



17 AUGUST 2024

PRE-SEASON CONFERENCE

YOUTH & JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT



AGENDA

1. Welcome
 - 1.1 Housekeeping
 - 1.2 Safety Overview
2. SLSS Youth & Junior Development Committee
3. Youth Engagement
4. Junior Development Camp Dates 2024-2025
5. SLSNSW Pre Season Information
6. Additional Updates
7. Surf Sports
8. Question & Meeting Close



1. WELCOME

1.1 House Keeping

- Questions via chat and Q & A after each section of the presentation
- Meeting will be recorded and provided along with this presentation next week
- The other pre-season sessions today are also being recorded and presentations will be available next week



1.2 SAFETY OVERVIEW – Culture of Safety and Child Safety

- **At our core we are a Safety Organisation.**
- Creating a culture of safety with our members helps us to keep in front of our minds, that safety of the public and our members is our priority.
- **Online SLS Child Safe Awareness Training** has been mandated for Club and Branch Officers, MPIOs and complaint handlers, Age Managers, Coaches and Officials, Patrol Captains, Trainers, Assessors and Facilitators, **and is being recommended to cover ALL remaining patrolling members this season and to become mandatory next season.**
- We also recommend that **ALL Watersafety Personnel, that aren't necessarily Patrolling Members, should also undertake this.**
- Child Safety pertains to **ALL members under 18 years of age, not just Nippers.**



2. YOUTH & JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Director Youth & Junior Development	David Love
Assistant/Deputy Director Youth & Junior Development	Michele Cole
Youth Manager	Sandra Marshall
Youth Lifesaving Manager	Will McLean
Youth Education Manager	Scarlett Levy
Youth Surf Sports Manager	Natasha Hargraves
Youth Member Services Manager	Daniel Morrissey
Junior Manager	Katrina Benhayon
Junior Education Manager	Megan Still/Ffyon McCabe
Junior Education Coordinator Waverley	(vacant)
Junior Education Coordinator Randwick	Ivy Hincksman
Junior Education Coordinator Sutherland	Jasmine Springall
Junior Education Coordinator RNP	Will McLean
Junior Surf Sports Manager	George Benhayon
Junior Surf Sports Coordinator Waverley	(vacant)
Junior Surf Sports Coordinator Randwick	Miah Georgas
Junior Surf Sports Coordinator Sutherland	Ebony Springall
Junior Surf Sports Coordinator RNP	Will McLean



3. Youth Engagement

Youth Coordinators:

- Does your club have a Youth Coordinator or Director?
- If so, do you know who they are and what they do?
- If not, why not?

Youth Engagement and Retention:

- Does your club have a Youth Engagement Program?
- If so, do you know what it is and who runs it?
- If not, why not?

Our Youth members are just as much a part of Surf Life Saving's future as our Nipper members, and we need to hang onto them!

Youth Retention Proposals:

- Youth Patrol Support Camps at Burning Palms (Fri 6th Dec (PM) to Sun 8th Dec (PM), Garie (when access is restored and patrols resume), and Illawarra Branch
- SLS Sydney Youth Dragon Boat Racing Team
- Youth end-of-season social function



4. JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CAMP DATES 23-24

- **U13's Development Camp**

Friday 29th November (PM) to Sunday 1st December (PM) 2024

- **U11's Development Camp**

Friday 31st January (PM) to Sunday 2nd February (PM) 2025

- **Venue – Youthworks Conference Centre, Deer Park, Port Hacking**



5. SLSNSW PRE SEASON INFORMATION

The 2024/25 SLSNSW Pre Season Information Pack will soon be posted on SLSNSW website.

Click on the following link to the

[Junior Activity Information Bulletin 2024/25](#)

This resource summarises the key activities within junior activities including preliminary skills, competition skills, age awards, Age Manager information, and answers a number of frequently asked questions.



