



CHELSEA NIPPER NEWS – 3rd EDITION - NOVEMBER 2010

SEASON START

The Nipper season will commence on Saturday 20 November 2010. Under 5-7 will start at 1.30 and Under 8-14 will commence at 2.30pm.

NIPPER REGISTRATION DAYS

As outlined in my last newsletter the registration days for the new season were held at the Club on 5 and 6 November and we had over 100 new members register which is great for the Club.

I have been asked by our President Cate Winnell to let those of you who could not make it to either registration day that Cate will be available at the Club this Saturday 13 November from 12-5pm to process registrations and sell nipper caps for the new season.

NIPPER SWIM PROFICIENCIES

The first nipper swim proficiencies were held at the Club on Saturday and Sunday and the Nippers surprised themselves with just how far they could swim.

It is compulsory that **all** nippers from Under 8-14 must be tested before they enter or participate in any SLSA water based junior activities, which includes nippers. This is to ensure that each child demonstrates a standard of competence to enable preliminary levels of survival skills in an aquatic environment to be achieved.

The required standards as mandated by SLSA are outlined below in 2 categories, Preliminary Evaluation and Junior Competition. All nippers must complete the distance, relevant to their age group, outlined in the green section of the table below. The red section of the table below is optional if they wish to compete in carnivals, however it is the Clubs aim that by the end of this season that all nippers will be able to swim the distances highlighted in the red section below:

	Preliminary Skill Evaluation Timed Swim (Freestyle)	Junior Competition Skill Evaluation Open water/Surf Swim
Under 8	25 metre swim (any stroke). 1 minute survival float	Not applicable
Under 9	25 metre swim (any stroke). 1 minute survival float	Minimum 150m open water swim
Under 10	25 metre swim (freestyle). 1.5 minute survival float	Minimum 150m open water swim
Under 11	50 metre swim (freestyle). 2 minutes survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim.

Under 12	100 metre swim (freestyle). 2 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim.
Under 13	150 metre swim (freestyle). 3 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim.
Under 14	200 metre swim (freestyle, in less than 5 minutes). 3 minute survival float	Minimum 288m open water swim.

All nippers from Under 8-14 must undertake the Preliminary skill evaluation swim (red section above). Children who are deemed not competent will require further training and will not be allowed to undertake any water based nipper activities until they are deemed competent. Any child that does complete the preliminary skills evaluation competently can progress to water based junior activities, and be supervised by water safety at a 1:5 ratio.

The dates for the swim proficiencies are as follows and please remember that all nippers must at least complete the preliminary proficiency:

14 Nov	Swim proficiencies – U8/U14 – Chelsea Beach 9-11am
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AGE MANAGERS/PARENT HELPERS

I would encourage those parents who have children in Age groups without Age Group Managers and Parent Helpers to seriously consider volunteering to help out. It is important to realise that every single position and job undertaken in and around the Club is done so by volunteers and without your help certain Age Groups will not run this year.

NIPPER SPOTTER

I am seeking the services of a spotter. This is a very important role as the person will act as a special set of eyes for Nipper Patrol and also for the Water Safety Team. The spotter will be stationed on the balcony or in the Patrol room of the Club and will keep an eagle eye out over the nippers from an elevated position and will be in contact with myself, the Patrol Captain and the Water Safety Captain. So if you think you have what it takes to be our nipper spotter please contact me directly.

If you can help with any of the above or if you would just like further information please call me on 0425432448 or email johnmcswiney@optusnet.com.au

Dr John McSwiney
Junior Chief Instructor