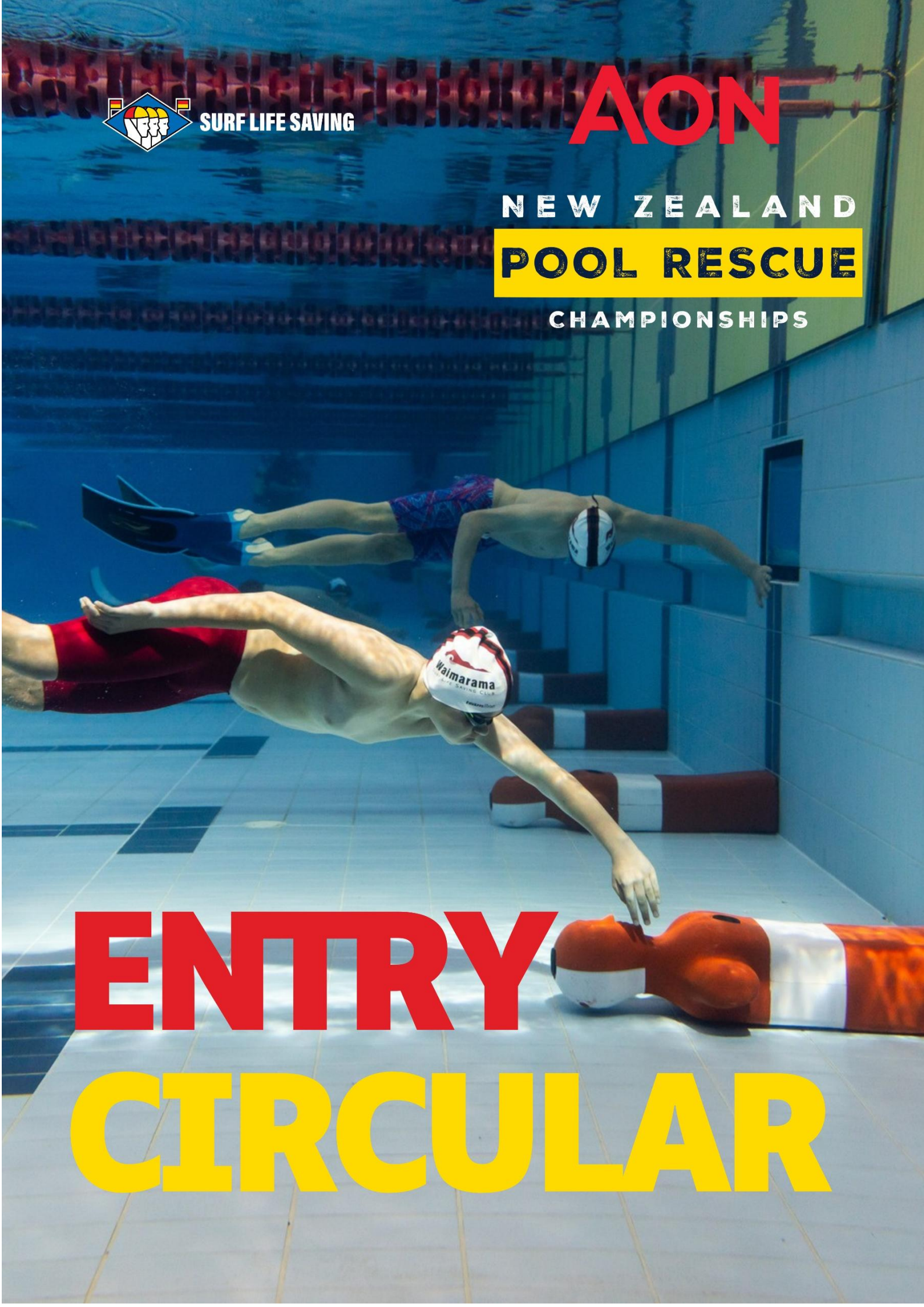
SURF LIFE SAVING

AON

NEW ZEALAND

POOL RESCUE

CHAMPIONSHIPS




# ENTRY CIRCULAR

## Competition Purpose:

The 2026 Aon New Zealand Pool Rescue Championships is New Zealand's pinnacle Pool Rescue event. Lifeguards and aspiring lifeguards compete for their clubs, demonstrating speed, skill, and teamwork against fellow members from across the country. It is also one of the key selection events for our national lifesaving teams.

