

BE THE BEST, ENJOY IT THE MOST

Welcome to the seventh year of our NKSRA Aussies Newsletter where we look to provide you with a blend of important information, what's on today as well as a retrospective on what's happened so far.

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Aussies 2022

It's definitely been another incredibly challenging 12 months. COVID has continued to have a huge impact on the world and the way we live our lives. We again faced extended periods where nearly all of us were locked in our homes with brief periods of reprieve where we could visit the outside world for some blocks of exercise.

Pools and gyms were closed, and training groups went from groups of 10 and then to 5 and then down to 2. Our coaches and athletes continued to find a way to adapt to the challenges and find another revised plan that ensured as many people as possible could train. The commitment and attitude of everyone was inspirational - from swimming in rock pools on dark mornings in the middle of winter to groups of 2 ski paddlers training 50 metres apart you found a way to keep working towards your goals.

You should all take great pride in the courage and resilience you have again displayed during another particularly challenging 12 months.

It seems a fair while ago now that we arrived at last year's Aussies after facing similar challenges only to finish the carnival with a second place and our best ever club point score.

We always talk about setting BIG goals and dreaming big because anything is possible, particularly at Aussies. You proved that again last year with many incredible results:-

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the open male double ski.
- 1st and 2nd in the female rescue tube rescue.
- Jemma winning her 8th consecutive champion lifesaver event.
- Mitch Morris winning male competitor of the carnival.
- Finally winning the open male board relay.
- SO MANY other outstanding individual and team results

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Ten years ago, in 2012, the Aussies was also transferred from Kurrawa Beach to North Kirra.

We had a very small squad of water athletes, about a dozen in total - 7 or 8 x U17s and 4 x U15s. We weren't very well known, and the commentators kept mistaking our caps for Bulli, Alex, or North Curl Curl. At that stage the only two Australian Gold medals beyond beach and boats were our dear mate Nick and his brother Tom for board riding events many years earlier.

We left the Australian 2012 championships at North Kirra with 4 gold medals in the water, 6 new Australian champions - caps 13 thru 18 and we won U17 champion club (top point score) despite having no female competitors at the time. Our total club point score in 2012 was 68 and we finished 18th on the total club point score. To provide perspective, last year we finished with a record 281 points and we were second on the total club point score.

Yesterday, our outstanding day at the champion lifesaver events included Bella Cox winning the U15 champion lifesaver and cap number 92.

It's hard to believe we've awarded 80 Australian champion cap numbers over the last 10 years. Many of you have played a huge role in the club's achievements over the last decade - beyond our incredible results, you've created memories and friendships that will last for the rest of your lives.

The next 5 days is a blank canvas, you all have your own opportunity to make an impact on our history and create new memories.

Our history over the last 10 years has proven we have a serious habit of achieving something special over these five days. On so many occasions, we have achieved results that nobody thought were possible.

Sleep well and dream BIG and get ready for the ride.

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I love this club.

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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE



Open Champion Lifesaver Jemma Smith



U17 2KM Ocean Swim Conner Maggs
Open Patrol Competition Travis Cox, Bec Capell, Sam Capell, Kai Raffles,
Phoebe Savage, Guyren Smith



Open 2KM Ocean Swim Emily Doyle
Open Champion Lifesaver Phoebe Savage

TOP 6 FINISHERS

5th

U19 Champion Lifesaver Travis Cox

6th

U19 Champion Lifesaver Sam Capell

2022 AUSSIES

Place: -
Points: 27



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YOUTH MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS



U15 Champion Lifesaver Bella Cox



U14 Ironman
2KM Ocean Swim Noah Maggs
Noah Maggs



U14 Board Rescue Noah Maggs/Harrison Woodrow
U15 Champion Lifesaver Zach Paul

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

U13 Board Race Charli Barbour

5th

U13 Swim Race Allannah Paul

6th

U13 2KM Ocean Swim Charli Barbour
U13 Swim Race Allannah Paul

2021 YOUTH



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Area Managers
If you need help ...

<i>Carnival Manager:</i>	Darren Warrener
<i>Water</i>	
<i>Open & U19 Male:</i>	Glen Borg / Richard Smith
<i>Open & U19 Female:</i>	Amy Somes / Kerry Armstrong
<i>U17s Male & Female:</i>	Colin Maggs
<i>Beach:</i>	Marty Lynch
<i>Boats:</i>	Alex Brown, Michael King

Don't forget our team dinner:

10th April 2022 @ 6pm
The Island
Glasshouse Function Room
3128 Surfers Paradise Blvd
Surfers Paradise

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Nick's Blog – Aussies Open Day 1

Logistics, eh?

I missed the last Aussies held up here. That was 2019, before Covid, and my dear old Dad had just died. We discussed many things during the time we spent together, and about a year before he died, he said something that's stuck with me.

"Logistics," he said. "That's the 21st century's big thing. That will run the world. If a university wanted to do a great thing, they'd develop a degree in logistics."

Well how about that. Three years later, here we are at another Gold Coast Aussies, and we're mired in logistics.

Well OK we are not, because we have David Rees on the team.

We're all staying at one end of the Goldie, and the entire carnival has upped stakes and moved to the other end, in the middle of the school holidays, all worried about Tropical Cyclone Fifi, which currently hovers in the Coral Sea just SW of Vanuatu, uncertain of its next move. And Dave, along with big Aaron Morris, is all over it.

He set up all the craft transport, did a fair bit of the packing despite his right arm being in a sling, and now he's managing his amazing exercise in last-minute logistics with a calm befitting the architects of the Normandy invasion of 1944.

Though what I hear is, today he decided to ditch the sling. For one thing, everybody wants to shake his hand. "I can't put up with this any more," he told several of the crew, including Charlie Brooks.

Charlie didn't get the Dave Rees 7am Morning Express to North Kirra. He got down there around 10am, which was better than me. I was trapped in Broadbeach, having failed the First Law of Travel Logistics: make sure you get a rental car before they run out.

