



Established October 1907 ABN 74 781 063 539

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## Dear SLS Sydney Nipper Clubs and Club Mgt teams,

We have had some calls regarding the new proficiencies for the 6's and 7's this season ... and understandably so.

As per the 2014-2015 SLSNSW Pre-season Pack ALL Proficiencies need to be done prior to commencing at Nippers

We are aware that the Pre-Season Pack came out after many clubs have scheduled their proficiency swims and booked locations, and that these NEW Proficiencies from State were NOT advertised earlier, hence making logistics at Nippers for these proficiencies a little more challenging,

However, as per the requirements for ALL Nippers, these proficiencies need to be done prior to commencement of activities on the beach or in the water (for U8's-U14's)

As we are all still aware U6's and U7's are allowed in shallow water only with WS in place (not just a parent) that is shallow for the child themselves - which is in real terms halfway between ankle and knee.

### Conducting the evaluation

This evaluation should be conducted in a low-risk environment, as determined by a completion of a pre-activity risk assessment. *My own perception on low-risk for this age group is a pool (preferably heated at this time of year) where waves are not part of the equation.*

PreSeason Pack 2014-2015 Re U6's and U7's

*U6 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.*

*U7 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.*

Please see the email from Glenn Langley, SLSNSW Director of Member Services re the above to the BJD Director following our question re these proficiencies

From Glen Langley  
Dear Doug

*If we are discussing the under 6 & 7's (yes we are) then this was a National decision. QLD and SA trialed this last season with success.*

*Discussion was had about how we need to make sure that Children joining a surf based activity have some proof of being able to recover to a standing position if whilst in shallow water they fall or are knocked over by a wave. The YDC voted in favour of this to be mandatory across SLSA for proficiency for these age groups.*

### Affiliated Clubs

Garie Era Burning Palms  
Wanda Elouera North Cronulla Cronulla  
Clovelly Coogee Maroubra South Maroubra  
North Bondi Bondi Tamarama Bronte

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*We spoke about it being introduced at our 2013 meeting but as a group could not come to an agreement in regards to shallow water.*

*As I discussed at our meeting this year in regards to proficiencies in my report from the National YDC meeting that they will be in place for the 2014/15 season as written in the Pre-Season Pack. The actual proficiency as written is open to feedback after as the YDC has adopted the SA model with review at our 2015 meeting.*

Based on the above, these new proficiencies do need to be in place, signed off and in surf guard prior to commencement of activities at Nippers this season

Also following up on the Age Managers courses the new booklets are now at Branch for you to collect as per the numbers you requested.

As mention prior the BJD is happy to assist at any in-house club Age Mgr course if you need/want us to present for you, or be a part of an overall club based presentation. Branch Age Mgrs courses are still booked for Oct 21 East and Oct 29 Bate Bay.

For this season, and with the new Age Mgr Ratios in place, could all clubs please consider appointing someone in their Nipper teams to monitor those people who do attend your Age Mgr course this season, thereby ensuring **ALL** paperwork is signed off across all three parts of the course and entered into surfgurad direct, and then paperwork sent to Branch for final consolidation.

Many thanks

Doug Hawkins

Director of Juniors  
SLS Sydney

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