



SURF LIFE SAVING  
NEW ZEALAND



# EVENT CIRCULAR

2023 BP SURF RESCUE  
NEW ZEALAND  
IRB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th April, 2023  
Waihi Beach SLSC

## Overview:

The BP Surf Rescue New Zealand Championships has a proud history of being one filled with hard, fast, and action-packed racing. The largest Inflatable Rescue Boat racing competition on the Surf Life Saving calendar, crews from throughout the country will line up to showcase their surf skills, fitness and experience amongst their peers.

The competition includes several events, requiring varying levels of technical skill and physical fitness. With surf and weather conditions constantly changing, the competition has proved to be one of the most exciting competitions of the Surf Life Saving calendar.

This exciting IRB event will be held at Waihi Beach, we invite you to celebrate the skills and experience Surf Life Saving New Zealand's very best IRB Crews as they compete for their friends and against their fellow athletes.

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## Entry Information:

This document provides you with all the information you need to know in order to enter the competition. While it contains the typical logistical information surrounding the event, it also includes very important details that every athlete, parent and/or guardian must be aware of this before entering the event.

It is the expectation of the SLSNZ that clubs will only allow members with the appropriate awards and capability to participate in the event.

Entries must be made using the [SLSNZ Online Event Entry System](#). Each club has access to this system and will process entries. Clubs will be invoiced for payment following the event.

Entries Close: 10.00am, Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
(please note, individual clubs may have an earlier deadline to administer team entries)

Senior Entry Fee: \$70.00 per event incl GST

Eligibility of Competitors: Please see Section 2.2 of the SLSNZ Competition Manual for a comprehensive breakdown of eligibility criteria. A reminder that any competitor may only be entered and compete in one division for any given event

**Team Coach & Manager's contact** details must be updated on the online system to ensure that the relevant person receives all updated information directly. Failure to list a team manager may mean that your club misses out on vital information.

**Entering Teams:** You must enter the entire team for all team events otherwise your entry will not be accepted.

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## Age Groups & Divisions:

A participant's age group is determined by their age at midnight on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. For example, if you were 16 on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022, you are eligible to compete in the Under 19 division.

The age categories for this event are:

- Under 19 (15-18 years old)
- Under 23 (15-22 years old)
- Open (15+)

\*Patients may be 14 years of age

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## Events & Programme:

The following events and divisions will be held at the competition. A programme will be made available following the close of entries:

- Single Rescue U19, U23 & Open (Male and Female)
- Mass Rescue U19, U23 & Open (Male and Female)
- Assembly Rescue U19, U23 & Open (Male and Female)
- Tube Rescue U19, U23 & Open (Male and Female)
- Teams Race Open\* (Male, Female & Mixed)

\* Note: SLSNZ Competition Manual 9.1.3. Point A

A driver or crew person can only compete in a particular event once and only compete in one division.

(Therefore you can only do your gender Teams Race, or mixed Team Race, not both.)

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## Rules & Regulations:

This event will be conducted under the rules contained in the following documents.

[SLSNZ Competition Manual](#), including any additional amendments as detailed on the website and any additional requirements as communicated by the Event Management Committee.

Additionally members entering events are bound by the following rules, which can be found on the SLSNZ website:

- [SLSNZ Constitution](#)
- [SLSNZ Regulations](#)
- [Drug Free Sport New Zealand](#)

### **Of particular note pertaining to IRB racing:**

2.10.5(c) All IRB patients, ~~including the first crew person in teams~~ are required to wear a full length (sleeves to wrist and legs to ankle) wet suit. (This also negates DQ 106)

2.11.2 - PFDs are compulsory for all IRB drivers, crew person and patients in Competition and Competition training.

~~9.1.4(d) For all women's Events, the IRB line at the start of the Event, where possible, shall be in shallow water, with the IRB secured by two handlers.~~

9.1.5 (a) At the start of each Race, with the exception of the Assembly Rescue, all IRB's shall be positioned directly in front of their respective start/finish marker, with the bow on the IRB start line (nominally between the water's edge and 5m from the water's edge) facing up the beach. The engine will be in neutral gear.

9.1.5 (n) Patients cannot become crewpersons during a race

### 9.3. MASS RESCUE EVENT

(c) The Driver and Crewperson may exit the IRB once the Driver has completed the shutdown procedure.

### 9.6. TUBE RESCUE EVENT

(e) The crew person must exit the IRB with the IRB Turning buoy on their left side and proceed out to the patient positioned on the seaward side of the patient buoy. The crew person shall swim around the patient buoy with the buoy on their left-hand side. The rescue tube must then be clipped around the patient and under both arms by the crewperson and/or patient. The patient may clip themselves into the tube unaided. The crewperson does not have to break stroke during this process as long as the clip on the rescue tube is secured to an o-ring prior to the patient crossing to the shoreward side of the rescue tube patient buoy.

DQ 107 – removed

DQ 143 – removed (covered by 141)

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## Equipment

All equipment used in competition must comply with the Equipment Specification Manual, Section 12 of this Manual.

- Only SLSNZ sealed engines are to be used in Competition.
- No engine may be removed from the beach prior to the completion of the day's competition without clearance of the Event Referee.
- IRB Hulls & Engines purchased via Central Government Funding cannot be use for Sport and/or Competitions.

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## Scrutineering

Scrutineering will be carried out in the Reserve beside Waihi Beach SLSC between 10:30am and 5:30pm on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. Please follow the instructions of the scrutineering team to ensure that this critical safety compliance check is completed. You can find a full Scrutineering Check Sheet on the SLSNZ Website [here](#).

