



Surf Life Saving Australia - Circular

Title:	2024 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships Scrutineering Circular
Document ID:	Circular 62/23-24
Audience:	State/Territory Surf Sport Managers, Directors, Club Secretaries, Branches, State/Territory CEO's Sport Standing Committee, Aussies Team Managers
From:	Sport
Date:	28 March 2024
Summary:	This document contains information relating to Craft & Equipment Scrutineering for the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2024

KEY INFORMATION

Skis and Double Skis

- At Aussies 2024 there will be random scrutineering of a high percentage of single and double surf skis.
- Scrutineering of single and double skis will not be compulsory. It is strongly recommended however that you have your ski scrutineered prior to the commencement of competition.
- All competitors are encouraged to attend the scrutineering area to ensure that your craft complies with SLSA specifications.
- If your ski is scrutineered after an event and is underweight, over or under width or the quick release pin does not operate, you may be disqualified from that event.
- All boards and skis must carry manufacturer compliance decals.
- Skis which are scrutineered and which meet requirements will carry the Aussies 2024 Scrutineers sticker.
- Skis which are selected for random scrutineering have 1 hour from that notification to be presented to the scrutineers for scrutineering. If the craft is not presented disqualification action will be commenced.

Boats

- At Aussies 2024 there will be compulsory scrutineering of surf boats for, at a minimum, safety scrutineering and weight checks, before being taken onto the beach for competition.
- In addition to the above, all equipment used in surf boat competition shall be subject to random full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions and ancillary fittings against specifications at any time before, during or immediately after competition. SLSA reserves the right to carry out random scrutineering checks at any time throughout the Championships.
- If boats are underweight and/or equipment is non-compliant after use in competition, the competitors may be disqualified from further competition in the Championships and further action may be taken.
- Boats which are scrutineered and which meet requirements will carry the Aussies 2024 compliance sticker.

Other equipment

- At Aussies 2024 there will be no compulsory scrutineering of boards, reels, lines, belts, swim fins and rescue tubes. There will however be random scrutineering of this equipment. If scrutineering needs to be carried out at the scrutineering area, instead of on the beach, competitors will be advised when they must present the equipment before it can be used again in competition.
- At the Aussies 2024 there will be no compulsory scrutineering of short and long boards used in Board Riding events but there will be random scrutineering

NOTE: the onus of compliance is with the competitor using the craft / equipment during competition.

Should further information be required please contact the events team at: events@slsa.asn.au



1. GENERAL

The Scrutineering Coordinator will have delegated authority over the eligibility, or otherwise, of all competition equipment to be used in the Championships in conjunction with the Championship Referee and Deputy Referees. Any disqualifications or penalties imposed may be subject to protest or appeal as outlined in the current edition of SLSA Surf Sports Manual and any subsequent bulletins and/or circulars.

For the Australian Surf Life Saving Championships 2024 (Aussies 2024) there will random scrutineering of single skis and double skis. There will be no compulsory scrutineering required of boards, reels, lines, belts, swim fins and rescue tube before marshalling for competition, provided that surf boards and skis carry manufacturer compliance decals.

For Aussies 2024 there will be no compulsory scrutineering required of short and long boards used in Board Riding Events.

For Aussies 2024 there will be compulsory checks and random scrutineering of Surf Boats.

At any time before during or immediately after competition any equipment used in competition may be subject to full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions, and ancillary fittings against specifications (refer www.slsa.com.au). SLSA reserves the right to carry out random scrutineering checks at any time throughout the championships.

2. SLSA SPECIFICATIONS & POLICY STATEMENTS

All Surf Sports Manual references are in reference to the [current Edition of the Surf Sports Manual](#).

c) Surf Lines and Waxed Surf Lines

Surf Lines and waxed surf lines used for belt races, R&R and March Past events may be tested for a minimum diameter of 6mm. In the case of waxed lines, excess wax shall be removed prior to testing.

Note: The purpose of this check is to ensure that the line has not been stretched beyond safe limits prior to waxing. The actual line is being tested – not the diameter of the wax in and around the line. The length of surf lines except for March Past and dry R&R events shall be a minimum of 250 metres with a minimum breaking strain of 273kg (at the time of manufacture). Such specifications may also be checked.

For more detailed information refer to the current Edition of the Surf Sports Manual > **(Section 04 – Swimming Events: Appendix A)**.

U15 R&R Competition may use alternative reels or lines based on competition conditions outlined ([Members Areal](#) > *Document Library* > *Sports* > **R and R Chapter 3 (U12-U15 5A Person)**).

For March Past, refer to Surf Sports Manual > **Section 10.1.1 (b) – March Past Event**).

b) Reels and Surf Belts

These items of equipment used for Belt Races, R&R and March Past may also be subject to scrutineering for safety and compliance with their respective specifications.