Junior Activity Pre-Season Information



SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW SOUTH WALES

Overview



Please note that there are several key changes in Youth and Junior Development this season:

- **The Age Manager now has an annual proficiency, completed by watching the SLSA Age Manager Video** via the eLearning Platform. Your Age Manager award will be updated automatically in SurfGuard once you watch the video. *See page 5.*
- Age Managers who have **not been active for five years** or more will need to complete the full Age Manager course.
- The Age Manager **no longer requires the third party ‘on the beach’ assessment paperwork**, yet these practical mentoring sessions will remain, and be coordinated, at a club level. The removal of this administrative step does not remove the need for this practical and ongoing mentoring. *See page 5.*

Overview continued



- The **Age Manager Assistant Award is now only available to members aged 13-15 years.** Existing Age Manager Assistants who are 16+ years will not be able to complete their Skills Maintenance until their Award has been upgraded to Age Manager. SLSNSW has undertaken this step and please contact memberservices@surflifesaving.com.au should you wish to check any member record.
- Members can now renew their Working with Children Check (WWCC) online through the NSW Digital ID program, which utilises photo verification technology and a liveness check to confirm a person's presence in front of a mobile phone. **It's important to note that this method is only for renewals and not for new WWCC applications.**

Overview continued

- This season SLSA is introducing three new sub-membership categories including Silver Salties, **Nipper Parent**, and **Inclusive Program Participant**. The SLSNSW Regulations will be updated once implemented. Further information about these sub-categories will be shared by SLSA to clarify how clubs may like to implement at a local level.
- Significant changes have been made to the **Active Kids Program**, with Service NSW announcing a move to a new online platform this year. The availability of Active Kids vouchers is now be means-tested and reduced to \$50 per child. This has impacted Surf Life Saving with **online** voucher redemption unavailable in the 2024/25 season.



Overview continued



- Junior Surf Sport competitors (U/8-U/13) are **no longer required to have the relevant Age Award prior to 31 December to compete in Championship events.** The Age Awards remain a key educational component of Junior Activities, and this change enables clubs to deliver surf education to members throughout the season. *See page 4.*
- The Play by the Rules Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO) Course no longer has an expiry date. As such, members taking on the MPIO position are only required to undertake this course once. Ongoing engagement and upskilling will be provided by SLSNSW through the Member Protection Toolkit, the MPIO networking group, and through webinars outlined within the Executive Training Calendar.

Overview continued



- This season the scope of the Member Assistance Program or MAP (formerly known as the Employee Assistance Program or EAP) has been broadened to offer four (4) free confidential counselling sessions to members for Surf Life Saving related concerns (e.g. critical incidents, grievances) without a referral. The MAP is a short-term solution-focused service model.
- An online Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Awareness training module has been added to the SLS eLearning platform and is included in skills maintenance for all active members. Club and branch executive members are also strongly encouraged to complete this training.

Junior Activity Chair Training



Newly appointed Junior Activity Chairs are required to attend and complete the SLSNSW JAC course. Club Nippers is unable to start if training not completed by JAC.

This 2024-2025 course will be held on Thursday 21st September.

Returning JACs must hold the Junior Activity Management Award, and whilst other members of their Junior Activity Team can also hold this award, but they cannot be proxies for the Junior Activity Chair holding this award.

[Junior Activity Chair Training](#) *(click on this link to access the factsheet)*

Following the Junior Working Group meeting in February, the JAC Training has been split into two sessions. It is mandatory for new Junior Activity Chairs to attend both sessions, and returning JACs are encouraged to attend Part 2 which will be more of a practical welcome to the season ahead. Please reach out to new JACs to share this training with them and encourage them to register for the sessions also.

SLSNSW JAC Training Part 1

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Date & Time: Wednesday 18th September, 6.30 - 8.30pm

SLSNSW JAC Training Part 2

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Date & Time: Wednesday 24th September, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Junior Development Resource Kit

The national Junior Development Program includes lessons and resources that are tailored to each different age group and covers a diverse range of skills and is based on participatory evaluation.

