The Membership & Leadership Development Executive are excited to announce the launch of a revamped Champion Junior Lifesaver of the Year award. For the first time this award will be formally recognised at Life Saving Victoria’s Awards of Excellence.

Life Saving Victoria places great value on staying connected to our members and recognising the exceptional service and dedication they provide to the development of the movement in Victoria. This Award will form part of our comprehensive system of awards to recognise and celebrate the achievements and commitment of our youth members.

The overarching aim of this award is to showcase the important contribution our youth members contribute to surf life saving as well as encourage the development of strong, confident and committed youth members who will become the leaders of the lifesaving movement long into the future. Our junior members are the future of the life saving movement and are central to the growth of aquatic education and training within our community. The purpose of the award is to build participant’s confidence, self-esteem and personal belief that through hard work and dedication they can achieve personal goals as well as contribute to their community in a positive, meaningful way.

Our objectives are:
1. Recognise and showcase the valuable contribution our youth membership provides to the Surf Life Saving movement both within the organisation and the local community.
2. Encourage a culture of well developed, responsible and positive youth members that are advocates for their peers, the Surf Life Saving movement and their local community.
3. Development of a sustainable youth award program that will provide youth members for years to come with confidence and skills that will support them as they transition to the next phase of their life.
Nominations
Nominations are now being called for the 2014 Champion Junior Lifesaver. The nominees must be aged 13 to 15 years and have their SRC. All clubs are encouraged to submit one (1) female and one (1) male nomination as representatives of their club.

Recognition
Following receipt of all clubs nominations, each application will be assessed to determine their success at obtaining a place at the Champion Junior Lifesaver (CJL) Development Weekend. The CJL Development Weekend will entail a range of different development workshops, including practical first aid skills assessment, team building, presenting techniques and leadership development. The successful Award recipient would receive a plaque, life saving equipment for their club and will have the opportunity to participate in other LSV leadership development programs at no cost. The winner will be announced at the completion of the CJL Development Weekend and invited to attend the 2014 Awards of Excellence on Saturday, 26 July 2014, where they will be formally acknowledged.

Award Guidelines
The award is open to all registered members of Life Saving Victoria aged 13 to 15 years during the 2013-2014 season. The nominee must be available to attend the CJL Development Weekend to be held at the Waratah Beach SLSC on Saturday, 5 April and Sunday, 6 April 2014.

Participants would be nominated from each of the 57 clubs, one male and one female, based on the following criteria:
• Contribution to their club’s activities
• Contribution to their community and other community services
• Lifesaving awards achieved
• Lifesaving knowledge
• First aid skills assessment
• Attitude to sportsmanship
• Leadership contribution and behaviours

Selection
In awarding the 2014 Champion Junior Lifesaver, finalists will be ranked on their performance in all of the following areas:
• Run Swim Run (10%)
• Initial Application (10%)
• Leadership Attributes (25%)
• Theory Paper (25%)
• First-Aid Skills Assessment (30%)

The First Aid Skills Assessment, Run Swim Run and presenting components will be assessed at the 2014 CJL Development Weekend on Saturday, 5 April 2014. Should there be a tie on the final points; the nomination criteria will be used as the mechanism to determine the overall winner.

All finalists will be required to provide their own patrol uniform, club cap and P.P.E Kit (bum bag) for the First Aid Skills Assessment.

The winner will be announced at the completion of the CJL Development Weekend and invited to attend the 2014 Awards of Excellence on Saturday, 26 July 2014, where they will be formally acknowledged.

Application Process
Using the recommended criteria, each club is encouraged to select a male and female nominee, and have them complete the application form accessible https://lifesavingvictoria.wufoo.com/forms/2014-victorian-champion-junior-lifesaver/ for submission by 5:00 pm on Sunday, 16 March 2014.

Application questions listed below to be addressed via the application form:
• In 200 words or less list the contribution you have made towards your club?
• Please list some of your school, cultural or community service achievements outside of lifesaving?
• What do you see as the key roles, qualities of a good leader?
• What are your current goals and future aspirations for life saving?
• If you could initiate one program to benefit the youth of lifesaving, what would it be and why?