



Established October 1907 ABN 74 781 063 539

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10th February 2017

2017 Sydney Branch Championships

Re. Forecasted Heatwave Conditions

To : All Clubs, Team/Age Managers, Officials and Competitors

Over recent days it has been well broadcast there is a very high probability the Sydney area will be subject to extreme heatwave conditions over the next 3 days. Due to the forecasted extreme temperature conditions the NSW Government, at 2pm yesterday, enacted the State Heatwave Emergency Response Plan.

As most would be aware a surf carnival is also legally regarded as a 'work site' and as such is subject to Workcover Policies and Work Place legislation. In all surf sports events the Carnival Committee has a duty of care over all competitors, Officials, administrators, club members and supporters. As with all extraordinary weather and surf conditions the implementation of the State Heatwave Emergency Response Plan even further heightens our focus on safety for all Involved and risk management for the Championships.

It is emphasised at this stage there has been no decision to either cancel or postpone both the Open and/or Age Championships. However all Competitors , Team/Age Managers and Officials are advised the following processes may be implemented to safely and professionally manage the Championships. The overall aim of the following processes is to limit the potential for heat related illnesses/injuries, and or excessive lengthy exposure to high temperatures, to competitors, officials, club members and supporters.

1. Changes to the programmed order of events including an emphasis on completing all State Qualifying events early in the program.
2. Hard 'cuts' in the early stages of all events so as to allow the Carnival Referee to proceed quickly to finals. This will also minimise the time spent by competitors in Marshalling areas.
3. Short breaks in the carnival to allow for a " cool down period" ie to hydrate, move to a shaded area or swim.
4. Possible cancellation of some events if the Carnival Committee is of the view the temperature is excessive. ie . beach events.
5. Possible cancellation of all remaining events if, or when, the apparent temperature is regarded by the Carnival Committee as being excessive.
6. A predetermined order for multi discipline events to ensure they are completed as efficiently as possible.

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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It is also advised that all competitors, Team/Age Managers, Officials and supporters adequately prepare for the Championships by ensuring:

1. Sufficient club tents are erected for all competitors and supporters.
2. Hydrate effectively both before and during the event.
3. Continually apply adequate sun protection ie sunscreen, long sleeve shirts and hats etc.
4. Minimise exposure to the heat outside of the shaded areas.
5. If predisposed to heat related illnesses ensure you receive appropriate medical advice before attending.

The Carnival Committee also ensures there will be a large contingent of First Aid personnel present on both days of the Championships including 2 NSW Paramedics.

Regards and thank you

Wayne Druery
Director of Surf Sports
Surf Life Saving

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