So let's turn the narrative over to Charlie. Here's what he told me about today:

"It's about a 10 minute walk from the trailer compound to the open areas. It's further again to the age groups and the girls. When I got there, the first thing I saw were the ski gods. There were heats and semis of the ski today, more than they were planning. They did things like that all day. They were talking about getting the craft racing out of the way early now, because maybe it'll get too windy. Trimmy looked good! He was super keen.

"The ski relay was the WEIRDEST race! I'll tell you about that later. The open women's surf teams got third. That was a good medal because Jemma (Smith) was sick. Jemma had been throwing up and had some gastro, and she wasn't set for it, so Alex (Lefevre) took her place.

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Alex did really well today. Emily came in, then Lizzie, then Spencer, then Alex. Then she was part of the U19 girls ski relay silver. Impressive.

"The 17 boys board relay, that was good. They did a weird order. Mitch (usually first or last) has that cut foot from training so he couldn't fully run. Bailey went first and was on the lead wave with someone. Mitch was second and got away but then was jagged by a few of them. Jake went out with Swansea-Belmont and they were by themselves, got to the beach together and Jake ran really well. Then they killed the ski relay.

"Then the open board relay."

OK so now I'm just gonna interrupt here for a sec. Last year we won this race. It was one of, if not the, best moments of a carnival littered with great moments. We won that race because everyone did the work we all knew needed to be done in order to win. This year, for a lot of reasons, we didn't do that work. I guess we just keep learning the same lesson, over and over.

Anyway.

Charlie: "It was another really strange race. Zach (Morris) went first, he was sitting on Bevy and Rhys Burrows. They got around together, then a wave came from behind and about eight people got it. Somehow Stuey McLachlan (Manly) planed all the way across the gutter! I don't know how that happened. Borgy went out with six or seven others and came in with a few of them.

"I got tagged and I got on to Cory Fletcher's wash. Cory (Burleigh) absolutely flew out. Harrison Stone was about three board lengths ahead and Cory got to him. I just stayed on him. Us three and Cooper Williams (Alex Headland) got our own wave together. Then we ended up in the gutter, trying to get to the shorebreak. Cory got one and was away. I ended up fourth.

"Even though we didn't medal, we were all still stoked. I knew we hadn't really done the work we did last year, and the way the race went, we could have ended up 10th."

But we didn't.

But then what sounds like the maddest race of all, the open men's ski relay, where Team A led half the race, and Team B - the lethal Bees, complete with the Ski God King himself, Luke Morrison - ended up with the gold.

This result feels like it's exactly in keeping with the carnival, the way it's all rolling: baffling, but somehow, still brilliant.

"Trimmy kind of missed the start a tiny bit. He reckons he was anticipating the gun, then it didn't fire, so he stalled waiting for it, then it went and caught him a little bit off. It didn't matter. He was still first to the first can with Jett Kenny trying to get on his inside. Then one of those party waves

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came, and about eight of them got it. Max (Brooks) went second for the As and he and Alex Headland skipped away a bit. They came in together with Riley (Fitzsimmons, Northcliffe).

"The Jayke (Rees), Bevy and a kid called Jarrod from Alex went out. And at the moment they were going around the apex, this bomb came and broke 20 metres outside them. They were racing to try to get around the last can before the wave got to them, but it didn't matter - the wave caught them. They wrapped their legs around their skis but they all ended up losing their craft! All three of them. The kid from Alex and Jayke were gone. Bevy swam to his ski and tried to get on.

"Then we saw Morri and Isaac Costello (Redhead) paddle right past them! Bevy somehow got on the same wave, but Morri just paddled away from them.

"I think the Bees have six kids between them! It was fantastic."

Logistics can wait. This carnival is off and running, and there's four crazy days ahead.

Tristan's Beach Report

The Newport beach team opened their Aussies 2022 campaign with four seasoned Masters competitors and one coach. Ted Smithies, Brett Budd, Steve Hatch, Tristan Conn and coach Martin Lynch.

Two days of fierce competition resulted in a haul of three gold, two silver and a bronze medal.

Day one athletes competed in Sprints and combined for a relay. Ted opened Newport's medal account on the beach taking the gold in his sprint. Which was quickly followed by Brett with a sprint Bronze and Steve with a Gold with Tristan taking silver just behind Steve. The sprinters then combined to form a relay team, taking the silver in a race which couldn't have been any closer with fellow northern beaches club and close rivals Queenscliff.

Day two was flags. Ted and Tristan represented the club here. Ted was unlucky and went out early in his flags. Tristan was up next and in a hotly contested round that he was really made to work hard for he took the win for the Gold.

Open competition on the beach starts on Thursday and Newport have some top level athletes who are ready to represent well and bring home the hardware. Stay tuned and come on down to support our Newport athletes under lights each night at Kurrawa. The louder you cheer the faster they run.

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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

4

Open Champion Lifesaver
Opens Ski Relay
U17 Ski Relay
U17 Board Relay

Jemma Smith
Greg Tobin, Luke Jones, Luke Morrison
Bailey Clues, Jake Morris, Mitch Morris
Bailey Clues, Jake Morris, Mitch Morris

3

U17 2KM Ocean Swim
Open Patrol Competition

U19 Ski Relay

Conner Maggs
Travis Cox, Bec Capell, Sam Capell, Kai Raffles,
Phoebe Savage, Guyren Smith
Piper Harrison, Alex Lefevre, Kimberley Doyle

3

Open 2KM Ocean Swim
Open Champion Lifesaver
Open Surf Team

Emily Doyle
Phoebe Savage
Emily Dole, Alex Lefevre, Maddie Spencer, Lizzie Welborn,

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

Open Bord Relay

Jackson Borg, Charlie Brooks, Zach Morris

5th

U19 Champion Lifesaver
U19 Ski Relay
Open Surf Team

Travis Cox
Conner Maggs, Oscar Smith, Harrison Taurins
Jackson Borg, Logan Kaye, Zach Morris, Lachlan Warrener,

6th

U19 Champion Lifesaver
Open Ski Relay

Sam Capell
Jemma Smith, Sascha Taurins, Lizzie Welborn

2022 AUSSIES

Place: -
Points: 61

4 3 3

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YOUTH MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS



U15 Champion Lifesaver Bella Cox



U14 Ironman
2KM Ocean Swim Noah Maggs
Noah Maggs



U14 Board Rescue Noah Maggs/Harrison Woodrow
U15 Champion Lifesaver Zach Paul

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

U13 Board Race Charli Barbour

5th

U13 Swim Race Allannah Paul

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U13 2KM Ocean Swim Charli Barbour
U13 Swim Race Allannah Paul

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<i>Beach:</i>	Marty Lynch
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Nick's Blog – Aussies Open Day 2

Is this the most relaxed Aussies ever?

We've been to a few Aussies now. Some have been intense, some confusing, a couple tragic, some really kind of collegiate - friendly might be a better word.

Three or four have been transcendent, five days in which it felt like the whole world moved beneath our feet.

But relaxed, that's a new one.

The Aussies, water version, is now sprawled out across the sands of North Kirra - that familiar colourful line of tents maybe a half kilometre long, strung along the desert of ancient sand spilled out of the beaches and rivers to the south, now barely held in place by thin strands of marram grass.

The water itself moves along the edge of all that sand, shifting it all ever so slowly further north. One day, many years hence, the sand we're all running across at Kirra right now will be washing up along the rim of Fraser Island.

That's Australia, always shifting.

Maybe it's part of why this all feels so chill. It's been the strangest two years in modern history. Think back to last winter, when half the squad was diving into Collaroy rock pool at 5.30am, in the dark, because we weren't allowed anywhere else. We're leaving all that behind now, but it's left its many marks.

Maybe we need this to be a chill Aussies.

Which is not to discount some of the stuff I saw happen today.

Jemma Smith, for instance.

The women's racing areas are well up to the north of the tent line. It's a solid walk from the open men's end, which is closest to what you might call Kirra Civilisation. This isolation works against the full engagement of viewers here; as Burleigh/Mowbray Park coach Michael King told me late this arvo, "There's no hype up there at all!"

That maybe be but there is some crazy racing. Jemma was part of one of the most intense races so far here, the open women's board relay. To tell the truth, she shouldn't have been there. Two days ago, she'd gone down with a serious gastro attack. It was bad enough to send her to the hospital on Tuesday night.

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Yet here she was, back in the game. Jemma sat quietly by herself, getting braced for this big teams event in which we'd kinda been scorched last year. Her team-mates, Lizzie and Maddie, elected her to go first, and she set up the semi-final by going off the sand like a maniac.

So, the race. Whoa. The speed and fierceness of this race deserved a far bigger audience. Jemma went out as hard as she had in the semi, but suffered some minor impacts in the Kirra shorebreak and had to fight all the way through a long, hard first leg, in which the Northcliffe team gained an immediate and race-winning advantage.

Lizzie went second and set us up. Maddie went third and had a ding-dong fight with Lana Rogers, who she'd so memorably ruined in this same race six years ago. Maddie went around the back cans, out in the mysterious water beyond all the sand, with Lana kind of hassling her, then just took off. It was a great relay, a worthy silver, but Northcliffe was already back on the sand with the gold.

Jemma came back up and sat by herself again. What she was thinking, it was written all over her posture in that chair. My thought as a supposed coach about moments like this is, leave the person to it. It's not the coach's job to get in the way of an athlete's emotional experience of a race. Jemma Smith holds herself to as high a standard as anyone I've ever met, and that alone is worthy of respect.

All this, barely seen, at the northern end of the tent string on a Thursday afternoon.

Down the other end, the boys were bickering. There was some sort of protest going on following the quarterfinals of the U17 male ski race, and Conner Maggs and Lethal Lee Melbourn were baffled by the situation. They were waiting for these races to finish and the U17 swim teams to start, which made them pretty much the last of the crew in the tent; everyone else had headed off to recover from the day, or were trying to get ready for the ski races. "Protest?" they asked each other. "What's it about? What about our swim teams' race?"

After a good long while of officials milling about and who knew what, the announcement came: no swim teams today. Conner and Lee were thrilled, but annoyed: "We could have been off the beach at 12!"

Instead, they wandered down to watch, and cheer on their teammates Bailey Clues and Mitch and Jake Morris, all of whom were by now in the actual final.

And again, what a fierce and brilliant race.

Bailey was the defending champ and looked like it, but was very briefly stopped by the first sandbar about 40 metres off the beach, while Jake got out on the right and Mitch got out on the left.

All three have been training the house down with the ski gods, and it showed. Everything then happened with extraordinary speed. At the apex can, Jake was holding a small lead on Mitch, with

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Bailey sitting back in fourth. Jake got around the final can and levered himself into a wave. "I just got it without going inside the can," he said later. "Then when I got in near the finish, all the water started to drain out off the beach! I started paddling and looked around and saw Mitch going, like..." Jake made this crazy face, the kind of expression you might expect from a 16-year-old kid trying to catch his twin brother in a ski race.

Anyway, it didn't matter. Jake got the win. He hasn't beat his brother all that much but he earned this gold.

It was 4pm. Everyone began to wander off the beach, talking about how the swell might come up overnight. The carnival has done half its work already in two days, which means the top end racing - the big ones, the taplins and irons and such - may be closer than we think. Whether it stays this relaxed, we'll see.

