



2020-21 Surf Life Saving Far North Coast Branch Awards of Excellence

Attention: Members, Clubs

Actioned by: Members, Clubs

Date: Friday 16th April 2021

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This flyer has information specifically for the Far North Coast Branch only.

- Refer to [Circular 3667](#) if you are after information on the 2020/21 Awards of Excellence from Surf Lifesaving New South Wales.

Summary	This flyer outlines information related to the Far North Coast Branch Awards of Excellence recognising the 2020/21 season. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1 – General Conditions • Section 2 – Summary of Awards • Section 3 – Nomination Process
Objective	To recognise outstanding achievements and contributions from members and clubs within the FNC Branch in the 2020/21 season.
Key Strategy Ref No.	1.4. Encourage and recognise members.
Action	Clubs are to endorse and submit one nomination per category to Sam Clutterbuck, Branch Administration Officer by Friday 14th May 2021 .

We all know them – members who care, give up their time and want to make a difference in the organisation. The Surf Life Saving FNC Branch Awards of Excellence celebrate the incredible people in our organisation and the impact they have on their clubs, its members and their local communities. This year’s awards will be presented at the SLS FNCB Awards of Excellence Function on Saturday 19th June 2021. This event will be held at the Ballina RSL, 1 Grant Street, Ballina NSW 2478

The winners for each award will go on to represent the Branch at the Surf Life Saving NSW Awards of Excellence function on Saturday 28th August 2021. This event will be held at Luna Park, Milsons Point, Sydney, NSW 2061.

Changes for the 2020/21 Awards

1. SLSNSW has introduced a new award – Support Operations Member of the Year.
2. The Patrol of the Year Award has been removed.



3. Youth Volunteer and Youth Surf Life Saver of the Year awards are open to members aged between 15-21.
4. Interviews form part of the selection process for Youth Volunteer and Youth Surf Life Saver of the Year.
5. Surf Sports Team of the Year can represent any Surf Life Saving sporting discipline as defined in the Surf Sports Manual.

Section 1 – General Conditions

General Notes

- All nominees must be SLSA financial members (or affiliated organisations). Nominations should focus on activities during the 2020/21 Surf Life Saving season, from 1st July 2020 – 30th June 2021.
- Where ages are mentioned, this refers to the members age as at 30 September in the 2020/21 season.
- Winners may be called upon to act as ambassadors of Surf Life Saving, both within the organisation and to external audiences.
- Surf Life Saving NSW State events or teams will not be considered for nomination for these awards.
- Paid employees at any level may apply for the awards listed. However, paid service will only be counted if applying for the Lifeguard of the Year or Coach of the Year awards. All other awards recognise voluntary contributions only. Unless otherwise specified, these awards are in recognition of individual achievements, team submissions will not be considered.

Guidelines for submission

- Each candidate will need to be approved by your club before sent to the selection process.
- **Clubs** are required to complete and submit an online nomination form by **Friday 14th May 2021**. No nominations will be accepted via email or post.
- **Applicants must address the criteria for their nominated award** (found in Section 3 of circular).
- Nominations are to include a digital profile image of the nominee (for individual awards) or logo (for group/team awards) via the online nomination form. Please ensure all nominee photographs are from the shoulders up.
- Nominations are to be completed online via the Jot Form. Please note there is a maximum word length for all awards. In the bottom right corner there will be an indication of either 200 or 400 words. Any extra information sent through will not be accepted.

Selection Process

- FNC Branch Winners for the 'Surf Lifesaver of the Year', 'Volunteer of the Year', 'Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year' and 'Youth Volunteer of the Year' will be invited to participate in an online interview when they proceed on to the SLSNSW Awards of Excellence; details of which will be available following the close of nominations. The selection panel will determine a winner from both a review of the application and the interview.
- Finalists from the remaining awards will be determined by a volunteer selection panel and will involve a review of applications.

FNCB Winners

- Winners of Awards listed in the 'SLSA Volunteer Awards' or 'SLSNSW' Awards list will be nominated for the SLSNSW Awards of Excellence. All SLSNSW categories are aligned with SLSA selection criteria, and as such there should be no need for winners to re-do applications following the SLSNSW Awards of Excellence.
- The SLSNSW Awards of Excellence will be held on Saturday 28th August 2021, in Sydney, NSW.
- Winners of the SLSNSW Awards will then go on to the SLSA Awards of Excellence which will be held on Saturday 6th November, 2021 on the Gold Coast, QLD.

