

Circular 3795

28 September 2023

NSW Surf Sport Development Academies Athlete EOI

- Attention:** Branch Directors, Club Presidents, Club Secretaries, Club Competition Officers, Branch Officers, Athletes.
- Actioned by:** Athletes wishing to gain selection in the 2023/24 NSW Surf Sport Development Academies
- Date:** 28 September 2023
- Contact:** Jack Neilson, Sports Development Officer
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| Summary | SLSNSW is calling for athletes wishing to gain selection in the 2023/24 NSW Surf Sport Development Academies |
| Action | Please complete the Online Nomination Form by 13 October 2023 . |

Background

Surf Life Saving NSW (SLSNSW) is pleased to announce the inception of five (5) Surf Sport Development Academies to bolster the competitive and pathway experience for athletes aged 15 – 17. Supported by six (6) Regional Academies of Sport, the program will provide recognition, motivation, and performance services to selected talented athletes.

Program

The Regional Academies of Sport Inc. (RASi) will help deliver an effective High Performance development program that provides selected athletes exposure to sports science, personal development and education services including:

1. Athlete education:
 - Exercise Physiology
 - Injury Prevention and Management
 - Nutrition
 - Social Media & Cyber Safety
 - Sports Psychology
2. Strength & conditioning
 - Face to Face Training Sessions (1 per week)
 - Initial Testing & Screening
 - Follow up Education & Programming

The programs will be delivered by RASi approved providers within NSW including:

- North Coast (ACE Performance)

- Lismore
- Coffs Harbour
- Port Macquarie
- Hunter
 - Newcastle, McDonald Jones Stadium
 - Lake Macquarie, Urban Base Fitness, Gateshead
- Central Coast
 - Mingara Regional Athletics Centre
 - Erina, Coast Sport
- Sydney Northern Beaches
 - Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen
- Sydney
 - TBD
- Illawarra Academy of Sport (IAS)
 - University of Wollongong
- South Coast Academy of Sport
 - TBD

The program will commence in late October 2023.

Surf Sport specific skill acquisition and development will be delivered by SLSNSW appointed coaches (ad – hoc) from within the region-based academy structure. Applications are concurrently open for SLSNSW Academy coaches and management.

Selection

The initial intake of athletes will include 74 athletes, with an additional 46 athletes added to the program in the following year. Athletes will be selected by the SLSNSW Selection Panel. Athletes must be current financial members and be 15 years of age as of 30 September 2023, to be eligible.

The proposed number of athletes from each region for the initial intake is detailed below. (SLSNSW reserve the right to alter the number of athletes from each region).

Year 1 (23/24)

| Athlete Age | North Coasts | Hunter/Central Coast | Sydney Northern Beaches | Sydney | Illawarra & South Coasts |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| 15 as of 30 September 2023 | 8 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 8 |
| 15 as of 30 September 2022 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 4 |
| Total (74) | 12 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 12 |

Levy

To subsidise the academy services, athletes will be charged a \$500.00 per annum levy. Activities beyond the RASi service stream will be ad – hoc and will incur additional costs.

How to Nominate

- All nominating members are asked to familiarise themselves with the [SLSNSW Selection Policy](#) and the SLSNSW Athlete & Management Agreement. All athletes will be required to comply with the guidelines and expectations set out in these documents.
- Complete the [Online Nomination Form](#) by **13 October 2023**.
- All nominees must be current financial members and proficient with their relevant awards. All nominations must be endorsed by Club representatives.
- After the close of nominations, Branch will be sent all nominations from within their Branch. Branch will then be required to provide endorsement for nominations to SLSNSW within 48 hours. Individuals are not required to seek a letter from Branch prior to nomination. If Branch does not endorse the nomination, it will be the responsibility of the Branch to communicate this to the members.