



RIP TIDE

The surf sports newsletter will become a regular weekly feature until the end of the 2016-17 season.

The season is now hotting up and there will be four days of fast and furious action, starting with the Freshwater boat carnival on Thursday. The R and R carnival will also be held at Freshwater on Australia Day. It will be followed by the Nipper Nats (Under

9-14) at Manly on Friday.

Then get ready for the two big ones – Manly Open Carnival on Saturday and the Freshwater Open Carnival on Sunday.

These two carnivals attract many interstate competitors so the real cream is on show. The Manly carnival has water, beach, R and R and the first day of the boat events and ironman qualifiers.

The ironman finals will be held at Freshwater. Also at Manly on the Sunday will be the second day of the boats, which features short course championships.

To all competitors - have a great four days of competition and safe surfing.

If you have an interesting surf sports story then contact John Taylor.

Email: pr@surflifesaving.net.au

FRESHWATER BUILDS BOAT SECTION

Sweep Scott Morrison is on mission to build the boat numbers at Freshwater Surf Club.

His A crew of Blake Walmsley, Tom Gillespie, Blake Cradock and Aaron Reilly are still developing, although Reilly has been around surfboats for quite a number of years.

Apart from the local carnivals, the Dukes have also been competing and gaining experience in the faster format of Ocean Thunder.

"We made the last eight in one of the rounds. The boys love it," Morrison says.

The Freshie boys have made two finals, at Bilgola and Mollymook where they finished fourth on both occasions.

Morrison would love nothing more than for the Dukes to make a big impression and at least reach the final at the Australia Day (Thursday) boat carnival at Freshwater Beach.



"The competition is always tough as there are so many good crews on the northern beaches," Morrison said.

Morrison said the boys are keen to train and learn. "We have four sessions in the boat a

week and four out (gym work)."

Morrison said the club now had eight boat crews. "We are trying really hard to build the boat section," he said.

Picture: The Freshwater Dukes are improving

COLLAROY'S CHARGE

The Collaroy Garricks won the Branch championship last season and they are now sitting nicely to win the Ocean Thunder series for the first time.

The Garricks with a new rower in Gus Campbell and new sweep in Phil Massingham head the Thunder series after three rounds.

They are on 20 points, three ahead of Australian champions Bulli and coming home strongly are third round winners – Lyle Clarke's Currumbin.

The Garricks have been consistent with a win and two third placings.

The final round will be held at Dee Why on Saturday, February 4.



Picture: The Collaroy Garricks in good form.

THE NIPPER NATS SHOW AT MANLY

TYLER TO MAKE AMENDS

Manly can't wait to renew their battle with North Curl Curl in the under 14 board relay at Nipper Nats on their home beach on Friday.

A great rivalry has developed between the two teams. And you can also throw Newport into the equation.

Only for Tyler Krenkels falling at the Narrabeen Beach carnival and Manly would have edged out the North Curly boys.

North Curl held the lead after the first two legs but Tyler paddled the Sky Blues into the lead and was first out of the water for the run along the beach.

Only trouble is that Tyler had his left leg strapped after an earlier incident on the board and the bandage got tangled as he neared the finishing line. Subsequently, he couldn't hold his footing and fell over.

Tyler thought it was quite funny, even though it cost his team the victory.

"I actually fell over twice. I thought it was pretty funny," he said.

North Curl Curl paddler Mitchell Stuart said:

"We'll be ready for them (Manly). We love racing against them," he said.

The Nipper Nats attracts some of the best young competitors in the country.

It will be the last hit out for many northern beaches competitors before the Westfield Junior Water Championships at Newport on February 12.

All placegetters at Manly on Friday will receive medals.



Top: Manly star Tyler Krenkels; Middle: Newport's Branden Bartlem; Bottom: starters to the line.



Newport's Joel Piper



SAM MORE RELAXED AND ENJOYING HIMSELF

Manly's Sam Speer is finding life as a stockbroker challenging but his ski paddling, it seems, hasn't suffered.

While he spends long hours working in the city, Sam finds time to have two early morning sessions a week.

His training partners on those occasions are none other than Newport pair Mitchell Trim and Luke Morrison, who he will be racing at the Manly and Freshwater carnivals.

