



RIP TIDE

CHRIS LOOKS FORWARD TO HIS LATEST CHALLENGE

New Sydney Northern Beaches Branch head coach Chris Allum means business.

And he'd love nothing more than to put one over his younger brother Hayden at the NSW Inter Branch Championships at Stockton Beach in December.

"I actually want to smash Sydney Branch," said Chris, who has been living on the northern beaches for a while now and coaches the Queenscliff SLSC nippers.

Chris not only represented Sydney Branch on many occasions but also represented Australia in 12 teams over a decade and captained the national team twice in 2010 and 2011.

"My father (Greg) was the Australian team coach when I was growing up and I had my first taste of Inter Branch competition when I was an 11-year-old competing for Wanda," Chris said.

"It's time to give back and support those in the same way I was supported really well when I was a nipper and I want to pass on the same skills that were passed on to me."

Chris says that when he visits the Sutherland Shire, he's greeted with: "Where's your passport?"

"Nothing like rivalry," he said.

"Hayden is Cronulla head coach now and he's coaching half the (Sydney Branch) team.

"They'll be strong, they always are and you can't discount Central Coast Branch."

The SNB selectors will announce the Branch team on November 13.

"It's going to be very tough competition and a great weekend away for the younger ones who look up to their idols," Chris said.

The selectors will have the luxury this year of picking some of the Nutri Grain athletes as there are no clash of dates as was the case last season.

As for the younger competitors, the selectors had a look at the Bennett Board carnival at Dee Why last Sunday and will be at Newport on November 4



casting their eyes over the under 12s, 13s and 14s water talent.

"It's always healthy for a new guard to take over."

Chris said. "I am excited about the challenge ahead and also developing our High Performance squad.

We've brought in some extras that we want to see developed and keep here on the northern beaches over the next five to 10 years."

Picture: New man in charge ... Chris Allum

HIGH FIVES FOR FIT JACKO

Following his successful Coolangatta Gold, Newport's Jackson Borg was the star of the show at the Freshie Fast Fives.

Jackson won both the open male board and ski point scores at Freshwater last Saturday.

It prompted one of his clubmates to describe him as a machine.

The Fast Fives provided a valuable hit out for Jackson, who is now looking forward to the first round of Ocean6 at Queenscliff Beach this weekend.

The first round should be rather spectacular with all the big guns – current Nutri Grain champion Matt Poole, the legendary Shannon Eckstein and five-time Coolangatta Gold winner Ali Day – showing up for the new-look series.

It's a massive weekend at Queensie with the Paul Hammond beach carnival for juniors, also on Sunday.

Picture: Newport's Jackson Borg in action at the Fast Fives at Freshwater.



TRIM DASHES FROM AIRPORT TO QUEENSIE FOR FINAL



It will be a case of hurrying off a plane, picking up his bags and heading straight to Queenscliff Beach on Sunday for Newport's top ski paddler Mitchell Trim.

Trim has been guaranteed an automatic place in the Ocean6 first round single ski final based on his results last season.

Trim is returning home on a flight from Bali after being the MC at his cousin's wedding.

He finished level on 118 points with Rio Olympian Lachie Tame in last season's Summer of Surf series but Tame won on a countback.

James Porter (Alexandra Headland) took third place on 115 points to edge out Manly's Kendrick Louis, who won the ironman series.

Under the new-look Ocean6, organisers have deemed the top three as the "Professionals" and they have gained automatic qualification into the first three finals of the Ocean6 ski races. They will race in a green rashie.

At the completion of round three, the professionals will be reallocated to the overall top three competitors in the 2017-18 series. These athletes will automatically qualify into the remaining three finals of the Ocean6 ski series.

All six rounds will have heats to determine the remaining athletes to qualify for the finals. The athletes will be deemed the "Challengers". The men will race in yellow rashies and the women in pink.

Before he left for Bali, Trim said: "I have been doing a little bit of paddling.

"I have been concentrating on my gym programs and hopefully I can generate some more speed off the beach this year.

"I think I might be a bit underdone for this first one. It's definitely going to hurt me."

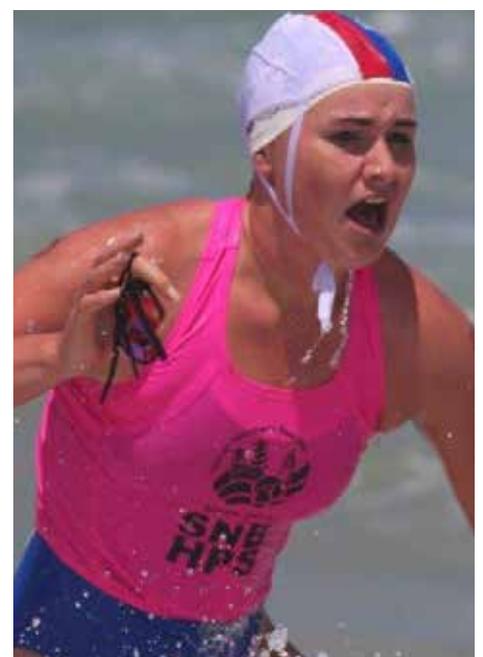
Northcliffe's Danielle McKenzie and Newport pair Hannah Minogue and Grace Gurr are the women's three automatic qualifiers.

