



Surf Life Saving Australia Circular

Title: 2025/26 Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen Final Carnival Circular
Document ID: Circular 54/25-26
Department: Sport
Date: 27 January 2026
Audience: Officials, Team Managers, Presidents, State Sport Managers/Directors and Secretaries, Competitors
Summary: Final Information relating to the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen for all Athletes, Coaches, Managers & Officials

This Final Carnival Circular should be used as reference information by all Athletes, Coaches, Team Managers, and Officials appointed to the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen.

This circular provides details of the event information for the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen. Please refer to the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen Entry Circular for further event information or via the website ironseries.com.au.

The overall winner of the male and female Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen will be awarded automatic qualification into the 2026/27 Shaw and Partners Iron Series.

The Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen is a dedicated unique pathway event purely for individual U19 competitors. To be eligible to compete in the 2025/26 Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen all competitors must be eligible to compete in the 2025/26 season as individuals in the U19 age group only (as per the rules in the current SSM). U17 competitors are not permitted to enter.

Note, competitors are to wear the supplied Shaw and Partners Iron Series High-Vis Vest, their club cap and LiveHeats wristband.

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



EVENT INFORMATION

TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

Date	Time	Event
Friday 30 January Next Gen Round 1 Enduro	12:30pm	Warm Up Commences
	1:00pm	Team Managers Meeting
	1:15pm	Male Marshalling
	1:30pm	Male Heats (approx. 10-12 minute Iron) Top 10 to qualify to Final (Order: Swim, Ski, Board)
	2:00pm	Female Enduro (Final) (Order: Swim, Ski, Board)
	2:40pm	Male Enduro (Final) (Order: Swim, Ski, Board)
Date	Time	Event
Saturday 31 January Next Gen Round 2 Specialist	7:30am	Warm up Commences
	8:00am	Team Manager Meeting
	8:15am	Male Marshalling
	8:30am	Male Heats (approx. 10-12 minute Iron) Top 10 to qualify to Final (Order: Board, Swim, Ski)
	9:00am	Female Specialist – Run Male Specialist - Run
	9:10am	Female Specialist – Board Male Specialist - Board
	9:25am	Female Specialist – Swim Male Specialist - Swim
	9:40am	Female Specialist – Ski Male Specialist - Ski
	10:00am	Female Specialist – Iron (Staggered Start – Board, Swim, Ski)
	10:15am	Male Specialist – Iron (Staggered Start – Board, Swim, Ski)
Date	Time	Event
Sunday 1 February Next Gen Round 3 Eliminator	7:00am	Warm up Commences
	7:15am	Team Manager Meeting
	7:45am	Male Marshalling
	8:00am	Male Heats (approx. 10-12 minute Iron) Top 10 to qualify to Final (Order: Ski, Board, Swim)
	8:15am	Female Marshalling
	8:30am	Female Eliminator (Race 1 – Ski, Board, Swim) (Race 2 – Board, Swim, Ski) – 14 Starters
	9:00am	Male Eliminator (Race 1 – Ski, Board, Swim) (Race 2 – Board, Swim, Ski) – 14 Starters
	9:30am	Female Eliminator Final Race – 8 Starters (Swim, Ski, Board)
	9:45am	Male Eliminator Final Race – 8 Starters (Swim, Ski, Board)
	10:10am	Presentation of Overall Top 3

**Program is subject to change based*



FORMATS

Heats – There will be no heats for females for the 2025/26 Next Gen competition. There will be heats in place for males, they will be conducted over a short Iron Course (10-12 minutes) to arrive at a final of 20 competitors. The Final 20 will then take part in each of the Next Gen formats below for each day of competition.

Enduro (Friday) - A 30 to 35-minute Iron race over an M-Shaped or Traditional Course. Each of the disciplines of swim, board, ski will be completed two or three times (dependant on course selection) with competitors taking on the surf break multiple times. **Order: Swim, Ski, Board**

Specialist (Saturday) - Four separate 4 to 5 minute races, one for each discipline of swim, board, ski and run. At the conclusion of the 4 separate races, the final Iron race will be conducted with a staggered start commencing from the finish arch. The athlete ranked 1st after the 4 Specialist races will start on 'GO' with the remaining athletes then undertaking a handicap start in sequential order in accordance to their ranking. *Please be advised that additional time penalties will apply if an athlete does not start, does not finish, or is disqualified in any, or all, of the 4 single discipline races. Further information to be supplied by the Referee after the assessment of surf and weather conditions.*

- Race 1 – Run.
- Race 2 – Board.
- Race 3 – Swim.
- Race 4 – Ski.
- Race 5 – Iron (Board, Swim, Ski)

Eliminator (Sunday) - Three separate, 12-minute long Iron races starting with 20(+) competitors, with the last 6 finishers in each race eliminated, until 8 are left in the final race. There is a 5-minute break between each race.