He also paddles on Manly Dam with Chugga (Tony Viececi), on Saturdays with the Manly group and spends time with his uncle (Phil Speer) who takes him for running and boxing sessions.

But it's Nick Dawe who keeps a really close eye on his progress.

"I have done a lot more racing this season which has probably set me up better for the bigger carnivals to come," Sam said.

Sam has shown good form in the Summer of Surf Series, twice finishing third in rounds at Fingal Bay and North Wollongong.

He broke his paddle during one of the races at North Wollongong. "I have had a new shaft put on the old paddle," he said.

Sam has been paddling since he was about 15 but it's only now that he is really enjoying training. "I really look forward to it as a release from work," he said.

His Newport training partner Mitchell Trim finally broke through for his first win in the last Summer of Surf round at North Wollongong.

"It was good to break through for that win and now I am looking forward to all the big races coming up," Trim said.

BEACH TRIO IN TOP FORM

Newport's Ollie Signorini has been one to watch in the Summer of Surf swim. He's involved in a ding-dong battle with Redhead's Daniel Collins who leads by one point.

Manly's Naomi Scott heads the female surf swim and has a two point lead over Noosa's Lana Rogers.

Newport trio Jake Lynch, Blake Drysdale and Laura Shorter have been outstanding on the sand.

Lynch leads the Summer of Surf beach sprint, Drysdale seems unbeatable in the flags, while Shorter is having a top season and also leads the female beach sprint.

Laura and Blake also had victories in their respective sprint and flags events for NSW in the Interstate series at Alexandra Headland last Friday. NSW finished runners up to Queensland.

Both will compete at the Manly carnival on Saturday.



Pictures: Top: Sam Speer; Middle: Mitchell Trim and Below: Newport's Ollie Signorini (centre).



TIM GEARED FOR VERY SOLID HIT OUT ON BOARD

Freshwater's Tim Kirkby will know where he's at after the Manly and Freshwater carnivals over the weekend.

"These are the ones where you know exactly where you sit and what you have to do leading up to the Branch, State and Aussies," Tim said.

"It's a really good, solid weekend of racing the proper distance.

"It's a test of your fitness and speed."

Tim said he had not done too much racing this season. "I have done a couple of the Summer of Surf board races at Newport and Fingal Bay," he said.

"I made the final at Newport but just missed out at Fingal.

"Personally, I don't think Summer of Surf is the best indicator because of the course, so it's difficult to tell where you are at."

Tim can't wait to race at his home beach on Sunday.

He finished third in the board final at Freshie last year. "It would be nice to go one better this time but there will be some very good paddlers racing," he said.

Tim said his older brother Ben will also be racing at both carnivals.

"Ben is paddling pretty well on the ski," Tim said.

"We'll also be doing the double ski together."



Above: Tim Kirkby, Below: Ben Kirkby;



LOUIS SETS THE PACE

The feature race of the day will be the ironman final, the qualifiers coming from the Manly carnival the day before.

Manly's Kendrick Louis has certainly hit his straps over the past two months and is undoubtedly racing in the form of his life.

He has won two and come second in the past

three rounds of ironman in the Summer of Surf.

His victory at North Wollongong earlier this month where he finished ahead of former Nutri Grain champion Ali Day was most impressive.

"I am just in a good place," Kendrick says.

LEFT: Kendrick Louis



AUSSIE CHAMPS SHOW STRENGTH

The Australian champions Bulli came and so did the Avoca crew who will represent Australia in the Trans Tasman Test series with New Zealand at Waihi Beach on February 4.

This was the big chance for the Sydney Northern Beaches open men's crews to show their muscle at the Queenscliff carnival last Saturday.

Bilgola Gold, Collaroy Garricks and Palm Beach Pirates made the final, along with Bulli's second crew (Black Sheep) and conditions were certainly challenging on the day.

But Bulli's No 1 crew (Gelcon) were just too good to win from Avoca and Bilgola Gold.

Likewise, the Mona Vale Mavericks stormed to a great win to take out the women's open final. It was an almost all northern beaches final, with the exception of the Elouera crew, but when there's a surf on there's no holding back the Mavericks.

Sweep Matt Collins said: "We are not kidding ourselves that we are the fastest crew.

