

Inverloch Junior Newsletter



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The Inverloch Junior Newsletter is all about celebrating the efforts of our junior members and their achievements throughout the season.



Training

SRC

What an incredible experience! Over the New Year's period, Inverloch trained and welcomed over 20 new SRCs to the Inverloch patrolling community. This was an unforgettable Surf Rescue Certificate course (SRC), and we couldn't be prouder of the amazing participants who joined us. During the course, participants learned essential rescue techniques and gained hands-on resuscitation experience. They were also able to keep a cool head during the scenarios the trainers got really into, which will no doubt help them along their future lifesaving journeys.

Bronze

On the week of the 8th to the 14th of December, we hosted the Inverloch bronze camp. It was one of our biggest groups ever, with 27 candidates and 14 trainers and water safety throughout the week. The camp taught invaluable skills to our young members, including surf awareness such as being able to identify rips, DRSABCD techniques to save a life, first aid to treat a plethora of injuries, and rescue techniques, just to name a few. It was amazing to see everyone learn so many new skills, make new friends, and gain confidence in the water and on the beach, as well as see so many go on to patrol, join the IRB race team, or be involved in other aspects of the club. Well done to everyone who completed the course.

However, the week would have been nothing without the amazing team who put everything together. I would like to thank the trainers and the trainee trainers who taught all the content throughout the week and provided mentorship to the candidates. I would also like to thank our amazing caterers who cooked for us throughout the week; the food was amazing! We also had split accommodation for the first time ever, so thank you to the trainer who kindly donated their house for the week. Bronze camps are an important keystone of our club, and I am so grateful to everyone who contributed to its success and made it such an unforgettable experience!
- Finley Withers - Inverloch Bronze Camp Head Trainer



Nippers

On 27th of December, 2024, the 2 week nippers program started up again. 288 kids from the age of 5 to 13 enjoyed learning a whole bunch of lifesaving skills and playing in the sand. As per usual the competitive games of beach flags throughout all the age groups proved to most popular. All the learning and training was put to good use as on the 4th of January, the nippers at Cape Paterson came to Inverloch to compete against our nippers in a range of events including flags, beach sprints, aqua camérons, board and wade relays. At the end of the two weeks u13 nippers, Felix and Florence were named the male and female nippers of the year.



This 2024 season was the second year of the starfish nipper program at Inverloch SLSC lead by our amazing age manager Abby Tate. Kids of all abilities are paired with a Watersafety mentor for the duration of the nipper program, with the goal to introduce the joy of the ocean while teaching them essential water skills. We had many returning nippers from last year and welcomed some new ones, all having an increased love for the water. Building from the foundations of last year, where many goals were to become comfortable in the water, the progression this year was wonderful to be a part of, watching the children porpoise, catch waves on boards and some even made it past the break. This is such a great program to be a part of, and I really encourage volunteers and participants to join starfish nippers 2025/26.

Australia Day Weekend

Club Champs

Club Champs was a competition featuring five events: sprints, flags, board paddle, 2 km run, and a swim. It was a day of friendly competition and camaraderie. The club members went head-to-head in each event, and the day was a success filled with encouragement and fun. The club champs was a celebration of the club spirit and community, showing the value of pushing personal limits. Congratulations to everyone who competed, and a special thanks goes out to Tim Robinson for being the one and only official. I hope to see you all again and others at the next club champs! Stay tuned for the awards, which will be shown at presentation night. - Kyler Booth—Competition Coordinator

IRB BBQ

With all the heat and people swarming the beach, the IRB team decided to take advantage of this weekend to have a fundraising BBQ. across 3 days, the IRB team sold sausages, Bacon and Egg sandwiches, Soft drinks and Zooper Doopers. As well as this Isaac Korbek and Campbell Blake stood on the corner of the carpark and surf parade, collecting donations. The weekend was a massive success raising money that will be funding the IRB team this competition season. Thank you to everyone that was involved in the BBQ

Youth Involvement Opportunities

YIPS

The Youth Involvement Program (YIPs), developed by LSV, is designed to keep young people actively engaged in surf lifesaving. The program is structured across three levels—Bronze, Silver, and Gold—each requiring participants to complete a set number of patrol hours and earn points through various activities such as patrol duties, water safety, and competition. To achieve the Gold YIPs level, participants must also complete a community project that benefits either the Inverloch community or the broader lifesaving community. Upon completing each level, participants are recognized and rewarded for their efforts and contributions to the club. On the 1st of January, the annual YIPS patrol was held, with Junior Club Captain Nelson Karutz getting his first opportunity to be a patrol captain.



Grommet Gurus

The Grommet Gurus program was established by Brydie Smith during the 2021/2022 patrol season to support new SRCs as they embark on their lifesaving journey. After being assigned to a patrol group, newly qualified SRCs are paired with a mentor from their patrol who guides and supports them through their first patrol experience. On the 18th of January, the Annual Grommet Guru patrol was held!