- Race 1 – Ski, Board, Swim
- Race 2 – Board, Swim, Ski (14 Starters)
- Race 3 – Swim, Ski, Board (8 Starters)

DRAWS & RESULTS

LiveHeats

All draws will be done via LiveHeats. Results will also be published via Live Heats:

<https://liveheats.com/slsa>

All athletes are expected to bring their LiveHeats wristband with them on the day.

POINT SCORE SYSTEM

The 2025/26 Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen will be conducted with the following point score to ensure individual round winners are recognised and rewarded. It will also provide an overall leader board where consistency is recognised and rewarded.

Every round will be a 20 to 1 point score for the final. If an athlete fails to finish, disqualified, or chooses not to take part in a round they will receive 0 points for that round. Points will not be allocated for the heats. Should a final have more than 20 competitors, only the first 20 competitors will receive points (i.e. if there are 22 competitors in the final, the competitors who finish 21st and 22nd will receive nil points.

Following the conclusion of 3 rounds the male and female athlete with the highest overall point total will be awarded automatic qualification into the 2026/27 Shaw and Partners Iron Series. A minimum of 2 rounds of the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen must be completed in order for final results and point scores to stand. If less than two rounds are completed no positions will be awarded for athlete qualification into 2026/27 Shaw and Partners Iron Series from Next Gen Series.



POSITION	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3
1	20	20	20
2	19	19	19
3	18	18	18
4	17	17	17
5	16	16	16
6	15	15	15
7	14	14	14
8	13	13	13
9	12	12	12
10	11	11	11
11	10	10	10
12	9	9	9
13	8	8	8
14	7	7	7
15	6	6	6
16	5	5	5
17	4	4	4
18	3	3	3
19	2	2	2
20	1	1	1

COUNTBACK

In the event athletes are tied at the conclusion of the series a countback based on each athlete's highest placing in each of the 3 rounds will be conducted as follows:

1. If both athletes are tied on points. i.e. if 2 athletes are tied on points and athlete A has the following places R1 – 1st, R2 – 3rd, R3 – 4th, he/she will prevail over athlete B with the following places R1 – 2nd, R2 – 4th, R3 – 2nd
2. If both athletes were again tied after this process the countback will continue to their next best place. i.e. if 2 athletes are tied on points and athlete A has the following places R1 – 1st, R2 – 2nd, R3 – 5th, he/she will prevail over athlete B with the following places R1 – 3rd, R2 – 4th, R3 – 1st.
3. If athletes cannot be split on points or positions across all 3 rounds – the athlete with the highest place in the 3rd Round will prevail. i.e. if both athletes are tied on points and Athlete A has the following places R1 – 2nd, R2 – 5th, R3 – 1st, he/she will prevail over Athlete B who has recorded the following places R1 – 1st, R2 – 2nd, R3 – 5th.

HANDLERS

Each competitor will be allowed one handler per event. Duties will be to assist in the deployment, and collection of the competitor/s equipment. Handlers are permitted access into the competition arena if they are dressed in the correct attire.

Each competitor must provide their own fluoro handler bib for their handler and this must always be worn by the handler in the competition area when assisting a competitor. No handler will be allowed within the competition area without their bib.

Handlers must not provide a competitive edge for any competitor. If a handler appears to be doing so, they could front a Carnival Disciplinary Committee and could have that athlete removed from competition.



Handlers when not assisting competitors **MUST** stay in the designated area on beach and are not allowed to wander around the competition area.

Note: Infringements incurred by handler, coach, or other person in a competitor's team in this rule will be applied to the competitor as if the competitor had committed the infringement.

SWIMWEAR & LYCRA

Competitor hi-vis pink lycras will be available for collection prior to marshalling on day 1. Competitors will be provided one lycra for the duration of Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen and must be worn each day.

