

Updated: 2020/21 Nutri-Grain Next Generation Series – Information Circular

Title: Updated 2020/21 Nutri-Grain Next Generation Series – Information Circular
Document ID: Circular 23/20-21
Department: Sport
Audience: State/Territory Surf Sport Managers, Directors, Club Secretaries, Branches, State/Territory CEO's Sport Standing Committee.
Summary: This circular contains updated relevant details for competitors in the 2020/21 Nutri-Grain Next Generation IronMan and IronWoman Series.

This document has been prepared with the best intentions based on current State Health Authority information regarding COVID-19 restrictions and related border movements. However, as has been noted over many months this information is constantly changing and as such all athletes, coaches and supporters should be prepared to allow for some flexibility in their planning. The SLSA Team will do their best to provide advance notice on the listed options and possible further amendments however, again, as has been witnessed over many months COVID-19 restrictions can be amended with little to no notice by the various State Health Authorities.

SUMMARY

This Circular should be used as reference information by all Athletes, Coaches, Team Managers, State/Territory centres and Officials appointed to the Nutri-Grain Next Generation IronMan and IronWoman Series.

UPDATES

- The U19 Next Gen Series will run across 2 weekends.

ROUND	FORMAT	DATE	LOCATION
1	TBC	Sunday 14 February 2021	Kingscliff, NSW
2	TBC	Saturday 27 February 2021	Kingscliff, NSW
3	TBC	Sunday 28 February 2021	Kingscliff, NSW

- The revised formats and starting times for the U19 Next Gen rounds will be dependant on entry numbers and will be confirmed closer to the commencement of Round 1.
- The under 17 age category has been cancelled for the 20/21 season. Only athletes that are eligible (as per the current Surf Sports Manual) to compete in U19 age category for the 20/21 season are permitted to enter the U19 age category. U17 athletes are not permitted to compete up in the U19 age category.
- Each athlete can only nominate 1 support person.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Should further information be required please contact the events team at:

events@slsa.asn.au

Surf Life Saving Australia

PO Box 7773

Bondi Beach NSW 2026

Phone: (02) 9215 8000

NUTRI-GRAIN NEXT GENERATION IRON SERIES

ENTRIES

- You do not need to re-enter for the new dates but if you can no longer take part please email events@slsa.asn.au
- Entries for the new dates are still open.
- Entry into the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series Rounds can be done via the Nutri-Grain Series Website <https://ironseries.com.au/next-gen/>.
- Entries for U19 Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series Rounds will close:
 - o Round 1 – Close 5 February 2021
 - o Round 2 & 3 – Close 19 February 2021
- Once the entry cap has been reached for each age group and gender entries will close. No seeding, qualification, selection process etc. will be conducted, “First in first served”.
- Entries for each round will not be accepted after these dates or on the day of competition.
- Entry fees for each Nutri-Grain Next Gen Round will be:
 - o One Round \$25.00
 - o Two Rounds \$40.00
 - o Three Rounds \$50.00
- Payment can be made with a credit card at the end of the online entry process.

CONTINGENCIES:

There must be at least 2 rounds completed for the Next Gen Series to be finalised. In the event only 1 round is completed the overall Next Gen Series winners and placegetters will not be announced and the qualifying spot into the 2021/22 Nutri Grain Series will not be awarded.

No further dates will be selected or allocated to the Next Gen Series post Sunday 28 February 2021.

Contingency A:

Two Round Series

In the event the Next Gen Series cannot commence on Sunday 14 February, the commencement of the Series will be further delayed to Saturday 27 February. The Series will then convert to a 2 Round Series only to be completed as follows:

ROUND	FORMAT	DATE	LOCATION
1	TBC	Saturday 27 February 2021	Kingscliff, NSW
2	TBC	Sunday 28 February 2021	Kingscliff, NSW

Similarly if only Rounds 1 (14 February) & 2 (27 February) can be completed (but not Round 3 – 28 February) The overall Series will be finalised and awarded at the conclusion of Round 2.

Contingency B:

One Round

In the event the first Round is completed on Sunday 14 February however Rounds 2 & 3 cannot be conducted. The overall Next Gen Series winners and placegetters will not be announced and the qualifying spot into the 2021/22 Nutri Grain Series will not be awarded.

ATHLETE UNAVAILABILITY DUE TO A COVID19 RELATED RESTRICTION – NEXT GEN

In the event an athlete or athletes cannot be in attendance at Kingscliff due to a COVID19 related restriction it will be a decision of the Carnival Committee as to whether a Round or Rounds will be conducted in the absence of the athlete or athletes. No defined number of unavailable athletes will be placed on this scenario – it will be assessed on a case by case, Round by Round basis by the Carnival Committee.

