

NT Surfline 1 October 2009

NT Surfline is for members and supporters of Surf Life Saving Northern Territory. It provides brief information on the latest news and activities on the National and Territory scene. It is not intended to replace club newsletters & the primary source of news from your local club.

NEW ITEMS IN THIS EDITION ...

Great Weekend at the NT Surf Life Saving Championships

Surf Life Saving NT Interstate Team

URGENT: Surf Lifesavers needed for Swimming Champs at Lake Bennett

Hundreds at ACHPER Come and Try Days

Lifeguards Wanted

Great Weekend at the NT Surf Life Saving Championships

The 2009 Westpac Junior Surf Life Saving Championships and the Perkins Shipping Senior Surf Life Saving Championships, hosted by the Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club last weekend in Nhulunbuy, saw 176 competitors from the Gove Peninsula, Darwin, Mindil Beach, Broome and Walngawu Djakamirri Surf Life Saving Clubs compete in over 120 events.



Champion effort!
Gove Peninsula SLSC Open Mens Surfboat Crew

On Saturday, the Senior Championships kicked off with surfboat racing with Broome winning the Open Womens surfboat while Gove, coached by veteran sweep Charles Rue, smashed the opposition with a powerful Open Mens crew and backed up to win the surfboat relay.

The host club were severely tested by arch-rivals, Darwin, throughout the day. The U15 female events were dominated by Gove's Maddi Reid and Gabby Parsons while the male events were a

clean sweep for Darwin's Robert Gerlach. In the U17 events Sam Putland (Gove) won every event, including the ironman while clubmates Emma Whelan and Maria McGill took care of the female events but there were no gold medals for Gove in the U19 division where Broome's David Aristei and Darwin's Megan Gallagher were dominant. Both have improved enormously in the last 12 months and have developed into multi-skilled athletes with superb skills in surf swimming, board and ski paddling.

In the Open Mens events nobody dominated the gold medals. Talented Darwin swimmer Josh Mitchener won the Surf Race, Darwin's Ross Peasnell won a hotly contested ski race while Joshua Edwards took out the beach sprint and beach flags events. Gove fought back when a super-fit Alan Cross won the board race. It was different in the Open Women's events where outstanding Broome lifesaver Carrie Selten won four gold & board, ski, beach flags and beach



Darwin's Toby Barnes - a talented rising star



Open Ironman Alan Cross is congratulated by wife, Maree



Yanggurrk Wunungmurra was all smiles when she finished the U17 Board Race

sprint but she couldn't catch Megan Gallagher in the swim. Gallagher went on to also win the grueling ironwoman race, a remarkable effort considering she doubled her workload by competing in her U19 age category as well as Open events.

Masters competition continues to grow in NT surf lifesaving and all events were strongly contested. Darwin competitor Ross Peasnell, recently transferred from the Anglesea SLSC in Victoria, was unbeatable in the ski race despite the best efforts of Tony Snelling (Mindil Beach) and Charles Rue (Gove) who picked up the silver and bronze medals. In the female masters events Adrienne Willing (Gove) was too good in both beach events, Moira Wigley (Mindil Beach) won the swim and board races and Darwin President, Helen Gould, showed skill in the surf to win gold in the ski race.

The senior ironman race capped off a great day for the host club when Gove's Alan Cross defeated Darwin Surf Club's Sam Creek and Dale Frew. The three athletes were shoulder to shoulder in the swim and surf ski legs of the race and threw

themselves back into the water for the

board paddle with less than 5 metres separating them. In the closing stages of the board leg Cross opened up a few precious metres to take the lead back onto the beach - it was just enough to hold off Creek and Frew in the final 100m soft sand run to the finish, much to the delight of the home crowd.

The overall club points score for the senior championships was Gove Peninsula SLSC - 639 points, Darwin SLSC - 556 pts, Broome SLSC - 145 points, Mindil Beach SLSC - 130 points and Walngawu Djakamirri SLSC - 12 points.

SLSNT President Bob Creek said the standard of competition in the NT continued to increase and paid special tribute to Mundul Ganawurra, Rulminydjawuy Mununggur and Yanggurrk Wunungmurra for being the first members of the new Walngawu Djakamirri SLSC to contest championship events. Mundul was the centre of another special occasion when she was drafted by Broome for the All Age Relay resulting in a bronze medal.



On Sunday strong south-easterly winds pushed up a consistent surf break and a steady northerly inshore current but this didn't deter over 80 junior lifesavers in their age divisions from U8 to U14. Each age division contested the beach sprint, beach flags, board race and surf swim while the U11-U14s also competed in the ironman races.

The Gove Peninsula SLSC was completely dominant in the U8, U9, U10 and U11 categories thanks to age champions Tyler Beauchamp, Olivia

Russel, Nicolaas Ploegsma, Jordin Ritchie, Tom McGrath, Sinead Salisbury, William Briggs and Elizabeth Kestel. In the U12s Paul McNamara and Gemma Britton from Darwin were convincing age champions while in the U13s Darwin's James Parry was male age champion and Gove's Ellen Guiney had a great day to win the U13 female title.

Broome SLSC's Wade Clark won the U14 male title and shows great promise for the future as he now moves toward the senior competition. Wade was a very deserving recipient of the inaugural Tony Tilley Junior Encouragement Award.



The Mindil Beach U11 girls went in every event they could!

The overall club points score for the junior championships was Gove Peninsula SLSC - 731 points, Darwin SLSC - 321 pts, Mindil Beach SLSC - 66 points, Broome SLSC - 31 points.

Bob Creek praised the performance of Top End's young lifesavers, swimming and paddling their boards through nearly 300 metres of choppy surf conditions. "These young people have developed a superb level of skill and confidence in open water and are great ambassadors for their Surf Clubs and their communities," he said. "I am sure they will grow up to be terrific lifesavers."

And finally a big thankyou to all the referees, officials, work party, water safety and staff who made the 2009 Championships enormously successful.

Surf Life Saving NT Interstate Team

SLSNT will call for nominations for the Interstate Team next week. For 2010 there are a number of major changes:

- The interstate event be separated from the Australian Champs and held in Sydney and tied to the Australia Day weekend.
- Pool Rescue events have been added.
- Competitors can nominate for two major surf carnivals at Manly and Freshwater beaches - part of major Australia Day celebrations

This is certain to be a spectacular festival of surf sport. Members interested in the Interstate Team will need to be in Sydney from Friday 22 January to Tuesday 26 January.

URGENT: Surf Lifesavers needed for Swimming Champs at Lake Bennett

A team of Surf Lifesavers are needed to provide water safety for competitors in the 5km and 10km events of the Swimming NT Open Water Championships on Saturday morning, 3rd October. We're looking for an IRB crew, a Patrol/First Aid Base and around 6 board and ski paddlers. It's a great day and you'll witness some fantastic swimming performances while at the same time providing a vitally important safety service to the Swimming NT members. Need to be at the Lake at 7.30am for an 8.00am race start. Please call SLSNT on 8985 6588 or email surf@lifesavingnt.com.au if you can help.

Major Change to Ordering Surf Life Saving Gear & Equipment

From today the Creta / Surftrade ordering system is no longer available to supply patrol gear, manuals and equipment to clubs. In its place is a new and improved Online Shop which will open for business by mid October. The new system will reduce the cost to clubs of key products and expand the range of relevant gear available to clubs (including a range of fundraising merchandise for clubs). SLSA will notify all clubs next week with details of the new Online Store.

Hundreds at ACHPER Come and Try Days

Last week hundreds of school students attended a two-day 'Come and Try' event at Lake Alexander. Surf Life Saving ran two activity stations centred around Tube Rescue and Board Rescue and related competition events. Special thanks to Alistair Klinkenberg, David Snelling and Dominic Goegel for doing a brilliant job with the students.

Splashfest a great way to finish Water Safety Week

Surf Life Savers & Lifeguards contributed to a highly successful Splashfest Day on Sunday 27 September at the Darwin Wave & Recreation Lagoon - a great way to finish NT Water Safety Week. The Surf Life Saving display and the junior and senior board paddling and rescue activities were a big hit with Splashfest attendees. A big thankyou to Amanda Bagley, Jo Jo Wreford, Jack Adams and Amy Rudolph for doing such a great job.

General Information...

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General/Public Enquiries: surf@lifesavingnt.com.au

Key Dates for your Diary

Sat 3 October: Water Safety for Open Water Swim Champs at Lake Bennett, 7.30-10.30am.

Friday Jan to Tues 26 Jan: Interstate Champs, Manly & Freshwater Surf Carnivals.

Tue 16 March to Sun 21 March, 2010: Whereis Australian Surf Life Saving Championships, Kurrawa Beach on the Gold Coast.

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