

Australian Life Saving Team - Circular

Title:	2025 International Surf Rescue Challenge (ISRC) Selection Information & Athlete Nomination
Document ID:	Circular 73/24-25
Audience:	Youth and Open Athletes, Coaches, State/Territory Surf Sport Managers and Directors
From:	High Performance and Pathways
Date:	23 rd May 2025
Summary:	This Circular contains the relevant information to support selection of the Australian Life Saving Team for the 2025 ISRC in November, and also the Athlete Nomination Form which must be completed before 11:59pm on Wednesday 11th June 2025 .

SUMMARY

The International Surf Rescue Challenge or ISRC as commonly known is a biennial surf lifesaving competition that brings together national teams from around the world to compete in ocean and beach disciplines. The event features Open and Youth divisions, with each team comprising up to six male and six female athletes. Over three days of competition—referred to as "tests". Points are awarded in each event to determine overall team standings.

The ISRC began in its current format in 1999, evolving from earlier competitions like the Trans-Tasman and Tri-Nations Challenges. It provides an opportunity for nations to select an Open and Youth Team to represent Australia, and serves as a key preparation event for national teams leading into the Lifesaving World Championships.

The 2025 ISRC will be held at Mount Maunganui, New Zealand.

Test 1: Thursday 27th November

Test 2: Friday 28th November

Test 3: Sunday 30th November

The Australian Life Saving Team at this stage is likely to depart on Monday 24th November and return home on Monday 1st December, 2025.

ELIGIBILITY

Team eligibility is outlined in detail in the [Selection Guidelines](#).

In addition to other listed eligibility requirements, age eligibility is defined below.

Youth Team: Competitors who turn 16 to 18 years of age in 2026 (i.e. born 2008, 2009 or 2010)

Open Team: Competitors who turn 16 years of age or older on or before 31/12/2026. There is no maximum age.



TEAM COMPOSITION / SIZE

Open Team

The Open Team comprises of 12 athletes.

The Youth Team comprises of 12 athletes.

Each Team must contest events on the beach and in the ocean. For athletes to increase their chances of selection, selectors will review performances and results across multiple beach and ocean disciplines where possible.

DRAFT ISRC PROGRAM OF EVENTS

As a guide, the following events will comprise the 2025 ISRC Program for each of the three (3) tests (*program subject to change*).

EVENT TYPE	ENTRY CRITERIA
Youth Surf Race Woman	2 competitors per country
Youth Surf Race Man	2 competitors per country
Open Surf Race Woman	2 competitors per country
Open Surf Race Man	2 competitors per country
Youth Mixed Board Relay	1 team per country (2 competitors per team, 1 man and 1 woman)
Open Mixed Board Relay	1 team per country (2 competitors per team, 1 man and 1 woman)
Youth Mixed Surf Ski Relay	1 team per country (2 competitors per team, 1 man and 1 woman)
Open Mixed Surf Ski Relay	1 team per country (2 competitors per team, 1 man and 1 woman)
Youth Beach Sprint Woman	2 competitors per country *
Youth Beach Sprint Man	2 competitors per country *
Open Beach Sprint Woman	2 competitors per country *
Open Beach Sprint Man	2 competitors per country *
Youth Surf Teams Race	1 team per country (4 competitors per team, 2 men and 2 women)
Open Surf Teams Race	1 team per country (2 competitors per team, 2 men and 2 women)
Youth Surf Ski Race Woman	2 competitors per country
Youth Surf Ski Race Man	2 competitors per country
Open Surf Ski Race Woman	2 competitors per country
Open Surf Ski Race Man	2 competitors per country
Youth Board Race Woman	2 competitors per country
Youth Board Race Man	2 competitors per country
Open Board Race Woman	2 competitors per country
Open Board Race Man	2 competitors per country
Youth Rescue Tube Rescue Woman	1 Team per country (4 competitors)
Youth Rescue Tube Rescue Man	1 Team per country (4 competitors)
Open Rescue Tube Rescue Woman	1 Team per country (4 competitors)
Open Rescue Tube Rescue Man	1 Team per country (4 competitors)
Youth Beach Relay Woman	1 team per country (4 competitors)
Youth Beach Relay Man	1 team per country (4 competitors)
Open Beach Relay Woman	1 team per country (4 competitors)



Open Beach Relay Man	1 team per country (4 competitors)
Youth Board Rescue Woman	1 team per country (2 competitors per team)
Youth Board Rescue Man	1 team per country (2 competitors per team)
Open Board Rescue Woman	1 team per country (2 competitors per team)
Open Board Rescue Man	1 team per country (2 competitors per team)
Youth Beach Flags Woman	2 competitors per country
Youth Beach Flags Man	2 competitors per country
Open Beach Flags Woman	2 competitors per country
Open Beach Flags Man	2 competitors per country
Youth Ocean M Woman	2 competitors per country
Youth Ocean M Man	2 competitors per country
Open Ocean M Woman	2 competitors per country
Open Ocean M Man	2 competitors per country
Youth Mixed Ocean Lifesaver Relay	1 team per country (2 Men and 2 Women competitors per team)
Open Mixed Ocean Lifesaver Relay	1 team per country (2 Men and 2 Women competitors per team)

* Should more than four Countries enter the beach flag and beach sprint events the number of starters in these events shall be one competitor per country.

POINT SCORE

The point score for the 3 ISRC Tests are scored in a manner unique for this event. More information relating to how points are allocated will be supplied closer to the event.

KEY SELECTION EVENTS

As outlined in 3aa of the [2025-26 Selection Guidelines](#): When considering athletes potential for selection to the International Surf Rescue Challenge, the Selection Panel may (but is not obligated) to consider performances in all age categories at the following events where applicable,

- 2025 Australian Surf Life Saving Championships
- 2025 respective State Championships;
- 2025 Interstate Championships;
- 2024 Life Saving World Championships;
- 2024/25 World Ocean Series; and
- Any other notable competitions or carnivals contested during the 2024/25 season as decided by the selectors.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

All athletes wishing to be considered for selection must complete the [Athlete Nomination Form](#) by no later than 11:59pm on Wednesday 11th June 2025.

TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The selection panel will work towards finalising this team in June, with successful athletes being notified by the end of June 2025.



SELECTION PANEL & COLLABORATIVE PANEL

The collaborative Panel is made up of SLSA and RLSSA Operational Staff Members. The role of this panel is to provide governance to the appointment and selection process. They also appoint the Selection Panel which is made up of a convenor along with two panel members. SLSA and RLSSA are represented on this panel.

The Selection Panel will consult with the lead coaches in an advisory role.

TEAM LEVY

A team levy of \$1,200 will be applied for members selected in the Youth Team.