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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

5

Open Champion Lifesaver Jemma Smith
Opens Ski Relay Greg Tobin, Luke Jones, Luke Morrison
U17 Ski Relay Bailey Clues, Jake Morris, Mitch Morris
U17 Board Relay Bailey Clues, Jake Morris, Mitch Morris
U17 Single Ski Jake Morris

6

U17 2KM Ocean Swim Conner Maggs
Open Patrol Competition Travis Cox, Bec Capell, Sam Capell, Kai Raffles,
Phoebe Savage, Guyren Smith
U19 Ski Relay Piper Harrison, Alex Lefevre, Kimberley Doyle
U17 Single Ski Mitch Morris
Open Rescue Tube Rescue Deandra Godoy, Olivia Lovell, Jemma Smith, Lizzie Welborn
Open Board Relay Jemma Smith, Maddie Spencer, Lizzie Welborn

3

Open 2KM Ocean Swim Emily Doyle
Open Champion Lifesaver Phoebe Savage
Open Surf Team Emily Dole, Alex Lefevre, Maddie Spencer, Lizzie Welborn,

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

Open Bord Relay Jackson Borg, Charlie Brooks, Zach Morris
U17 Single Ski Bailey Clues
Open Rescue Tube Rescue Emily Doyle, Piper Harrison, Maddie Spencer, Sascha Taurins

5th

U19 Champion Lifesaver Travis Cox
U19 Ski Relay Conner Maggs, Oscar Smith, Harrison Taurins
Open Surf Team Jackson Borg, Logan Kaye, Zach Morris, Lachlan Warrenner,
U19 Surf Race Oscar Smith

6th

U19 Champion Lifesaver Sam Capell
Open Ski Relay Jemma Smith, Sascha Taurins, Lizzie Welborn
Open 2KM Beach Run Quentin Reeve
U17 2KM Beach Run Millie Thornthwaite

2022 AUSSIES

Place: -
Points: 92



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YOUTH MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS



U15 Champion Lifesaver Bella Cox



U14 Ironman Noah Maggs
2KM Ocean Swim Noah Maggs



U14 Board Rescue Noah Maggs/Harrison Woodrow
U15 Champion Lifesaver Zach Paul

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

U13 Board Race Charli Barbour

5th

U13 Swim Race Allannah Paul

6th

U13 2KM Ocean Swim Charli Barbour
U13 Swim Race Allannah Paul

2021 YOUTH



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Area Managers

If you need help ...

Carnival Manager:

Water

Open & U19 Male:

Open & U19 Female:

U17s Male & Female:

Beach:

Boats:

Darren Warrener

Glen Borg / Richard Smith

Amy Somes / Kerry Armstrong

Colin Maggs

Marty Lynch

Alex Brown, Michael King

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Nick's Blog – Aussies Open Day 3

"Nick! You should have been here this morning! They were bullying me!"

Kimberley Doyle is laughing, and pointing up at the cause of her concerns, namely Conner Maggs, Mitch and Jake Morris, Lee Melbourn, and possibly one or two other boys who are lurking around in the Under-17s tent, trying to evade this accusation.

"No we didn't!" says one.

"It's true!" Kim said, continuing to prosecute the case. "They threw food at me! It was terrible."

This could have gone on for some time, but the accused were about to be called on to the line for their individual board semi-finals. Reluctantly they picked up their singlets and prepared to head off. "Don't believe any of this," muttered Conner as he slunk off, fake-pretending Kimmy didn't hear him, "she's lying!"

At every Aussies, the Under-17s tent is a hotbed of intrigue, possibly even farce. It's the only truly co-ed tent in the carnival, and everyone in it is 14 to 16 years of age. What can you expect.

Supposed commander of the situation is Colin Maggs, Conner's Dad, who has been appointed U17 team manager. Colin is doing a fine job from what I can tell, but he is operating under considerable pressure. The demands come thick and fast. Within moments of the individual board semis being called on, the crew were on him. "Tell them to stop the rescue tube races! We can't do everything!"

So good.

But we can come back to this seething mass of 16-year-old-ness a bit later.

Today the carnival felt a bit disjointed. Tropical Cyclone Fili, about 800 nautical miles east of North Kirra, won't be having the seismic effect on us that it threatened to do, but its associated winds are beginning to push more and more surf into the zone, and here and there, it seemed to throw the organisers off their game. At one end of the tent string, the women tackled ski, swim and board rescue. At the other, the ski gods went to work.

The ski racing today was a wild gig. North Kirra's submerged sands have been organised by the surf angle into two shallow bars, one maybe 50 metres offshore and the other around 150 metres, separated by a long deep gutter. On a ski, that means you go off the beach into an impact zone about 15 seconds into the race, then a second, heavier impact zone well offshore, then have to run the ocean back in through both breaks, while your ski is being pulled and tugged off to the north by random bursts of water-flow.

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It was crazy challenging, and it picked apart the field, name by name. Farewell Riley Fitzsimmons, Northcliffe's Olympian. Farewell Noah Havard, North Bondi's great name. Three of our crew survived to make the final, which if you think of nothing but the numbers, gives us about a one in five chance of a gold medal when that race is run on Sunday.

Out of sight of the ski gods, Alex Lefevre was swimming the house down.

Alex is a one-off. She's been in the mix with us since she was a Nipper. She is highly gifted, good at whatever she tries, maybe not always believing it. She's had more near-misses than anyone in the team. Today she swam five board rescue swim legs in a row, back and forth, with Piper Harrison in the U19s and Lizzie Welborn in the Opens. Her last swim, with Lizzie, helped get them a bronze medal in the event.

So far she has two medals from this Aussies. "Tell Zach you have more medals than him!" the under-17s urged her as she walked past them, meaning her favourite boy, Zach Morris. Alex just smiled at them. She's pretty much my MVP so far.

I sat off to the side then, and watched the 17s boys take out the board race semis. They'd been sitting around in that tent for ages, waiting for the officials to make a call on how to run the race. "We've been in here for four hours!" they told me.

What they didn't need to tell me was that four hours before, they'd won the U17s surf teams race: Jake and Conner one-two, ably backed up by Mitch and Lee.

And what they hadn't known was that ten years ago, our then under 17s had done the same thing, winning our first Aussie open gold medal for over 30 years, and beginning the cascade that we all hope will continue tomorrow and Sunday.

Two of those under-17s are still here, right now, both ski gods: Max Brooks and Jayke Rees.

There's a photo of Max and Jayke back in 2012, with their teammates after the win. They look amazingly like the current under-17s, though "we were a head shorter," as Max dryly put it today.

And so, just like that, I realised, our club, this whole Academy thing, without any of us quite knowing it was happening, is suddenly generational. It goes beyond sentiment and into the core of how lives play out. Max and Jayke were once in the hotbed of intrigue, and now they are adults, role models respected by all. And one day, so will these kids: Kimmy, Conner, Jake, and all.