For more detailed information refer to the current Edition of the Surf Sports Manual > **(Section 04 – Swimming Events: Appendix A)**.

c) Rescue Tubes

The rescue tubes used at The Aussies 2024 must be in strict accordance with the requirements of the Lifesaving Gear & Equipment Specifications, page 8 ([Members Area](#) > *Document Library* > *Governance* > *4 Specification s* > *SLSA* > **(Lifesaving Gear & Equipment Specifications)**).



d) Swim Fins

Swim fins used at the Aussies 2024 must be in strict accordance with the specifications contained in the Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 3 – Lifesaving events and Section 4 – Swimming Events**).

e) Boards & Skis

Boards and skis shall be constructed in strict compliance with the current [Surf Craft Specifications](#). ([Members Area](#) > Document Library > Sports > Craft and Boat Specifications).

Note: If an approved SLSA rescue board is to be used in the Champion Lifesaver and/or Patrol Competition or other competition events it is required to meet only the specification of the Malibu Racing Board. In this regard it is not compulsory to have a manufacturer's compliance sticker on rescue boards. Scrutineers will accept approved registered rescue board manufacturers for scrutineering prior to the commencement of lifesaving event competition.

f) Boats

Boats must be constructed in strict compliance with the Boat Specifications ([Members Area](#) > > Document Library > Sports > Craft and Boat Specifications) which details the specifications of these craft.

g) Board Riding

Short and Long Boards must comply with the specifications contained in the Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 07 – Surfboard Riding Events**). Such craft may be subject to random scrutineering at the request of the relevant Referees.

h) Use of video cameras on Surf Boards and Skis

The use of one video camera per craft is permitted in competition on all surf boards (except Nipper Boards) and skis, provided the camera is installed on a mounting device and toggle strap supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

Note: The use of video cameras is not permitted on any Nipper Craft.

Installation on 3.2m racing surf boards shall be placed anywhere between the hand grips closest to hand grips closest to the nose and the nose of the craft.

Note: Any video cameras attached to a SLSA rescue board used for competition must be placed in a similar position as described for 3.2m racing surf boards.

Installation on single and double skis shall be in front of the foot well.

The weight of any plugs permanently installed into the craft to attach the video camera shall be included in the overall weight of the craft. The weight of other (not permanently installed) mounts and camera are NOT to be included in the overall weight of the craft.

Installation on board riding short and long boards shall up to the discretion of the rider, provided that the video camera is installed on a mounting device and toggle strap, supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

As per Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 2.7.4 – Use of Video Camera on Surf Boards and Surf Skis**).

k) Use of video cameras in Surf Boats

The use of video cameras is permitted in competition provided they are installed on a mounting device and toggle strap supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

Installation shall be permitted on the splash board (front deck), on the tank opposite the rowers' seats and rear deck.



The weight of any plugs permanently installed into the boat to attach the video camera shall be included in the overall "*bare weight*" of the boat.

The weight of other (not permanently installed) mounts and camera are NOT to be included in the overall "*racing weight*" of the craft.

The Boat Sweep (only) is also permitted to have a video camera on a helmet (worn by them) provided that the camera is installed on a mounting device and toggle strap supplied or recommended by the manufacturer of the device.

As per Surf Sports Manual > (**Section 2.7.5 – Use of Video Camera on Surf Boats**).

3. PROCESSES

Australian Youth, Masters and Open Surf Life Saving Championships 2024

a) Reels, Lines, Belts, Rescue Tubes and Swim Fins

If equipment is non-compliant after use the in competition, competitor/s may be disqualified from further competition in the championships and further action may be taken.

b) Surf Craft:

The following conditions apply for and at Aussies 2024:

- There will be no compulsory scrutineering required of boards before marshalling for competition provided that the craft carry manufacturer compliance decals.
- There will be no compulsory scrutineering required of surf skis and double skis before marshalling for competition provided that the craft carry manufacturer compliance details.
- There is no compulsory scrutineering required of short and long boards used in the Board Riding Events.
- However, competitors are urged to check their craft for safety and compliance prior to use in competition. Scrutineers will be available to assist in this process.
- At any time before during or immediately after competition any boards or skis used in competition may be subject to full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions, and ancillary fittings against specifications i.e., random scrutineering may take place at any time throughout the championships.
- A large proportion of the skis used at Aussies 2024 will be subject to random scrutineering, for, at a minimum, weight, width and the action of the quick release pin.
- Upon receiving a ticket requiring a craft to be scrutineered, competitors will have one hour to attend and have their equipment scrutineered. Note that a team manager could attend with the ski. A photo will be taken of the ski to ensure that the correct craft is taken to scrutineering. Non-attendance will result in the commencement of disqualification procedures for the athlete.

