NIPPER Quick Reference 2026-27

Welcome to the West Beach SLSC 2026-27 Nipper season!

Whether you're returning for another summer or joining us for the first time, we're so glad to have you as part of our surf family.

Our Nippers program develops surf lifesaving skills while building confidence, encouraging friendships, and fostering a love of the beach in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment.

After a fantastic 2025–26 season, we're looking forward to another great summer. Last season, West Beach was proud to be named **Surf Life Saving SA Club of the Year** and **Junior Club of the Year**. These awards recognise the dedication of our volunteers, the support of our families, and the welcoming, inclusive culture that makes West Beach such a special club.

The 2025–26 season also looked a little different from usual due to the statewide algal bloom. Thanks to the flexibility and support of our members, we were able to keep delivering a safe, engaging and enjoyable program using a range of alternative venues and activities. While we expect a more typical season this year, we will continue to follow Surf Life Saving SA's approved water quality risk assessment process. If conditions at West Beach are unsuitable, sessions may be relocated to an approved alternative venue, with all updates communicated through Spond and confirmed the day before.

Use this Quick Reference guide to find key dates, session times, what to bring, carnival information and season updates for the 2026-27 season.

As we dive into the season, we want to remind everyone of the core values that make our club special:



Our club is more than a place to spend beach days—it's a community. Parents and carers play an essential role in making our Nippers program happen. Whether you're helping on the beach, supporting events or volunteering behind the scenes, every contribution helps create the positive, welcoming environment that our children enjoy each week.

A special thank you to our volunteer team, who have already invested countless hours planning and preparing for another great season.

Let's make the most of every session, support one another and continue to live our club values both on and off the beach. Here's to another fantastic season!

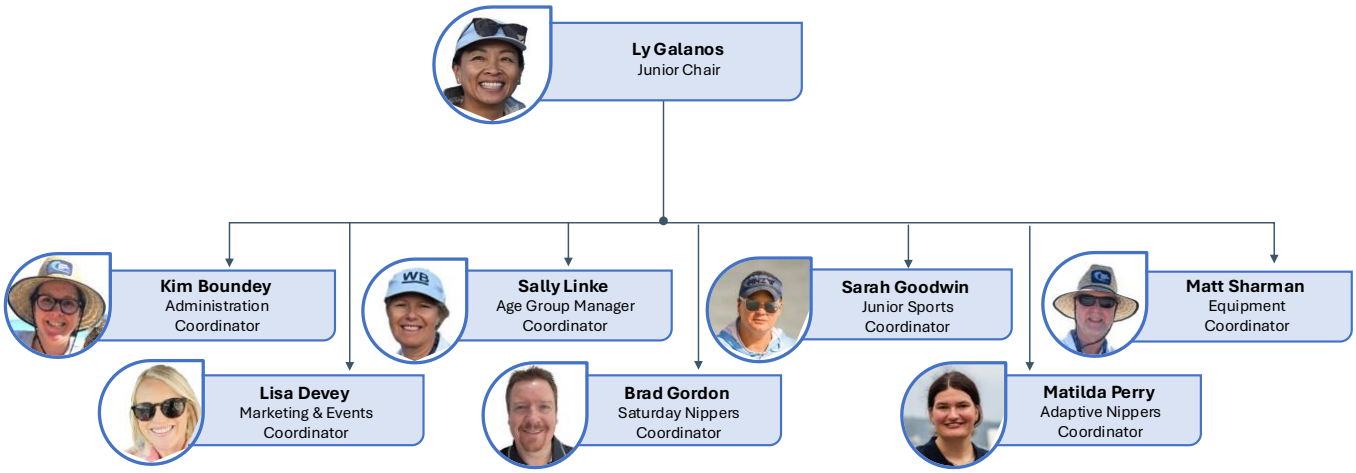
See you on Saturdays!