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## Entry Information:

This circular provides entry related information only. A full event pack with logistics, marshalling, seating, and further event details will be shared with clubs at close of entries.

Entries can only be made using the SLSNZ Online Event Entry System (Waves). It is the expectation of SLSNZ that clubs will only allow members with the appropriate awards and capability to participate in the event.

**Entries Open:** Monday 6 July 2026

**Entries Close:** Monday 14 September 2026 @ 10:00am

**Entry Fee:** $100.00 per competitor (please note, individual clubs may charge different fees and/or have an earlier entry deadline to administer team entries)

**Eligibility of Competitors:** Please see Section 2.2 of the SLSNZ Pool Rescue Competition Manual for a comprehensive breakdown of eligibility criteria.

**Contact Details:** Please ensure Team Managers & Coaches contact details are updated and submitted via Waves by close of entries to ensure that the relevant people receive all updated information directly. Failure to list contact details may mean your club misses out on vital information.

**Entering Teams:** You must enter the entire team for all team events otherwise your entry will not be accepted. See information on composite teams on page 7.

**Seeded Races:** The entry system allows clubs to enter the current best time for each individual athlete. Please only enter times if you have evidence of their accuracy. If you don't know the athletes best current times, then please leave this blank.

**Entry Checks:** Following the close of registrations, session entry sheets will be published prior to the competition.
Team Managers are required to review their club entries and notify the event manager of any scratchings or team changes.
Details on the scratching process will be communicated to clubs once entries have closed.

## Rules & Regulations:

This event will be conducted under the rules contained in the following documents:

- SLSNZ Pool Rescue Competition Manual (U11-U14)
- ILS 2025 Competition Rulebook (Revised May 2026) (U15-Above)
- SLSNZ Constitution
- SLSNZ Regulations
- Sport Integrity New Zealand

*This event will be sanctioned by the International Life Saving Federation (ILS) and therefore all senior events will be delivered under the ILS Competition Rulebook*

## Age Groups:

Age groups are determined by the competitor's age at midnight on 30 September 2026
Please note, the SLSNZ 'season' runs from 1 July to 30 June with Pool Rescue events being scheduled before the beach-based events for the current season.
Competitors in senior divisions are able to 'race up' into any higher age division but can only enter and compete in one race once e.g. an U15 competitor can only enter in one of either the U15, U17, U19 or Open division in a particular event.

Masters are permitted to compete in only one age category in each team event. Where a team Event with two competitors is conducted the age of the younger competitor shall determine the age category of the team. Where a Masters Team Event with three or more Competitors is conducted, the total combined ages of all team members shall determine the division in which the team must compete.

**Note:** You will see Masters Individual Events in Waves only has a Male and Female event listed (e.g. Masters Female – 100m Obstacle Swim). Masters will enter as one group per event and be seeded from their seeded times from entries. Age group results, points and medals will be split into age groups using the Swimify Meet Manager system and be displayed on Swimify Livetiming.

## Key Times:

**Thursday 24 September**

| | |
|---|---|
| Team Managers Online Briefing: | 7:30pm |

**Friday 2 October**

| | |
|---|---|
| Surf Officials Meeting: | 7:10am |
| Team Managers Meeting: | 7:30am |
| Timekeepers Meeting: | 7:45am |
| Warm Up: | 7:00am – 7:40am |
| Events Start: | 8:00am |
| Events Conclude: | 1:15pm |
| Prizegiving | 3:30pm |

Please note, Seniors will not commence racing until Friday afternoon.

