

Date: 16/09/2026

To: Northern Region Members

From: Northern Region Sport Manager & LSC

Subject: 2026/27 Season Representative Events

The following memo provides information for those members who are wanting to be selected as either a coach, manager or athlete for the below representative events in the 2026/27 season.

- Trans-Tasman Tri Series
- Tangaroa Challenge

Trans-Tasman Tri Series

The Trans-Tasman Tri Series is a bi-annual event between SLSNR, NSW Central Coast and NSW Country branches. This representative event sees each region select teams of 18 members, (3 male/female from U17, U19 & Open age groups) to complete a full beach programme across three test events. This series is now into its 4th decade of competition, has a rich history with a huge amount of talent growing from the series. This season the Tri-Series is taking place in NSW, Central Coast.

Key Information:

Date: Sunday 10th January – Friday 15th January

Location: NSW, Central Coast

Expressions of Interest

If you would like to be considered for selection for the Trans-Tasman Representative team, please fill out the following form by **Sunday 4th October 2026, 11.59pm**.

Athlete Expression of Interest Form: <https://forms.gle/N8FBpKuix3sU8asr5>

2027 SLSNR Trans-Tasman Management Team

We are excited to announce the below members who will make up this year's Management Team. The below members have been endorsed by the SLSNR Lifesaving Sport Committee (LSC):

- Lauren Johnson (Head Coach)
- Josh Green (Assistant Coach)
- Leigh Storey (Team Manager)
- Assistant Team Manager: TBC*

*We are currently finalising our assistant team manager who will serve as the second male chaperone to ensure the management team reflects the 50/50 split. This member will be named in the coming weeks.

Selection Process

The selection process will be carried out in accordance with SLSNR's Athlete Selection Procedure. The below events/criteria will be used for this season's team:

- 17th October: Selection Event #1 – Muriwai, time TBC.
- 31st October: Auckland Senior All In (Selection Event #2) – Orewa
- Historic results where it is deemed relevant by the Selection Panel

For the first selection event we will be running the following events. As part of the EOI process you will be asked to select what events you would like to be considered for as part of selection and will therefore be entered in these races for the selection event.

- Beach Sprint
- Beach Flags
- Ski Race
- Board Race
- Iron (U19 & Open only (TBC))
- Diamond (TBC) (U17 only)
- Surf Race

The final team will be selected by the end November, with both successful and unsuccessful contacted via email.

Event Format

Below is an example of the event schedule from a previous series:

Events	Make up
Male Beach Sprint	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Female Beach Sprint	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
All Age Beach Relay	1 x U17 M & F 1 x U19 M & F 1 x O M & F
Male Surf Teams	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Female Surf Teams	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Male Ski Race	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Female Ski Race	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Mixed Ski Relay	2 x M 1 x F U17, U19, OP
Male Beach Flags	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Female Beach Flags	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Male Board Race	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Female Board Race	1 x U17, 1 x U19, 1 x OP
Mixed Board Relay	1 x M 2 x F U17, U19, OP
Mixed Tube Rescue	3 x M, 3 x F U17, U19, OP
Mixed Board Rescue	3 x M, 3 x F U17, U19, OP
Diamond	1 x M 1 x F U17
Iron person	1 x U19 M & F 1 x OP M & F
Lifesaver Relay	2 x Swim 2 x Board 2 x Ski 3 x Male Runners 3 x Female runners

Who is eligible?

To be considered for selection, athletes must:

- Be a current member of a SLSNZ club within the Northern Region
- Hold a current Surf Lifeguard Award/or patrol support for beach events only

- Meet the eligibility requirements for the relevant U17, U19 or Open division.

Selected athletes will also be required to sign an Athlete agreement and maintain the expected fitness, performance and behaviour standards.

Users Pay Component

Per previous years, this team requires a user pays contribution, with the remaining costs covered by SLSNZ. This season the user pay element will be \$1,000 per athlete.

If you have any questions about this user pay element, please don't hesitate to get in contact.

