

CIRCULAR



Title:	2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series – Entry Circular
Document ID:	045.03.2023
Department:	Sport
Audience:	All SLSQ Clubs, All SLSQ Branches & QLD Sport Committee
Summary:	Entry information for the 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series
Date:	20 th March 2023

1. INTRODUCTION

The 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series attracts competitors from all over the state, providing an opportunity to unite showcasing one of Queensland's most iconic volunteer movements, Surf Life Saving.

A high-octane event, inflatable rescue boat (IRB) racing has a large following in Queensland as competitors fight it out for surf rescue supremacy.

Aside from the thrills of the competition the event is a real reinforcement of lifesaving skills. The races are all about simulating rescue situations and testing the abilities of drivers and crew people as they're transferred to a competitive setting.

Below are the dates and venues for the 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series.

Round 1:	7 th May 2023	Tallebudgera SLSC
Round 2:	20 th & 21 st May 2023	Mooloolaba SLSC
Round 3:	3 rd & 4 th June 2023	Currumbin SLSC
Round 4:	17 th & 18 th June 2023	Mooloolaba SLSC

This document outlines some key information relating to the 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB competition Series. Please note that SLSQ may have subsequent bulletins or circulars which may supersede information provided in this circular.

2. COMPETITION COMMITTEE

The Competition Committee (CC) will direct all matters relating to the actual conduct of the competition. The CC may, in accordance with the rules contained in the current edition of the *Surf Sports Manual*, any subsequent amending bulletins and this circular, postpone, cancel and or alter any or all events at the Championships, and/or alter the venue of the competition.

The CC may consult and seek advice from appropriate officials, athletes and other personnel on competition conditions and safety issues when required. The CC shall appoint the various sub committees and panels as required for the event e.g. Disciplinary Committee & Coach/Athlete Panel.

POSITION	NAME
SLSQ Sport Advisor/Proxy	Nigel Ward/TBA
Event Referees	TBA
Safety & Emergency Management Coordinator	Medical Response Australia
Event Coordinator	Ryan Bennett
Venue Representatives	TBA

3. SAFETY & EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A Safety & Emergency Committee (SEC) shall be appointed which must consider and advise the Referee and Competition Committee on all matters relating to competition and non-competition safety and emergency management. The Chair of the Committee shall be the Safety & Emergency Management Coordinator who shall also be a member of the Competition Committee. The composition of the SEC will be determined by SLSQ.

POSITION	NAME
Safety & Emergency Management Coordinator	Medical Response Australia
Deputy Referees	TBA
Event Coordinator	Ryan Bennett

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4. DISTRIBUTION OF CIRCULAR

It is most important that the information in this Circular is brought to the attention of all Carnival Officials, Team Managers, Coaches and Competitors.

Non-receipt of the Circular will not be taken as an excuse if a Club, Team or individual does not comply with the requirements outlined in this and other Bulletins and Circulars.

5. COVID-SAFE

Surf Life Saving Queensland have put together some plans to ensure we safely hold the 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series.

Above all else we ask that members follow safe hygiene practices and maintain 1.5m between people where possible.

Recommendations

SLSQ highly recommends that anyone attending an event be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

6. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE

All Competitors wishing to compete at the 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series must have the relevant SLSA award for their Age Group as well as the relevant age competition evaluation they wish to compete in by the close of entries to be eligible to compete.

All entered athletes must have completed and signed the SLSA "Application for Membership Form" and paid any required membership fees as proof of their eligibility to race.

Competition eligibility is as per the current SLSA Surf Sport Manual Section 2.2 – Competition Eligibility.

Competitor Pre-Requisites

At the date of entry closure for the competition to be contested:

(a) Drivers are required to:

- (i) Be a minimum of seventeen years of age as at the date of competition.
- (ii) Hold their relevant state/territory maritime licence required to operate an IRB.
- (iii) Hold their IRB drivers award, be currently proficient as required by SLSQ and have logged twenty (20) hours specific in-water IRB competition driving training under the supervision of a currently licensed IRB Surf Coach.
- (iv) Be endorsed by a currently accredited IRB Surf Coach as being competent for IRB competition.

(b) Crewpersons are required to:

- (i) Be a minimum of sixteen years of age as at the date of competition.
- (ii) Hold their IRB crewpersons award, be currently proficient as required by SLSQ and have logged twenty (20) hours specific in-water IRB competition driving or crewing training under the supervision of currently licensed IRB Surf Coach.
- (iii) Be endorsed by a currently accredited IRB Surf Coach as being competent for IRB competition.