Ly Galanos

Junior Activities Chair

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West Beach SLSC Junior Committee:



Nipper Sessions		
During the School Terms - Commencing 17 October 2026 (31 October for U6/7)		
AGE GROUP	**START TIME**	**FINISH TIME**
U6 - U7	2pm	3pm
U8	1.30pm	3.15pm
U9 - U13	1.30pm	3.45pm
Summer School Holiday Sessions – 9 Jan, 16 Jan, 23 Jan		
AGE GROUP	**START TIME**	**FINISH TIME**
U6 – U7	10am	11am
U8	9.30am	11.15am
U9-U13	9.30am	11.45am
Please sign in at least 15 minutes before start time		

What to wear/bring to nipper sessions:

- Nippers are to wear their age group colour cap (available from uniform shop)
- **A hi-vis lycra vest during ALL water activities is compulsory** (available from uniform shop)
- Bathers & rash vest (or suitable attire to wear in the water)
- Broad brimmed hat (or legionnaires style)
- Sunscreen (applied before getting to the beach), towel and water bottle are essential
- Long sleeved t-shirt (WBSLSC Nipper top available from uniform shop)
- Goggles (optional but recommended)
- Medication (if required)

Parent/carer should also be SunSmart (i.e. hat, sunscreen, clothing). Please label all items.

*There is a lost property container in the nippers trailer

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Carnivals for U8-U13		
Date	**Details**	**Notes**
Sat 21 Nov 2026	Local Area Carnival – Grange	More details to come
Sun 6 Dec 2026	Junior Carnival 1 – Seacliff	More details to come
Thu 14 Jan 2027	Champion Lifesaver State Championships – Surf Central	U12+, CPR component 4pm -8pm
Sat 16 Jan 2027	Champion Lifesaver State Championships – Venue TBC	U12+, Theory & Physical
Sun 24 Jan 2027	Junior Carnival 2 – Semaphore	All day (U6/7 normal session @WB)
Sat 13 Feb 2027	Junior Carnival 3 – Normanville	All day (U6/7 normal session @WB)
Sat 27 Feb 2027	R&R State Championships – Venue TBC	Half day (Nipper session as normal)
Sun 28 Feb 2027	Junior State Championships Day 1 – Venue TBC	All day
Sat 20 March 2027	Junior State Championships Day 2 – Port Noarlunga	All day (individual events)
Sun 21 March 2027	Junior State Championships Day 3 – Port Noarlunga	All Day (team events)

What to wear/bring to carnivals:

- Uniform (club bathers, club comp top, club comp cap, broad brim hat, hi-vis vest) - all available from uniform shop
- Sunscreen (reapply during the day), Towel, Goggles, thongs/beach shoes
- Plenty of water and good nutritional food to last the day
- Your board and surf wax if you own your own board

