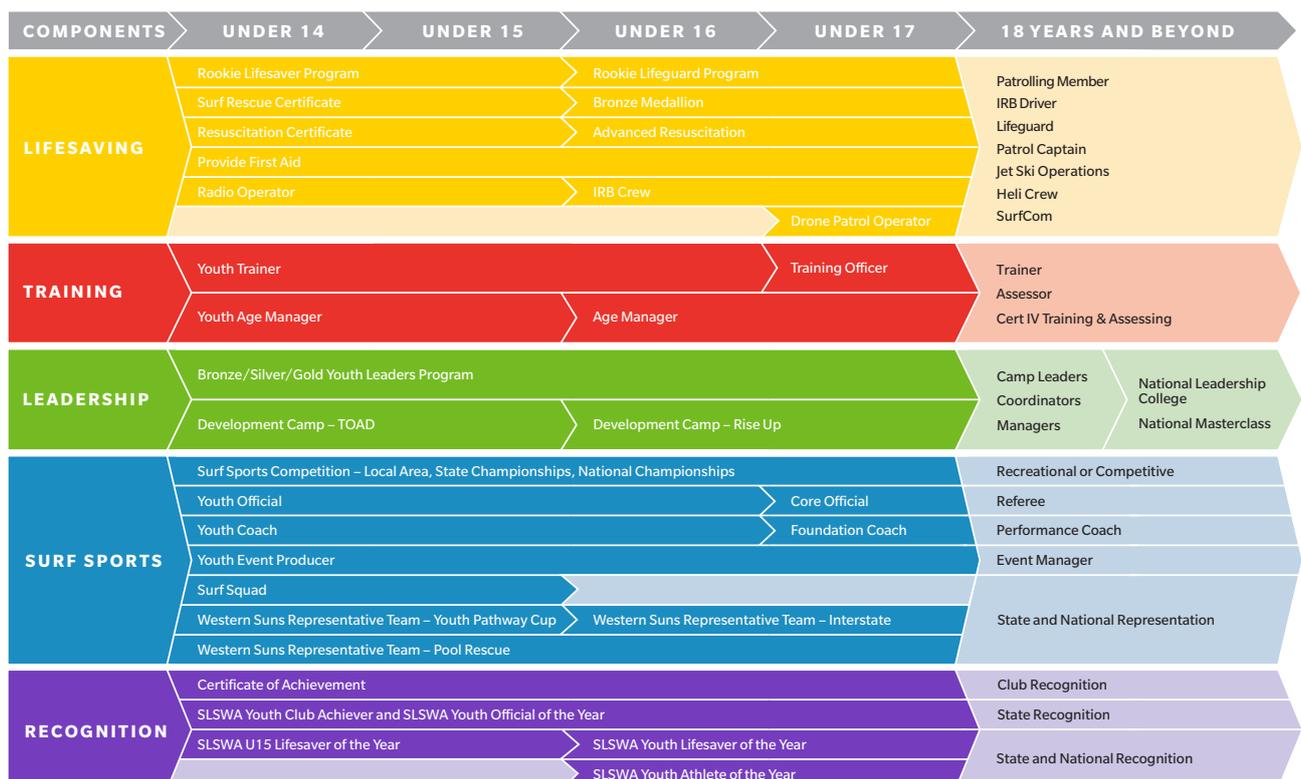
WILL I BE RECOGNISED FOR MY ACHIEVEMENTS?

Yes. There are a range of ways in which the outstanding performances of members of all ages participating in all aspects of surf life saving are celebrated by their clubs, SLSWA and Surf Life Saving Australia.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO ME AS A YOUTH IN SURF LIFE SAVING?

The following expands on the four youth program components with detail on initiatives within each.

Further information on all initiatives is available by talking to the leaders at your club or by visiting www.mybeach.com.au



LIFESAVING PATHWAYS

I WANT TO BE A LIFESAVER

Saving lives is at the core of what we do and our Volunteer Beach Patrols provide a valuable community service at many of Western Australia's most popular beaches. In Western Australia each season over 5,000 active volunteer patrolling members are positioned at beach locations during the surf lifesaving season and collectively complete over 120,000 volunteer patrol hours. The skills you learn in lifesaving will put you on the pathway to places you never thought possible. You will also meet people from all walks of life, form lifelong friendships and have fun along the way. Find your pathway within lifesaving and discover how you can become involved with the roles listed below.