In the event an athlete is not permitted to attend due to COVID19 related restriction and a Round is conducted in their absence – that athlete will not be awarded points for that Round.

FORMATS

The revised formats and starting times for the U19 Next Gen rounds will be dependant on entry numbers and will be confirmed closer to the commencement of Round 1.

Formats could include either traditional style iron racing, Enduro M Shape, Super Sprint, Specialist or Survival. Once entry numbers and timetables are confirmed formats and start times will be published.

POINT SCORE SYSTEM

The 2020/21 Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series will be conducted with the following point score system for U19 age group to ensure individual round winners are recognised and rewarded. It will also provide an overall leader board where consistency is recognised and rewarded.

Every round will be a simple 20 to 1 point score for the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series. However, if an athlete fails to finish, disqualified or chooses not to take part in a round they will receive NIL points for that round.

For the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series the overall series point score will be decided over the 3 results of each athlete.

Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series

POSITION	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3
1	20	20	20
2	19	19	19
3	18	18	18
4	17	17	17
5	16	16	16
6	15	15	15
7	14	14	14
8	13	13	13
9	12	12	12
10	11	11	11
11	10	10	10
12	9	9	9
13	8	8	8
14	7	7	7
15	6	6	6
16	5	5	5
17	4	4	4
18	3	3	3

19	2	2	2
20	1	1	1


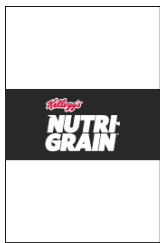

Countback

In the event athletes are tied at the conclusion of the series a countback based on each athlete's highest placing in each of the 3 rounds will be conducted as follows:

1. If both athletes are tied on 55 points. i.e. if 2 athletes are tied on 55 points and athlete A has the following places R1 – 1st, R2 – 3rd, R3 – 4th, he/she will prevail over athlete B with the following places R1 – 2nd, R2 – 4th, R3 – 2nd
2. If both athletes were again tied after this process the countback will continue to their next best place. i.e. if 2 athletes are tied on 55 points and athlete A has the following places R1 – 1st, R2 – 2nd, R3 – 5th, he/she will prevail over athlete B with the following places R1 – 3rd, R2 – 4th, R3 – 1st. This process will continue to include all 6 rounds.
3. If athletes cannot be split on points or positions across all 3 rounds – the athlete with the highest places in the 3rd Round will prevail. i.e. if both athletes are tied on 55 points and Athlete A has the following places R1 – 2nd, R2 – 5th, R3 – 1st, he/she will prevail over Athlete B who has recorded the following places R1 – 1st, R2 – 2nd, R3 – 5th.

COURSE BUOYS

SLSA will use the following buoys for the 2020/21 Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series.

SWIM	BOARD	SKI
Two Hard Large Boat Cans Cylinder Shape. Red with a black band across the middle.	Two Hard Large Boat Cans Cylinder Shape. White with a black band across the middle.	Two or three (course dependent), large inflatable cone shaped buoys. Orange with the SLSA roundel in the middle.
		

TEAM MANAGERS, HANDLERS AND COACHES

Due to COVID 19 restrictions every competitor in the Nutri-Grain Next Gen can only nominate one (1) person to support them at each Next Gen round (i.e. their Team Managers, Coach or Handler) Each athlete has submitted one person when they registered, if this person has changed please email events@slsa.asn.au by 5 February. Only approved, nominated support person will be allowed onto the event site. Currently spectators will be prohibited with security only allowing entry for those with the appropriate accreditation.

However if restrictions around mass gatherings are lifted or reduced and numbers permitted at each event is increased, then SLSA will make contact with each athlete to determine if an additional support person is required.

HANDLERS

Each competitor will be allowed one handler per event (this is not additional to the support person). Duties will be to assist in the deployment, and collection of the competitor/s equipment. Handlers are permitted access into the competition arena if they are dressed in the correct attire.

Each competitor must provide their own fluoro handler bib for their handler and this must always be worn by the handler in the competition area when assisting a competitor. No handler will be allowed within the competition area without their bib.

Handlers must not provide a competitive edge for any competitor. If a handler appears to be doing so, they could front a Carnival Disciplinary Committee and could have that athlete removed from competition.

Handlers when not assisting competitors **MUST** stay in the designated area on beach and are not allowed to wander around the competition area.

Note: Infringements incurred by handler, coach or other person in a competitor's team in this rule will be applied to the competitor as if the competitor had committed the infringement.

COMPETITION BRIEFINGS

A briefing for Team Managers and key Officials will be conducted by the Event Referee the morning of each round inside the host club, subject to COVID-19 rules and regulations.

The Officials to be in attendance include the Event Referee, Deputy Referee, Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator, and key Officials/SLSA personnel.

Clubs should have a minimum of one and maximum of two personnel attend the briefing.