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Tristan's Beach Report

Last night saw the opening of competition on the beach. Under lights and with a strong wind blowing the Aussies at Kurrawa began. The night time atmosphere, music blaring and club spirit set the tone for some fast sprinting. The beach sprints and relays have been an event held at the Aussies since the earliest days in 1919

Newport were represented by a small but passionate group of athletes over night.

The highlight of the night for Newport was watching Jake make his 8th Aussies Open final. A feat that no other Newport competitor has achieved in our club's history and one that is rare at any club in sprints.

Newport were also represented in the sprints by Jett who narrowly missed a spot in the final after a lightning start. In the womens Newport were represented by Bailee and Bethany who both put in admirable performances.

Tonight our athletes will team up to compete in the relays. Where we are looking for redemption in the open mixed relays.

Make sure you make it down to Kurrawa watch our team fly.

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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

6

Open Champion Lifesaver	Jemma Smith
Opens Ski Relay	Greg Tobin, Luke Jones, Luke Morrison
U17 Ski Relay	Bailey Clues, Jake Morris, Mitch Morris
U17 Board Relay	Bailey Clues, Jake Morris, Mitch Morris
U17 Single Ski	Jake Morris
U17 Surf Team	Conner Maggs, Lee Melbourne, Jake Morris, Mitch Morris

6

U17 2KM Ocean Swim	Conner Maggs
Open Patrol Competition	Travis Cox, Bec Capell, Sam Capell, Kai Raffles, Phoebe Savage, Guyren Smith
U19 Ski Relay	Piper Harrison, Alex Lefevre, Kimberley Doyle
U17 Single Ski	Mitch Morris
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Deandra Godoy, Olivia Lovell, Jemma Smith, Lizzie Welborn
Open Board Relay	Jemma Smith, Maddie Spencer, Lizzie Welborn

4

Open 2KM Ocean Swim	Emily Doyle
Open Champion Lifesaver	Phoebe Savage
Open Surf Team	Emily Dole, Alex Lefevre, Maddie Spencer, Lizzie Welborn,
Open Board Rescue	Alex Lefevre, Lizzie Welborn

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

Open Board Relay	Jackson Borg, Charlie Brooks, Zach Morris
U17 Single Ski	Bailey Clues
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Emily Doyle, Piper Harrison, Maddie Spencer, Sascha Taurins

5th

U19 Champion Lifesaver	Travis Cox
U19 Ski Relay	Conner Maggs, Oscar Smith, Harrison Taurins
Open Surf Team	Jackson Borg, Logan Kaye, Zach Morris, Lachlan Warrenner,
U19 Surf Race	Oscar Smith
Open Ski Relay	Jemma Smith, Sascha Taurins, Lizzie Welborn

2022 AUSSIES

Place: 2nd
Points: 103

6 6 4

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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

TOP 6 FINISHERS

6th

U19 Champion Lifesaver	Sam Capell
Open Ski Relay	Jemma Smith, Sascha Taurins, Lizzie Welborn
Open 2km Beach Run	Quentin Reeve
U17 2km Beach Run	Millie Thornthwaite

Area Managers
If you need help ...

<i>Carnival Manager:</i>	Darren Warrener
<i>Water</i>	
<i>Open & U19 Male:</i>	Glen Borg / Richard Smith
<i>Open & U19 Female:</i>	Amy Somes / Kerry Armstrong
<i>U17s Male & Female:</i>	Colin Maggs
<i>Beach:</i>	Marty Lynch
<i>Boats:</i>	Alex Brown, Michael King

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YOUTH MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS



U15 Champion Lifesaver Bella Cox



U14 Ironman
2KM Ocean Swim Noah Maggs
Noah Maggs



U14 Board Rescue
U15 Champion Lifesaver Zach Paul
Noah Maggs/Harrison Woodrow

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

U13 Board Race Charli Barbour

5th

U13 Swim Race Allanah Paul

6th

U13 2KM Ocean Swim Charli Barbour
U13 Swim Race Allanah Paul

2022 YOUTH



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Nick's Blog – Aussies Open Day 4

Momentum. It's kind of a mystery, but it's everything in sports.

I'm not even sure what it means. But I've seen it, over and over. A good result becomes a great result. The team lifts, and the medals flow.

I had a picture of where our momentum would come from today. And that picture contained a bunch of very muscular people with surf ski paddles in their hands. Yes! The ski gods.

Saturday was to be their day. Oh ha Some's ha.

Saturday began in as disjointed a fashion as Friday had finished, then it became even more disjointed. It just felt a bit weird. Saturday at Aussies is usually filled with a kind of anticipatory energy. Many finals will be set up, a few will be decided.

On this Saturday, there was no flow. When I ran off up the beach to go surf Snapper Rocks at 7am, the gods were preparing for their double ski carnage. When I got back three hours later, having surfed down the entire chain of points from Snapper to the end section at Kirra, they were still preparing.

Only Em Doyle had been able to do anything, and because she is totally on fire at this carnival, Em had taken a silver out of the open belt race.

But otherwise? Almost nothing had been run.

I couldn't work out why the carnival seemed to have had the shivers put up it - like, Snapper wasn't that gnarly! - until I heard about the boat sweep who'd struck his head on the rowlock and been knocked unconscious, only to be saved by our very own Kieren Menzies on a rescue ski.

You've gotta step back at something like that. There's too much at stake.

Still ... all the areas were running way off the pace, the ski gods were shut down for the day, and we just kept trying to click and not quite getting there. The difficult surf was forcing racers to head south off the line, trying to calculate the force of the current against the line they wanted to take to the cans. Jodi Louw went out in the 19's belt race, had an opposition lines-person run ahead of her, and was flummoxed. "I didn't know what to do!" Jodie said afterward. "I wanted to run across, and didn't expect someone to be in the way."

She wasn't the only one. A Campbell sister, Bronte, had decided to race for Bondi in the open event against Em and the crew. This is BRONTE CAMPBELL, Olympian! Bronte tried to swim straight off the beach to the can and never actually made it. Think of that - you can win a world championship in the 100m free, and you can't get to the can at North Kirra.

