

AON

**NEW ZEALAND
SURF LIFESAVING**



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**ENTRY
CIRCULAR**

6-9 March, Midway Beach, Gisborne



Event Dates and Location

Thursday 6 March 2025 8:00AM - Sunday 9 March 2025 4:00PM
Midway Beach, Gisborne

Event Purpose

Our vision for the Aon New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships is to deliver the premier lifesaving sport event, with the athlete experience at its core. We are dedicated to fostering fairness, safety, inclusivity, and the celebration of achievement, all within a vibrant and engaging atmosphere that everyone can enjoy.

Entry Information

This document provides you with all the information you need to know to enter the competition. While it contains the typical logistical information surrounding the event, it also includes very important details that a 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 Open:	Friday 27 December 2025
Entries Close:	11.00pm, 23 February 2025
Masters Entry Fee:	\$100 per person incl. GST (incl. event tee)
Seniors Entry Fee:	\$150 per person incl. GST
Masters + Seniors:	\$150 per person incl. GST
Surf Boat Crew Fee:	\$400 per crew incl. GST
Eligibility of Competitors:	Please see Section 2.2 of the SLSNZ Competition Manual for a comprehensive breakdown of eligibility criteria.
Update Contact Details:	Team Managers and Coaches 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.
Full Team Details:	You must enter the entire team for all team events otherwise your entry will not be accepted.

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](#)

Age Groups & Divisions:

A participant's age group is determined by their age at midnight on 30th September 2024. For example, if you were 18 on the 30th of September 2024, you are eligible to compete in the Under 19 division.

Masters

Masters are permitted to compete in only one age group/division in each event type. Where a team event with two competitors is conducted (e.g. double ski), the age of the younger competitor shall determine the age category of the team.

Where a Masters team event with three or more competitors is conducted, the total combined age of all team members must fall within the Age Group entered into. Note: this does not include the sweep in Surf Boat Events.

Under 15

U15 competitors can only compete in U15 individual events. They are not able to 'race up' into older age-groups in individual events.

There is no U15 team category, all U15 compete in the U17 age group for team events. There is no 'racing up' beyond U17 age group.

U15 can compete in Diamond only (no Irons).

U15 can compete in limited ski events – Single Ski, U17 Ski relay & Ski leg of U17 Taplin.

**Please note that U15 Ski events will be placed in the high-risk category in relation to event curtailment guidelines for Event Safety.*

Events:

The following events and divisions will be held at the competition.

Individual Events:	Age Group:	Gender:
Beach Sprint	U15, U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
2km Beach Run	U15, U17, U19, and Open	Male and Female
Beach Flags	U15, U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Run Swim Run	U15, U17, U19, & Open	Male and Female
Surf Race	U15, U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Ski Race	U15, U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Board Race	U15, U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Diamond Race	U15	Male and Female
Ironman/Ironwoman	U15, U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female

Team Events:	Age Group:	Gender:
Beach Relay	U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female (Mixed Open)
Surf Teams	U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Ski Relay	U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Double Ski	U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Mixed Double Ski	Open	1 x Male, 1x Female
Board Relay	U17, U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
3 Person Taplin Relay	U17, U19, Open Female & Masters	Male and Female
6 Person Taplin Relay	Open Male, Open Mixed	Male and Mixed
Tube Rescue	U17, U19, and Open	Male and Female
Board Rescue	U17, U19, and Open	Male and Female
Canoe Race – Long Course	U19, and Open	Male and Female
Canoe Race – Short Course	U19, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Mixed Canoe Relay	Open	Mixed
Surf Boat Race – Long Course	U19, U23, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Surf Boat Race – Short Course	U19, U23, Open & Masters	Male and Female
Mixed Surf Boat Relay	Open	Mixed

As part of our aim to continuously improve experiences and outcomes for participants and increase retention and attraction to the sport, SLSNZ uses research and member feedback to introduce purposeful changes to the format and structure of our events.

Changes for this event include:

- Introduce/pilot a six-person mixed Taplin (limited to one team per club, medals but no points)
- Introduce/pilot a mixed beach relay (medals but no points)
- Introduce/pilot a canoe relay.
- Introduce/pilot a change of 'Open Male' to 'Open' to allow any gender to make up a boat or canoe crew.
- Ensuring equity of trophies across genders – in 2024 there were 6 events where male champions received trophies and females did not.

Masters events will be combined where athlete number allow to run through the day more efficiently. This should be a consideration for clubs who are sharing gear, including double skis.

Event Programme

Please note that a *DRAFT PROGRAMME* is available on the [event page](#) on the SLSNZ website.

The EMC will provide an updated programme once entries are known. The programme will always be subject to change to suit ocean conditions and entry numbers.

Club Equipment and Logistics

A *DRAFT SITE MAP* is available on the [event page](#) by the end of January. The site map will always be subject to change to suit ocean conditions and back-up locations if required.

Health and Safety

Please read the following Health and Safety points carefully and communicate these to team members.

Covid-19 and other illness: If sick, please do not attend the event and follow Ministry of Health guidelines.

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.

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

Competition Safety Plan: A Competition Safety Plan will be completed and available for viewing prior to the event.

An important part of the Competition Safety Plan for all clubs to note, review, and communicate to team members, is the [Missing Person at Sea Responsibilities](#).

Pre-Existing Medical Conditions: All participants and officials with a pre-existing medical condition must complete and submit a [Pre-Existing Medical Conditions Action Plan](#) and submit it to the Event Support Coordinator 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 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.

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 Member Clubs and Media Agencies will be accepted for consideration.

Applications need to be made to the Event Support Coordinator via the [Media Accreditation Application Form](#) in order to use cameras or video devices. Applications must be submitted by the 2nd March, 2024

Key Dates and Communications Schedule

Please note the following dates and communications schedule in the lead up to this event.

Date	Type	Note
10 January	Entry Circular	<i>THIS DOCUMENT</i>
10 January	Draft Programme	Event Page
10 January	Draft Site Map	Event Page
10 January	Entries Open	Waves
17 January	Surf Officials Circular	Incl. Surf Official Appointment List
23 February	Entries Close	Waves
3 March	Online Team Managers Meeting	Important event, venue, logistics and meeting updates. 6pm – 7.30pm meeting link Meeting ID: 422 644 947 516 Passcode: Hc2v2fT3
5 March	Drop off club trailers	Instructions and maps will be covered in the online team managers meeting above.
6 March	Event Starts	

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.
Ngā mihi nui.

Event Management Committee considerations:
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