



SURF LIFE SAVING SYDNEY

## CIRCULAR

Issue Date	Number
<b>Monday, 17 June 2019</b>	<b>04/19-20</b>

<b>To</b>	All Clubs, Presidents, Secretaries, Nipper Contacts
<b>From</b>	Doug Hawkins, Director of Junior Development
<b>CC</b>	BOM, SSC, MSC, LSC, JDC
<b>Subject</b>	Sydney Branch Nippers: Season 2019-2020 Planning - Sunday Programs

As each SLS Sydney Nipper Club now looks to create their Sunday program and calendar for next season, the JDC would ask each Nippers Committee to reference our discussion held at the last JDC Meeting on 29 May 2019.

For every Nipper club we are all aiming at delivering a fun, engaging, safe and inclusive program for our Nippers on a Sunday, with the end result of creating a program where the above occurs, while we are training our young Surf Lifesavers for the future.

In some cases, we have young people joining us for around 400 hours of their life, from U6's - U14's, that's a lot of time spent under your guidance and influence.

Sunday morning Nippers is for everyone, and you are there to engage with your Nippers across the Age Groups. As outlined, this is for your Sunday morning program.

As per our discussion at the meeting it was referenced as a "Concept" to see what type of Sunday Program your Club would create if you were starting from Scratch. Therefore the premise is that your Club does not run a "Nipper" program, and you had a clean slate to create something for the training and engagement of U6 to U14's, with the main outcome for the Club being the delivery of qualified Lifesavers to the Club and to Patrol - while basing this on SLS Policies with regards to Water Safety and Member Protection.

The aim here is for all SLS Sydney Nipper Clubs in Season 19 - 20 to have a renewed, fun and effective program that works in the best interest of all our Nippers, keeping them engaged and part of your team.

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Some questions for your Team's consideration:

**What are the qualities you would like to teach these young people, and how might that occur over the years?**

Some Options: Add as many more as you see appropriate

Leadership - Teamwork - Unselfishness - Service - Sharing - Resilience - Diligence  
- Focus... *Friendship and Fun*

**What are the physical skills that you would need to teach them on a Learning curve from U6 - U13's, and only reviewing and assessing those skills in U14's?**

Some options: Add as many more as you see appropriate

Safety in the Water - Reading the Ocean/Surf Awareness - Wading - Porpoising - Surf Entry - Surf Swimming - Board entry - Board Paddling - Catching waves both board and swim, Rescue Skills - Tube, board and unaided rescuing Conscious and Unconscious patients, CPR 1 & 2 person - Signals - First Aid - Environment - Working as a Team - Leading a team - Communications/Radio and Patrol Mgt.... *and fun group activities that kids just enjoy*

How are these skills grown across the years, to be then reviewed and assessed in the U14's

That the Competition Manual does not apply on a Sunday morning for Nippers.

**What are the qualities and skills that you would require from those people leading and teaching these Nippers across the Age Groups to achieve the above?**

Adding to the above it would be highly recommended for all Clubs to add to their Sunday Program, a formal assessment at the end of the U12's season covering the following skills:

- 1 & 2 person CPR and awareness of Defib, per the current SLS Resus Certificate
- Ability to perform a Tube, Board and Unaided Rescue (3), each one based on a Conscious patient rescue.



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What changes would your Team make to your Sunday Program?

Nippers has evolved over many years, and SLS Sydney Nipper Clubs now have an opportunity to review their Programs and Calendars to ensure we are delivering the best programs possible.

The above "Concept" and discussion does not specifically reference Competition, and Carnivals as these are an outcome of Nippers, not the main deliverable which is the focus of this document.

*We need to have highly skilled, responsive, fit young "lifesavers in training" who have the skills to become our Lifesavers on Patrol.*

*We also need to be proud of the friendships and skills that we are developed in our Nippers, and the people they have become through their affiliation with your Surf Club.*

We hope that each Club sees this as a constructive and positive opportunity to ensure we are delivering the best possible programs for our young people.

Should your Club or Team have any questions regarding the above please contact the JDC Director Doug Hawkins at [nippers@surflifesavingsydney.com.au](mailto:nippers@surflifesavingsydney.com.au).

We look forward to seeing your innovative and effective Club Programs for 2019 – 2020.

Best regards

**Doug Hawkins**  
**Director Junior Development SLS Sydney**