



Date: 7 September 2023

To: Clubs

From: Matt Cairns

Subject: Composite Teams – SLSNZ Pool Rescue Championships 2023

In our ongoing efforts to boost participation in the upcoming Surf Life Saving New Zealand Pool Rescue Championships 2023, we are pleased to announce that **Composite Relay Teams, consisting of four members, will be available across all divisions in mixed teams**, not exclusively in the junior category.

This extension now includes U17, U19, Open, and Masters composite teams. This decision stems from valuable feedback received from clubs during regional events over the past few weeks. The feedback highlighted two key concerns:

1. Smaller clubs were facing challenges in forming relay teams.
2. Larger clubs, with varying gender athlete ratios, found it difficult to accommodate all interested athletes within the 2/2 mixed teams.

Event management considers this change as an opportunity to maximise participation and facilitate the rebuilding of our athlete numbers following the disruptions caused by Covid-19 restrictions and cancellations.

As outlined in the [Competition Entry Circular](#), junior composite teams (U12 and U14) will be eligible for medals but not points. For the newly introduced composite team age groups (U17, U19, Open, and Masters), composite teams will not be eligible for medals or points.

To illustrate the practical implications of this change: suppose a club has 3 U15/17 males and 5 U15/17 females, all eager to participate in the U17 Mixed 4 x 50m Obstacle Relay and not yet confident to race in the open. Under the previous entry process, this club could only enter one team of four athletes in this event, leaving the other four without an opportunity to race. With the implementation of this change, the four athletes not in the club team can now be entered in the EOI U17 Mixed 4 x 50m Obstacle Relay Composite Team, and they will be assigned to composite teams after the entries are closed.

Entry Process:

1. Clubs should enter their athletes in the EOI event corresponding to the relay they wish to participate in. The EOI Composite teams entries will match the event numbers, beginning with 1000 (See Waves example below).

9	U11-12 Mixed - 4x25m Brick Relay U11-12 Mixed / X 10-11yrs	1009	EOI U11-12 Mixed - 4 x 25m Brick Relay Composite Team U11-12 Mixed / X 10-11yrs
---	---------------------------------------------------------------	------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

In it for life



Note: An athlete cannot serve as a reserve in a club team and simultaneously be added to the composite teams since this would constitute double entry in the same race.

2. Following the closure of entries, the event management team will compile the full list of EOI entries and create composite teams. The following considerations will be taken into account:
 - a. Keeping club members together.
 - b. Merging clubs from the same district or region.
 - c. Avoiding the formation of "super teams" with the fastest swimmers, especially for those who have entered qualification times.
3. Team managers will have access to view composite teams, along with all other teams, once lane draws are processed.

A full list of available Composite Team races, as they show on Waves, can be found on the next page – appendix 1.

Remember entries close 17th September. If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Matt Cairns
National Event Manager
Surf Life Saving New Zealand

m 027 5555 498
e matt.cairns@surflifesaving.org.nz

Appendix 1. List of available composite team races.

1009	EOI U11-12 Mixed - 4 x 25m Brick Relay Composite Team U11-12 Mixed / X 10-11yrs
1010	EOI U11-14 Mixed - 4 x 25m Brick Relay Composite Team U11-14 Mixed / X 10-13yrs
1019	EOI U11-12 Mixed - 4 x 50m Medley Relay Composite Team U11-12 Mixed / X 10-11yrs
1020	EOI U11-14 Mixed - 4 x 50m Medley Relay Composite Team U11-14 Mixed / X 10-13yrs
1033	EOI U11-14 Mixed - 6 x 50m Mega Relay Composite Team U11-14 Mixed / X 10-13yrs
1074	EOI U11-12 Mixed - 4x50m Obstacle Relay Composite Team U11-12 Mixed / X 10-11yrs
1075	EOI U13-14 Mixed - 4x50m Obstacle Relay Composite Team U11-14 Mixed / X 10-13yrs
1080	EOI U17 Mixed - 4x50m Obstacle Relay Composite Team U15-17 Mixed / X 14-16yrs
1081	EOI 19 Mixed - 4x50m Obstacle Relay Composite Team U15-19 Mixed / X 14-18yrs
1082	EOI Open Mixed - 4x50m Obstacle Relay Composite Team U15-Open Mixed / X 14-100yrs
1171	EOI U17 Mixed - 4x50m Medley Relay Composite Team U15-17 Mixed / X 14-16yrs
1172	EOI U19 Mixed - 4x50m Medley Relay Composite Team U15-19 Mixed / X 14-18yrs
1173	EOI Open Mixed - 4x50m Medley Relay Composite Team U15-Open Mixed / X 14-100yrs
1176	EOI Open Mixed - 04x50m Pool Lifesaver Relay Composite Team U15-Open Mixed / X 14-100yrs
1187	EOI Masters Mixed - 4x25m Manikin Relay Composite Team 30-100 Masters Mixed / X 30-100yrs
1191	EOI U17 Mixed - 4x25m Manikin Relay Composite Team U15-17 Mixed / X 14-16yrs
1192	EOI U19 Mixed - 4x25m Manikin Relay Composite Team U15-19 Mixed / X 14-18yrs
1193	EOI Open Mixed - 4x25m Manikin Relay Composite Team U15-Open Mixed / X 14-100yrs
1252	EOI Open Mixed - 6x50m Mega Relay Composite Team U15-Open Mixed / X 14-100yrs