



November 2024

## THE SEASON STARTS WELL

The sun is shining, the surf is pumping and the season is well and truly underway! Thank you to everyone who came to the season opener on the 1st November, it was really great to see so many returning members here and connect with some new members too.

With our focus firmly on rebuilding our numbers and **"Creating Connections and Confidence for Life"** I'd like to take the opportunity to remind you of some of the activities and groups that are on offer this season.

As usual, the Lifeguard team have stepped up to provide volunteer cover for the summer months, if any of you 'former' lifeguards think you might like to dig out the uniform and join us for some hours you'd be very welcome!

The senior, IRB and junior athlete teams are training hard for the season ahead under the guidance of our fab and dedicated coaching team.

If you're interested in what any of these teams are up to, would like to join the sessions or would just like to be added to the group chats to keep up to date then just give me a shout by email and I'll loop you in!





This summer sees the reinstatement of the junior development squad, now known as 'Mini-Oceans'. Lead by Matt Cairns, the 9 and 10 year old have been having a blast every Wednesday afternoon learning board skills, team races, rescue techniques and building an awesome team network, ready to join the Ocean's crew next year.

We've been a tad unlucky with the weather on Sundays which has had an affect on the Nippers turn out. While we're working hard to bring numbers back up, the coaches have found real value in being able to focus on the smaller groups, spending time working on boosting our youngest clubbies' skill set.

The Oceans parents are running the BBQ again this year to fundraise for their trip at the end of the season, their pre-paid 'convenience cards' for sausages have been a great hit!

Another addition to the weekly timetable is the Masters crew who have been steadily growing in numbers, hitting the beach for some ski, board and canoe sessions. It has been really great seeing these faces back here and we're already looking forward to the Masters event here on home soil in March!

Please remember that you are all very welcome to get involved in these groups either as a participant, helper, water safety, event official...whatever sparks your interest, just get in touch and we'll help you keep connected.

**REFRESHERS - Don't forget, all Patrol Captains can refresh all Lifeguards on any patrol so get on down at the weekend and refresh your skills.**

## **RESULTS!!**

There have been some early season comps and our clubbies have performed very well!

Twilight Board - Max Phillips and Bradley Douglas both raced really well for their first hit out, a great effort lads!

Eastern IRB Champs - Connor Mitchell, Oli Shivnan and Michaela Clearwater had an unbeaten streak at Ohope, winning all their races! A very promising start to their 2024/25 season.

The Gizzy Grinder - Max Phillips again fronting up for the enduro event on Friday evening coming in third and top Gisborne competitor. He then backed it up the next day coming in 4th, 2nd and 2nd in the Iron Eliminator event to secure 2nd overall in super consistent form!

Next - another twilight this Tuesday before the seniors hit the beach for the Whangamata Classic in early December.

## Dates to remember

- 7th December - Whangamata Classic, Seniors
- 19th December - The Annual Waikanae Junior Carnival and pizza night!
- 21st December - SLA and Patrol Support exam
- 17th + 18th January - Gisborne Junior Carnival
- 24th to 26th January - Senior ERCs, Mount Maunganui
- 1st February - Junior ERCs, Whakatane
- 7th + 8th February - Champion of the Bays senior carnival, Gisborne
- 15th February - Coastal Challenge, Wainui, Gisborne
- 20th - 23rd February - OCEAN'S JUNIOR FESTIVAL
- 1st + 2nd March - BP North Island IRB Champs, Papamoa
- 6th - 9th March - SLSNZ Senior Nationals, Gisborne
- 28th March - BP National IRB Champs, Waipu Cove
- 2nd May - Intermediate Lifeguard School, Mount Maunganui

**See you all at the beach soon!**