

SLSQ U8 Board Training

1. Criteria

Under 8 Nippers participating in activities within Surf Life Saving Queensland affiliated clubs are approved to use an SLSA approved Soft “Nipper” Board on both Nipper & Training days, ONLY when ALL the following conditions are complied with:

- Prior to any training, the Under 9 Preliminary Evaluations must be completed.
 - A completed Under 9 Junior Activity Competency Record needs to be kept in the Documents section on Surfguard or the Club JAC can keep a registered list within your clubhouse. Please note you must not raise an Under 9 award in Surfguard.
- Training can commence from 1st January each year – (Exception North Queensland Branch from 1st August).
- Under no circumstance can an Under 8 compete in ANY competition board event.
- U8s on boards must be conducted on flat water only, NOT in surf conditions. (The definition of flat water can be found in Section 2 of this policy below).
- Participants must be Active, Financial members.
- The Club Risk Assessment must be completed by the coach and maintained as current.
- All U8 Board Training must be approved by the clubs Management Committee.
NOTE: The training approval form specifically requests the Age Group and Location to be provided.
- Correct Water Safety is in place

Clubs should provide U8’s with an introduction to Soft “Nipper” Boards as per the SLSA learner plan prior to any approved training session or at the end of the season prior to entering the Under 9 age group.

2. Flat Water Definition

Flat water is defined as; Water with no or little current, little wind influence and very small waves. Hazards are minimal and there is ready access to safe landing.

The Risk Assessable elements to determination of flat water for the conduct of Under 8 Board trainings are explained in the below table.

RISK	CONTROL LIMIT
Current:	No rip and minimal tidal current
Wind influence:	< 15 knots
Wave height and shape:	< 0.2 metre full or broken
Max distance from shore:	50 metres (In line with Competency)
Hazards:	No hazards
Access / Exit to training area:	Gradual slope, firm clean bottom, no structure

If any control limit is exceeded, then Under 8's on Boards cannot go ahead.

Any members taking part in Under 8 on soft nipper boards need to acknowledge this is taking place on the overall Club Risk Assessment document.