All competitors are to wear club caps during competition. As per SLSA Sport Manual section 2.5.2 c) A competitor shall not be disqualified if a cap is displaced or lost after the start of an event, provided that officials can identify that the competitor correctly completed the course/race.

Competitors who forcefully remove their cap during transition can be disqualified at the discretion of the officials.

Competitors must wear approved competition dress as detailed in Section 2.5.1 of the current SLSA Surf Sport Manual Edition.

COMPETITION BRIEFINGS

A briefing for Team Managers and key Officials will be conducted by the Event Referee the morning of each round on beach, approximately half an hour prior to racing commencing. Please listen to PA announcements for timings.

PROTEST AND APPEALS

In the event of a protest by a competitor in the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen there will be no right of appeal as the Referee's decision, in consultation with the Deputy Referee shall be final.

In dealing with the protest – the Referee has the discretion to **(but not obligated to)**:

- Speak to any further person he/she believes is appropriate and /or
- View any video or broadcast footage that may assist in his/her decision

All Placings are deemed final upon the Referee declaring the results as confirmed. No protest can be lodged after the confirmation of the results.

CRAFT SCRUTINEERING

Boards and surf skis must meet current specifications of SLSA.

All competitor craft are subject to scrutineering at any time prior to, during or after the event. Competitors and/or handlers must comply with the directions of the event scrutineer and present their crafts for scrutineering prior to the commencement of each Round.

PERSONAL SPONSORSHIP

No personal sponsors are permitted to be advertised on athlete swimwear as part of Next Gen. Please be aware that the following Sponsors have exclusivity in the following categories for the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen:

COMPANY	EXCLUSIVITY CATEGORY
Shaw and Partners	Financial Services
DHL	Logistics
Isuzu	Automotive
QANTAS	Airline



Westpac	Financial Services
Engine	Swimwear
BRP	SeaDoo water craft & Can-Am/Power craft
Bondi University	University

TEMPORARY TATTOOS

All temporary tattoos are confined to the Event Sponsors for the Shaw and Partners Iron Series – no other temporary tattoos displaying a sponsor will be permitted.

Temporary tattoos are confined to the sponsors outlined in the above table.

PRESENTATIONS

During any presentations or media appearances, competitors must wear the event lycra race singlet, branded cap, and/or a supplied Event shirt. No other personal sponsor branding can be worn at these times.

GEAR & TRAILER COMPOUND

The Trailer Compound will be located in the Miami Beach SLSC car park, south of the club.

SAFETY

All Competitors and Officials are referred to the Introduction on page (i) of the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and in particular but not only paragraphs (d), (e) and (f). Paragraph (d) states:

“Surf lifesaving can be inherently dangerous. Serious accidents can and often do happen which may result in property damage, physical injury and even death. All members are assumed to have voluntarily read and understood this warning and accept and assume the inherent risks in surf lifesaving.”

Water safety as part of the competition, is ultimately the responsibility of the Safety and Emergency Committee and Competition Committee, based on the advice of the Safety Coordinator, the Event Referee and Officials in determining postponement or cancellation of any or all events, or relocation to an alternate venue in accordance with Section 1 - Competition Safety, of the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual.

The Event Referee and Safety Coordinator will conduct safety briefings to Officials and Competitors before commencement of competition and during the event as required.

COMPETITION MANIPULATION

The SLSA National Policy on Competition Manipulation and framework covers all SLS Events that are conducted by SLSA, State Centres, Branches and Clubs including special events, conducted by third parties sanctioned by an SLS entity and any event, competition or series connected with Surf Lifesaving. Please refer to Policy Document 5.11 for further details.

ANTI DOPING

Surf Life Saving Australia supports the Australian Government, the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Olympic Committee, and Sports Integrity Australia (SIA) in their efforts to eradicate the use of drugs in sport. SLSA has published an anti-doping policy, which will be adhered to for this event.

Please be aware that random drug testing could take place during the Shaw and Partners Iron Series Next Gen.

It is highly recommended all competitors and club members (including coaches, handlers, and support personnel) complete the SIA online e-learning program to ensure all personnel are aware of contemporary issues pertaining to anti-doping. The link to access this e-learning program is: <https://elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au/>. Further to this, it is highly recommended that each team, under



the direction of the management, undergo at least one anti-doping education and awareness activity as a group.

It is recommended all competitors and club member (including coaches, handlers, and support personnel) utilise the SIA [Check Your Substances](#) reference site, or phone 1300 027 232.