

Between the Flags

BETWEEN THE FLAGS - 2nd January 2012

Yamba SLSC members were prominent in the major awards in a field of 255 swimmers competing in 2km, 700 metre and dash-for-cash at the Yamba Ocean Swims on Main Beach on Monday.

Club captain Joe Dougherty caught a nice wave to record a time of 23mins 24 seconds secs to win the open male 2km swim in a tight race up the beach from Ben Schafer of Cremorne.

The Schafer family, who live in Sydney but spend plenty of their holiday time at Yamba, had a big day with Ben winning the open 700m swim in 7mins 44 secs from Yamba's Dylan Brown.

Mother Molly Schafer won the 40-49 female 700m and 2km age division, sister Jackie the 12-14 female 2km and uncle Jim Schafer the 60-69 male 700m and 2km swim division.

Yamba's Alyce Bennett had a final competitive hit-out before the 2nd round of the Nutri Grain ironwoman series at Portsea this weekend with a win in the open womens 2km in a time of 24 mins 56 secs, a 2nd in the open 700m and a win in the female dash-for-cash.

Dylan Brown, who attends school with brother Rory in Brisbane, followed up his open 700m 2nd with a win in the dash-for-cash while Yamba's Joe Fahey, better known as a ski paddler, took the 700m/2km double in the mens 40-49 division.

Another former Yamba member Elly Franks took the 20-29 years female 700m division and a former Yamba nipper Lindsay Wall the 20-29 male 700m division.

Shivaun Street from Cronulla and a regular competitor at Yamba took the open women 700m swim in a time of 8mins 26 seconds and was 2nd to Alyce Bennett in the 2km swim.

Ocean swims co-ordinator Jim Dougherty thanked sponsors, water safety officials, IRB crews, the Iluka/Yamba Marine Rescue crew, officials and all the other volunteers who ensured another successful annual event.

The sponsors are Clarence Valley Review, Pacific Hotel, Engine Swimwear, Fandango Surf Co, Westlawn Finance, Belinda's Store, PRD Nationwide Yamba, LJ Hooker Grafton, Clarence Valley Council, Yamba Community Pool, Coopers Brewery, Annie's Bed & Breakfast, STAB magazine and Moby Dick Waterfront Resort Motel.

Handicapper Belinda Sanders advises that Carl Schaeffer memorial handicap surf races will run every Sunday and on Australia Day from 11am.

Yamba's Hugh Dougherty and Alyce Bennett are aiming to improve their results from the 1st round of the Gold Coast Nutri Grain ironman/ironwoman competition in December when they compete in the 2nd round at Portsea in Victoria this Sunday January 8.

Further Nutri Grain rounds are at Newcastle on January 22, Perth January 29, Cooloom on February 12 and Noosa on February 19.

The club education and training program has a spinal management course this Saturday January 7 at the surf club and names are being taken for bronze medallion and surf rescue certificate courses in January.

Contact is training co-ordinator Kim Morgans - kmorgans5@bigpond.com, ph: 6646-2823.

Board training with club captain Joe Dougherty continues at Main Beach on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5.30pm and Saturdays at 8am.

Yamba nippers are in recess until Saturday January 21 when there will be the usual activities as well as a Rotary sandcastle building event and a BBQ.

The NSW country titles for open and nipper competitors will be at South West Rocks on January 13-15 with entries closing on January 1 while the Far North Coast branch nipper titles are on February 4 and 5 and the FNC open title on February 19 at Yamba's Main Beach.

The NSW nipper titles are on March 3 and 4 and the NSW open titles on March 10 and 11 at Kingcliff, the Yamba nippers presentation on March 11, the Qld titles at Kurrawa on March 17 and 18 and the Australian titles at Kurrawa March 26 to April 1.

The 2011/12 season ends on Anzac Day April 25.

The Yamba SLSC main club 2011-12 sponsors are Clarence Valley Council, Elders Real Estate Yamba, Yamba Golf & Country Club, Yamba Bowling Club, Grafton District Services Club, Yamba Shores Tavern, Westlawn Finance, Nortec, Coastal Views, Daily Examiner, Clarence Valley Review, Yellowtail Wines and Coopers Brewery.

The Yamba SLSC 2011-12 nipper sponsors are All Terrain Access Scaffold & Edge Protection, Jim's Mowing, LJ Hooker Yamba, Lower Clarence Funerals, Maclean Motors, Tony McFarlane Builder, Yamba Florist, Yamba Physiotherapy, Maclean Variety Meats, Melay Independent Floors, Fairways Restaurant Yamba Golf & Country Club and Signcraft Design.

Registration for all membership categories, including nippers, can be made online via the web site www.lifesavingonline.com.au, at Elders Real Estate, Coldstream St during working hours or at the club house on Mondays 8am to 11am and Thursdays 8am to 2.30pm.

The office number is 6646-2463, email: office@yambaslsc.com.au and the website – www.yambaslsc.com.au – has all the current club information.

The weekly Golf Club raffles with 33 terrific meat trays from Yamba Fair Butchery are on this Saturday January 7 with John Barnier, Sachie Ardrey & Keith Bradley selling tickets from 5.30pm with the draw from 6.30pm.

Patrols this weekend are:

- Saturday January 7 9am-1pm - Patrol 3: Phil Kelly (c), Nicholas Tarrant (vc), Alex Robison, Zac Robison, Daniel Connors, Kris Ryan-Clout, Mitchell Bain, Dylan Brown, Rory Brown, Rebecca Clout.
- Saturday January 7 1pm-5pm - Patrol 4: Ray O'Brien (c), Zac Frazer, Melinda O'Mahony, Jo King, Leah Essex, Karen Baird, Colleen Hage, Richelle Forbes.
- Sunday January 8 9am-1pm - Patrol 5: Andrew Cumberland (c), Greg Levey (vc), Chris Bonner, Wayne Ringland, Matthew Saunders, Brendan Watkins, Stephen Morfett.
- Sunday January 8 1pm-5pm - Patrol 6: Mark Symons (c), Chris Outteridge (vc), Roger Varcoe (vc), Shauni Forrest, Ashlee Forrest, Tony McFarlane, Teagan McFarlane, Amber Hoare

Mike Harvey