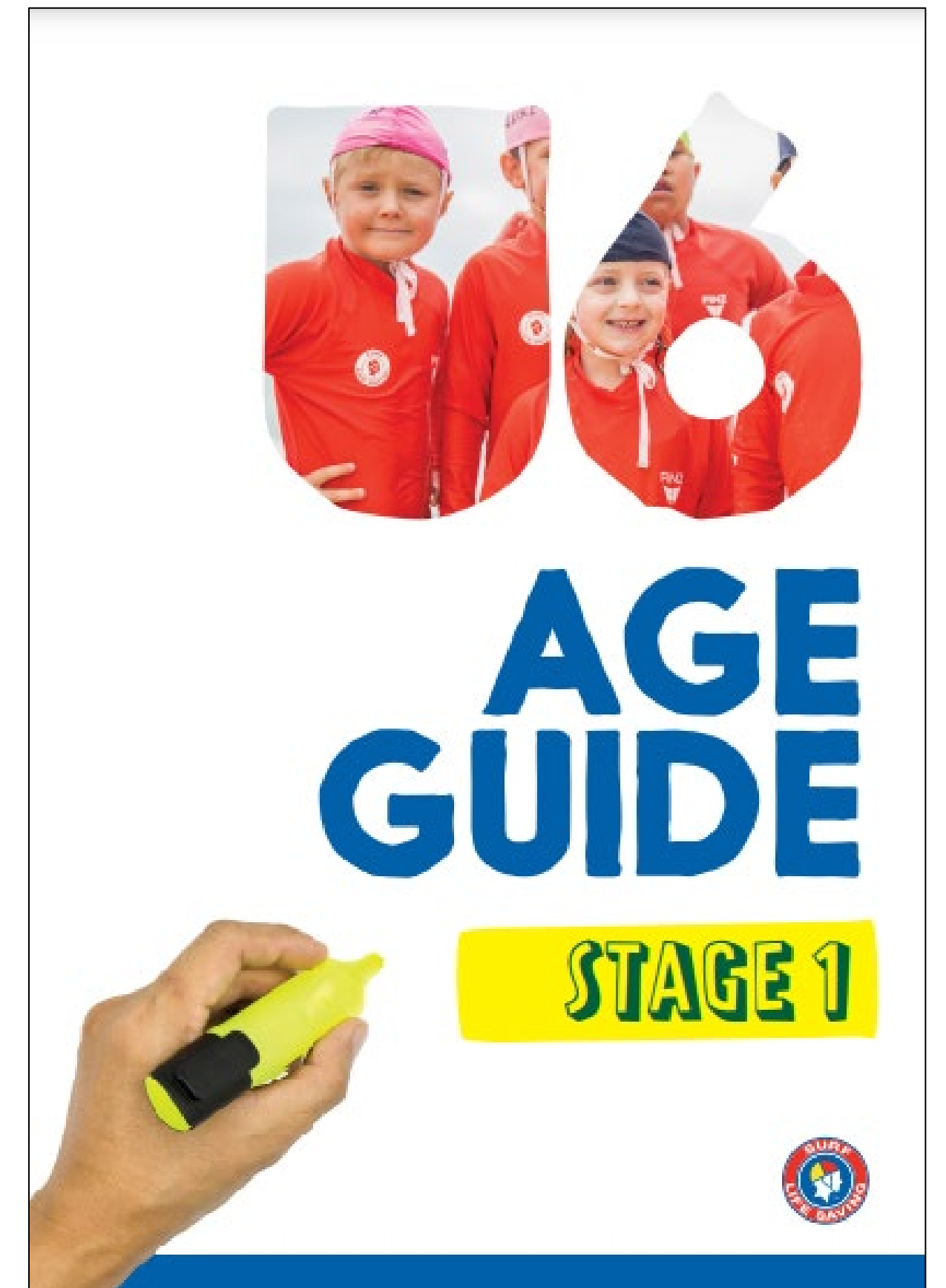
The program provides a pathway of learning towards the Surf Rescue Certificate and creating future lifesavers.

Available on the SLSNSW Website / SLSA Members Area. Supported by 'Age Groups, Preliminary and Competitions Factsheet'

[Junior Activity Resources](#) (click on this link to access the website)

There is a wealth of information and resources on the website, including an updated [Junior Awards and Certificates Factsheet](#), the ever-important [Junior Search and Rescue Information](#) as well as the [2024 Junior Board Guide](#).

Sharing these links to the suite of resources on the website with your Committees and Age Managers is encouraged, and there will be an overview of these in the training sessions offered below.



Age Guides

The Age Guides are updated to reflect the most up to date teaching techniques, rules and relevance and lesson plans have been designed to ensure ease of use and interaction. They include lessons and resources that are tailored to each different age group.

The program covers a diverse range of skills from body surfing to catching waves on a board to First Aid, CPR and the surf environment.

For further information please follow the link below to:

[Junior Activity Resources](#)



Junior Development Resources



Key updates in Junior Activities this season include:

- Clarification on children, dependant on aquatic proficiency, being allowed to move up one age group, and down any number of nipper age groups
- Ability for clubs to enable accredited swim coach sign off on preliminary skills
- Addition of reasonable adjustments clarification to support club delivery

Please refer to the [Junior Activity Information Bulletin 2024/25](#) for more information.

