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HLSC JUNIOR ACTIVITIES PRE-SEASON REPORT 2008/09

1. **Nippers Program.** HLSC will conduct a 14 week Nippers Program for Under 6 through to Under 14 from 6 Dec 08 until 28 Mar 09.

The birth date cut offs for each age group are as follows:

- a. **Under 6:** born between 1 Oct 2002 – 30 Sep 2003
- b. **Under 7:** born between 1 Oct 2001 – 30 Sep 2002
- c. **Under 8:** born between 1 Oct 2000 – 30 Sep 2001
- d. **Under 9:** born between 1 Oct 1999 – 30 Sep 2000
- e. **Under 10:** born between 1 Oct 1998 – 30 Sep 1999
- f. **Under 11:** born between 1 Oct 1997 – 30 Sep 1998
- g. **Under 12:** born between 1 Oct 1996 – 30 Sep 1997
- h. **Under 13:** born between 1 Oct 1995 – 30 Sep 1996
- i. **Under 14:** born between 1 Oct 1994 – 30 Sep 1995

Due to the popularity of the Nippers Program, children will only be permitted to participate in the appropriate age group for their birth date.

The program runs for approximately one hour for Under 6 and Under 7. The program runs for upto ninety minutes for all other Nippers – depending on the weather and water temperature / quality. Parents must remain on the beach throughout the program.

Successful completion of the Nippers Program will lead to SLSA awards as follows:

- a. **Under 6 / Under 7:** Surf Play
- b. **Under 8 / Under 9:** Surf Awareness
- c. **Under 10 / Under 11:** Surf Safety
- d. **Under 12 / Under 13:** Surf Smart
- e. **Under 14:** Surf Rescue Certificate – this course will be conducted independently of the Nippers Program, in conjunction with BM courses.

At the end of the program each successful participant will be presented with a certificate.

S Badge Qualifications will be programmed as part of the first week of Nippers – with subsequent qualification available each Saturday prior to Nippers (upon individual arrangement with the JAC).

- a. **Under 6** No S Badge requirements
- b. **Under 7 / Under 8:** 50m run / 50m wade / 50m run
- c. **Under 9 / Under 10:** 50m run / 50m swim / 50m run
- d. **Under 11 / Under 12:** 50m run / 100m swim / 50m run
- e. **Under 13 / Under 14:** 100m run / 100m swim / 100m run

The Club Carnival Format will continue – however, S Badge Qualifications will be required to be eligible to compete for Club Trophies and Awards. In addition, there will be points awarded for attendance throughout the Nippers program. All points will combine to determine Club Champions.

Each Age Group will be limited to a maximum of 20 children. A waiting list will be maintained should enrolled children drop out of the program in the first few weeks. Priority registration will be given as follows:

- a. Children with parents who patrol at HLSC on a regular basis (ie on more than 6 occasions per season).
- b. Children with parents who act as Age Group Managers (including completion of the Age Managers Course).
- c. Children with parents who act as Water Safety Officers (includes successful completion of a BM qualification).
- d. Children with parents who are active in the Club in other ways (ie active committee positions).
- e. Children enrolled in Nippers in the 2006/07 season.
- f. Siblings of above.
- g. Remaining Children (on a first come first served basis)

Should initial enrolment numbers indicate a demand for two squads per age group, this will be considered pending the confirmed availability of parents to act as Age Managers and additional water safety officers.

All other Parents will be required to provide assistance during the Nippers Program either as assistants to Age Managers and in the Kiosk or BBQ on a rostered basis. HLSC will require a small number of parents to volunteer as both the Kiosk and BBQ coordinators.

The Nippers Program will commence on Saturday 6th December 2008 at 3.00pm. The season will conclude on Saturday 28th March 2009 with a presentation ceremony and celebration. There will be no Nippers conducted on Saturday 27th December 2008, Saturday 3 January 2009 or Saturday 10 January 2009.

All Nippers who were registered for Season 2007/08 will have until 3 October 2008 to register for the upcoming season. Registration requires completion of a HLSC Membership form, payment of the relevant subscription, and completion of the Nippers Registration Form. These can be mailed to the club and must be received by the last mail on 3 Oct 08.

Registration for new members will be held on Saturday 18th October at 2.00pm. Registration involves completion of a HLSC Membership Form, payment of the relevant subscription and completion of the Nippers Registration Form and must be done in person. Registration without payment will not be accepted. Parents are advised that the Nippers Program is increasingly popular in the U6 – U10 age groups and registration cannot be guaranteed.

2. Age Manager Course. If required, HLSC will run an Age Manager Courses prior to the season commencing. A date will be confirmed in Sep, but it will probably be run on a Saturday November. All new parents volunteering to act as Age Manager's will be required to attend the course (3 hours with some work prior to attendance). These parents will get priority Nippers registration for their children. In addition, IAW LSV Policy, all Age Managers will be required to undertake a Working With Children Check.

3. Water Safety Officers. HLSC will run Bronze Medallion courses as required throughout the season. Water safety Officers will be encouraged to make themselves available for a number of patrols throughout the season and will get priority Nippers registration for their children. IAW LSV Policy all Water Safety Officers will be required to undertake a Working With Children Check.

4. **Carnivals.** HLSC will be encouraging our junior members to compete in both regional and state carnivals throughout the season. Should the demand exist, HLSC will conduct additional training for interested Nippers.

5. **Working With Children Check.** Life Saving Victoria (LSV) requires all members working with children (anyone under 18 years of age) to have completed a Working With Children (WWC) Check by mid 2008. HLSC requires these checks to be commenced prior to the start of the 2008/09 season. All volunteers involved with HLSC Junior Activities will be required to produce a copy of their application receipt and/or check card prior to their involvement in the programs. The check lasts for a period of five years and costs nothing for volunteers.

Members are advised that it will become mandatory for all active HLSC members to complete a WWC check prior to the confirmation of their membership application from mid-2009.

For more information on WWC checks please visit the following website:

<http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren>