



Maroochydore Surf Life Saving Club

Cadet Mentor Program

The Maroochydore SLSC Cadet Mentor Program is an initiative of the Board of Membership and Administration, in conjunction with the Board of Surf Sports and Board of Junior Activities. The Program is designed to develop a positive relationship between the Junior members and the Cadet Mentor, who provides support and a positive role model to the Junior member as they shift into a Cadet and Patrol Active status within the club.

The Cadet Mentor is a voluntary position. The Mentor strives to give the Junior member a supportive and enriching experience at weekly Junior Activity training sessions. Each Cadet Mentor is assigned to an age group (U6 to U14) and will offer guidance, support and encouragement to their group.

Program Goals

The Cadet Mentor Program aims to:

- Provide a safe and supportive environment to Junior Activity members as they move through their age groups
- Provide a “rite of passage” pathway that is continuous and transparent and allows each Junior Member to develop their individual place and role within the club
- Ensure that as members move from Junior Activities to Cadet status have a valued place and visible role in the club
- Provide support to Age Managers and their assistants who train and develop Junior Activities age groups; particularly where an individual member may require elevated levels of support
- Draw on the high level of surf skills that exists in the U14-U17 Cadet age group and enable the transfer their skills and knowledge to Junior Activity members.
- Provide an opportunity for Cadet Members to develop their mentoring and leadership skills under the support of Club Officers and Advisors
- Enable Cadet Members to pass on their excellent surf lifesaving skills and knowledge to younger members
- Encourage participation in the Cadet Mentor Program by including the role as an achievement step in the Youth Excellence Program (YEP).

Program Structure

1. Mentors will be selected based criteria set out below. An expression of interest must be submitted.
2. Once selected the Cadet Mentor is inducted into the Program. The induction includes awareness of club and SLSA policies and procedures, relevant Code of Conducts and Program strategies and mentor techniques to best support younger club members.
3. Cadet Mentors will be issued with a high-visibility rash shirt marked with MENTOR, so they are easily identified by club members.
4. Program support is offered to Cadet Mentors by the BOSS U15-17 Liaison Officer and/or their nominated delegate
5. Each training morning the Cadet Mentor will sign the Water Safety Sheet to record their attendance at Junior Activities.

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6. The U15-17 Liaison Officer and/or Youth Development Officer will induct Age Managers and their assistants with information on the Program structure and expected goals.
7. Improvements and/or concerns regarding the Programs can be raised with the U15-U17 Liaison Officer, who will brief the Board of Administration and Membership. Relevant Board Directors or Club Officers will be consulted.

Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for selection the applicant must:

- be a financial member of Maroochydore SLSC
- hold the SLSA Surf Rescue Certificate or Bronze Medallion
- be aged between 13 years to 18 years
- be a participant in MSLSC's Youth Development Program (YEP)
- have fulfilled their patrol obligations for the previous season.

Cadet Mentor Commitment

- Comply with the SLSA Member Code of Conduct
- Attend Junior Activities Sunday training sessions and/or sanctioned BOSS training sessions.

Selection Panel

Applications to for the role of Cadet Mentor will be called for at the commencement of each Patrol Season (September).

Each application will be reviewed by the Board of Administration and Membership who will refer eligible members to the Director of Junior Activities and Director of Surf Sports for their comment.

A list of participants selected for the Program will be presented to the Board of Management for their endorsement.

Applicants will be notified of their selection by the U15-U17 Liaison Officer.

Program Review

The Cadet Mentor Program is a trial program in the 2017-18 season ending in March 2018. Evaluation is the key to quality improvement of a Program, and a review will be conducted after the trial period. Age Manager, Mentor and Mentee survey and sampling will be conducted. The results of the review will be provided to Directors for their consideration.

For more Information

If you would like to become a part of the Cadet Mentor Program, please fill in the Expression of Interest form and return to lifesaving@maroochysurfclub.com.au by the due date.

Associated Documents

MSLSC Cadet Mentor Expression of Interest form