



PADDLE BOARDS FOR U14 AGE GROUP COMPETITORS

Audience: Junior members
Date: 7 July 2015
Contact: Junior Gear Steward

SUMMARY	Approach taken by Thirroul SLSC to support committed junior competitors when they transition to mal paddle boards
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The following sets out the approach taken by Thirroul SLSC when a committed Junior paddle board competitor reaches the U14 year age group, but suitable competition quality mal paddle boards are unavailable in the pool of Club boards.

In these circumstances, the Paddler’s family can make a submission for the Thirroul SLSC to provide up to 50% of the purchase price of a new paddle board. They need to secure 50% or more of the purchase price themselves (e.g. from sponsorship and/ or family contribution).

Aim

This approach aims to:

- support our committed Junior competitors to transition to mal paddle boards, and
- encourage committed Junior members to stay with Thirroul SLSC and build our Senior competitor ranks.

Eligibility

The family’s submission should address the following eligibility criteria:

- Paddler should have been a committed, competing member of Thirroul SLSC for at least the previous two seasons, and be transitioning from a Nipper paddle board (U13) to mal paddle board (U14); and
- Paddler should have shown a high level of participation in training and competitions over the previous two seasons, including at:
 - State Championships, and
 - Major local carnivals, including Branch Championships, Sydney Water Series, and
 - Other carnivals outside the Illawarra; and
- Paddler should have a track record of a high level of achievement (consistent and/ or significant improvement) in competitions within the previous two seasons, e.g.
 - Finalist at State Championships
 - Top 8 at Sydney Water Series

- Parents should have shown a high level of commitment over the previous two seasons, e.g.:
 - Age manager/ water safety/ patrol/ coach/ official; and
 - Participation in general fundraising for Thirroul SLSC.

Decision

The submission will be considered, and a decision made, by a Thirroul SLSC Paddle Board Committee, using the above criteria as a guide. The Committee will comprise:

- Thirroul SLSC Head Coach
- U14 Coach
- Gear Steward or Junior Gear Steward

Conditions

If the submission is successful and Thirroul SLSC funds are available, an agreement will need to be signed by the Paddler's parent, which includes the following conditions:

- The Paddler/ family will be responsible for care of the board, including organising and paying for any repairs.
- The board will remain as property of the Thirroul SLSC, so that if/when the Paddler leaves Thirroul SLSC or stops training/ competing, the board stays with Thirroul SLSC.
- The Paddler will participate in a training program as agreed with the Head Coach.
- The Paddler will represent Thirroul SLSC at State +/- national championships, and other competitions as agreed with the Head Coach.
- The Paddler will commit to contributing to the development of other Junior members, as agreed with the Head Coach and/ or Junior Superintendent/ Age Managers.
- The Paddler will aim to get their Surf Rescue Certificate (from 13 yrs) and Bronze Medallion (from 15 yrs), and commit to being an active patrolling member at Thirroul SLSC.

Funding

This approach means that Thirroul SLSC may provide up to 50% of the purchase price of a mal paddle board, which is then allocated to and the responsibility, of the respective Paddler and their family.

However, the ability of the Thirroul SLSC to provide these funds may vary year-to-year depending on Thirroul SLSC's financial situation, which will depend on a number of factors, including revenue raised by Thirroul SLSC and its members (e.g. via fundraising) and other priorities for expenditure.