

# It's How Newcastle Nippers Do Their Stuff



Founded in 1908

## Questions and Answers

### 1. Where do the Nippers meet?

We meet in front of the Newcastle Surf Club where there are signs showing each age group. The kids line up and wait to be marked off the attendance sheet.

### 2. What time and for how long does Nippers take?

Nippers is generally on at 10.00am till 12.00pm each Sunday morning. However, sometimes Nippers is on Sunday afternoons if there are special circumstances like road closures for other events around town. Our Nipper calendar shows the entire regular and Twilight program for the season. It is essential the kids are ready to go 15 minutes before the start time so we are not time wasting waiting for stragglers.

### 3. What do the Nippers wear?

Compulsory HI-VIS pink singlet, Newcastle SLSC swimmers, Newcastle SLSC rash shirts and club racing skull cap which can be purchased from the club. Most importantly water bottle and SUN SCREEN!!!!

**NO SINGLET=NO WATER**

### 4. What do Nippers do?

Nippers start at Under 6 and go through to Under 14, doing a range of activities to suit their ages and ability. Under 6 and 7 are combined and will learn about basic beach safety and play in the flags and pool all the while learning new skills for later in their Nipper careers. Under 8's to Under 14's will learn beach safety and education as well as learning board, swim and beach running techniques with our coaching staff.

### 5. Who looks after the kids?

Each age group will have an Age Manager assigned to them. The Age Manager is there to ensure the Nippers are together and safe. **AGE MANAGERS ARE NOT BABYSITTERS!** As you can imagine ensuring that a group of excited Nippers are safe and happy could be a difficult task if Nippers misbehave. At the club we encourage all parents to take a keen interest in their Nippers by helping our Age Managers during morning activities. Without volunteers to become an Age Manager we will have no Nippers!

### 6. How do I become an Age Manager?

There will be an Age Managers course run by our club in the Newcastle Club house on one Sunday morning after Nippers within the first few weeks. This is a

great course for all parents not just existing Age Managers. Our kids need volunteers to help and this course will show you how. Surf or Nipper experience is not necessary as we will have coaches conducting the board, swim, beach events tuition each Sunday for the Under 8's to Under 14's.

### **7. What else could I do to help?**

Each Sunday we will need parents to help set up the beach for the days activities. Each age group has a couple of turns throughout the season (Tents for shade on beach, flags, sponsors banners, boards etc.) so as you can imagine this is not a one person job. If you intend to come to the beach with the kids why not offer a small amount of your time to help, its not hard work but if the help isn't there the kids miss out!

### **8. Can the Nippers compete at surf carnivals?**

Under 8's to Under 14's can complete a carnival proficiency swim (timed swim set by Hunter SLS) If they are successful and deemed competent in surf conditions they are able to represent our great club at local, branch and state carnival level. There is a carnival levy to be paid by the first surf carnival which includes entry to all local carnivals.

### **9. Do my Nippers need to compete at surf carnivals?**

No. The Nippers who compete at carnival level have chosen to do so. Kids can attend Nippers on Sundays and are not compelled to compete (However, it is great fun and a great way to make friends from other clubs). Sunday Nippers is geared towards education and fun. We have 2 club championship days throughout the season where the children race for a point score that is calculated and Age Champions are awarded at presentation night.

### **10. Do I need to join the club as a Nipper parent?**

Yes. One parent needs to be a member of the club for child protection requirements. As a club we encourage all parents to become Bronze Medallion holders so that we have more parents available for water safety duties.

### **11. When is the proficiency swim?**

There are 2 proficiency swims available for the Under 8's to Under 14's at The Forum Pool at Newcastle Uni or 1<sup>st</sup> Nipper day at New Lambton pool.

- Sunday 24/09/2016 at 2.00pm Forum
- Sunday 23/10/2013 at 2.00pm New Lambton

The cost is \$5.00 per child (General pool admission paid on pool entry by parent). Swim is compulsory for all nippers from Under 8's.

**No swim means=No Nippers.**

## **12. What do the Under 13's and 14's do this year?**

These age groups will complete the rotation stations with the Under 8's to 12's. The kids will also train with the club trainers each week towards obtaining their SRC and bronze medallion. The registration for under 13 SRC candidates is \$205 which includes the assessment, resources and nipper club membership. Under 14's rego is \$75 as they have already completed the assessment from last season. Any 14's who have not completed their SRC can do so with the 13's and their rego would be \$205.

## **13. When will I get my pink singlet?**

Pink singlets must be paid for at registration (it will be put aside for you) but will be given out at the first day of nippers as a cross check that the child has completed a proficiency swim and is recorded on a roll. Singlets are \$15.