Craft being checked and failing scrutineering shall be treated as follows:

- i) If craft is found to be underweight at scrutineering prior to its first use in competition, the competitor may rectify the fault or provide a substitute craft for scrutineering.
- ii) If craft is underweight after use, the competitor may be disqualified from further competition in the championships and further action may be taken.
- iii) If craft is deemed unsafe, the competitor may rectify fault or provide a substitute craft for scrutineering.
- iv) If craft fails to comply with specifications [apart from i) and ii) above] then such craft shall not be permitted to be used in further competition. In addition, if such failure is deemed to have occurred due to alterations being carried out on the craft after manufacture, then the competitor may also be disqualified from further competition in the championships and further action may be taken.

It should be clarified that, if a competitor (and/or team) is excluded from an event, then any other competitor (and/or team) who would otherwise not have qualified in that heat, would then be advanced in the competition.



Exclusion of a competitor (and/or team) for non-specification equipment found in a scrutineering check before a round/event, will not be retrospective to earlier heats or competitions and will not advance (other) competitors (and/or teams) who were thus eliminated.

c) Surf Boats:

Surf boats shall be constructed in strict compliance with the Design and Manufacture of Surf Craft and Surf Boats Specifications ([Members Portal](#) > [Document Library](#) > [Sports](#) > Surf Craft and Surf Boats Specifications) which details the specification for surf boats, electric pumps and other equipment and any subsequent bulletins that have been released.

- All surf boats shall be subject to random scrutineering including safety and specified approved equipment checks, and shall be weighed in. All equipment must be presented for scrutineering when called upon.
- Clubs are to ensure sufficient members are available to assist with carrying and presenting all boats to scrutineering.
- Boats will be required to be presented in their "Racing Weight" (197kg) condition i.e., "Bare Structural Condition" including seats, foot blocks, pumps but excluding oars, rowlocks, batteries, rescue tubes and any other additional equipment.
- Any protective padding etc. placed around the quarter bars and in other places in boats may be left in place for weighing but if a weight problem is noted, this may also be required to be removed from the boat along with other equipment for reweighing to determine the "Bare Structural Condition" weight.
- Boat sweeps to check keel strips before presenting to scrutineering.
- Once scrutineering has been completed and approved, the craft will receive an Aussies 2024 sticker.
- In addition, at any time before during or immediately after competition, any equipment used in competition may be subject to full scrutineering including safety, weight, dimensions, and ancillary fittings against specifications (refer [Members Portal](#) > [Document Library](#) > [Sports](#) > Surf Craft and Surf Boats Specifications) i.e., random scrutineering may take place at any time throughout the championships.
- Failure to comply with any of the above may render your team or club disqualified from the Championships.
- Please refer to the [timetable of events](#) for the days and grade of events that will **take priority** for scrutineering process. The most current timetable of events are located at <https://sls.com.au/aussies/>.

In addition to the above, at marshalling boats may be further checked for safety that may include a check that any rowlock fixing devices are taped over, where necessary, with waterproof tape to prevent injury.

Boat Scrutineering will take place in the surf boat drop off area as per map on Page 6 below. Surf Boats will be scrutineered and taken onto the beach or stored in the trailer parking area.

Note: Competitors, team managers coaches and boat, board, ski, and swimming captains are strongly urged to familiarise themselves with the specification details set out in the above-mentioned bulletins/circulars/policies and to ensure their boats/craft/reels/lines/belts/rescue tubes comply with these specifications.

Clubs that have no knowledge of the above Bulletins/Circulars/Policies, will not be excused if the contents and directions contained in the above Bulletins/Circulars/Policies are not followed.



4. SCRUTINEERING TIMETABLE AND LOCATION

SURF BOATS

All boats selected to be scrutineered must be presented for scrutineering. Scrutineering times are as follows (note: times are subject to change pending availability of scrutineers):

Saturday 13 April	9am-2pm
Sunday 14 April	9am-2pm
Monday 15 April	8am-4pm
Tuesday 16 April	8am-4pm
Wednesday 17 April	8am-4pm
Thursday 18 April	8am-4pm

Location: Boat Scrutineering (indicated by yellow) will take place on the grass area in the Surf Boat Trailer Parking area at Alexandra Headland. Access will be via the surf club parking entrance at the Alexandra Parade and Mari Street intersection (indicated by the green line).



SURF SKIS

All surf skis selected for scrutineering must be presented to the scrutineering area adjacent to the Maroochydore SLSC in the surf club car park. **Scrutineering times are as follows (note: times are subject to change pending availability of scrutineers). This information will be updated in Stack Team App and on the Aussies 2024 website before the championships begin:**

Friday 12 April	12pm-4pm
Saturday 13 April	9am-3pm
Sunday 14 April	8am-4pm
Monday 15 April	8am-4pm
Tuesday 16 April	8am-4pm
Wednesday 17 April	8am-4pm