Preliminary Skills and Award Completion



The Junior Preliminary Skills reflect industry standard research in aquatic skills, including greater focus on foundation skills in the water which assist in making rescue ready lifesavers.

The removal of the continuous skill sequence, also results in greater focus on floatation, submersion and propulsion.

In instances where evaluations cannot be completed by a Surf Life Saving member and to increase flexibility for clubs, a qualified and accredited swim coach can complete the evaluation by providing their ASTCA number and details.

For more information on this please refer to the [Junior Activity Information Bulletin 2024/25](#)

Junior Age Awards



It is recommended that nippers who complete 75% of nipper sessions (recorded in nipper attendance sheets or via the app) are eligible for the award and included in the award assessment request. These awards may be processed either directly via SurfGuard or using the SLS Nipper App.

Certificate Format

In the 2023/24 season clubs advised SLSNSW of their preferred certificate format; if you wish to check or change your preference for PDF emails/hard copy nipper certificates for the 2024/25 season please email education@surflifesaving.com.au before submitting any awards for processing:

Option 1: Hard copy posted to the club

Option 2: PDF emailed directly to the member

Option 3: PDF emailed to club – only available via the Nipper App

For further information, please refer to the [Junior Awards and Certificates Factsheet](#)

Age Group	Age as of 30 September* 2024	DOB Date range	Award Name
U6	5	1/10/2018 – 30/09/2019	Surf Play One - U6
U7	6	1/10/2017 – 30/09/2018	Surf Play Two - U7
U8	7	1/10/2016 – 30/09/2017	Surf Aware One – U8
U9	8	1/10/2015 – 30/09/2016	Surf Aware Two – U9
U10	9	1/10/2014 – 30/09/2015	Surf Safe One - U10
U11	10	1/10/2013 – 30/09/2014	Surf Safe Two - U11
U12	11	1/10/2012 – 30/09/2013	Surf Smart One - U12
U13	12	1/10/2011 – 30/09/2012	Surf Smart Two - U13
U14	13	1/10/2010 – 30/09/2011	Surf Rescue Certificate

**unless ageing up or down applies in individual cases*

Age Managers Training and Engagement



SLSNSW Age Manager Course – *virtual delivery. Members must complete the Child Safe Course to be awarded the Age Manager.*

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Date & Time: Monday 21st October, 2024, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Overview: The SLSNSW Age Managers Course is designed to new Age Managers with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to effectively lead and manager Nippers throughout the season. This session will cover essential topics including the role and responsibilities of an Age Manager, communication strategies, activity planning, safety guidelines, and how to create a positive and engaging environment for Nippers. Members will also learn how to support and collaborate with JACs and other key team members to ensure a consistent and enjoyable experience for all.

Age Managers Training and Engagement continued

SLSNSW Junior Activities Information Session – for JACs and Age Managers

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Date & Time: Wednesday 23rd October, 2024, 6.30 – 7.30pm (*with time for questions following*)

Overview: This optional information session is aimed at Junior Activity Chairs and Age Managers, and looks to provide an space for members delivering nippers to reacquaint themselves with best practice in the management and delivery of nippers. The session will cover available resources, compliance and child safety protocols, nipper search and rescue plans, strategies for parent engagement, and the importance of gathering feedback throughout the season. This session will also address several housekeeping items such as sign-on and sign-off procedures, bathroom protocols, and contingency planning to ensure a smooth and safe experience for all participants. This aims to be a fast-paced update and we have made time to answer questions from members at the conclusion of the session. All welcome!



Age Managers Training and Engagement continued

SLSNSW Age Manager Mid-Season Workshop – Age Managers

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Date & Time: Thursday 21st November, 2024, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Overview: This optional workshop is designed to engage and support accredited Age Managers in their role and provide an opportunity for Age Managers continue learning and feel confident in offering an engaging experience to nippers and their families. This session will cover strategies for engaging Nippers and their parents, look at safety and risk management best practices and provide tips for planning the second half of the season. We will hear several clubs case studies and there will be time for networking and best practice sharing between participants.



Age Managers Course Delivery



Age Manager Courses can be delivered at a club or branch level by an Age Manager Mentor.

Age Managers are encouraged to use skilled members to support content delivery – eg using Bronze Medallion holders, coaches, athletes, and members of their education team.

The Age Manager to Child ratio is 1:20 by age group (or stage).

Age Manager Proficiency Video



For the 2024/25 season, SLSA has produced a new Age Manager Video, required to be viewed via the Members Area eLearning portal.