(c) Patients are required to:

- (i) Be a minimum of fifteen years of age as at the date of competition and be a currently proficient Bronze Medallion holder.
- (ii) Hold their IRB crewpersons award, be currently proficient as required by SLSQ and have logged twenty (20) hours specific in-water IRB competition driving or crewing training under the supervision of currently licensed IRB Surf Coach.
- (iii) Be endorsed by a currently accredited IRB Surf Coach as being competent for IRB competition.

Note: The wearing of approved helmets is compulsory for patients in all events (other than the Rescue Tube Race). IRB patients are to wear helmets in both training and in competition. See also Section 2 of the Surf Sports Manual.

(d) Handlers, at the date of competition, are required to:

- (i) Be a minimum of fifteen years of age as at the date of competition and be a currently proficient Bronze Medallion holder.
- (ii) Hold the IRB crewpersons certificate and be currently proficient as required by SLSQ.
- (iii) Be a member of the same club or team as the crews and be entered at the competition (exemption may be given by the Referee for a member of another club or team to be a Handler provided that the Handler is entered at the competition).
- (iv) Wear a competition cap and shall be required to wear a distinctive high visibility pink, orange, yellow, green or red coloured vest as determined by SLSA (or relevant SLS Event Organiser) if entering the water beyond knee depth.
- (v) Comply with all instructions of the officials.
- (vi) Make every effort to ensure that they, or the equipment that they are handling, does not impede another crew, otherwise both their competitor and the Handler may be subject to disqualification.

(e) Competitors should be conversant with all current specifications, competition rules and event conditions etc. pertaining to IRB competition and comply accordingly. Attention is also drawn to other relevant sections of the Surf Sports Manual including *Section 2 – General Competitive Conditions* and any other relevant circulars or bulletins that must also be complied with.

Note: In all training and competition it is compulsory for drivers, crew and patients to wear SLSA approved level 50 Lifejackets (level 50s Lifejackets are not SLSA approved). High visibility vests are not permitted to be worn over the top of Lifejackets. See also section 2 of the Surf Sports Manual.

Entry Limitations

- (a) IRB competition may be conducted in different categories of age, grade and gender.
- (b) A competitor may compete or nominate to compete in a maximum of twelve events plus the IRB Relay at any one competition.
- (c) A Driver and/or crew may compete in a particular event once e.g. a driver cannot compete in an event in one team as a driver and compete again in the same event as a driver or crewperson in a separate team.

Note: This does not preclude an eligible driver, crew or patient from the same team swapping roles in different rounds of the same event.

- (d) If eligible to compete in multiple grades or age categories, drivers and crewpersons may do so, but may only compete in a particular event once e.g. open male rescue is a different event to the under 23 male rescue.
- (e) IRB patients are to be considered as gender neutral with respect to their participation in male and female IRB events.
- (f) Patients may compete in any grade, age or gender category events but may only compete in a particular event once.
- (g) Attention is also drawn to other relevant sections of the Surf Sports Manual including *Section 2 – General Competitive Conditions* and any other relevant circulars or bulletins which must also be complied with.

NB: It is an offence to enter a person who does not meet any of the above requirements, and any irregularities will be considered and dealt with by the SLSQ Surf Sports Committee or the 2022 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series Disciplinary Committee accordingly.

7. ENTRY REGISTRATIONS

Club entries to all of the 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series events must be submitted via SLSA 'SEMS'

For any Clubs having trouble with this system please contact the SLSQ Sport Administrator, Karen Degnian (kdegnian@lifesaving.com.au)

Entries close: Midnight on the Sunday before each round

Late entries will close at 11pm the Tuesday after each events entry close. Late entries need to be made online. No additional entries under any circumstances will be taken after this date.

Any changes to existing entries can occur up until close of late entries (midnight Tuesday before each event) via SEMS.

Random Draws

If 3 or more teams from an individual club are drawn in the same heat of the initial random draw the Surf Life Saving Queensland will re-draw the individual event. No re-draws will be done for double-ups in the initial draw. No re-drawing will be completed after the first round of competition.

One vs Two-day Events

For both one and two-day carnivals competitors must not exceed 12 events (not including the Assembly & Taplin)

For one day events competitors are not permitted to 'double dip'. Therefore, athletes cannot compete in the same event across multiple age groups. For example, you would not be permitted to do the U23 Surf and the Open Surf. However, they could do the U23 Surf and Mass as well as the Open Teams and Tube.

Athletes are permitted to 'double dip' in two-day events but must not exceed twelve (12) events (not including Assembly and Taplin). Also, for two-day events, masters athletes must choose to do either 35+ or 45+ events (can't do both). Masters may choose to do open events as well but must not exceed twelve events.

8. ENTRY FEES

The entry fee per competitor per round at the 2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series is \$37.50 (inc GST).

All online entries received after the initial closing date will incur a late fee of \$50 (inc GST) plus the original entry of \$37.50.