West Beach tents are provided for use by our members and families

Parents/carers are welcome to bring your own umbrella/tent/chair and sit nearby

Uniform items can be purchased at the club before nipper sessions

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2026/27 Nipper Calendar

Week	Day	Date	Event	Age Groups	Set Up	Pack Up	BBQ
1	SAT	17/10/2026	Session held at iSwim (Immanuel College)		U12	U11	U10
2	SAT	24/10/2026			U13	U8	U9
3	SAT	31/10/2026			U11	U10	U13
4	SAT	7/11/2026	U12/U13 Camp @ West Beach Parks		U8	U9	U10
6	SAT	14/11/2026			U10	U13	U11
5	SAT	21/11/2026	Only U6 & U7 at WB		U7	U6	
JC1	SAT	21/11/2026	Local Area Carnival (Grange)		To be advised		
7	SAT	28/11/2026			U9	U12	U8
8	SAT	5/12/2026	Adaptive program starts		U8	U11	U12
JC2	SUN	6/12/2026	Junior Carnival (U8-U13) Seacliff		Trailer/Boards = U13 Tents/Equip = U9		
9	SAT	12/12/2026			U12	U9	U13
10	SAT	19/12/2026	Christmas Fun Day		U12	U13	U9
		26/12/2026	No session				
		2/01/2027	No session				
11	SAT	9/01/2027	Summer morning session		U10	U8	U12
SC	SAT	16/01/2027	Champion Lifesaver State Championships (U12 & Above)				
12	SAT	16/01/2027	Summer morning session		U11	U12	U7
13	SAT	23/01/2027	Summer morning session		U13	U10	U11
JC3	SUN	24/01/2027	Junior Carnival (U8-U13) Semaphore		Trailer/Boards = U10 Tents/Equip = U8		
14	SAT	30/01/2027			U9	U10	U6
15	SAT	6/02/2027	Club Champs (U9-U13)		U11	U13	U8
JC4	SAT	13/02/2027	Junior Carnival (U8-U13) Normanville		Trailer/Boards = U12 Tents/Equip = U11		
16	SAT	13/02/2027	Only U6/U7 session at WB		U6	U7	
Event	SUN	14/02/2027	Pink and Blue				
17	SAT	20/02/2027			U10	U9	U11
18	SAT	27/02/2027	Adaptive program ends		U8	U12	U13
JSC1	SUN	28/02/2027	2027 Junior State Championships - Day 1		Trailer/Boards = U13 Tents/Equip = U9		
19	MON	8/03/2027	Long Weekend - Monday PM Session		U13	U8	
20	SAT	13/03/2027			U9	U11	U10
Event	WED	17/03/2027	Pre-states Team Dinner @ Club	State Champs competitors & families (bookings & $$ required)			
21	SAT	20/03/2027	Only U6/U7 session at WB		U7	U6	
JSC2	SAT	20/03/2027	2027 Junior State Championships Day 2		Trailer/Boards = U12 Tents/Equip = U10		
JSC3	SUN	21/03/2027	2027 Junior State Championships Day 3		Tents/Equip = U11		
	SAT	27/03/2027	Easter				
Pre	SAT	3/04/2027	Nipper Presentation Night	Staggered age groups from 4pm			

KEY

For discipline specific training sessions, please check Spond for eligibility & RSVPs

PM Session:
U6/U7 = 2-3pm
U8 = 1:30pm-3:15pm
U9-U13 = 1:30pm-3.45pm

AM Session:
U6/U7 = 10-11am
U8 = 9:30am-11:15am
U9-U13 = 9:30am-11.45am

Junior Carnivals / Competitions
Sat 21 Nov = Local Area Carnival Grange (U8-U13);
Sun 13 Dec = Carnival 2 (U8-U13) Seacliff;
Sat 16 Jan = Champ Lifesaver (U12+)
Sun 24 Jan = Carnival 3 (U8-U13) Semaphore;
Sat 13 Feb = Country carnival; (U8-U13) Normanville;
Sun 28 Feb = Junior States Day 1 (U8-U13); TBC
Sat 20 Mar = Junior Staes Day 2 (U8-U13) Port Noarlunga;
Sun 21 Mar = Junior States Day 3 (U8-U13) Port Noarlunga;

MON 8 Mar:
U6/U7 = 3-4pm
U8-U13 = 3-5pm

Events to be held at West Beach SLSC Bistro - refer details closer to date

Location & events may change based on risk assessment - please check Spond day prior

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NIPPER AGE GROUP REFERENCE 2026–27

Age Group	Birthdate Range	Age Group Leader/s	Team Manager	Cap Colour
Under 6	1 Oct 2020 - 30 Sept 2021	TBA	Calliope Zacharoyannis	
Under 7	1 Oct 2019 - 30 Sept 2020	TBA	TBA	
Under 8	1 Oct 2018 - 30 Sept 2019	Abby Thomas, Cameron Devey, Lisa Best	Lisa Best	
Under 9	1 Oct 2017 - 30 Sept 2018	Brad Price, Campbell Pegg, Jack Hose	Nicky Price	
Under 10	1 Oct 2016 - 30 Sept 2017	Stephen Perry, Kim Boundey	Vanessa Umoren	
Under 11	1 Oct 2015 - 30 Sept 2016	Luke Best, Kerry-Anne Brown, Cam Willis	Kerry-Anne Brown	
Under 12	1 Oct 2014 - 30 Sept 2015	Sally Linke, Dan Galanos	Keri-Ann Usher	
Under 13	1 Oct 2013 - 30 Sept 2014	Sarah Tinkham, Matt Sharman, Zahli Milam	Sarah Price	
Adaptive	30 Sep 2021 - 30 Sep 2014	Matilda Perry	Sally Perry	