How to Nominate

Nomination forms will be completed online again this season via Jot Form. The link to the 2021 Surf Lifesaving Far North Coast Branch Nominations are below:

[2021 SLS FNC Branch Nominations](#)

At this stage the nominations have been set to allow you to edit your submissions, however, once the nomination window has closed, your club's will not be able to add or edit submission.

Nominations OPEN – Wednesday 21st April 2021

- Reminders will be sent out in monthly newsletters and on Friday 7th May 2021

Nominations CLOSE – Friday 14th May 2021*

*There will be no extensions due to the length of time required to choose each winner by the Awards panel and to get the trophies/perpetual shields created and/or engraved.

Section 2 – Summary of Awards

SLSA Awards *Winners will progress to the SLSNSW Awards of Excellence*

Surf Lifesaver of the Year

An active patrolling member who has made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving frontline services.

Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year

An active patrolling member (between the ages of 15-21, this refers to the members age as at 30 September in the 2020/21 season) who has made an outstanding contribution to the delivery and development of surf lifesaving frontline services.

Volunteer of the Year*

An impressive member who has made a difference through their volunteering efforts.

Club of the Year – Winner is selected by Club of the Year Matrix

An outstanding SLS-affiliated club that is committed to improving the experience of its members, providing a safer environment for the community, and improving club operations.

Athlete of the Year**

An athlete aged 15 or older who has achieved sporting excellence in Open Aged Competition.

Youth Athlete of the Year**

An athlete aged between 15-18 (this refers to the members age as at 30 September in the 2020/21 season) who has achieved sporting excellence in Youth and/or Open Aged Competition.

Coach of the Year

An accredited coach who has made a significant contribution to athlete performance at a state, national and/or international level, to the development of athletes in SLS activities outside of surf sports, and to the educational development of other coaches in SLS.

Official of the Year – Nominated by the Director of Surf Sports

An accredited surf sports official who has made a significant contribution to both officiating at a state, national and/or international level, and to the educational development of other officials in SLS.

Trainer of the Year

An endorsed Trainer who is passionate about building the skills of others, consistently delivers a positive learning experience, and who encourages other members to engage in the delivery of training.

Assessor of the Year

An endorsed Assessor who is passionate about building the skills of others, consistently delivers a positive and supportive assessment experience, and who encourages other members to engage in training or assessment.

Community Education Program of the Year – Not Awarded at Branch Level, however, still nominate for SLSNSW A.O.E

A SLS-delivered activity or program which has significantly contributed to the organisation's mission of saving lives, creating great Australians and building better communities.

Innovation Award***

A well-researched concept, piece of equipment, program or event which is/has been implemented to improve any facet of Surf Life Saving.

*Applications that focus on significant achievements in one particular area may not be considered if this area is also covered by other awards (e.g. Lifesaver, Coach, Official, Trainer and Assessor of the Year).

**A youth aged competitor (i.e. aged 15 to 18 years as at 30 September in a season) may be nominated for both the Athlete of the Year and Youth Athlete of the Year. However, only results achieved in Open Age Events and Open Age Team representation are considered for Athlete of the Year Award.

*** The innovation may have been developed in conjunction with an external body/sponsor but must be owned by a member or group of members of an affiliated SLS club.

SLSNSW Awards

Youth Volunteer of the Year

An impressive member (between the ages of 15-21, this refers to the members age as at 30 September in the 2020/21 season) who has made a difference through their volunteering efforts.

Patrol Captain of the Year

A Patrol Captain who is passionate about improving the service their patrol offers to the community, or the experience it offers to members.

Support Operations Member of the Year

A Member involved in Support Operations (Duty Officer, Rescue Water Craft, Jet Rescue Boat, Offshore Rescue Boat, UAV) who has made a difference through their volunteering efforts in support operations.

Administrator of the Year

An Administrator who consistently goes the extra mile to make the lives of other members easier, or to make the services and programs delivered by the club run smoother.

Services Team of the Year

An outstanding team who have made a positive impact in Surf Life Saving or the community through their volunteer services.