DRAWS

Once entries close the Friday prior to each round, SLSA will create a random draw for all heats. The random draw will be published prior to the start of the event. All heats will be seeded as best as practicably and reasonably possible.

LYCRA PICK UP

Competitor hi-vis pink lycras will be available for collection at check in on the first round you compete in.

SLSA asks that any athlete competing in multiple rounds use the same lycra given to them at the first round they competed in.

START of RACES

Unless otherwise advised, all races shall be started on the beach approximately 15 metres from the water's edge (run start). Craft will be placed in front of the start line and as close as practicable to the water's edge. Handlers are not required for the start of events.

FINISH of RACES

Unless otherwise advised, all races shall finish as per the IronMan and IronWoman races (run finish). Craft and paddles may be abandoned after rounding the last turning buoy of the swim course. Handlers are to be used to remove craft and paddles from the course.

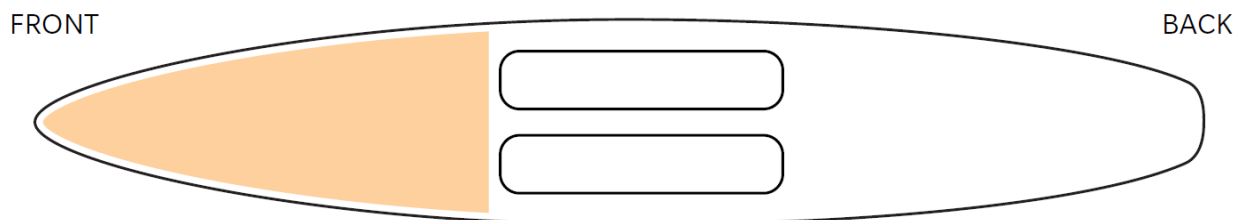
PERSONAL SPONSORSHIP

SLSA understands that athletes may have personal sponsors to have advertised on their swimwear, ski or board. Therefore, we require that the personal sponsor is submitted for approval to SLSA. Please be aware that the following National Sponsors have exclusivity in the following categories for the Nutri-Grain Series 2020/21:

COMPANY	EXCLUSIVITY CATEGORY
Nutri-Grain / Kellogg	Breakfast category (bars, bites, ball and drinks/squeezer products)
DHL	Logistics
Ampol	Automotive
Westpac	Financial Services
FINZ	Swimwear
BRP SeaDoo	watercraft/Power craft and Evinrude Motors

Board

- Athletes must place a minimum one (1) Nutri-Grain sticker anywhere within the shaded area below on their board
- Nutri-Grain sticker for the Board measures 850mm x 100mm
- Nutri-Grain stickers cannot be cut or altered in any way
- No personal competitor sponsor branding is to encroach on the Nutri-Grain branding area selected by the athlete
- Personal sponsor branding may be placed anywhere away from the Nutri-Grain sticker.



Ski

- Athletes must place a minimum two (2) Nutri-Grain stickers anywhere within the shaded area below on their ski
- Nutri-Grain sticker for the Ski measures 980mm x 140mm
- Nutri-Grain stickers cannot be cut or altered in any way
- No personal competitor sponsor branding is to encroach on the Nutri-Grain branding area selected by the athlete
- Personal sponsor branding may be placed anywhere away from the Nutri-Grain stickers



ATHLETE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SERIES

All athletes will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements and costs for the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series. Athletes will also be responsible for the transport and storage of their craft.

SAFETY

All Competitors and Officials are referred to the Introduction on page (i) of the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual and in particular but not only paragraphs (d), (e) and (f). Paragraph (d) states:

“Surf lifesaving can be inherently dangerous. Serious accidents can and often do happen which may result in property damage, physical injury and even death. All members are assumed to have voluntarily read and understood this warning and accept and assume the inherent risks in surf lifesaving.”

Water safety as part of the competition, is ultimately the responsibility of the Safety and Emergency Committee and Competition Committee, based on the advice of the Safety and Emergency Management Coordinator (SEMC), the Event Referee and Officials in determining postponement or cancellation of any or all events, or relocation to an alternate venue in accordance with Section 1 - Competition Safety, of the current edition of the SLSA Surf Sports Manual.

The Event Referee and SEMC will conduct safety briefings to Officials and Competitors before commencement of competition and during the event as required.

Risk assessors have been appointed to assist the SEMC to provide ongoing assessment of conditions and safety across the event area. They will create an effective communications channel to the SEMC and Competition Committee. Those Officials may seek advice from competitors and competitor representatives to ensure an informed opinion is provided and can be acted upon where appropriate.