AWARDS

Surf Rescue Certificate (min 13yrs)	<p>As the foundation award required to join a beach patrol team it's the perfect introduction to surf lifesaving. You will learn about aquatic rescue operations and basic resuscitation, gaining expert skills and knowledge of surf awareness and basic beach patrolling.</p> <p><i>*Before you commence training for your SRC, you must be at least 13 years of age on the final assessment date, complete an unaided swim of 200m in five (5) minutes or less and be a financial member of a SLS club.</i></p>
Bronze Medallion (min 15yrs)	<p>The Bronze Medallion is synonymous with Surf Life Saving and develops the required skills and knowledge relating to surf awareness, rescue techniques, radio communication, CPR and first aid. As a Bronze Medallion holder, you are responsible for patrolling the beach, ensuring the public remain safe and you may be called upon to perform rescues on the board or with the tube as well as execute preventative actions by educating members of the public.</p> <p><i>*Before you commence your training for your Bronze you must complete a 400m pool swim in 9 minutes or less and evidence of this must be provided to the assessor prior to commencement of assessment.</i></p>
Radio Operators Certificate	<p>This is one of the very first lifesaving operation awards that you can achieve. The aim of the course is to provide you with the basic skills and knowledge to operate communications systems, equipment and understand the terminology during beach patrols and surf life saving operations.</p>
Resuscitation Certificate	<p>This is the first emergency care award you will be able to attain where you develop the skills to maintain or restore breathing and circulation in an adult, child or infant. The course content is suitable to you if you have a disability but would still like to be an active patrolling member – when you cannot fulfill the requirements of the SRC or Bronze Medallion.</p>
Provide First Aid	<p>This award will provide you with the skills and knowledge required to provide initial care and treatment to a sick or injured person on the beach. As a First Aid award holder you can patrol in a patrol team to provide first aid to the public, but you may not enter the water for rescues. The Provide First Aid course allows you to develop transferrable life skills that could increase your chances of gaining employment and/or further study in the healthcare industry.</p>

LIFESAVING PATHWAYS

AWARDS

Advanced Resuscitation Technique Certificate (ARTC) (min 15yrs)	Take your emergency care skills to the next level with the ARTC. You will learn how to use airway management devices and automated external defibrillators during resuscitation, and you will learn how to administer oxygen to patients on the beach.
Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) Crew Certificate (15 years)	As a Bronze Medallion holder and volunteer lifesaver, you will be able to take your rescue skills to the next level and get out on the water as part of an IRB team. The IRB crew certificate will teach you the basics of the operational, rescue procedures and maintenance of an IRB and develop the skills and knowledge to actively participate as an IRB crew member.
WA Drone Patrol Operator	If you are a seasoned volunteer lifesaver, 16 years old (at the least) and hold a First Aid qualification, then you are eligible to train to become a Drone Patrol Operator at one of our 'Drone Patrol Clubs'. During training, you will learn about aerial surveillance technology – a crucial piece in coastal safety surveillance – and you will learn how to identify rips, swimmers in distress and various marine creatures. This training program is specific to SLSWA Lifesaving Operations.

ACTIVITIES

Patrol	Once you have completed your SRC (u14 and above) and/or Bronze Medallion (u17 and above) member, you will now be able to become a volunteer surf lifesaver as part of a beach patrol team. You'll learn valuable skills working as a trained volunteer and it is the perfect lifesaving pathway for you if you chose to climb the patrolling ranks.
Woodside Nippers Water Safety	If you like being out in the waves, you can use your SRC or Bronze Medallion to provide water safety at the Sunday morning Woodside Nipper Program at your club. You will work closely with the Age Group Manager to ensure the safety of all the nippers entering the water.
Water Safety – club and SLSWA events	Your aquatic rescue skills attained in either the SRC, BM or IRB Crew may also be called upon to provide water safety services at other club or SLSWA events.
IRB Crew (15yrs)	As a crew member, you are responsible for assisting with roving patrols and you may be called upon to assist in search and rescue operations (should the situation arise).
Drone Patrol	SLSWA has embraced drone technology to ensure that we remain relevant to our members and the community at large. As a Drone Patrol Operator your enhanced skills will contribute to coastal safety surveillance.