A tax invoice for all SLSQ club entries (including late entries) will be issued to Clubs in the week after each event.

9. EVENT LIST

Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series ROUND 1				
DIVISION	TUBE	MASS	TEAMS	SURF
Open Female	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open Male	✓	✓	✓	✓
U23 Female	✓	✓	✓	✓
U23 Male	✓	✓	✓	✓
35+ Female	✓	✓	✓	✓
35+ Male	✓	✓	✓	✓
45+	✓	✓	✓	✓

Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series

ROUNDS 2-4

DIVISION	TUBE	MASS	TEAMS	SURF	ASSEMBLY	RELAY
Open Female	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Open Male	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (Mixed)	✓ (Mixed)
U23 Female	✓	✓	✓	✓		
U23 Male	✓	✓	✓	✓		
35+ Female	✓	✓	✓	✓		
35+ Male	✓	✓	✓	✓		
45+	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Rookie (2 & 3)		✓		✓		

(Events are as outlined in the Associations most up to date Competition Manual and associated bulletins. Clubs may enter unlimited teams per category; per event in accordance with SLSA Competition Rules (attached).

10. OFFICIALS

All appointed officials will be required to be current accredited SLSA officials and be the holder of a current blue card. If an Official would like to nominate for the 2022 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series please follow the below link:

2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series – [Officials Nominations](#)

Official Nominations close – COB Wednesday 26th April 2023

11. DRAFT TIMETABLE

The below timetable is only a draft and is subject to change. The Program of Events will go out with the Final Circular.

- 6.30am – All IRB duty crews report
- 6.30am - Carnival Committee Meeting
- 6.30am – Official sign on
- 7.00am – All Officials briefing
- 7.45am – Marshalling for first event
- 8.00am – First Event

12. DRESS OF COMPETITORS

Competition caps must be worn in all events for these championships except patients which will be required to wear helmets as stated in the clarification above.

All competitors will be required to wear SLSA approved level 50 Lifejackets in all training and competition. Any hi vis long sleeve or jackets must be worn underneath the PFD (PFD must be the outermost garment).

13. SHARKSKIN MERCHANDISE

QLD Surf Lifesaving 2023 IRB Official Merchandise will be made available at events as well as the Sharkskin website.

14. TROPHIES & PREMIERSHIP POINTSCORES

At the completion of all 4 rounds of the series an accumulated point score will be tallied and the winning surf club will be presented with Ocean Roar Champion Club pennant. Top 3 clubs will also be presented with place trophies.

15. PATIENT BOAT REQUIREMENTS

As in the previous 2 seasons we will require 4 clubs to supply patient boats for each round as well as 8 rostered shifts (per day).

This year we will be waiting until close of entries prior to each event to supply the roster however we plan to use clubs on the Sunshine Coast to look after patient boats and shifts for Rounds 2 and 4. Gold Coast clubs will look after Round 1 and 3. We understand we don't have as many clubs on the Sunshine Coast so some Gold Coast clubs may have rostered shifts as well at Rounds 2 and 4. We suggest that all clubs participating this year have an IRB and driver up their sleeve in case they receive rostered shifts. If a club is unable to fulfil their rostered shift or supply of IRB it will be their responsibility to find a replacement from another club.

Below is what a single day roster will look like.

Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series	
Clubs to supply IRBs (including fuel)	
Patient Boat Driver Roster	
Morning (6.30am to 11.30am)	Afternoon (11.30am to 4.30pm)

16. TEAM MANAGERS

Each club must have a Team Manager complete the online Team Managers Declaration before their club is eligible to compete at this event. Only one team manager will be permissible.

2023 Sharkskin 'Ocean Roar' IRB Premiership Series – [Team Managers Declaration](#)

Team Managers must ensure they complete the above online Team Managers Declaration for this event by midnight Tuesday prior to each Round.

It is the Team Managers responsibility to ensure the changes to the Club's competing teams have been registered with the appropriate officials, and that all their competitors are correctly entered in the event.

It is compulsory for all Team Managers (in their official roles) to wear clearly identifiable apparel that highlights their club name and the wording 'Team Manager'. Anyone not displaying this ID will be asked to leave the competition area.

17. GEAR TRAILER/VEHICLE PARKING

The location of gear trailer parking will be notified in the Final Circular for each event.

All club, competitors and officials are to read and obey the parking signs set up by the Sunshine Coast/Gold Coast City Council and the Carnival Committee and any vehicles that are illegally parked that results in an infringement notice will be the responsibility of the vehicles owner, SLSQ will take no responsibility.