COVID RESPONSE

Surf Life Saving Australia is currently developing a COVID Safe Event Plan that will outline the steps that will be taken to ensure that the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series is complying with government guidelines as well as medical advice received from a variety of medical professionals in response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Once complete and approved by the relevant government authorities the plan will be communicated to all event patrons to ensure the event is COVID 19 compliant and the safety and wellbeing of all is of the highest standard. Aspects of the plan will include:

Prior to Attending the Event

Before participating in the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series participants should not attend the event if in the past 14 days they have:

- been unwell or had any flu-like symptoms, or
- been in contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19, or
- any sudden loss of smell or loss of taste, or
- are at a high risk from a health perspective, including the elderly and those with pre-existing medical health conditions.
- Visited a COVID hot spot in the past 14 days.

Medical Checks on Site:

Whilst on site at the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series it will be crucial that SLSA continues to proceed with caution for all involved.

By extending the medical team to include more manpower, SLSA will be able to do absolutely everything necessary to ensure the safety of competitors, officials and SLS members who attend the event.

To ensure SLSA are monitoring the situation at hand, the following will occur:

- Physical distancing will be heavily enforced to ensure all athletes, officials and staff members will all need to adhere to the 1.5m distancing.
- Briefings, as much as possible will be held online or in small groups in line with government guidelines.
- Hand sanitisers will be located at several points around the site to ensure it will be readily available for use.

Tracking of Those on Site:

SLSA will implement the NSW Government QR code system, that requires staff, participants, Officials, Coaches, Team Managers, Handlers, guardians and contractors to download the application and enter details for the purposes of identification. This information will be stored by NSW Health and SLSA will not have access to this information.

The application will require them to sign in as they enter the site each day and you will be given a wristband so we know you have checked in and to track the number of people on site as this is limited.

Sanitary Process/Requirements:

As outlined above, SLSA will be setting up sanitary stations to ensure that sanitiser is readily available for all. Further to this gloves and face masks will be provided for Officials in key positions. Sanitary wipes will be available around the site and provided to the medical team and key Officials to allow the wiping down of readily used surface areas to occur on a regular basis.

Signage will be posted around the site to continuously remind participants and Officials to adhere to strict physical distancing guidelines.

Furthermore, SLSA will engage a cleaning contractor to have the site sanitised, as much as necessary to ensure appropriate COVID Safe measures are met. This will look to minimise the spread of any bacteria that may be present on site.

In addition to the conditions outlined above for the Nutri-Grain Next Gen Series, it is recommended that everyone involved in the event continue to practise good hygiene by implementing the following measures:

Hygiene - Clubs

- Ensure spaces at each club tent/area, surfaces and objects are regularly cleaned with disinfectant.
- Provide hand washing guidance to all participants and volunteers (http://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/).
- Promote regular and thorough hand washing by volunteers and participants.
- Provide sanitising hand rub to your participants and volunteers.

Hygiene - Individuals

- Athletes, Officials, volunteers and/or their parents/carers in the first instance, should carry hand sanitiser on them in order to enable good personal hygiene.
- If using tissues, place them directly in the bins provided.

- Seek to avoid the use of public toilets, however if necessary, ensure hands are washed thoroughly.
- An attendant to be in attendance to maintain a clean facility at all times.
- Each participant is to provide their own drink bottle that is clearly labelled and is only used by that individual. No sharing of drink bottles.
- No sharing of pens or clip boards, each volunteer must bring their own to the event.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the toilet.

Behaviour

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash hands with soap and water often.
- Use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.
- No spitting at any time.
- Wipe down all surfaces and objects with appropriate anti-bacterial/disinfectant wipes or soap, particularly those frequently touched. This includes door handles, light switches, kitchen surfaces, bathroom surfaces, phones, remote controls and any other high touch areas.
- Do not share drink bottles.
- Practice physical distancing. If someone comes and stands next to you, move around and ensure you implement social distancing requirements.

CRAFT SCRUTINEERING

Boards and surf skis must meet current specifications of SLSA.

All competitor craft are subject to scrutineering at any time prior to, during or after the event. Competitors and/or handlers must comply with the directions of the event scrutineer and present their crafts for scrutineering prior to the commencement of each Round. Times to be confirmed.

MATCH FIXING AND ANTI-DOPING

Match Fixing

The SLSA National Policy on Match Fixing and framework covers all SLS Events that are conducted by SLSA, State Centres, Branches and Clubs including special events, conducted by third parties sanctioned by an SLS entity and any event, competition or series connected with Surf Lifesaving. Please refer to Policy Document 5.11 for further details.

Anti -Doping

Members have responsibilities under Policy 5.2 Anti-Doping Policy and Policy 6.23 Illicit Drugs in Sport (both available online in the SLSA Members Portal).

It is strongly recommended that all Team Managers complete the online Sports Integrity Australia training module AND conduct at least one (1) anti-doping education activity with all competitors from the Club - <https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/resources/education>