

Age Groups, Preliminary and Competition Evaluations Factsheet

Junior Age Groups

Listed below are the age groups members will be in for the 2022/23 season. These age groups are determined as at midnight on 30 September 2022.

BIRTHDATE BETWEEN THESE DATES	AGE GROUP
1st October 2016 to 30th September 2017	U6 (Surf Play One)
1st October 2015 to 30th September 2016	U7 (Surf Play Two)
1st October 2014 to 30th September 2015	U8 (Surf Aware One)
1st October 2013 to 30th September 2014	U9 (Surf Aware Two)
1st October 2012 to 30th September 2013	U10 (Surf Safe One)
1st October 2011 to 30th September 2012	U11 (Surf Safe Two)
1st October 2010 to 30th September 2011	U12 (Surf Smart One)
1st October 2009 to 30th September 2010	U13 (Surf Smart Two)
1st October 2008 to 30th September 2009	U14 (SRC)

Note: Proof of age/birth certificate must be sighted for all new children joining a SLSC.

A child may join a SLSC as soon as he/she turns five years of age. No SLSC is to accept membership of a child until they have reached the age of five years to comply with insurance requirements. A child who reaches five years of age after 30th September may join nippers at that time for the remainder of the season; however, this child will be required to stay in the U6 nippers age group again the following season. It is the SLSC's responsibility to explain this to the parents of the child.

Junior Preliminary Evaluations

For the 2022/23 season an updated Preliminary Skills Evaluation has been introduced nationally. This has been redeveloped to reflect industry standard research in aquatic skills, and there is a greater focus on foundation skills in the water which assist in making rescue ready lifesavers.

Clubs are required to meet the new preliminary skills evaluation which is available in this document and in the [SLSA Members Area](#).

Many activities that will be completed by children as part of Junior Activities will be conducted in the water. To ensure that all children have a suitable swimming ability to allow them to participate in these activities, SLSA has developed a Junior Preliminary Evaluation for each age group. Every junior member is required to participate in this evaluation prior to any water-based activities being undertaken. Clubs can set standards that go over and above the requirements set by SLSA, but not below this standard.

Note: It is not an assessment which if not completed competently precludes the child from becoming a member or continuing with junior surf education or training activities. Any child that does not meet the required evaluation level will require a higher level of supervision when involved in water-based activities at the discretion of the club. Refer to SLSA Water Safety Procedure 1.01.