LIFESAVING PATHWAYS

RECOGNITION

Club Awards	Most clubs offer recognition for the achievements and contributions of their members. Several of the award category winners go on to represent their club at the annual SLSWA Awards of Excellence.
SLSWA Nipper & Youth Awards	The SLSWA Nipper & Youth Awards are presented by SLSWA at the conclusion of each season and recognise the most outstanding contributions and achievements of eligible members across a range of categories. As an u14 to u17 member that is active in Lifesaving, you will be eligible for consideration in the following categories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLSWA U15 Lifesaver of the Year - SLSWA Youth Club Achiever - SLSWA Youth of the Year
SLSWA Awards of Excellence	The SLSWA Awards of Excellence are presented by SLSWA at the conclusion of each season and recognise the most outstanding contributions and achievements of eligible members across a range of categories. Although the majority of these Awards relate to members aged 17yrs and over, u14 to u17 members are eligible for consideration in the following categories. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLSWA Youth Lifesaver of the Year - SLSWA Young Volunteer of the Year
SLSA Awards of Excellence	The Surf Life Saving Australia Awards of Excellence recognise eligible members at a national level. To be considered for these awards members must have won the associated award at their state's Awards of Excellence. The Western Australian winner of the SLSWA Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year will be subsidised by SLSWA to attend the SLSA Awards of Excellence and will be in contention to win the SLSA Youth Lifesaver of the Year

WHAT'S NEXT IN MY LIFESAVING PATHWAY?

Young people are the future of lifesaving and SLSWA aims to provide our young members with the opportunity to continue to learn new skills, make new friends and develop into confident young adults. Choose your own pathway and continue to gain new awards as a Young Adult Member. You may wish to develop your leadership skills and become a Patrol Captain in charge of a beach patrol team, or you may wish to use your communication, management and leadership skills in becoming a Duty Officer and provide

vital support to different surf life saving clubs in your region. Boost your rescue skills and save lives by joining in the SLSWA Wesfarmers Jet Ski Program and become a Jet Ski Operator or take your skills to new heights by joining the Westpac Lifesaver Helicopter Crew. There is also now a chance for you to gain paid employment by becoming a Lifeguard, SurfCom Operator or a member of the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Crew.

TRAINING PATHWAYS

I WANT TO TRAIN THE LIFESAVERS OF THE FUTURE

Some of our best lifesaving work happens away from the beach. From education about being safe at the beach and the potential perils of beach-going to providing first aid training to anyone in the workplace, home, or community, our training and education programs take the essence of the lifesaving movement off the beach and into the community. Training and Education is of great importance in Surf Life Saving. Without training, the core awards of Bronze Medallion and SRC etc. our volunteer surf lifesavers would not be able to patrol our beaches and represent their clubs at Surf Sports. Develop your skills and passion for lifesaving and education by enrolling to become a Youth Trainer or Training Officer and you will acquire a diverse skill set including leadership, safety and management skills to deliver a range of training courses of the highest quality. Find out about the Training pathways available to you from the table below.



AWARDS & ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

Youth Trainer	Another Youth Pathway unique to SLSWA is the Youth Trainer. This is a great way to commence your Education and Training journey as it provides you with the opportunity to assist and develop your skills in delivering components of the SLSA/SLSWA education courses including First Aid training. The steps in becoming a Youth Trainer involve attending a Youth Trainer Program course run by SLSWA and assisting in the delivery of three separate education courses under the supervision of an accredited trainer or assessor. Once these are complete, you will receive your Youth Trainer Program accreditation and certificate.
Training Officer (16yrs and above)	The Training Officer Certificate will further develop the skills and knowledge learnt in the Youth Trainer Pathway. The award is also available to you if even if you do not have your Youth Trainer Accreditation. The course is highly interactive and will provide you with the opportunity to practise your own skills in session planning, training delivery and course evaluation in a safe learning environment.