Please fill this in prior to turning up at the event. Any issues need to be sorted prior to presenting, not as our Scrutineering team is inspecting your equipment.

All propellers to be used during the event must be presented for inspection at scrutineering.

NOTE: Propellers will be weighed and this information will be recorded for research purposes, but this process will not be a part of the official scrutineering.

Your assistance with this will eliminate large delays during the scrutineering process, club cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

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## Photography & Imagery:

By entering this event clubs and members acknowledge and agree that SLSNZ may use images and video taken during the event for media and marketing purposes. Clubs and members also agree by entering into this event that SLSNZ or second party contractors are allowed to fly drones throughout the event.

### **Media accreditation:**

Only applications from Surf Life Saving Members and Media Agencies will be accepted for consideration.

Applications need to be made to the Event Manager via the [Media Accreditation Application Form](#) in order to use cameras or video devices in the Competition Arenas. **Applications must be submitted by Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.**

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## Health & Safety:

### **Preparation:**

Please come prepared for a typical outdoor beach environment, ie: food, water, shade, sunscreen and appropriate clothing for the time of year.

### **COVID 19 & other illness**

If sick, please do not attend the event and follow Ministry of Health guidelines.

### **Competitor, Parent/Guardian, Coach, Team Manager and Club Obligations**

It is the responsibility of clubs, through their coaches and manager, to ensure that each individual competitor is competent to safely compete in the conditions that prevail on any given day.

It is therefore the clubs responsibility to ensure that competitors who are not yet competent to compete in the prevailing conditions are withdrawn from an event rather than expose them to unnecessary risk or potential harm by encouraging or coercing competitors to compete, particularly against their will.

It is the expectation of the organisers that all clubs will only permit competent competitors to compete in an event.

### **Warm Ups**

Please note that all SLSNZ rules and regulations apply during warm-ups, as they do throughout the event. Please ensure compliance and follow the instructions of Event Management and officials.

### **Return to Shore Procedure**

Situations have arisen in past events where craft and or people have been stranded on the IRB race course in the direct path of rapidly approaching IRB crews, whom are unaware of the hazard that lies ahead due to the inability to see the stranded craft/person due to sea conditions, which poses significant risk to people and craft.

The purpose of this procedure is to put in place systems to help identify these situations and immediately draw competitor's attention to the need to immediately 'throttle back' and precede with caution, in order to prevent potential collisions and harm to people and craft.

1. **EMC/nominated officials** - Upon identifying that a person and or craft are stranded within the race arena, the following actions must be implemented as soon as practicable.
  - a. Have the starter activate the all-round RED flashing light atop of the starter pole.
  - b. Raise and wave a RED flag on shore in the affected lane, in direct line of sight of the returning IRB Driver.
  - c. Raise and wave a RED flag from an attending water safety craft.
2. **Drivers** – Upon sighting the red flashing light or waving of a red flag, drivers must throttle back and proceed to shore, unless directed to provide assistance by the designated water safety crew.

### **Competition Safety Plan**

A Competition Safety Plan will be completed and available for viewing at the event.

One key section of the Competition Safety Plan is the **Missing Competitor at Sea – Emergency Response Plan** and the roles and responsibilities of Officials, Team Managers, Competitors, Management and Event Safety Team will be outlined during briefings

This is a hugely important plan to understand and know where you can assist as time is critical when dealing with a missing person in the sea.

### **Pre-Existing Medical Conditions**

All participants and officials with a pre-existing medical condition must complete and submit a 'Pre-Existing Medical Conditions Declaration' form to the Event Manager prior to the close of entries.

Once submitted, the forms will be reviewed by SLSNZ and a decision will be made on whether a 'Competitor Waiver' form is required to be completed. It is important to note that that a pre-existing medical condition includes a **concussion event** that has occurred prior to this event. These forms are available through the website [here](#).

### **Concussion Protocol**

1. Any person diagnosed with concussion within the 23 days (21 days for over 19 yrs) preceding a SLSNZ event or activity, who is not able to provide evidence of a Graduated Return to Play (GRTP), and provide a medical diagnosis and SLSNZ Medical Clearance, will not be permitted to compete in a SLSNZ event.
2. Any person observed or reported to have been unconscious during a SLS event is not permitted to participate in any further SLS event or activity, pending participation in a 23 day GRTP (21 days for over 19 yrs), and provide a SLSNZ Medical Clearance before further competition is permitted.
3. Any person suspected of a concussion during a SLSNZ competition may not participate in any further races for at least 24 hours, and must provide SLSNZ with the required SLSNZ Medical Clearance before further participation is permitted.
4. Any person suspected or diagnosed with concussion who wishes to return to a SLSNZ competition must provide SLSNZ with a copy of a SLSNZ Medical Clearance, which is to be completed by a medical practitioner, prior to returning to competition.

### **Environmental Protection**

Help SLSNZ and its clubs protect and conserve our beaches and coastlines. Utilise tracks and stay off dunes, stay away from marine and bird life and make sure all rubbish is placed in the bins supplied or taken with you.

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## Communications:

Event Management utilise a variety of tools to keep you updated with the latest event information and news.

[SLSNZ Website](#)

[SLSNZ Sport Facebook Page](#)

[SLSNZ IRB Racing Group](#)

[WAVES Results](#)

If you have any queries or concerns regarding the event, please contact:

**Luke Smith**

bp Surf Rescue New Zealand IRB Championships Event Manager

Surf Life Saving New Zealand

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# Site Map:

