



# Pāpāmoa

SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

## PSLSC MEMBER NEWSLETTER

15th May 2025

### OUR PĀPĀMOA STARS GO GLOBAL

We are thrilled to celebrate the achievements of three exceptional young athletes from our club - Trelise Chote, Amelie Pearson, and Bella Davoren. They have been selected to represent New Zealand at two major international surf lifesaving events this year: the Battle of the Tasman in August and the International Surf Rescue Challenge (ISRC) in November. These wāhine continue to rise through the ranks and proudly showcase the talent, dedication, and strength of the Pāpāmoa Surf Life Saving Club on both national and international stages.

#### Battle of the Tasman – August, Gold Coast

This trans-Tasman clash sees New Zealand's top youth and emerging surf athletes go head-to-head with Australia's best. In 2023, the inaugural Battle of Tasman was held as a 'mini-Worlds' event to help develop and prepare athletes, along with their support teams, for potential selection to Lifesaving World Championship (LSW) National teams. The event was a success, and many of the youth and pathway athletes went on to compete at LWC2024, with athletes having a better understanding of the LWC event and what to expect in terms of competition and preparation.



Amelie Pearson



Trelise Chote



Bella Davoren

This year, Amelie Pearson has earned a spot on the New Zealand Youth Team, while Trelise Chote and Bella Davoren have been selected for the New Zealand Pathway Team (Team Grey) - an exciting stepping

stone in Surf Life Saving New Zealand's athlete development framework. All three bring strong all-round surf sport abilities to their respective teams and are sure to make a significant impact.

### **International Surf Rescue Challenge – November, Mount Maunganui**

Held on home sand this year, the ISRC is one of the world's premier surf lifesaving competitions, featuring elite teams from around the globe competing across multiple disciplines. Trelise Chote has been selected for the Junior Black Fins, New Zealand's elite youth national team - a huge honour that reflects her consistency, commitment, and leadership in the sport.



This is a proud moment for our entire club whānau, and especially for our Head Senior Coach, Jake Cowdrey, who has worked closely with these athletes over many seasons.

“To see Trelise, Amelie, and Bella representing New Zealand is incredibly special,” says Jake. “They’ve shown tremendous commitment to their training, and their success reflects the core values at Pāpāmoa of respect, encouragement, and a drive for excellence.”

Keep an eye out over the coming months as we follow their journeys. We'll be sharing updates and celebrating their achievements as they take on some of the world's best, with their Pāpāmoa family right behind them.

**Congratulations Amelie, Trelise and Bella!**

## SUPPORT LOCAL, SUPPORT MITRE 10 PĀPĀMOA!



**DID YOU KNOW** Mitre 10 Pāpāmoa has been proudly sponsoring our club since 2018?

**DID YOU KNOW** they've stood by us year after year, helping keep our volunteers equipped, our gear maintained, and our community safe?

**DID YOU KNOW** they're locally owned and operated - your neighbours, your mates, and your go-to team for everything from weekend DIY projects to big home renos?

**DID YOU KNOW** that by shopping at Mitre 10 Pāpāmoa, you're supporting a business that's had our back for over six years?

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A massive shoutout to the entire Mitre 10 Pāpāmoa crew - your continued support makes a real difference to our surf lifesaving whānau.



## LEADERS, LAUGHS & LIFELONG FRIENDS



Last month, one of our rising leaders, Emily Mardon, represented Pāpāmoa Surf Life Saving Club at the Surf Life Saving New Zealand Youth Development Camp (YDC). Held over four days on Motutapu Island in the Hauraki Gulf, the camp brought together young surf lifesavers from across the region for an action-packed programme of learning, challenge, and connection.

"YDC is all about developing leadership skills and making lifelong friendships, as well as connecting with other clubs," says Emily. "It was honestly awesome."

Emily had to apply through Northern Region Surf Life Saving, outlining her goals both within surf and in life. "They asked what my goals were, why I wanted to go, and why I thought I deserved to be there. It really made me reflect on my journey and future," she says.

The camp ran for three nights and four days, with eight teams competing in a series of physical and leadership-based activities.



Emily was part of the “Smurfs,” who paired up with the “Minions” to form the power combo “Sminions” for major challenges. While she’s careful not to give too much away (in true YDC tradition) Emily did share a few highlights.

“One of my favourite memories was kayaking and playing the evolution game. We also had this game where you had to swap kayaks mid-water when your number was called. Everyone was just trying not to fall in, it was hilarious and such a great bonding moment.”

The camp wasn’t just about fun, it was designed to push young leaders out of their comfort zones. Emily came away with stronger leadership skills, greater self-confidence, and a commitment to stepping up.

“I was surprised by how awesome the instructors were, and just how amazing and relatable everyone my age was. I made some real connections,” Emily shares. “I learnt to trust myself more, to be confident in my decisions, and to understand that mistakes happen, but you learn and grow from them. This camp really encouraged me to put my hand up for more opportunities and take initiative. I plan to bring what I’ve learnt back to help develop our younger lifeguards and shape the future of our club.”

Emily describes the friendships she formed as one of the most meaningful outcomes of the camp.

“I met heaps of amazing people. I was picked up on the first night by Holly, we hit it off straight away and now we’re planning to meet up over the summer. We’re all still in contact, we’ve got group chats and even catch up over Google Meets!”