TRAINING PATHWAYS

RECOGNITION

Club Awards	Most clubs offer recognition for the achievements and contributions of their members. Several of the award category winners go on to represent their club at the annual SLSWA Awards of Excellence.
SLSWA Nipper & Youth Awards	<p>The SLSWA Nipper & Youth Awards are presented by SLSWA at the conclusion of each season and recognise the most outstanding contributions and achievements of eligible members across a range of categories. As an u14 to u17 member that is active in Training you will be eligible for consideration in the following categories.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLSWA Youth Club Achiever - SLSWA Youth of the Year
SLSWA Awards of Excellence	<p>The SLSWA Awards of Excellence are presented by SLSWA at the conclusion of each season and recognise the most outstanding contributions and achievements of eligible members across a range of categories. Although the majority of these Awards relate to members aged 17yrs and over, u14 to u17 members are eligible for consideration in the following category.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLSWA Young Volunteer of the Year

WHAT'S NEXT IN MY TRAINING PATHWAY?

As a Young Adult member, you will be able to gain your award as an Assessor as well as have the opportunity to complete your Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. This is an exciting award to obtain as it will improve chances of employment and/or further study outside of surf life saving. Within your club, there are opportunities to specialise your training skills to an award that you are passionate about and there are opportunities to develop your leadership and communication skills by becoming the lead Club Trainer and Assessor.



LEADERSHIP PATHWAYS

ONE DAY I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ON A LEADERSHIP ROLE WITHIN MY COMMUNITY

Leadership and Development is an important aspect of Surf Life Saving. Youth Leadership and Development is about providing our young people with positive experiences and opportunities which enhance their strengths and capacity. The opportunities available will provide you with the skills, networks and confidence to succeed within Surf Life Saving, within the community as well as externally in your life outside of Surf Life Saving. SLSWA's leadership and development programs will introduce you to both the formal and responsible roles of surf life saving (such as patrol duties etc.) but will also consist of activities that include teamwork, networking and fun. The following are the leadership and development opportunities currently available to u14, u15 and u17 members.



AWARDS

Club Youth Involvement/Engagement Awards	Your club may recognise the participation and achievement of youth with club specific youth involvement/engagement programs. Talk to your club to see if these opportunities are available within your club.
SLSWA Youth Leaders Awards	<p>Aligned to the SLSWA Youth Leaders Program, these awards recognise three levels of achievement within this program.</p> <p>Bronze: To qualify for the Bronze level recognition, you must complete a minimum of four hours across each of the program's components: Lifesaving, Surf Sports, Training and complete a minimum of 60 hours in total.</p> <p>Silver: In addition to the Bronze level requirements, to achieve the Silver level youth must complete a minimum of six hours across each of the program's components: Lifesaving, Surf Sports and Training. Youth must also complete a minimum of 80 hours of service in total.</p> <p>Gold: The Gold level represents the highest level of achievement within this program. Usually taking two years plus to achieve, this level requires youth to complete a minimum of 8 hours across each of the program's components: Lifesaving, Surf Sports and Training. Youth will also need to complete a minimum of 90 hours in total.</p>
Youth Age Manager	Use your passion for youth and Nippers to assist and mentor a group of SLSWA Woodside Nippers on their Sunday morning program. As the Youth Age Manager trainee, you will assist the Age Manager and develop the skills necessary to deliver the SLSWA Woodside Nippers Program. This pathway is unique to SLSWA, and you will be supported and supervised every step of the way. The steps to attaining this accreditation involve attending a Youth Age Manager course, attending an Age Manager briefing and assisting (under supervision) with the Nipper Program delivery. After you have assisted in the delivery of the Nipper Program at three separate Nipper club days at your club, you will receive your Youth Age Manager accreditation.
Age Manager Accreditation (15yrs and above)	Use your experience for youth and Nipper development to mentor a group of nippers to become the next generation of lifesavers. As an Age Manager, you will provide young members within the movement with the skills, knowledge and experience to assist their development from nippers into future lifesavers. The goal is to enrich young lives through the delivery of surf life saving knowledge in a fun and safe aquatic environment. Depending on the size of the group you are working with, you may be supported by an assistant or other qualified coaches and trainers who can teach specific skills.