To access the video, please visit the Members Area eLearning platform and navigate to the 'Training Library' section.

It is important to note that all Age Managers are required to complete the Age Manager Course and Child Safe Awareness Training to be an active Age Manager.

Nipper App / SurfGuard Nippers Module



The Nipper 'App' is a platform to be introduced by SLSA, accessible via Members Area. SurfGuard also has a new nipper's module for Junior Activity Chair management.

Junior Activity Chairs can:

- Access a newly assigned permission area in SurfGuard - Nippers module
- Manage and assign Age Manager access to the Nipper App
- *Age Managers can access one or multiple age groups at the levels detailed below:*

Age Managers can:

- Manage Nipper Age Groups – check in, check out, add notes, view nipper details
- View sessions attended and approve Nipper Age Group Awards and
- Approve preliminary and/or competition skills evaluations

Nippers/Parents can: view sessions attended, and awards gained via their Members Area.

Surf Risk Rating App

Updates have been made to specifically address water safety for Junior Activities as a drop-down menu



☰ Risk Assessment [↗]

PATROL
To be completed when conducting patrols.

+ New
☰ View

WATER SAFETY
To be completed when conducting junior activities, sport training, award training or sanctioned events (replacement for previous Water Safety Risk Assessment app)

+ New
☰ View

SPORT EVENTS
To be completed when conducting sport events (replacement for previous Event Risk Assessment App)

☰ View

Updated less than a minute ago

← Water Safety

Data Collection SRR Level

WATER SAFETY

Beach * [dropdown]

Activity * [dropdown]

Participants * [dropdown menu]

- Junior Activities (Nippers)
- Member Sport Training
- Member Award Training
- Pool Activities
- Special Event / Sanctioned Event

Not Qualified (No SRC or Bronze)

[range slider]

Patrol is currently signed on?

WEATHER

Wind Direction * [dropdown]

Wind Speed *(km/h) [range slider]

Junior Activity Search and Rescue



How would your club manage a missing nipper scenario?

Do you know how to manage a search and rescue operation?

Have you practiced this scenario as a drill?

In all incidents where a search is required, the highest priority must be to focus on a safe and rapid response to commence the search.

Be prepared and have a current and practiced Junior Activity Search and Rescue plan and a search and rescue kit ready on the beach.

For further information follow the link: [Junior Search and Rescue Information](#); and speak with the Director of Lifesaving (Club Captain) and Chief Training Officer (Chief Instructor) in your club.

Missing Nipper Aquatic Drills need to be booked in with Branch Office and conducted before Christmas with Duty Officers present.

6. Additional Updates

SLSA Watersafety Policy and Procedures

- Currently under review
- Proposing a new Watersafety Assistant's award

For further information follow the links below:

[Watersafety for Juniors Factsheet](#)

[Moving Nippers to an Alternate Location](#)

[SLSA In-water Search Patterns](#)

Special Events

- SLS NSW require clubs (and branches) to lodge an application for the purposes of insurance coverage for any special events that fall outside their regular training, lifesaving, or sporting activities described in the relevant manuals and standard operating procedures
- More information on Special Events can be found under Surf Sports on page 3 of the SLS NSW Pre-season Pack or on their website at: [Special Event Application Form](#)



6. Additional Updates cont.

SLSA Child Safety Policy – Signage

- SLSNSW have advised they are preparing a set of various posters for use by clubs in different scenarios (including change rooms), with some simple messages. They will be available on Canva which will allow clubs to drop in their own logos, etc.
- They are scheduling these to be available during Child Protection Week in early September.

SLS Sydney Junior Awards of Excellence

- The Branch Youth and Junior Development Committee are proposing further Junior Awards of Excellence to run in parallel to the existing suite of Surf Sports based awards
- Criteria for these will be shared with club in coming months
- The Committee are also considering options for a larger venue to accommodate more people at the Junior AoE Ceremony.



7. Surf Sports

Sydney Branch Youth and Junior Development Clinics 2024/2025:

- Junior Surf Sports Clinic - Date and Venue TBA
- Surf Ski introduction - Date and Venue TBA
- Lifesaving Events - Date and Venue TBA
- Pool Rescue Competition - Date and Venue TBA

Youth Dragon Boat Racing

- Dates and Location TBA

Branch Carnivals and Championships Calendar

- To be published by Surf Sports Committee soon



8. Questions & Meeting Close

