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**TALENT
UNLSHD**



ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA FOR TALENT UNLSHD WA ENHANCE T1 ACTIVITY

TALENT UNLSHD PROGRAM MISSION

To identify, nurture, and develop the next generation of Australian female surfing talent, while building a strong and sustainable female national coaching network that empowers and supports their long-term success.

OBJECTIVES

To select promising under 14, under 16 and under 18 pre-emerging female talent from the Southwest and Metro regions. Supporting their development within sport as they strive to reach their potential.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Potential Candidates are identified by local and HP state coaches/managers.

Successful athletes for the 2026 program WA State Activity will be notified. Selection applies to the 2026 calendar year only.

Candidates are ranked by a combination of Talent/Ability (**Skill Matrix**) and **Competition Success**. Those ranked highest and with strongest alignment to the **Selection Criteria** will be invited to join the program.

A further breakdown of each of these components is below.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

To be eligible for assessment, athletes must be:

- Be under 18 years of age as of 31 December 2026
- Be an Australian citizen and eligible and available to represent Australia in international competition.
- Be a registered member of their State Body (SSO).
- Not be currently nationally categorised or part of a National Talent ID program.
- Comply with all relevant SA policies and rules as amended from time to time
- Maintain the high standard of personal behaviour expected of an athlete
- Not bring themselves, the sport, SA or any of its partners into disrepute
- Not be subject to any suspension or disqualification imposed by Surfing Australia, state they are member of or other surfing authority having jurisdiction over the athlete or the competition.
- Be aspiring to a career as a competitive surfer
- Have strong work ethic and commitment

SKILL MATRIX:

Surfers are given a score out of 10 for their demonstrated skill in each of the following areas airs, turns, barrels, solid waves surfing and small wave surfing.

This score is based on their competitive age group for the CURRENT year (Program Year).

Skill Matrix Example:

Name	DOB	Airs	Turns	Barrels	Solid Waves	Small Waves	TOTAL
Surfer A		7	7	7	7	7	35
Surfer B		5	6	4	4	4	23
Surfer A		8	8	8	7	7	38

COMPETITION SUCCESS:

A surfer's total points on the Surfing Australia National Junior Rankings at the completion of LAST year are recorded. The total is divided by 1,000 and rounded to the nearest whole number.

Competition Success Example:

Name	DOB	SA Points	JNR	TOTAL
Surfer A		25000		25
Surfer B		15680		16
Surfer A		6000		6

FINAL RANKING:

A Final ranking is achieved by combining the totals for both Skill Matrix and Competitive Success.

Final Ranking Example:

Name	DOB	Skill Matrix	Comp Success	TOTAL	FINAL RANK
Surfer A		35	25	60	1
Surfer B		23	16	39	3
Surfer A		38	6	44	2

SUMMARY:

Those surfers with the highest Final Ranking (Skill Matrix Result + Competition Success) AND strong alignment to the Selection Criteria will receive an invitation into the program.

Once invitations have been accepted – the squad will be announced publicly.

Please Note:

This is the start of a new program aiming to provide better support and more opportunities for female WA Junior Surfers to develop.

With a maximum squad size of 8 female surfers per region (Southwest and Metro), not everyone can be invited to the program, nor every region be involved. However, we aim to continue expanding these opportunities to more surfers across different regions in the very near future.

All Under 18 competitors who fit the selection criteria will be considered as a candidate for this program. For the 1st year of this program, however, those aged 13 to 17 will be considered first.



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