LEADERSHIP PATHWAYS

ACTIVITIES

Club Youth Involvement/Engagement Program	Your club may offer its own youth involvement/engagement programs. Talk to your club to see if these opportunities are available within your club.
SLSWA Youth Leaders Program	Developed to complement SLSWA's overall Youth Program, the Youth Leaders Program (YLP) offers you the opportunity to formally record your SLS experiences and service and receive recognition for doing so. The rewards program operates utilising a similar concept to that of frequent flyer points where you collect points for being involved in a range of lifesaving activities. The more activities you engage in and the more hours you volunteer, the greater the points you collect. The YLP is designed to encourage you to participate in all areas of club activity and you will be able to choose your level of involvement and specific area of interest. By collecting points, different levels of achievement can be achieved, including Bronze, Silver and Gold.

DEVELOPMENT CAMPS

Club Camps	Your club may offer youth development camps that provide an opportunity for you to keep motivated and involved in your club in a fun and safe environment. Talk to your Youth Coordinator to see if there are camps on offer within your club.
SLSWA TOAD Camp (U14 & U15)	The Teamwork, Opportunity and Development Camp (TOAD) is an annual development program run by SLSWA and open to U14 and U15 members. The camp is designed to expose participants to a variety of skills and activities that will enhance and encourage their development within our organisation. Surf life saving clubs are required to nominate and/or select members to attend TOAD and each club is allocated a minimum of two positions depending on the size of their youth membership. If you would like to attend the camp, you are required to complete a participant nomination form and submit to your club for endorsement and consideration. If you are interested in getting to know whether you may be eligible for consideration, speak to your Youth/Development Coordinator.
SLSWA Rise Up Camp (U17 – 15 & 16yrs)	The Rise-Up camp provides an amazing opportunity for you to leap outside of your comfort zone as you head into the wilderness for a week of adventure and personal development. You will participate in a wide range of physical and social activities in order to develop your leadership skills. Rise-Up connects you with youth members from surf life saving clubs across the state and it is a chance to create lifelong friendships within surf life saving. Each club is allocated a minimum number of attendees at Rise-Up so if you would like to join the camp, you will need to complete a nomination form and submit it to your club for endorsement and consideration.

WHAT'S NEXT IN MY LEADERSHIP PATHWAY?

SLSWA is committed to developing our members at all levels, and there are a number of programs on offer for Leadership and Development for our Young Adult Members. Surf Life Saving Australia offer a chance for you to go national with their National Leadership College (NLC). The NLC inspires Youth Leaders and develops leadership skills further in order to continue to contribute positively to the surf life saving movement. There are roles across all

four life saving pillars within your club that require strong leadership skills including Patrol Captain, Age Manager, Club Training Officer, to name a few. There are opportunities to build on your personal and professional capabilities as a Young Adult member and strong leadership skills will contribute to your success within your club as well as enable you to positively contribute outside of surf life saving.

SURF SPORTS PATHWAYS - COMPETITOR

I WANT TO COMPETE IN SURF SPORTS

Surf Sports is one of the foundations of the Surf Life Saving movement and aids in developing the necessary skills to carry out surf lifesaving's core purpose – to save lives on WA beaches. SLS clubs and SLSWA hold regular surf sports carnivals across both the summer and winter months, from club and regional competitions to state and national championships. While competition is fierce, surf sports thrive upon the enthusiastic and friendly spirit of participating youth competitors, encouraged by a shared passion for the surf sport and a commitment to saving lives.

