



2025 Annual Report

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Introduction

Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club continued to build strong momentum throughout 2025, with growth across patrols, competition, education, junior development and club operations. The year reflected the dedication of our members, volunteers and committee, whose efforts helped strengthen the club, expand participation and improve what we can offer our members and the wider community.

Across the year, the club made significant progress in several key areas. We saw the successful return of the Nippers program after several years of inactivity, increased education and training outcomes, strong competition participation, and the opportunity to host the Northern Territory Championships. These achievements were supported by a growing and engaged membership base, and the willingness of members to contribute across patrols, events, governance and day-to-day club activities.

The club also continued to improve its facilities, equipment and administrative capability, helping build a stronger foundation for future growth and long-term sustainability. This progress has only been possible through the support of many individuals and organisations who contributed their time, resources and encouragement throughout the year. We are grateful for that support and proud of what has been achieved together.

Special Thanks to Our Supporters



Northern Territory Government

We sincerely thank the Northern Territory Government for its grant support during the year. This funding made possible the much-needed upgrade to our shed facilities, improving the functionality of the space and supporting the club's ongoing operations, equipment storage and future development.



Lions Club Darwin

We are also grateful to Lions Darwin for its support in helping fund the purchase of an adjustable surf ski. This is a valuable addition to the club's equipment and will support training, competition development and broader member participation into the future.



Roof Power Roofing & Construction

A special thank you also goes to Roof Power for its generous in-kind support. This included housing the club's boats and loaning equipment to assist in hosting the NT Championships. Their support played an important role in helping the club deliver a successful event and continue building its competition capability.

President's Report

President Luke Marcroft

It is my pleasure to present the President's Report for the 2025/2026 season.

This season has been a major milestone for Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club. From rebuilding just two seasons ago to now hosting the Northern Territory Championships, reintroducing Nippers, and bringing back surf boat rowing, it has been rewarding to see the club move from a period of uncertainty into a stronger and more sustainable position.

One of the most significant achievements this year was the return of both the Nippers program and surf boat rowing for the first time in many years. These programs are an important step in rebuilding a pathway for members of all ages and abilities and help lay the foundation for the club's future. A huge amount of work went into making this happen, and I would particularly like to acknowledge Federico and Kat for their outstanding effort in getting Nippers up and running.

Our membership has continued to grow, supported by a strong Bronze group at the beginning of the season and increased involvement across the club. It has been encouraging to see members stepping up on patrol, at events, and behind the scenes.

Off the beach, the club has also continued to strengthen its governance, financial position, and facilities. Funding through the Northern Territory Government's Community Benefit Fund supported important storage upgrades to our shed, while support from the Lions Beer Can Regatta enabled the purchase of an adjustable surf ski. The work undertaken over the past two seasons to bring our governance and financial reporting up to date has also placed the club in a stronger position to access future grant opportunities.

A major highlight of the season was successfully hosting the Northern Territory Championships, which reflected the capability and commitment of our members. I would also like to acknowledge Phil Miller for his valued contribution to the club and thank Geyne Feeney for stepping into the Vice President role and providing continuity and support.

I would like to sincerely thank our Board, members, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters for their ongoing dedication. The progress made this season is a direct result of your efforts, and I am confident Mindil Beach is building toward a strong and sustainable future.

See you on the beach!

Highlight 1: Member Recognition

In 2025, Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club was proud to recognise individual members whose contribution, leadership and performance have had a lasting impact on the club. A major highlight of the year was the awarding of Life Membership to Luke Marcroft and Adam Traugott, in recognition of their longstanding service and commitment to Mindil Beach. Their recognition reflects many years of contribution across patrols, governance, education, operations and club leadership. Luke and Adam now join Moira Wigley as the three Life Members of MBSLSC.



LIFE MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION

The awarding of Life Membership to Luke Marcroft and Adam Traugott was a significant moment for the club. Both have made exceptional contributions over many years and have played an important role in shaping the club's growth, capability and culture.



NATIONAL AWARD FINALIST

Luke was recognised nationally as a finalist for the Australian Surf Life Saving Volunteer of the Year award. He attended the national awards in Sydney, where he was acknowledged among the country's leading volunteers for his outstanding contribution to Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club and surf lifesaving.



CELEBRATING MEMBER ACHIEVEMENT

The club was also proud to celebrate strong individual competition performances during the year. Henry Tollner, Belle Girado, Moira Wrigley and Adam Traugott each won their respective group events, highlighting the depth of talent and commitment across the club.