Masters Athlete of the Year

An athlete over the age of 30 who has achieved sporting excellence.

Surf Sports Team of the Year

An exemplary Surf Sports Team that has achieved notable success. Teams may represent any Surf Life Saving sporting discipline as defined in the Surf Sports Manual.

Facilitator of the Year

A Facilitator who encourages members to engage in training or assessing, is passionate about building the skills of others, and consistently delivers a positive learning experience.

Section 3 – Nomination Process

Volunteer and Program/Innovation Awards

SLSA Awards

- Surf Lifesaver of the Year
- Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Official of the Year
- Trainer of the Year
- Assessor of the Year
- Community Education Program of the Year
- Innovation Award

SLSNSW Awards

- Youth Volunteer of the Year
- Patrol Captain of the Year
- Support Operations Member of the Year
- Administrator of the Year
- Services Team of the Year
- Facilitator of the Year

To nominate for the above awards, complete the online nomination form which includes answering the three questions below (with each answer no more than 400 words).

1. Tell us about the member/individual or program/innovation being nominated.
2. What has been achieved?
3. What impact has this had, and for whom?

For Surf Lifesaver and Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year awards, nominations require patrol hours to be uploaded for the 2018/19, 2019/20, and 2020/21 season (extracted from Surfguard).

When showcasing members' achievements, you may want to consider the questions below to boost the quality of your nomination...

- What relevant positions, roles, or responsibilities do they hold?
- Have they done something in response to an identified need or problem?
- Have they done something new or different to achieve results?
- Have they inspired others to think or to do things differently?
- Have they had to overcome any challenges to make a difference or achieve success?
- Do they model positive and supportive attitudes, behaviours and actions?

When showcasing the achievements of programs or innovations, you may want to consider the questions below to boost the quality of your nomination...

- What was the motivation or research which drove the program/innovation?
- What were the aims and objectives?
- What did it look like (location, duration, resources required etc.)?
- How was it evaluated to ensure it achieved its aims and objectives?
- Were there any challenges which needed to be overcome to achieve success?
- You may wish to attach photographs, include links to any promotional material created or media coverage received.

Sport Awards

SLSA Awards

- [Athlete of the Year](#)
- [Youth Athlete of the Year](#)

SLSNSW Awards

- [Masters Athlete of the Year](#)
- [Surf Sports Team of the Year](#)

To nominate for the above awards, complete the online nomination form which includes answering the two questions below (with each answer no more than 200 words).

1. How have they achieved sporting excellence? What were their results at major competitions (e.g. state, national, international)? For athlete awards, have they been part of a representative team and if so, how did they contribute to the success of that team?
2. How are they a positive role model, a good sportsman and/or an ambassador for Surf Life Saving? How do they contribute to broader lifesaving activities and engage with other members (including juniors)?

Club of the Year

The FNC Branch Club of the Year Awards will be determined by the Awards Matrix.

SLSNSW Club of the Year –

If you want to nominate your club of the Year for the SLSNSW Awards, you must submit all the information for this Award listed below.

To nominate for the Club of the Year award, complete the online nomination form, attaching your club's strategic and/or operational plan, and your answer to the five questions below (with each answer no more than 400 words).

1. Tell us about the club.
2. What has been achieved?
3. Why and how it has made a difference, and to whom?
4. What are your plans for future development and continuous improvement?
5. What is the ONE lesson that your club can teach and share with all other SLS clubs both here in Australia and internationally?

When showcasing club achievements, you may want to consider the questions below to boost the quality of your nomination...

- How does your club support the SLS 2025 Strategic Plan?
- What new initiatives, programs or events did your club implement last season that furthered your strategic objectives? How did you identify the need for this?
- How does your club deliver a range of sustainability and improvement measures across areas of governance, leadership, development, community engagement (or community support initiatives), and delivery of lifesaving services?
- What, if any, challenges did the club had to overcome to achieve success?
- How does your club management team model positive and supportive attitudes, behaviours and actions?
- You may wish to attach any photographs, reference letters or media coverage to your nomination.

Note:

If your club has been a successful Club of the Year at a Branch, State or National level in the past five (5) years, please note this on your nomination.

For more information on the Awards of Excellence from Surf Lifesaving New South Wales, please refer to [Circular 3667: 2020/21 SLSNSW Awards of Excellence](#).