**Saturday 3 October**

| | |
|---|---|
| Surf Officials Meeting: | 7:10am |
| Team Managers Meeting: | 7:30am |
| Timekeepers Meeting: | 7:45am |
| Warm Up: | 7:00am – 7:40am |
| Events Start: | 8:00am |
| Events Conclude: | 6:45pm (Approx.) |
| Prizegiving: | End of session |

**Sunday 4 October**

| | |
|---|---|
| Surf Officials Meeting: | 7:10am |
| Team Managers Meeting: | 7:30am |
| Timekeepers Meeting: | 7:45am |
| Warm Up: | 7:00am – 7:40am |
| Events Start: | 8:00am |
| Events Conclude: | 1:15pm (Approx.) |
| Prizegiving | End of session |

## Events:

The following events and divisions will be held at the championships (listed in no particular order).

| **Individual Events:** | **Age Group:** | **Gender:** |
|---|---|---|
| 50m Obstacle Swim | U11 and U12 | Male and Female |
| 100m Obstacle Swim | U13, U14, U15 and Masters | Male and Female |
| 200m Obstacle Swim | U17, U19, and Open | Male and Female |
| 100m Manikin Tow with Fins | U15, U17, U19, Open and Masters | Male and Female |
| 50m Swim with Fins | U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U17, U19, Open and Masters | Male and Female |
| 50m Brick Carry | U11, U12, U13 and U14 | Male and Female |
| 50m Manikin Carry | U15, U17, U19, Open and Masters | Male and Female |
| 50m Rescue Medley (Brick) | U11, U12, U13 and U14 | Male and Female |
| 50m Rescue Medley (Manikin) | U15 | Male and Female |
| 100m Rescue Medley (Manikin) | U17, U19 and Open | Male and Female |
| 100m Manikin Carry with Fins | U15, U17, U19, Open and Masters | Male and Female |
| 200m Super Lifesaver | U17, U19 and Open | Male and Female |
| **Team Events:** | **Age Group:** | **Composition:** |
| Line Throw | U17, U19, Open and Masters | Male and Female |
| 4 x 50m Obstacle Relay | U17, U19 and Masters | Mixed only |
| 4 x 50m Obstacle Relay | U12, U14 and Open | Male, Female & Mixed |
| 4 x 25m Brick Relay | U12 and U14 | Male, Female & Mixed |
| 4 x 25m Manikin Relay | U17, U19 and Masters | Mixed only |
| 4 x 25m Manikin Relay | Open | Male, Female & Mixed |
| 4 x 50m Medley Relay | U17, U19 and Masters | Mixed |
| 4 x 50m Medley Relay | U12, U14 and Open | Male, Female & Mixed |
| 6 x 50m Mega Relay | U14 & Open | Mixed |
| 4 x 50m Pool Lifesaver Relay | Open | Male, Female & Mixed |
| 100m Patient Tow with Fins | U12 | Male and Female |
| 150m Patient Tow with Fins | U14 | Male and Female |

*Please note, where a relay is Mixed, this means an equal number of males to females (2 Male, 2 Female)*

## Event Programming:

The programme will be made available on the SLSNZ Website
Please note this may be subject to change based on entry numbers or other logistical considerations.

## Mega Relay Composition:

The make-up of age groups for the two Mega Relays for these championships are as follows:

**U14 Mega Relay – 6 x 50m**

- 1 x U12 Female Swimmer (can be U11)
- 1 x U12 Male Swimmer (can be U11)
- 2 x U14 Female Swimmer (can be U11, U12 or U13)
- 2 x U14 Male Swimmer (can be U11, U12 or U13)

**Open Mega Relay – 6 x 50m**

- 1 x U17 Female Swimmer (can be U15)
- 1 x U17 Male Swimmer (can be U15)
- 1 x U19 Female Swimmer (can be U15 or U17)
- 1 x U19 Male Swimmer (can be U15 or U17)
- 1 x Open Female Swimmer (can be U15, U17, U19 or Masters)
- 1 x Open Male Swimmer (can be U15, U17, U19 or Masters)

## Composite Teams:

Composite teams will continue in the junior division of the AON New Zealand Pool Rescue Championships (excluding the Patient Tow with Fins event).