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Hiccup after hiccup. Jackson Borg and Logan Kaye had a go at the rescue-tube-rescue and ended up with Jacko bodysurfing in with the rescue tube under him and Logan over his shoulder. That was fun, but it was also fourth.

Zach and Charlie made the open board rescue final and missed the winning wave on the cans, and came seventh.

The under 17s had a go at the board rescue with two teams, and ended up with a bronze.

It just wasn't our day. The ski gods packed up and left, a big Sunday ahead now for them.

Showers passed across North Kirra, causing even more people to flee.

Who knew what would happen next on this weird disjointed day.

Six kids still had a job to do. The 17s taplin teams. Engrave their names on your memories, gang. Team A: Conner Maggs, Mitch Morris and Bailey Clues. Team B: Lee Melbourn, Anthony Doyle, Jake Morris.

The under-17s are the hope of the carnival. A lot of smaller, developing clubs are right in it, beginning to develop their athletes for some uncertain yet glorious future. I hung out down the southern end of the area, where the kids were running through on their long transitions from swim, to board, to ski, and listened to a lot of parents speak with that wonderful note of hope and care in their voices, as they tried to picture what their kids were about to take on.

There were three semis. The first had none of us, and only a few contenders. There was a lot of bravery in that heat, and a lot of excited parents.

The second had the A team, and all the parents were quietened by the frightening speed and skill of Newport A - Conner leading in, Mitch hugely extending that lead, Bailey powering through to the finish. I knew they'd win, but even I was a bit, whoa, by that much?

The third had the B team, and it was tougher. Lee had a strong swim and sent Anthony in second on the board. Anthony Doyle, "Tradie" to his team-mates and to so many in the racing world, but I can't help but think of him by his actual first name.

Anthony is the youngest of the spectacular Doyle dynasty. Like a lot of youngests, he is kind of a dreamer. He reminds me a bit of my own little brother, who is capable of the most ferocious concentration at times, but at other times, tends to forget what's happening around him, maybe a little bit lost to the world.

Anthony has a lot of skill on a board, but a tendency to blank out at times - not losing interest so much as shifting back into his own space. It must be a fascinating space. Surely I am not the only person to wonder what happens inside that mind.

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So, heat three, given a second-place start by Lee, he went out really well, got around the cans just fine ...and then kinda went missing. On the way in, three or four kids found their way down inside him, and he hit the beach seventh.

On the sand he seemed to wake up, and ran his guts out to tag Jake, who is nothing if not present in the moment. Jake went out with ski-god level speed, watched as a couple of others got caught up on a can in the channel, and suddenly, boom! Two teams in the final.

Oooooo, I thought, is this the switch?

I walked away so as not to get in the way of these rascally boys who have carried us through the carnival so wonderfully so far, and went and sat up under a tent to watch. And waited. And waited.

This is why NRL teams stall play, so the leader loses momentum. A half hour passed, while some protest or other was resolved. Then it started to rain.

Who was left to watch? Brooksy with an umbrella he'd retrieved from the tent. Colin Maggs without an umbrella. Big Aaron Morris. Trentos with his orange Helly Hansen rain jacket, which he's barely taken off all summer.

The final began in the rain, and holy crap, Conner swam the entire house down. He dropped the field by 20 metres, caught a little wave into the inshore gutter, tried to stand up, and realised it was still too deep. Jumped again on a smaller wave, got up, and began to run.

The transition in this race was horrible. You had to run off hard sand onto soft, then get about 100 metres up the beach, then divert slightly and run out through knee-deep water for another 50 metres. "I was like, 'OK run fast!'" Conner told me later, "But I got a way into it and thought, ah, this is harder than I thought!"

I kind of think his run out of the water shocked the majority of the three swimmers on the next wave. They semi dropped their heads. Lee Melbourn did not. "Lethal" Lee Melbourn began to run and just got faster and faster. By the time he tagged Anthony, Mitch was already gone, but the field was a little bit open.

I know this is taking a while to describe, but it was just so epic! Anthony went out with a little pack of paddlers, and never wavered. He came in with two others, kinda equal second, and ran his absolute heart out to get to Jake. And while Bailey executed a flawless, easy finish to put the As over for a massive gold, Jake took hold of the back end of the race. His green ski was just a blur.

Bang-bang, one-two.

The six kids pretty much fell over each other in a group hug.

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What do you even say. This hardly ever happens. It happened with the double skis last year. It happened with the under-19 board relay crews in 2014. There was so much difficult work put in by these kids over the past year. Even picking the teams themselves was incredibly difficult. But when teams finish together like that, all the hard stuff is left in the dust. All that's left is the sense of a job well done.

So, finals day tomorrow. At the end of a tedious day, we've regained our momentum. Those under 17s have given us that mysterious gift. Get it done, team. Do it for Tradie.

Don't forget our team dinner:

10th April 2022 @ 6.30pm

The Island

Glasshouse Function Room

3128 Surfers Paradise Blvd

Surfers Paradise

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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

7

Open Champion Lifesaver	Jemma Smith
Opens Ski Relay	Greg Tobin/Luke Jones/Luke Morrison
U17 Ski Relay	Bailey Clues/Jake Morris/Mitch Morris
U17 Board Relay	Bailey Clues/Jake Morris/Mitch Morris
U17 Single Ski	Jake Morris
U17 Surf Team	Conner Maggs/Lee Melbourne/Jake Morris/Mitch Morris
U17 Taplin	Bailey Clues/Conner Maggs/Mitch Morris

8

U17 2KM Ocean Swim	Conner Maggs
Open Patrol Competition	Travis Cox/Bec Capell/Sam Capell/Kai Raffles/ Phoebe Savage/Guyren Smith
U19 Ski Relay	Piper Harrison/Alex Lefevre/Kimberley Doyle
U17 Single Ski	Mitch Morris
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Deandra Godoy/Olivia Lovell/Jemma Smith/Lizzie Welborn
Open Board Relay	Jemma Smith/Maddie Spencer/Lizzie Welborn
U17 Taplin	Anthony Doyle/Lee Melbourn/Jake Morris
Open Surf Belt	Emily Doyle/Thomas Doyle/Harrison Taurins/Darren Warrener/ Lachlan Warrener

