POLICY: 012

Board Endorsed: **October 2026**

Next review due: **June 2027**

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. PURPOSE

(a) This policy is to guide the running of Club Championships at Palm Beach Surf Life Saving Club (PBQSLSC).

2. AUDIENCE

(a) All volunteers and members of PBQSLSC.

3. DETAIL

(a) PBQSLSC conducts rounds of Club Championships as part of our Surf Sports program. These Club Championships are designed to award individual athletic achievement and thus are inclusive of the surf, iron-person and beach individual disciplines.

(b) The goals of Club Championships are:

i. Provide an outlet for expressing athletic achievement with the surf sports setting;
ii. Promote friendly competition;
iii. Encourage continuous growth in surf skills;
iv. Recognising excellence in surf sports;
v. Promote skill.

4. ELIGIBILITY

(a) The following groups are eligible to compete in Nippers Club Championships:
   i. Nippers
   ii.

(b) The following groups are eligible to compete in Open Club Championships: Club Championships:
   i. Under 15's - Masters

(c) All members must be financial for that current season.

(d) All nipper members must have completed the applicable Competition Skills Evaluation (Surf/Open Water).

(e) Nippers must have a 50% attendance at nipper days to be eligible to accrue Club Championship points. Entry and attendance at club endorsed carnivals during the season will count towards attendance at nipper days.

(f) U15- masters must be proficient in their relevant awards

5. ROUNDS

(a) The number of rounds of Club Championships in a competitive season for each group are:

i. Nipper Club Championships: up to four rounds, time and conditions dependent.
ii. Open Club Championships: one round.

6. CONDUCT

(a) In all divisions competitors must wear approved competition dress as detailed in the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual.

(b) The Junior Activities Officer (JAO) or approved delegates are responsible for the conduct of Nipper Club Championships.

(c) The Surf Sports Officer (SSO) or approved delegates are responsible for the conduct of the Open Club Championships.

(d) Nipper Club Championship rounds will be conducted during selected Nipper Saturdays that are outlined in the Junior Activities calendar.

(e) The Open Club Championships will be conducted prior to State Championships and may be utilised as a guide for the selection of teams for the State and Australian Championships. The Open Club Championships are held at the discretion of the SSO and Operations Committee.

(f) The events available to be contested are:

i. Flags;
ii. Sprints;
iii. Wades;
iv. Surf Swim;
v. Board race;
vi. Surf ski race;
vii. Iron-person.

(g) The eligibility to compete in the above events is found in the table below:

	FLAGS	SPRINT	WADE	SWIM	BOARD	IRON	SKI
U6	DOES NOT PARTICIPATE						
U7	DOES NOT PARTICIPATE						
U8	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
U9	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
U10	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
U11	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
U12	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
U13	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
U14	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
U15	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
U17 - MSTRS	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES

7. SCORING:

(a) The Age Managers or Recorders will record the top 6 placegetters in each event. The place holder will accrue Club Championship points as follows:

i. 1st 6 points
ii. 2nd 5 points
iii. 3rd 4 points
iv. 4th 3 points
v. 5th 2 points
vi. 6th 1 point

(b) The scoring of Club Championship round results is as follows:

i. Nipper Club Championships:
   A. The best 3 Club Championship round results (out of a possible 4 rounds) will be counted.
   B. If only 3 Club Championship rounds are held due to time and conditions, all results from those 3 rounds will be counted.

ii. Open Club Championships: points from the singular Club Championship round count.
   - An additional three (3) Carnival Points will be awarded for each club endorsed carnival entered and attended by the Member during the season.

8. AWARDS

(a) The categories of awards that may be presented (and groupings for point aggregation in each category) are:

i. Beach Champion (U15- Masters per Gender):
   A. Flags;
   B. Sprints.

ii. Water Champion (U15 – Masters per Gender):
    A. Wade;
    B. Swim;
    C. Board;
    D. Ski.
iii. Iron-person Champion (U15-Masters per Gender).
iv. Age Champion (Nipper age groups U8-14):
    A. first, second and third per Nipper gender and age group.
    B. The member with the highest combined Club Championship points and Carnival Points, will be determined as the Age Champion.
v. Club Values awards: rewarding members who demonstrate our Club Values of Respect, Unity, Inclusive and Involvement (4 awards per Nipper age groups U8-U14; winner and runner-up U15-Masters).

9. RIBBONS

(a) During Nippers Club Championships, ribbons may also be presented to first, second and third place getters, per gender.

10. OFFICIALS

(a) The JAO and SSO (or approved delegates) are to coordinate officials, scorers and score counters for Club Championship rounds and retain an official scoresheet, with a copy provided to the Club Administrator.

11. PROTESTS

(a) Any protests are to be made in accordance with the SLSQ Surf Sports guidelines. The JAO will adjudicate for Nipper protests whilst the SSO will adjudicate for U15-Masters protests. Their decision is final.

12. LAYOUT

(a) The JAO and SSO are responsible for the layout of races in each round, taking into account prevailing conditions, age and skill levels of competitors. Where possible, events are to be in accordance with SLSQ Surf Sports guidelines.

13. HANDICAP RACE

(a) At the discretion of the SSO, a Handicap Iron-person Race may be conducted.
(b) No awards are to be presented. The event is purely for enjoyment.
(c) The Handicap Iron-Person Race shall consist of an Iron-person style race of:

i. Swim;
ii. Board;
iii. Run interchanges.

(d) Senior and Masters competitors are eligible to compete in this standalone event.
(e) Males and females will compete together during the same, standalone race, however their handicaps will be separate (not based off competition across the sexes. Therefore both lowest handicapped male and female competitor will start on zero).
(f) Each nominated competitor will be allocated a handicapped start time ascending in seconds and minutes from zero seconds. The SSO, in conjunction with the Head Coach, is responsible for pre-allocating handicap times seven days prior to the event, utilising the seasons performances at training and competition as a guide.
(g) With the handicap achieved on the start line, the awards available for the Handicap Race will be limited to Female line honours (1st, 2nd and 3rd) and Male line honours (1st, 2nd and 3rd).

14. NOVELTY RACE

(a) At the discretion of the JAA and SSO, a novelty race/s may be conducted.
(b) No awards are to be presented. The events are purely for enjoyment.

(c) **Example Novelty Races are:**

i. No Swim, Board Rescue: patient and rescuer both paddle the board out and back around a can (i.e. no swimming).

ii. Club Championships Body Surf Race: all participants line up behind the break zone, starter calls a wave, all must race to the beach (preferably body surfing the wave).

iii. Super Life Saver Team Race: no age restrictions or team composition requirements. Teams must complete a relay (physical tag) of the following events:

A. Two person carry approx.. 50m.
B. Rescue swim with tube and fins out to a patient (competitor) behind the break.
C. Rescue swimmer and patient (can kick but no arms) return to shore (must remain with tube around patient to tag).
D. Two person drag of the patient approx. 30m.
E. Two person rescue board paddle out and around a can.
F. Beach sprint carrying first aid pack to finish line.