To be eligible to compete at club, SLSWA and SLSA carnivals, you must hold (or work towards gaining) your Surf Rescue Certificate (U14-U15) or Bronze Medallion award (U16-U17), be an active volunteer lifesaver and have completed the required patrol hours during the surf lifesaving season. You don't have to be a competitive athlete to participate in surf sports. There are opportunities for social surf sport participation right through to elite level competition. There are options to suit all levels and all abilities.



ACTIVITIES

Training & Participation	<p>CLUB</p> <p>Most clubs offer skills and training sessions outside of your normal Sunday morning activities.</p>	<p>SLSWA</p> <p>Surf Squad is available to our U14/U15 Youth members. This is a chance to develop your skills and receive high-performance coaching sessions during the surf sports season.</p>
Competition Disciplines	<p>SUMMER SPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beach Run - Beach Sprints - Beach Flags - Board Race, Board Relay - Board Rescue - Ski Race, Double Ski 	<p>WINTER SPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surf Race, Surf Teams - Rescue Tube Race - First Aid - Rescue & Resuscitation - Champion Lifesaver
Club & Regional Competition	<p>CLUB</p> <p>Talk to your club as it will offer a range of club events throughout the season including Club Championships.</p>	<p>REGIONAL</p> <p>Several regional events are held by clubs each season. Talk to your club regarding its participation in these events.</p>
State & National Competition	<p>STATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State Level Carnivals - Youth Surf League - WA State Championships 	<p>NATIONAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Aussies, Youth
		<p>SLSWA REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Western Suns Youth Pathway Cup Team - Western Suns Pool Rescue Team

SURF SPORTS PATHWAYS - COACHING

I WANT TO BE A SURF SPORTS COACH

Coaches play a crucial role in developing, inspiring and leading athletes to achieve their goals in surf sports competition. As a Youth Coach, you have the opportunity to work with athletes across all levels of competition and performance, starting your journey as a Youth Coach at your club.

The Youth Coach pathway is a non NCAS (National Coaching Accreditation Scheme) accredited training made possible by SLSWA as part of the Youth Program or otherwise. However, the modules completed are valid as part of the assessment required for the NCAS accredited courses and can be used towards the Foundation Coach accreditation when you turn 16 years old.

Youth Coaches are mentored and supervised at club training sessions by a competent accredited Foundation Coach (or above). There are four (4) steps to attaining a Youth Coach accreditation, including completing online modules and attending a Youth Coach course/clinic offered by SLSWA. When you have completed the necessary steps, you will be able to coach (under supervision) at your club and in a surf sports discipline of your choice. After you have coached four sessions you will receive your Youth Coach accreditation.



Your Youth Coach accreditation will be valid for a maximum of 3 years or until you reach 16 years of age. At 16 years of age, you are eligible to progress and complete the Foundation Coach qualification.

ACTIVITIES

Training and Development	<p>CLUB</p> <p>Clubs can offer the Youth Coach or Foundation Coach pathway as part of their Youth Program. Talk to the Youth Program Coordinator to find out how you can become involved.</p>	
Competitive Disciplines	<p>SUMMER SPORTS COACHING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beach: running, flags and sprints - Water: boards, boats, ski's and swim 	<p>WINTER SPORTS COACHING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pool Rescue - Surf Board Riding
Club and Regional Competition	<p>CLUB</p> <p>Your club will offer a range of opportunities for you, as a youth coach or foundation coach, to provide coaching and/or training sessions for young surf sport athletes competing in club and regional competitions.</p>	

RECOGNITION

Club Awards	<p>Most clubs offer recognition for the achievements and contributions of their members. Several of the award category winners go on to represent their club at the annual SLSWA Awards of Excellence. As an u14 to u17 member that is active in Coaching you will be eligible for consideration in the following category.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLSWA Youth Club Achiever
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SURF SPORTS PATHWAYS - OFFICIATING

I WANT TO BE A SURF SPORTS OFFICIAL

Every surf sports competition needs a dedicated and well-trained team of officials and they play a vital role in the SLSWA movement.

If you participate in your clubs Youth Program, you will have the opportunity to join the Youth Official program, gain your accreditation as a Youth Official and start working in a range of officiating roles at Little Nipper events, competitions and surf sports carnivals. You will gain the skills to become an impartial and balanced judge across all competition disciplines and fulfil your obligations with accuracy, consistency and a high degree of integrity – so get involved and call the shots with the best seat in the house!

There are four (4) steps to attaining your Youth Official accreditation, which includes an online Community Officiating General Principles course and attending a Youth Officials course run by SLSWA. When you have completed three (of four) steps, you can officiate at SLSWA events. After you have officiated at three supervised events, you will receive your Youth Official accreditation.



Your Youth Official accreditation will be valid for a maximum of 3 years or until you reach 16 years of age, which then, makes you eligible to further your opportunities as an official by completing the SLSA Core Official or Technical Official qualifications.

ACTIVITIES

Training and Development	<p>CLUB</p> <p>Most clubs offer the Youth Official Program as part of their Youth Program. Talk to your Youth Program Coordinator to find out how you can participate in the Youth Official Program.</p>
Officiating Disciplines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marshal - Starter - Check Starter - Recorder (includes tablets) - Timekeeper - Finish Judge
Club and Regional Officiating	<p>CLUB</p> <p>Your club will offer a range of surf sports events, and as a Youth Official, you will be given the opportunity to officiate at any SLSWA run events.</p>

RECOGNITION

Club Awards	Clubs have the opportunity to offer recognition awards for their most outstanding Youth Official.
State Awards	<p>SLSWA NIPPER AND YOUTH AWARDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Official of the Year

SURF SPORTS PATHWAYS - EVENT MANAGEMENT

I WANT TO BE A SURF SPORTS EVENT PRODUCER

Every surf sports competition needs a dedicated event management team to ensure the successful running of efficient and safe events. Skills developed in this area can also be further developed and contribute to life skills outside of the Surf Lifesaving movement.

Participating in your clubs Youth Program, you will have the opportunity to join the Youth Event Producer program. Your skills will be developed through assistance across the various areas involved in running and promoting SLSWA surf sports events.

After you have assisted with three events, you will receive your Youth Event Producer accreditation.

Your Youth Event Producer accreditation can lead to further development and possible paid employment around event management.



ACTIVITIES

Training and Development	SLSWA have opportunities to develop the various skills required to run a successful event. The Youth Event Producer Program is a hands on program managed through SLSWA. Talk to your Youth Program Coordinator to find out how you can participate in the Program.
Required Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event coordination - Event Set Up - Sport commentating - Athlete interviewing - Photography - Videography - Event wrap ups
SLSWA Events	As a Youth Event Producer, you will be given the opportunity to assist at SLSWA Surf Sports events throughout the season.

RECOGNITION

State Awards	<p>Contributions as a Youth Event Producer can go towards:</p> <p>SLSWA NIPPER AND YOUTH AWARDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Club Achiever of the Year - Youth of the Year <p>SLSWA AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Young Volunteer of the Year
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SURF SPORTS PATHWAYS - COMPETITION

SURF SPORTS CARNIVALS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

CLUB & REGIONAL COMPETITION SURF SPORTS EVENTS

SunSmart WA Country Carnival

Country carnivals are an opportunity for a regional club to host a weekend of surf sport competition and social events. Traditionally, the Country Carnival draws an excess of 650 athletes and sees our young competitors battle it out across two days of competition and a range of events including swim, ski, board, surf boats, sprints and flags. This is a unique opportunity for our regional youth members to come together for an action-packed weekend. Speak to your Director or Surf Sports or Youth Program Coordinator to find out how you can participate.



Broome Sunset Carnival

The Sunset Carnival is a major event on the Broome SLS club calendar and is a favourite amongst competitors from all over WA. The event is run in July and hosts a series of surf sports competition disciplines for young members. The Broome Sunset Carnival is a great initiative luring not only local competitors but those from metro clubs that escape the winter for a weekend of competition.