5

Open 2KM Ocean Swim	Emily Doyle
Open Champion Lifesaver	Phoebe Savage
Open Surf Team	Emily Doyle/Alex Lefevre/Maddie Spencer/Lizzie Welborn
Open Board Rescue	Alex Lefevre/Lizzie Welborn
U17 Board Rescue	Jake Morris/Mitch Morris

2022 AUSSIES

Place: 2nd
Points: 130



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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

Open Board Relay	Jackson Borg/Charlie Brooks/Zach Morris
U17 Single Ski	Bailey Clues
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Emily Doyle/Piper Harrison/Maddie Spencer/Sascha Taurins
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Jackson Borg/Logan Kaye/Luke Jones/Greg Tobin
U19 Surf Belt	Jodi Louw/Thomas Doyle/Harrison Taurins/Darren Warrener/ Lachlan Warrener

5th

U19 Champion Lifesaver	Travis Cox
U19 Ski Relay	Conner Maggs/Oscar Smith/Harrison Taurins
Open Surf Team	Jackson Borg/Logan Kaye/Zach Morris/Lachlan Warrener,
U19 Surf Race	Oscar Smith
Open Ski Relay	Jemma Smith/Sascha Taurins/Lizzie Welborn

6th

U19 Champion Lifesaver	Sam Capell
Open Ski Relay	Jemma Smith/Sascha Taurins/Lizzie Welborn
Open 2km Beach Run	Quentin Reeve
U17 2km Beach Run	Millie Thornthwaite
U17 Board Rescue	Bailey Clues/Lee Melbourne

Area Managers
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<i>Open & U19 Female:</i>	Amy Somes / Kerry Armstrong
<i>U17s Male & Female:</i>	Colin Maggs
<i>Beach:</i>	Marty Lynch
<i>Boats:</i>	Alex Brown, Michael King

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YOUTH MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS



U15 Champion Lifesaver Bella Cox



U14 Ironman Noah Maggs
2KM Ocean Swim Noah Maggs



U14 Board Rescue Noah Maggs/Harrison Woodrow
U15 Champion Lifesaver Zach Paul

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

U13 Board Race Charli Barbour

5th

U13 Swim Race Allanah Paul

6th

U13 2KM Ocean Swim Charli Barbour

U13 Swim Race Allanah Paul

2022 YOUTH



BE THE BEST, ENJOY IT THE MOST

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Nick's Blog – Aussies Open Day 5

Heroism and heartbreak. The agony and the ecstasy.

That's what sport is about. It's a dumb ol' cliché, but it's true.

We do sport because we are trying to explain Life to ourselves. Life is complex. Sport is simple, you're on the starting line or the playing field or whatever, the whistle goes, and boom boom, you win or you lose, it's done.

Or is it.

Today dawned in complete opposition to the rest of this super wacky up-and-down Aussies. The scary surf and ugly wind had gone, to be replaced by a surf zone that was entirely unthreatening yet uniquely challenging.

I thought, Right! Here we go! In the sport cliché version of today, we'd have charged in, race after race, and the gold would have flowed like the water in that big broad open gutter between Kirra's outer bank and its inner edge.

Well, ha ha ha. Instead, in the Life version, it wobbled and swayed and doubled-up and went off in all kinds of weird directions, just like that nasty little patch of water between the shore and the first bank was doing - sometimes taking us with it, sometimes dumping us on our faces.

We won brilliant races and we totally kooked others. For NO APPARENT REASON!

What do you DO with this information?

Lizzie Welborn kinda pushed it away a bit. All season, Lizzie has looked ready to blow past all opposition. You know she can! Who is more gifted? Nobody! But this Aussies final day refused to let her do that. She led out the open board like a scalded cat, only to have a bunch of people draft her out to the final can and snivel past her in the gutter.

Lizzie was all, "I do all these things for the Ocean, you'd think the Ocean could do something for me!"

Well maybe it will. The Ocean's not finished with you Lizzie Welborn. The Ocean speaks a language we're not really meant to understand. But you'll hear it when it speaks your name. And it will speak Lizzie's name, again and again.

Jackson Borg suffered it. Nothing in this whole carnival felt more agonizing than watching Jacko clamber out of the water after the first leg of the open iron in last place. Yeah he

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smashed the next two to finish sixth, but it leaves Jacko with a complex riddle to solve. Almost a Life Riddle. How to go fast on the first leg of an iron.

The Ocean will not speak Jacko's name, but it doesn't need to. Jacko will solve the riddle in real time. He's pretty chill, Jacko, but he has his Dad's blood, and his Dad loves figuring stuff out.

Piper Harrison, I kind of feel Piper rose above it. Just a word of appreciation for Ms Piper Harrison. She joined us their year from our fellow northern beaches club Manly, and I am not totally sure she knew what she was getting herself into, but she went there like a champ.

Piper has that fantastic quality of being able to be amused by herself. A coupla times at iron training this year, I've been struck by her epic facial expressions in the run transitions. "Oh yes!" she laughed when I tried to carefully broach the subject, "My run face!"

After the under 19 ski final, she had every right to put on another face altogether. But dammit, she didn't. She got up and turned it around with a great taplin ski leg to pull the team up two places, partly it has to be said on the basis of a fairly quick run leg. Here's to a future of Piper pulling the run leg face at every opportunity.

Jemma Smith could have been a bit like, dammit. But Jemma has bigger goals. I strongly advise the Ocean to do what Jemma wants from now on, or she and Kerry will be having a stern word with it.

Some people have the gift of putting this win-or-lose malarkey where it belongs. I think here of two people in particular, two of our new cap bearers. Harrison Taurins won the 19s double ski with Bailey with NO PRACTICE. He should probably have won the single ski too but got caught on that fatal outer bank. It was literally water off Harrison's back, like the water off the duck that I saw being carried around the event site by a rather wacky woman who'd ridden her bike down specially to show off the duck. It's a strange place the Goldie.