Tangaroa Challenge 2026

Tangaroa Challenge is a new fast-format representative competition that brings a new kind of rivalry to lifesaving sport. Athletes who are used to competing against each other in club colours will join forces to represent their area, taking on other area teams from around Aotearoa.

Launching in the 2026/27 season, the event brings U17 and Open teams together for a fast-moving half-day of surf and beach racing, with points building across the competition towards the overall Tangaroa Challenge title.

For athletes, it's a new opportunity to earn representative honours, race alongside some of the best competitors from neighbouring clubs and test themselves as part of an area team.

Key Information

When: Sunday 13th December, 2026

Time: 8.00am

Where: Mount Maunganui, Main Beach

Further information including the event circular can be found through the following link:

<https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/sport/national-competitions/tangaroa-challenge-2026>

Expression of Interests

If you would like to be considered for selection for the Tangaroa Challenge, please fill out the relevant form below:

Athlete EOI: <https://slnz.surveymonkey.com/r/TZCMBD6>

Coach/Team Manager EOI: <https://slnz.surveymonkey.com/r/G6PTQWC>

Athlete & Coach EOIs close on Sunday 4th October, 11:59pm.

If you are putting in your EOI please also fill out the following form to indicate your availability for attending the two selection events. This form needs to be completed by Sunday 4th October, 11:59pm.

Selection Event Availability: <https://forms.gle/wNCCP2osfm1AABH99>

Who is it for?

Tangaroa Challenge is a representative event for selected U17 and Open athletes from SLSNZ clubs. Each team consists of eight athletes (x4 male & x4 female), who will compete across a mix of individual and team events.

Who is eligible?

To be considered for selection, athletes must:

- Be a current member of a SLSNZ club within the Northern Region
- Hold a current Surf Lifeguard Award/or patrol support for beach events only
- Meet the eligibility requirements for the relevant U17 or Open division.
 - *U15 members will be eligible for selection for U17 teams.

Selected athletes will also be required to sign an Athlete agreement and maintain the expected fitness, performance and behaviour standards.

Selection Process

The selection process will be carried out in accordance with the Tangaroa Challenge Selection Procedure. The below events/criteria will be used for this season's team:

- 17th October: Selection Event #1 – Muriwai, time TBC.
- 31st October: Auckland Senior All In (Selection Event #2) – Orewa
- Historic results where it is deemed relevant by the Selection Panel

Event Format

Below is the event program. Key points to note in events below:

- All water events have a run start & run finish, including Board & Ski teams and mixed relay events.
- Final event program will be subject to conditions on the day and at the discretion of the EMC.
- In Teams format events (e.g. Ski Teams Race), should two or more teams be allotted equal points, the team whose full complement of Members first completes the course shall be awarded the higher placing.

Event	Composition	Points Allocation
Male Surf Teams Race	Teams to enter 2x Male competitors.	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Female Surf Teams Race	Teams to enter 2x Female competitors.	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Mixed Beach Relay	Teams to enter teams of 8, 4x Male & 4x Female competitors.	Points awarded: 1st place (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Male Ski Teams Race	Teams to enter 2x Male competitors	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Female Ski Teams Race	Teams to enter 2x Female competitors	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Male Beach Flags	Teams to enter 1x Male competitor.	Points awarded: 1st place (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Female Beach Flags	Teams to enter 1x Female competitor.	Points awarded: 1st place (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Male Board Teams Race	Teams to enter 2x Male competitors	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Female Board Teams Race	Teams to enter 2x Female competitors	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Male Beach Sprint	Teams to enter 1x Male competitor.	Points awarded: 1st place (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Female Beach Sprint	Teams to enter 1x Female competitor.	Points awarded: 1st place (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Male Iron Teams	Teams to enter 2x Male competitors.	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Female Iron Teams	Teams to enter 2x Female competitors	Team with lowest combined placings secures 1st place and awarded (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)
Mixed Tangaroa Relay	Teams to enter a team of 8 competitors to cover 2xRun, 2x Swim, 2x Board & 2x Ski legs. Each leg must have 1x Male & 1x Female competitor.	Points awarded: 1st place (9 points) to 9th place (1 point)

Key Contact

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