



WATER SAFETY POLICY - PROCEDURES

9. NIPPERS – SUNDAY MORNING WATER ACTIVITIES INCLUDING CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

[Applies to all junior activities members who engage in swim or board events as part of the Sunday morning program]

1. Water Superintendent is water safety supervisor. If Water Superintendent is not qualified, another authorised person such as competition officer, age manager or other qualified club member to act as the water safety supervisor.
2. Water safety supervisor needs to be at least 18, hold BM as a minimum and be proficient.
3. Water safety supervisor must undertake risk assessment prior to any water events taking place.
4. Water safety supervisor needs to ensure that –
 - Risk assessment documentation completed
 - Rescue equipment is available in the form of tubes/boards/IRB
 - Participants confirm that they are ok to participate and that they are not carrying any injuries that may impact on their ability to compete in the events.
 - Participants capable of competing in the conditions
 - Appropriate water safety personnel are present. Water safety personnel must be qualified (SRC or BM) and proficient and competent for the conditions.
5. If the risk assessment indicates a high risk, the water events must not take place.
6. Water safety supervisor has to ensure that there is at least 1 nominated water safety person for each 5 participants. **If a moderate risk is identified, the ratio is 1 to 4. The minimum number of water safety personnel (i.e. 1 for each 4 or 5 depending on the risk assessment) must be in the water at all times the water events are in progress.**
7. For U14 age group, ratio of water safety personnel can be 1 to 12 if all participants have their SRC. If there is a mixture of SRC and non-SRC participants, the ratio of 1 to 5 or 1 to 4 must be met.

7. Water safety personnel must wear identifying clothing – either a coloured cap or coloured rash vest with “Water Safety” on both sides. If patrol members perform water safety they must wear a red and yellow cap and patrol rash shirt with “Surf Rescue” on both sides.
8. Water safety supervisor needs to consult with the patrol captain or lifeguard to determine where the water events are to take place. Patrol captain or lifeguard has ultimate authority to determine where the training is to occur. **The patrol captain or lifeguard has responsibility to ensure that sufficient water safety is available for the events.**
9. Water safety supervisor is to ensure that all completed risk assessment documentation is returned to the club for filing.