Anyway, Harry was good, no matter what really. Harrison has the gift of happiness. Wherever it comes from. it doesn't rely on Sport.

The other person I think of here is Tobin. Cap number 93. At some point in most athletes' lives, Sports blurs back into Life. It's not so much secondary as kind of put in its box where it belongs. Greg Tobin

Today was a lot about the under 17s, as it really has been all carnival. It actually began with two former under 17s, Max Brooks and Jayke Rees. If there is one thing I've found both inexplicable and incredibly touching - in other words, most like Life - at this carnival, it's the way these two and the actual under-17s have mirrored their progress. It's ben both totally unintentional and completely natural. Ten years ago Max and Jayke won the board rescue race. Today, them winning the double ski, another team race, the very race after the 17s had doubled down the taplin, just feels in total sync.

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Oh and I will speak their names, those kids: Mitch Morris. Jake Morris. Lethal Lee Melbourn. Bailey Clues. Conner Maggs. Anthony Tradie Doyle.

I'm not sure the u17s get everything I've said here tonight about Sport and Life, but that's OK. They will.

I'll put it in context shall I. Today was Sport. What we went through to get here, those 5.30am ocean pool sessions in August, Morri's 5am lake sessions with weird lights strapped to your heads, the 500m flat water board time trials that were in fact 600m, trying to get through traffic to make the sessions, the Lockdowns, the school exams and the new jobs, the injuries and the recoveries, packing trailers, getting to the carnival, sitting in the tents, learning about each other, maybe worrying about each other at times, coming out the other side, being here tonight: that's Life.

And there's nothing like it.

See ya in six weeks.

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OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

10

Open Champion Lifesaver	Jemma Smith
Opens Ski Relay	Greg Tobin/Luke Jones/Luke Morrison
U17 Ski Relay	Bailey Clues/Jake Morris/Mitch Morris
U17 Board Relay	Bailey Clues/Jake Morris/Mitch Morris
U17 Single Ski	Jake Morris
U17 Surf Team	Conner Maggs/Lee Melbourne/Jake Morris/Mitch Morris
U17 Taplin	Bailey Clues/Conner Maggs/Mitch Morris
U19 Double Ski	Bailey Clues/Harrison Taurins
Open Double Ski	Max Brooks/Jayke Rees
U17 Surf Race	Mitch Morris

11

U17 2KM Ocean Swim	Conner Maggs
Open Patrol Competition	Travis Cox/Bec Capell/Sam Capell/Kai Raffles/ Phoebe Savage/Guyren Smith
U19 Ski Relay	Piper Harrison/Alex Lefevre/Kimberley Doyle
U17 Single Ski	Mitch Morris
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Deandra Godoy/Olivia Lovell/Jemma Smith/Lizzie Welborn
Open Board Relay	Jemma Smith/Maddie Spencer/Lizzie Welborn
U17 Taplin	Anthony Doyle/Lee Melbourn/Jake Morris
Open Surf Belt	Emily Doyle/Thomas Doyle/Harrison Taurins/Darren Warrener/ Lachlan Warrener
Open Single Ski	Jemma Smith
U17 Board	Jake Morris
Open Flags	Blake Drysdale

8

Open 2KM Ocean Swim	Emily Doyle
Open Champion Lifesaver	Phoebe Savage
Open Surf Team	Emily Doyle/Alex Lefevre/Maddie Spencer/Lizzie Welborn
Open Board Rescue	Alex Lefevre/Lizzie Welborn
U17 Board Rescue	Jake Morris/Mitch Morris
U19 Taplin	Anthony Doyle/Oscar Smith/Harrison Taurins
U17 Iron	Jake Morris
Open Single Ski	Max Brooks

2022 AUSSIES

Place: 2nd
Points: 200

7

8

5

BE THE BEST, ENJOY IT THE MOST

OPEN MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS TO DATE

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

Open Board Relay	Jackson Borg/Charlie Brooks/Zach Morris
U17 Single Ski	Bailey Clues
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Emily Doyle/Piper Harrison/Maddie Spencer/Sascha Taurins
Open Rescue Tube Rescue	Jackson Borg/Logan Kaye/Luke Jones/Greg Tobin
U19 Surf Belt	Jodi Louw/Thomas Doyle/Harrison Taurins/Darren Warrener/ Lachlan Warrener
Open Taplin	Emily Doyle/Jemma Smith/Lizzie Welborn
U17 Surf Race	Conner Maggs
Open Double Ski	Luke Jones/Mitchell Trim
Open Surf Race	Emily Doyle

5th

U19 Champion Lifesaver	Travis Cox
U19 Ski Relay	Conner Maggs/Oscar Smith/Harrison Taurins
Open Surf Team	Jackson Borg/Logan Kaye/Zach Morris/Lachlan Warrener,
U19 Surf Race	Oscar Smith
Open Taplin	Jackson Borg/Charlie Brooks/Mitch Morris/Zach Morris/Jayke Rees/ Mitchell Trim
U19 Taplin	Kimberley Doyle/Piper Harrison/Alex Lefevre
U17 Iron	Mitch Morris
Open Iron	Zach Morris
Open Flags	Jake Lynch

6th

U19 Champion Lifesaver	Sam Capell
Open Ski Relay	Jemma Smith/Sascha Taurins/Lizzie Welborn
Open 2km Beach Run	Quentin Reeve
U17 2km Beach Run	Millie Thornthwaite
Open Iron	Jackson Borg
U17 Board Rescue	Bailey Clues/Lee Melbourn
Open Ski	Greg Tobin
Open Board	Lizzie Welborn

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YOUTH MEDAL WINNERS & POINT SCORERS



U15 Champion Lifesaver Bella Cox



U14 Ironman
2KM Ocean Swim Noah Maggs
Noah Maggs



U14 Board Rescue
U15 Champion Lifesaver Zach Paul
Noah Maggs/Harrison Woodrow

TOP 6 FINISHERS

4th

U13 Board Race Charli Barbour

5th

U13 Swim Race Allanah Paul

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U13 2KM Ocean Swim Charli Barbour

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2022 YOUTH

