



Margaret River SLSC Newsletter

October 2023



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First Nippers Day!



Well, the sun may not have shone for our first Nippers Day of the season, but the kids still looked like they were having lots of fun.

Congratulations to all the Nippers for doing their best in the Preliminary Skills Evaluation. We know this was tough for some of the children, but it is a really important assessment for us. It is not only a requirement of Surf Life Saving Australia, but it enables us to see where your child's skills are at, in the water, at the beginning of the season. This means we can adjust our approach with our Water Safety team, individually for each Age Group and each child. Remember, even if your child didn't look and feel confident, they will still be participating in all the activities, we will just be giving them extra support and working on building their skills.

Also, having your child's name clearly written on the front of their Nippers cap helps us identify them and helps Age managers and Assistants and Water Safety get to know their names. It makes the Nippers feel good when we can encourage them and use their names. Some of the Nippers already had this done. It really helped us last Sunday, so thanks for that.

Photos & Social Media

If you would prefer your child's photo not to be posted on to our website or social media, please can you email Woody (media@margssurf.com), clearly stating that, so we have it in writing. Please include your child's name and their Age Group for Nippers. If we don't have a written request to NOT publish your child's photo, we will presume you are happy for us to go ahead.

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Thank You

A huge thanks must go to all those people who have stepped up into roles for the season.

First & foremost, we must all give our appreciation to Marcela, who has taken on the role of Junior Nippers Coordinator. She is very knowledgeable and a huge asset to the club and our Nippers team. Then of course a huge thanks must go to our Age Managers, parent helpers and Water Safety team and especially our young Cadets. Together, these people are all looking to make our Sunday mornings amazing. The kids will hopefully be learning lots and having heaps of fun.

Without all these people helping, Nippers just couldn't happen, so on behalf of everyone, THANK YOU! What a great team of Volunteers we have.

Next Sunday 29th Oct at 8am

Skills Assessment- Age Managers, Water Safety & Parent Assistants

Just like the Nippers did last Sunday, the team that are helping our Nippers are also going to practice their water skills.

This is not a difficult assessment, just a swim and practicing or learning some rescue skills. If you'd like to be part of the team helping our Nippers and having fun with the kids, please join us. We will do everything to support you and we know your child would love to see you helping their Age Group and wearing the Orange Water Safety rashie. We especially need extra Age Managers and helpers for the younger Age Groups of U6, U7 and U8.

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These groups have the largest numbers, and we know they need lots of hands-on deck to keep them having fun. And the more Water Safety people we have, the more activities and fun can be had in the ocean. So please, get involved, come on board, and join in the fun.

The [assessment is on this link](#). We will do the signals and surf awareness first. Then do the swim and tube rescue. It's very informal so don't get stressed! Have a look through the other links on the [nippers web page](#).



Carnivals

Being involved in Surf Life Saving and Nippers can be more than just Sundays. There are carnivals and other activities that your child can become involved in. If your child would like to learn more skills and give carnivals a go, please come and give us their name. We are hoping to have some extra sessions with those children that wish to compete to build on their skills and look forward to having a team of Margaret Rivers Nippers representing us at some carnivals this season.

First Aid Course

We will be holding an accredited First Aid Course at the SLS SW Development Centre in Margs on the 18th November. This course is free to any members of the club. If you are interested in doing this course, please email DJ at education@margssurf.com

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Parking

To have our Nippers activities at Gnarabup, we are required to obtain a permit from Council. This permit has come with the prerequisite that our members will park up on the oval near our club shed. We are asking that you all PLEASE follow this.

We know that may not be an easy ask with the kids and allowing the extra time to walk down, but if we don't follow this requirement from council, they may not continue to issue the permit, that allows us to have our Nippers sessions there. Obviously, Gnarabup is ideal for our Nippers to learn, gain confidence and be safe in the ocean, so we really want to do our best to keep this location available for us.

Thank you for your cooperation with this, we really appreciate your support.

Parent Swim

We are thinking about having a fun swim for the parents after Nippers finishes each Sunday morning. If you would like to join in with this, please let Aaron, Marcela or DJ know. Great way to keep fit and show your Nipper that you can get in and have some fun too.

New Bronze Medallion Life Savers

In the next couple of weeks, four of our members will be doing the last parts of their training and then their Bronze Assessment. We want to wish them all GOOD LUCK with this final step in becoming fully qualified Life Savers!!

If you are considering becoming more involved in our club and would like more information about getting your Bronze, please come and talk to us about it, or send an email to DJ at education@margssurf.com

We love having new Bronzies in the club!

In Closing...

If you have any other friends that are thinking about bringing their children to Nippers, please invite them along to watch and see what goes on. It is never too late to get involved.

See you on the Beach, in the Ocean, on the Sand
and in the Sun. 

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Calendar - Term 4

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| 22nd October | FIRST NIPPERS SESSION- @GNARABUP- Preliminary Skills Evaluation of Nippers |
| 29th October | NIPPERS CLUB DAY – Swim & Skills Practice- Age Managers, Water Safety & Parent Helpers |
| 5th November | NIPPERS CLUB DAY |
| 12th November | NIPPERS CLUB DAY – BBQ @Club Shed after |
| 18th November | FIRST AID COURSE – Free for Members- SLS SW Development Centre Training Room |
| 19th November | NIPPERS CLUB DAY- Combined fun with SMITH BEACH SLSC- @Smiths Beach |
| 26th November | NIPPERS CLUB DAY – Competition Evaluation for Carnival participants |
| 3rd December | NIPPERS CLUB DAY- Mock Club Marathon |
| 10th December | Last NIPPERS for 2023- Mock Club Championships - Santa Visits & BBQ |
| 4th February | 1st NIPPERS CLUB DAY 2024 |

MRSLSC Contact List

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|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
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