If there was just a flat out row and there was no surf, Palm Beach, North Cronulla and Manly would all probably beat us.

"Our girls handle themselves really well in the surf. They are not scared of it and like catching waves."

Collins didn't get carried away by the length of the win. "We took advantage of being in the right alley," he said.

"When we turned the buoys we got a really big run and we surfed it a long, long way in and that gave us a massive lead," he said.



Pictures: Above; Bilgola Gold make it over a wave; Below; the Mona Vale Mavericks power on.

RESULTS

Open Male: Bulli Gelcon, Avoca Z, Bilgola Gold, Collaroy Garricks, Palm Beach Pirates, Bulli Black Sheep.

Open Female: Mona Vale Mavericks, South Curl Curl Straw Hats, Queenscliff All But One, Elouera Wilko, Pam Beach Patriots, South Narrabeen, Sassatrons.

Reserve Male: North Cronulla Funky, Collaroy Dragons, Dee Why Milkmen, Gerringong Naps, Elouera Wilko, Long Reef Swords.

Reserve Female: Palm Beach Pineapples, Wollongong Wildfire, Newport Nibbles, Whale Beach Flying Fish, North Narrabeen Black, Avalon Beach DB's.

Under 23 Male: North Cronulla Purds, Newport Bottom Feeders, Palm Beach Paper Clips, Bulli Basil Spice, Avalon Beach Pinkies, Avoca Beach Dirty Dogs.

Under 23 female: North Cronulla Micks Juggernauts (30), Avoca Beach Jotos (28), Newport Pistol Shrimp (27), Manly Malurkadurks (24), Avalon Beach Avocados (22), Palm Beach Peas (22), Coogee The Cherubs (19), South Curly Girlies (15)

Under 19 Male: Bulli Lambs, South Maroubra The Rookies, North Cronulla Purds, South Curl Curl Slickers, North Cronulla Yapps, South Curl Curl Sneaky.





MEET THE PACEMAKERS



They call themselves the Pacemakers. Col Stanford, Richard Donaldson, Peter Landsey, Euan Ramsey-Stewart and Clem O'Grady have been rowing together as a crew for nine years for the North Steyne Club. It has taken them until last Saturday to have their first row of the season at the Queenscliff carnival. "We rowed Masters last year and did Branch and State and went south for the ASRL and picked up a silver medal," said Peter. "It has taken us a while to get going this season but we have been training. We do a



gym session twice a week and do a bit of flat water rowing around Clontarf. And we go to Dee Why and have a bit of surf practice there as well.

"But this was the first time that we have been able to get organised. But we'll race again at Freshwater."

AVALON NOWS BEST



This Avalon crew, called the Nows, made their first competitive appearance at Queenscliff last Saturday. Sweep Michael Heathcote, Andy Hall, Drew Gaab and Ash Cardiff have all had surfboat experience, except for Stefan Verhaeghe. "The boys came together about October," said regular sweep John Harper (pictured far right). "Stefan (third left) is learning the trade. "Ash had about 15 years with Dee Why, Drew and Andy have experience, while Michael has won an Australian title when he was rowing in the bow."



Pictures: Right: Palm Beach sweep Nick Wiadrowski with his crew; and starter Dennis O'Toole.



IT WAS A DAY WHEN THE TWO MADDIES SHONE

One Maddie made a successful comeback to surf sports, while the other Maddie continued her great form at the Fast Fives craft carnival at Queenscliff.

Dee Why's Madison Quinn (pictured right) had to put her thinking cap on to remember when she last competed at a surf carnival. "I think it was about two years ago. Nothing like this," she said. Maddie works as a lifeguard for Northern Beaches Council and her appearances at surf carnivals have been rather limited because of weekend commitments with work.

But as she had a rare Saturday off, Maddie thought she would see how she went at the Queensie Fast Fives carnival last Saturday.

"I came for a bit of fitness and training and also to see how I would go," she said.

Maddie won the first open women's ski race and had minor placings in two other races.

"That first race was good. Somehow I ended up with a win," she said.

Maddie plans to race at the Manly and Freshwater carnivals on Saturday and Sunday.

Maddie Spencer is fast developing in surf sports. The Newport ironwoman dominated both the board and ski races at Queenscliff.

