

JUNIOR SURF FAQs

Question: My child is only 4 years old, can they still participate in Junior Surf?

Answer: Yes, so long as they turn 5 before the end of the year (31st December 2020). If they are 5 after this date then they will have to wait until next season to join in. We look forward to having them in the pink group next year.

Question: My child is not that confident, can my child participate in the age group below?

Answer: Yes. However, they must compete in their correct age group at any competitions, including Omanu Club Champs.

Question: My child is really confident, can my child participate in the age group above?

Answer: Yes. However they must compete in their correct age group at any competitions except at the Omanu Club Champs where they must compete in the age group they have been training with throughout the season.

Question: What age can my child start competing at carnivals?

Answer: Competitions are open to children in the U8 (Red) group and upwards. Omanu Club Champs is the only carnival that will have competition for the U6 and U7 ages (pink and orange groups).

Question: What do I need to bring to Nippers on a Sunday?

Answer: Omanu Coloured Age Group Cap, Omanu Rash Shirt, Sunscreen, Water bottle and a GREAT ATTITUDE! Parents please come along prepared to help out where you can as well!

Question: How do you maximise safety during Junior Surf Sessions?

Answer: Our group leaders are experienced and carefully consider the conditions and the ability of the nippers prior to carrying out activities, A risk assessment matrix is completed for each age group prior to each session to ensure that any risk is eliminated or minimised. We strictly comply with SLSNZ water safety ratios of 1:5 adults to children (this is why we need so many awesome parent helpers). We also have Lifeguards patrolling the beach during our sessions. Lastly we operate a sign in and sign out system that helps ensure we know exactly who is participate in each age group each week.

Question: How long does a Junior Surf session run for each Sunday?

Answer: Sessions are 1 hour - 1.5 hours long. Prior to Christmas, sessions are normally only 1 hour due to colder conditions and water temperatures.

Question: How will we know if Junior Surf is cancelled on a Sunday?

Answer: We will post any cancellations to our facebook page "Omanu Beach SLSC Junior Surf" before 8:30am on the Sunday. Please ensure you have 'liked' the page and clicked 'follow' and keep an eye on the page if you have any doubts about cancellations.

Question: I don't know if my child will like junior surf, can they just try it for a couple of weeks?

Answer: Please feel free to come along and watch Nippers for the first few sessions to see if you think your child might like to be involved but we will need them registered prior to joining in or trying it out to ensure we meet SLSNZ regulations.

Question: We have children staying with us some weekends / in the Christmas school holidays, can they come on Sundays too?

Answer: As stated above, all children attending Junior Surf must be registered members. If you have children staying with you long term or frequently please let us know if you want to join them up.

Question: What time do we need to arrive on Sundays?

Answer: Junior Surf Sessions start at 9:30am. Please arrive at least 15mins beforehand for a briefing. You will need to find your child's group to sign them in, this will take a few minutes but is extremely important so please ensure you leave enough time to do so.

Question: Do I need to be here while my child is at junior surf?

Answer: As a general rule, Yes. We have found that children tend to have more fun when they have a parent or guardians there to help out or cheer them on! If you do need to leave please talk to the Junior Surf Leaders so it can be handled on a case by case basis.

Question: My child might want to do Board Academy / Oceans but might not - can they give it a try?

Answer: Sure! So long as your child is a registered member and in the eligible age groups, (with 200m badge) they are able to attend Board Academy/Oceans. If, after 2-3 sessions, they are keen to keep participating please inform the office as you will need to pay the extra fees associated with these programmes..

Question: If my child is doing Board Academy/Oceans do we have to pay the junior surf fee as well?

Answer: Yes. The Junior Surf membership fee is for the yearly membership to Omanu Beach SLSC. The Oceans/Board Academy fees cover the coaching and gear costs associated with these programmes.

200M BADGE FAQs



Question: What is a 200m Badge?

Answer: All junior members (U9/Green Group and upwards) who wish to use foam or fibreglass paddleboards and/or swim beyond waist depth must pass their 200m safety test. This is a mandatory safety requirement which demonstrates that junior members are confident in the ocean and capable of returning to shore if they are separated from their equipment. For more information please see <https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/education/member-education/junior-surf-education/200m-safety-badge> or the 200m Badge tab on our www.omanubeach.co.nz website.

Question: How does my child get their 200m badge?

Answer: Candidates must swim 200 metres (using any stroke) in either ocean or pool. Following the 200 metre swim candidates will be expected to tread water for 1 minute. This 1 minute of treading water is included within the total time allocation. The pool swim is 8 minutes total with swim to be completed within 7 minutes and the ocean swim is 10 minutes with swim to be completed within 9 minutes. It is expected that candidates will demonstrate they are confident in the ocean and are capable of returning to shore if they are separated from their equipment. The examiner is an appointed Club Officer. Alternatively a verified swim coach or teacher can complete the 200m badge test and sign off the form (found on our Omanu website). The Form can be returned to the office. Once your child has verification of completing their swim, they will be given a 200m badge. This must be fixed to their togs or beanie.

Omanu 200m Badge testing will take place on the 31st of October from 10am-Midday at the Mount College Pool

For more info please see: <https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz>

If you cannot find the answer you are looking for please email the office on admin@omanubeach.co.nz