Rainbow Coast Carnival (Denmark)

The longstanding Rainbow Coast Carnival brings together three of WA's regional clubs including Denmark, Esperance and Albany SLSC. The event runs over a weekend in

November each year, with each club getting their chance to host the event. Weekend activities are slightly different to the usual country carnival with Saturday reserved for surf sports discipline coaching and skills development and the surf sports carnival hosted on the Sunday. So, gear up youth members of Denmark, Esperance and Albany SLSC for an action-packed weekend at the start of summer.

STATE AND NATIONAL COMPETITION

State Competition

SunSmart WA Surf Life Saving Championships

The Championships are the pinnacle event of the surf sports year where you have the opportunity to showcase your skills across a range of surf sports disciplines. More than 950 athletes come together to compete against each other in several different beach, water and lifesaving events including the iconic Ironman/Ironwoman event. To find out how you can participate and conditions of entry to surf sports carnivals, talk to your club Director of Surf Sports or Youth Program Coordinator.

National Competition

The Australian Youth Championships

Also known as The Aussies, is the largest surf sports event of its kind, only comparing the likes of the Commonwealth Games. Athletes from Australia's 300+ Surf Life Saving Clubs come together to compete in more than 400 beach and ocean events over nine exciting days of surf sports events. The best of the best, high performing athletes, battle it out for the Champion Titles in their chosen disciplines. The pathway to the Youth Aussies is competitive, however, as an aspiring young athlete, your club will support your participation and progression through providing specialised coaching and surf sports skill development. To find out more about the pathway as a top-tier surf sports athlete, speak to your club Director of Surf Sports or Youth Program Coordinator.

SURF SPORTS STATE REPRESENTATIVE WA TEAMS

SLSWA has a proud history of state Representative Teams which provide fantastic development opportunities for our Youth Members. The Western Suns are the WA Representative team where 20-24 members are chosen each year annually to compete in the national Youth Pathway Cup and the interstate Pool Rescue Competitions.

SURF SPORTS PATHWAYS - COMPETITION

Read below to find out more about the Western Suns Representative Teams.

Western Suns Youth Pathway Cup Team

The Youth Pathway Cup (YPC) is a unique surf sports event showcasing and providing an opportunity for high performing youth athletes to represent WA as part of the Western Suns Youth Pathway Cup team. 26 of WA's best performing surf sports athletes are hand-selected by SLSWA and are provided with invaluable exposure to national level competition and an exceptional level of coaching, support and guidance from SLSWA to ensure every success at the competition. The YPC is held in January each year and at a different chosen location around the country and SLSWA are immensely proud of their achievements as they represent WA. To find out how you may be eligible for consideration for the Western Suns Youth Pathway Cup Team, talk to your Director of Surf Sports or Youth Program Coordinator.

Western Suns Pool Rescue Team

The Western Suns Pool Rescue team provides athletes the opportunity to represent WA in the annual interstate Pool Rescue Championships. 24 top-tier surf sports athletes are selected by SLSWA to represent WA in this unique winter sports event and you will be able to put your lifesaving skills to the test against the nation's best Pool Rescue athletes. To find out more about competing in winter sports and how you may be eligible to be chosen for the Western Suns Pool Rescue Team, speak to your Director of Surf Sports or Youth Coordinator to find out more.

SURF SPORTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check out the mybeach.com.au website for a list of the latest event dates, locations and associated information.



WHAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO WHEN YOU MOVE BEYOND THE U17 AGE GROUP...

Awards and patrol skill development...

- Becoming an IRB Driver
- Joining the SLSWA Drone Patrol
- Being part of the Jet Ski Operations
- Becoming a Patrol Captain

Surf Sports athletes can look forward to...

- The Youth Aussies/The Aussies
- Specialising in your chosen discipline
- High Performance coaching

Gain Employment as a...

- SurfCom Operator
- Paid Lifeguard (18+ years)
- Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter Crew Member (18+ years)



**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

Surf Life Saving Western Australia

7 Delawney Street
Balcatta WA 6021

t. 08 9207 6666
e. youth@sllswa.com.au
w. mybeach.com.au



surflifesavingwa



@sllswa



surflifesavingwa



@sllswa