Emily also credits mentor Olivia Kayes for helping her grow as a leader.

“Olivia really inspired me to come out of my shell. She encouraged me to be more confident around others and to go for those leadership opportunities. That made a huge difference for me.”

*Image from left: Olivia Kayes, Emily Mardon and Poppy Crouch*

Would Emily recommend the Youth Development Camp to other young surf members?

“100% yes. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to grow, make new friends, and connect with other clubs. Those friendships are so valuable, not just for now, but for your future in surf.”

And finally, the moment that’s become legendary:

“One unexpected memory I’ll never forget - the boys doing a catwalk in their dorm with boob tubes while all the girls were outside cheering them on. It was so funny. And of course, the ‘purple riot’ and our board meeting that turned into a full dance-off!”

If she had to sum it up? **"It. Was. Awesome."**

## LIFEGUARDING

### The IRB Long Haul is Back - and We Need You!



This Sunday 17th May, the epic IRB Long Haul Stage Challenge Race is hitting Pāpāmoa – and we're calling on club members to get involved. Crews will race from Ōhope to Mount Maunganui, stopping at key locations along the way to complete surprise challenges.

The race kicks off at Ōhope at 9am, with teams expected to reach Pāpāmoa Beach around 12.30pm. We're looking for volunteers to assist with setup and running the activities – no lifeguard experience needed, all club members are welcome to pitch in.

#### **Keen to be part of it?**

Head to the Club from around 11am. For questions email [jamie.mardon@hotmail.com](mailto:jamie.mardon@hotmail.com)

If you're not available to volunteer, no problem – it's still an awesome event to come and watch. Bring the whānau, cheer on the teams, and soak up the action on the beach!



# Eastern Region Junior Guard School – Registrations Closing Soon!

Registrations close: **Sunday 18th May 2025**

Course dates: **Friday 4th July, 6:00pm – Sunday 6th July, 3:00pm**

Location: **Mt Maunganui Lifeguard Service**

Now in its fifth year, the Eastern Region Junior Guard School continues to provide a fantastic development opportunity for Surf Lifeguards aged 14–16 across the region. The course is especially good for new lifeguards as it's designed to develop core lifeguarding skills, teamwork, and leadership, while fostering connections with other young guards throughout the Eastern Region.



## **Applicant Criteria:**

- Must be aged 14–16 years
- Must be a refreshed Surf Lifeguard
- Must be a current member of a Surf Lifesaving Club

## **Register Now:**

Candidate Registrations: [\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#)

Instructor Registrations: [\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#)

## POOL RESCUE

# REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

*Pool  
Rescue*  
25



## Pool Rescue is Back – Are You In?

Registrations are rolling in for our winter Pool Rescue Programme, but there's still room on the team, and we'd love to see even more of our awesome members get involved!

If you're keen to keep training and competing through winter, this is the perfect way to stay active, level up your surf sport skills, and have a blast while the ocean takes a break.

Training kicks off on Saturday 8th June and all the details including registration are on our website – [CLICK HERE](#) to check them out!

Don't miss out – join the crew and make winter count!





## JUNIOR SURF



# HELP US IMPROVE!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT

## JUNIOR SURF

& BE IN TO WIN A  
\$50 PETROL VOUCHER



The 2024/2025 Junior Surf season has wrapped up, and now it's your chance to help shape what next season looks like. Whether you loved every moment or saw areas that could be improved, we want to hear from you by filling out the End of Season Survey.

### **Why Should You Fill It Out?**

Because if you don't have your say, things can't change. Your feedback matters - it helps us figure out what's working, what's not, and how we can make Junior Surf even better for our kids, our whānau, and our volunteers.

### **PLUS – Be In To Win!**

Everyone who fills out the survey goes in the draw to win a \$50 BP fuel gift card - it only takes a few minutes!

### **Don't Wait!**

The survey closes Friday 23rd May – so don't miss out on the chance to help shape next season and score yourself a little reward at the same time.

**[Click here to complete the survey now!](#)**



## **Join the Junior Surf Committee for Next Season!**

We're already starting to look ahead to next season, and we'd love to grow our Junior Surf Committee with some fresh faces. Whether you're a seasoned club member or brand new to the Junior Surf scene, we're

on the lookout for enthusiastic parents and whānau who want to help shape the fun, community, and success of our Junior Surf programme.

### What's Involved?

- We meet once a month
- No prior experience or expertise needed
- Help organise and support our season, Sunday sessions, and fun events like the Junior Surf Disco and end-of-season celebrations

It's a great way to get involved, connect with other families, and support your kids as they grow in surf lifesaving. If you're keen or just want to know more, please email us at [juniorsurf@papamoalifeguards.co.nz](mailto:juniorsurf@papamoalifeguards.co.nz) and we'll add you to our mailing list for upcoming committee meetings.

MOVE OVER CANCER

**PINC  
&  
STEEL**



CHARITY FUNDRAISING EVENT | PAPAMOA, NZ

MOVEMENT | BREATH | SOUND

**Date: Sunday 18th May 2025**

**Time: 3:30pm – 5:30pm**

**Location: Pāpāmoa Surf Life Saving Club**

**All proceeds: go directly to the Pinc & Steel Foundation.**

**Tickets: \$55 + booking fee**



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