Composite teams will continue for two events at the Aon New Zealand Pool Rescue Championships for Masters, those being the 4 x 50m Obstacle Relay & 4 x 50m Medley Relay.

Please refer to the SLSNZ Pool Rescue Competition Manual in regard to Medals and Points for events where there is composite teams.

## Composite Teams Entry Process:

1. Clubs should enter their athletes in the EOI event corresponding to the relay they wish to participate in. EOI events are at the end of the events listed in Waves.
   *Note: Only enter athletes into the EOI that are not already in the same event for your club team, there will be flexibility if situations change and athletes are needed for club teams or club teams are short and need to become a composite team.*

2. Following the closure of entries, the event management team will use the EOI to plan how many additional Composite Teams need to be drafted into the schedule prior to seeding the heats.
3. For the identified composite events offered, will be calling athletes to marshalling earlier than club team so we can make up teams on the side of the pool (similar to how we do on the beach). This is so teams are accurate and we can manage changes with the actual athletes looking to race as a composite.

## Medals & Points:

The points scoring system will be in line with all Regional & National Championships, where individual and team events will be 6 to 1 for 1st through to 6th.
Medals will be allocated to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place getters.

**Athletes representing a Region, State, National or similar organisation**
In situations where individuals/teams are representing a Region, State, National or similar organisation, they will NOT be eligible for placings and medals. The next best individual/team will receive the placing and medal.

Please refer to the Pool Rescue Competition Manual in regard to Medals and Points.

## Health & Safety:

This event will abide by the facility safety measures put in place and will adhere by the rules instructed by the facility management and lifeguard team.

**Parent, Guardian, Coach, Team Manager and Club Obligations**
It is the responsibility of clubs, through their coaches and manager, to ensure that each individual competitor is competent to safely compete.

**Pre-Existing Medical Conditions**
All participants and volunteers with a pre-existing medical condition must complete and submit a 'Pre-Existing Medical Conditions Declaration' form prior to the close of entries. These forms are to be submitted to the Event Manager via by email as early as possible. Once submitted, the forms will be reviewed by SLSNZ and a decision will be made on whether a 'Competitor Waiver' form is required to be completed.

It is important to note that a pre-existing medical condition includes a **concussion event** that has occurred prior to this event. Information on concussion can be found here

**Competition Uniform & Equipment:**
All competitors must wear their club cap, suitable swimwear and use appropriate fins outlined in the competition manual. SLSNZ will provide Manikins, tubes & bricks that comply with the SLSNZ Equipment Specifications Manual.

## Photography & Imagery:

By entering this event clubs and members acknowledge and agree that SLSNZ may use images and video taken during the event for media and marketing purposes.

Media accreditation: Only applications from Surf Life Saving Members and Media Agencies will be accepted for consideration.
If you are wishing to take photos at our competition then please read the Media Accreditation Application Information here and contact Event Management at least one week prior to the competition for access into competition areas.

Please note Use of Cameras and Video devices rules are outlined in the Competition Manual.

## Communication:

Event Management utilise a variety of tools to keep you updated with the latest event information and news.

**TeamReach** will be the primary platform for communication leading into and during the event. TeamReach can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play. Group Code = **2026NZPOOL**

- SLSNZ Website (event documentation)
- SLSNZ Sport Facebook (event photos & highlights)
- SLSNZ Sport Instagram (event photos & highlights)

**Swimify** will be our Livetiming platform for the Aon New Zealand Pool Rescue Championships.
You will be able to follow the results in real time, seeing split times as they happen, draws, approximate time schedule as well as points.

- Website version is free (not phone optimized) https://au.swimify.com/
- Or download Swimify Livetiming from App or Play Store (subscription based)

## Key Contact:

If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to contact Luke.


For event management & delivery
Luke Smith
National Events Manager
Surf Life Saving New Zealand

m 021 190 1432
e luke.smith@surflifesaving.org.nz

For event administration & support
Aoife Fyall
National Sport Administrator
Surf Life Saving New Zealand

m 027 714 1477
E aoife.fyall@surflifesaving.org.nz