

St Clair Surf Lifesaving Club Newsletter

IRB Nationals

The 2018 BP Surf Rescue IRB Nationals were held last weekend, with many of the team excited to be heading back to Waihi Beach for some 2 stroke action. This year celebrated 50 years of BP sponsoring surf rescue craft and saw a significant rise in team entries. St Clair had 7 crews entered, all performing exceptionally well despite the tough conditions. New age grades this year meant racing was very competitive in all grades although unfortunately racing was cut short in the morning of day 2 as conditions were deemed too dangerous to continue.

Mikayla Garforth and Madison Crawford deserve special mention as they formed a crew 3 weeks before the competition and took away the two gold medals on offer in their age grade on day 1.

The young guns Jackson and Flynn in u19 men had some wicked results and will be ones to watch along with Cassidi and Jamie showing huge promise for next season! The IRB team welcomed back the Laughton sisters and it was great to see them gaining some great results along with Maysha and Briar in the open women's grade.

Overall a very successful weekend for St Clair taking away 2nd place and Top South Island club. Good luck to Steph and Carla Laughton, as well as Mikayla Garforth and Madison Crawford who are trialing in Wellington next weekend for a spot in the New Zealand IRB team.

Committee News

Our most recent club committee meeting was held on the 9th of April at the surf club. The committee are proud to announce that Thomas Garforth has come onto the clubs committee in the vacant property role. Thomas has previously been a longstanding committee member and will add some value and experience to the current team.

The relevant representatives gave reports on recent national events with planning already getting underway for next season's nationals. This again highlights the success of our club this season with our teams performing to a very high standard.

From the meeting Michael is going to be undertaking a review of the patrolling season including feedback from patrol captains. If you have anything you wish to add can please feel free to get in touch with him.

Further Brent is currently undertaking a review of the clubs sports program including IRBs, juniors and seniors. This is been driven via feedback given at the recent club meeting. If you are interested in helping Brent with this review please get in touch with him as we look to continue to provide the best possible service for our members.



Congratulations

To long serving club member Joel Davies on the arrival of his baby boy, George, on the 4th of April! No doubt you'll see Joel out pushing the pram and walking the dog Charlie in St Clair soon.

Search and Rescue

Well done to our club members Rhys McAlevey, Matthew Bradley, James Coombes, Michael Trembath and Isaac Davies who were recently recognised by the Governor General of New Zealand for their efforts in the Taieri Floods in 2017. Great effort guys!

Upcoming events

We have the following upcoming events we think you should lock down in your calendar:

- 20 April; come to the club and support the Highlanders take on the Blues. The Bar will be open with light snacks also being on offer.
- 5 May; Club Prize giving is a must for all members as we gather to celebrate the success of the club in the 2017/2018 season. Some of our best lifeguarding achievements will be on show so come and join in on the celebration
- 25 May; Otago Surf Lifesaving awards. These are being held again in the Morninton Tavern. With plenty of St Clair members nominated for awards it promises to be a great night. We will also be presented the Otago sand champs trophy for the 31st year in a row!!!

Club Support

The club would like to extend a massive thank you to the team at Harbor Fish. Recently they held a fundraiser the "Bluff Oyster Bash" at Vault 21 and raised \$25,000 for Surf Lifesaving in Otago. As a club we are greatly appreciative of the support offered by Harbor Fish and hope our members can continue to support the local businesses that support us. Thanks heaps Harbor Fish, you are great New Zealanders.

If there are things you wish to add to the weekly Newsletter please don't hesitate to send things through to stclairslsc@xtra.co.nz