McKenzie pipped Minogue by a point last season, while Gurr, who was then racing for Manly, showed great promise in her first season in top company to come third on the leaderboard.

Pictures:

Above: Mitchell Trim (Photo: Harvix)

Right: Grace Gurr competing for Sydney Northern Beaches Branch.



FREYA MAKES A BIG IMPACT ON SKI AT THE FAST FIVES NOW FOR BIGGER TEST AT OCEAN6

Freya Alston is only in her third season paddling a surf ski but she's certainly having fun and continues to improve at a fast rate.

The 22-year-old, who is in her final year of studying architecture, is now racing for Manly.

Freya had a great day out at the Freshie Fast Fives last Saturday where she won the open female ski point score ahead of Newport pair Lara Moses and Maddie Spencer.

Freya won two of her five races and was second in the other three.

She now intends to race in the first round of the Ocean6 series at Queenscliff Beach this weekend.

Freya said she loved the concept of the Fast Fives.

"I really enjoyed myself," she said.

Freya said she put her improvement down to training with Luke Gosling at Manly and she has also taken up kayaking.

Freya is originally from London and did her Bronze Medallion when her parents joined Avalon Beach SLSC.

"But I went to Mona Vale to start paddling a ski," Freya said.

"Unfortunately, I was the only open female paddler at Mona Vale. I wanted to be girls my own age and race in team events.

"As I attend university in the city it was easier to get to Manly for training on the way home.

"I haven't thought about goals but I really want to have a go at Ocean6."

Spencer and Moses fought a close battle in the open female board at the Fast Fives with Spencer winning the event by two points.

Madison Ward (Manly) and Madison Louw

(Newport) also paddled strongly in the opens.

Newport's Jackson Borg was the star of the show in the men's open board and ski events.

He won the board from clubmate Isaac Smith and Manly's Harrison Stone, while he also took out the ski from Queenscliff's Chris Allum and Manly's Oscar Jones.

Manly's Piper Harrison stole the show in the under 15 female board, winning all five races she competed in, while Newport's Joel Piper won the under 15 male board.

Pictures: Top: Manly newcomer Freya Alston winning one of her races at the Freshie Fast Fives; Below: Newport's Lara Moses shows her determination in winning a board race at Freshwater Beach.



RESULTS

Open Male Ski: Jackson Borg – Newport (23); Chris Allum – Queenscliff (20); Oscar Jones – Manly (14); Ben Kirkby- Freshwater (12).

Open Female Ski: Freya Alston – Manly (22); Lara Moses – Newport (19); Maddie Spencer – Newport (14); Sophia Tonoli – Newport (13).

Open Male Board: Jackson Borg – Newport (18); Isaac Smith – Newport (14); Harrison Stone – Manly (13); Ryan Singleton – Manly (11).

Open Female Board: Maddie Spencer – Newport (22); Lara Moses – Newport (20); Madison Ward – Manly (19); Madison Louw – Newport (18).

Under 15 Female Board: Piper Harrison – Manly (25); Bella Williams – Cooks Hill (20); Alex Lefevre – Newport (18); Analiese Melbourn – Newport (13).

Under 15 Male Board: Joel Piper – Newport (23); Oscar Smith – Newport (20); Brandon Bartlem – Newport (18); Mitchell Stuart – North Curl Curl (15).



ACTION FROM FAST FIVES





MITCHELL'S TOP DEBUT AT BENNETT BOARD CLASSIC



Little Mitchell Bradley is mad keen on skateboarding. Now he's taken to board paddling like a duck to water.

Mitchell competed at his first carnival at the Bennett Board Classic at Dee Why Beach last Sunday and what a day he had.

His father Scott said his son only started paddling a nipper board about six weeks ago.

You'd never know the way he raced at Dee Why.

First, he won the under 9 boys individual board event and then he competed in his first All Age Board Relay race for North Curl Curl.

North Curl Curl came from behind and young Mitchell anchored the six-member team home to a fantastic victory over Manly A and Mona Vale.

"He certainly slept well on Sunday night," his dad said.

"He's become really keen on the board now."

Braden Crichton-Browne was racing for the first time in North Curl Curl colours. He moved across from Dee Why to bolster the under 12's.

Newport set the early pace with their strong older competitors and North Curl Curl were not in the top three until Olivia Clues hit the water.

Olivia, who had earlier won the under 11 girls board, went into the water in fourth place.

But she gradually mowed down the leaders with her



best paddle of the day and came out first.

Then it was up to Sam Davis and Mitchell Bradley to show what they could do.

Sam, the son of former Australian surf team captain Sean Davis, maintained Curl Curl's lead.

Then it was up to Mitchell. On the way back a wave

loomed up and he took it and held it to the beach.

Tara Harvey, who paddled second, also won the under 13 girls individual board. Isaac Crews led the team off.

Pictures: Top: A day to remember for Mitchell Bradley; Below: Sam Davis kept North Curl Curl in the lead.



North Curl Curl's winning All Age Board relay team: Mitchell Bradley (left), Sam Davis, Olivia Clues, Braden Crichton-Browne, Tara Harvey and Isaac Crews.





Greg Bennett has been a great sponsor of SNB Branch. Here, he is with the lucky winner of the Malibu Racing Board at Dee Why last Sunday.