18. SCRUTINEERING

For all details regarding Scrutineering please refer to SLSA Bulletin 8 13-14 IRB Competition Gear and Equipment (Members Portal)

SLSQ will advise clubs prior to events what/if any gear will be scrutineered.

19. MEDIA & PHOTOGRAPHY

Drones:

For the safety of competitors, officials and spectators SLSQ prohibits the use of drones or Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) at this event by members and/or public unless approved by SLSQ, 7 days prior to the event. The operator must supply an operation manual (including risk management plan), provide a copy of public liability insurance and comply with all Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) requirements. SLSQ may utilise the use of our own drones to conduct aerial surveillance and monitor hazards.

Photography:

As a condition of entry, all competitors agree to have photos and video taken during the event used for promotional material by SLSQ.

Photographers within the carnival area must have a visible photographer's pass as well as their BlueCard.

20. HEALTH & WELLBEING

The welfare of all competitors and officials is of paramount importance and athletes or their Parent/guardian in the case of underage competitors should seek advice prior to the competition from a qualified professional for any health concerns if required.

Any competitor or official who suffers illness or injury prior to or at the event must seek a medical clearance before resuming their normal activities which includes training and competition.

In addition, SLSQ may, at its sole discretion, require a competitor and/or official to be assessed for physical and/or psychological fitness to participate in the competition. This ensures the safety and wellbeing of the athlete concerned and fellow competitors while also ensuring all parties and SLSQ are not placed at risk.

SLSQ will be supplying adequate shade tents at all marshalling areas for officials and competitors throughout the event. It is highly recommended that all athletes ensure they carry with them adequate apparel to assist with reduction of sunburn, along with recommended use of sunscreen throughout the day.

Water barrels will be available under the marshalling tents for officials, team managers and competitor use. These barrels are in place for all persons to use and fill up their own water bottles. Please note, no drinking cups will be supplied.

21. ANTI-DOPING & MATCH FIXING

SLSQ affiliated with SLSA supports the Australian Government, the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Olympic Committee, and the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) in their efforts to eradicate the use of drugs in sport.

It is strongly recommended that all Coaches and Team Managers complete the ASADA Level 1 Course as well as the Australian Governments Matching Fixing Course. Both of these courses are free of charge and provide an opportunity to develop a knowledge and understanding of anti-doping and match fixing in sport. Links to the online platforms are below.

Level 1 Anti-Doping Course

<https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/>

Match Fixing Course

<https://elearning.sport.gov.au/>

22. BEHAVIOUR/MISCONDUCT

Any misconduct while at the event will not be tolerated. This includes the days leading into the competition and any official social activities following the conclusion of the event. Offending members risk disciplinary action against both themselves and their Clubs.

Please refer to the current Surf Sports Manual sections *2.27 SLSA Code of Behaviour* and *2.28 Abuse/Inappropriate Behaviour* and the Policy *6.5 Member Protection Policy* (available online at the Members Portal)

23. PROTESTS

All protests shall be lodged with the appropriate Liaison Officer in each Area in accordance with procedures set down in the current edition of the Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent bulletins and shall identify the specific sections/clauses in the Competition Manual and or event rules upon which the protest is based.

Protest Forms are available from the Liaison Officer. An 'Appeals Fee' of \$110 must accompany all documentation when the process is officially submitted to the Appeals Committee for adjudication.

24. CANCELLATION POLICY

The following Cancellation Fee & Refund Policy will be adhered to:

- If a carnival is cancelled, with no postponement before the first event is conducted, 75% of all entry fees will be refunded to all Clubs (25% retained for administration costs).
- If a carnival is cancelled, after the first event is conducted, no refund will be given.
- If a carnival is postponed and re-scheduled to another date, a 75% refund will be issued to competing Clubs that cannot compete at the re-scheduled event.

25. IRB SAFETY REPORTING PROCEDURES

In conjunction with the Surf Sports Committee, the IRB Competition Panel has created some IRB safety reporting documents for all IRB coaches to fill out for every IRB training session.

These documents include an Injury Report, Risk Assessment Form and Daily Training Log. The Daily Training Log and Risk Assessment Form must be filled out prior to every session and if necessary, the injury report must be filled out as soon as an injury occurs.

Please take note if an injury does occur, a SLSQ injury report form and a marine incident report form must be filled out as well as the IRB injury report. Copies of these documents must be sent in with the IRB incident report form.

These documents must be returned to Daniel Homer at Surf Life Saving Queensland at the end of every month. The first due date for these is at the end of the month your club started training. The forms will be collated and filed in the event of any injuries sustained during training and/or competition.

Any queries should be directed to the Sport Development Coordinator Daniel Homer on (07) 5566 1012 or dhomer@lifesaving.com.au.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Should further information be required please contact the Sport Team at:

rbennett@lifesaving.com.au

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