Lifesaving Report

Director of Lifesaving Henry Tollner

Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club continued to strengthen its patrol presence during 2025, with members contributing 524 patrol hours across the year. This was a strong increase on 2024 patrol hours of 326, representing growth of 198 hours, or approximately 61%, and reflects the club's improving patrol capacity and volunteer contribution.

Throughout 2025, patrols recorded 3,363 beach visitors, responded to 1 rescue / life saved, and provided 3 first aids. Compared with 2024, when the club recorded 4 rescues and 5 first aids, incident numbers were lower this year. While this represents a reduction in response activity, it is not necessarily a negative outcome, as lower incident numbers can also reflect effective prevention, strong patrol visibility, and favourable patrol conditions.

Importantly, members carried out 154 preventative actions during the year, reinforcing that much of the club's impact comes through proactive intervention before incidents escalate. Pleasingly, there were no marine stings, no cases requiring ambulance attendance, and no beach closures recorded in 2025.

These results highlight another positive year for Mindil Beach, with increased patrol effort, strong public safety outcomes, and continued commitment from members to protecting beachgoers and supporting the wider community. The club's patrol teams should be commended for their professionalism, consistency, and willingness to give their time throughout the year.

Thank you to all patrolling members and let's aim to build on this even further!



Competitions Report

Director of Competition Gigi Dadds

The 2025 season was a positive and productive one, with strong participation across our competition and development programs. We started the patrol season well with the successful Beer Can Regatta, which raised enough funds to purchase a new ski. This is a valuable addition to the club's equipment and will support the continued growth of our competition program. I would like to sincerely thank the Darwin Lions Club and all members who volunteered their time and effort on the day.

Member development remained a key focus throughout the year. We were proud to welcome nine new members who successfully completed their Bronze Medallions, strengthening both our patrol and competition capability. Thank you to Geyne Feeney, who generously gave his time to open the shed during the week and support informal ski and board training sessions, giving members regular access to equipment and development opportunities.

It was also fantastic to see the return of the Nippers program, which is an important pathway for junior development within the club. This program would not have been possible without the dedication of Federico Boede Sanchez and Katina Croft, whose efforts were instrumental in its successful return. We look forward to seeing the program continue to grow in 2026.

To round out the season, the club was proud to host the Northern Territory Championships at East Point Beach for the first time in nine years. Hosting the event was a significant achievement and reflected the growing strength of both our competition program and volunteer base. It was also pleasing to see Mindil field a Surf Boat team again, thanks to Geyne's 'come-and-try' days, regular training, and the support of Roof Power for storing the surf boats over the wet season.

I thank the committee, officials, coaches, competitors and volunteers for their continued support throughout the year.



Highlight 2: Hosted the NT State Championships

In 2025, Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club was proud to host the Surf Life Saving NT Championships, delivering a successful weekend of competition, participation and club spirit. The event was made possible through the strong support of our members, volunteers and officials, whose collective effort ensured the championships ran smoothly and showcased the club's ability to deliver a major lifesaving event. Hosting the championships was an important achievement for the club and provided a great opportunity to bring members, families and the wider surf lifesaving community together.



STRONG COMPETITION RESULTS

Mindil Beach recorded multiple winners across the championships, reflecting the effort, preparation and commitment of our competitors. The results were a strong reward for the work put in by members and highlighted the club's depth across the competition program.



INCREASED FEMALE & YOUTH ATHLETES

A key highlight was the increase in female athletes, with Mindil Beach performing strongly and dominating many of the female events. It was also encouraging to see new youth competitors take part for the first time and gain valuable competition experience.



WHOLE-OF-CLUB EFFORT

The championships were a success because of the contribution of members across the club. From setup and logistics to officiating, water safety and general support, members worked together to ensure the weekend ran smoothly and represented the club strongly.

Education Report

Director of Education Marcus Chen

2025 was a strong year for education and member development at Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club. Training remained a core focus for the club as we continued building the skills, confidence and operational readiness of our members. The year saw a broad range of qualifications completed across patrol, rescue, aquatic safety and junior support roles, reflecting the commitment of our members to both personal development and the ongoing strength of the club.

A major highlight for the year was the completion of new patrol and leadership awards. Mindil welcomed 9 new Bronze Medallion holders and 4 new Silver Medallion Patrol Captains, which further strengthened both our active patrol capability and leadership depth. Congratulations to all members who completed these awards and contributed to another successful year of training and development.

The club also recorded a number of other important qualifications during the year, including 1 new IRB Crew award, 3 new Rescue Water Craft Operators, 5 new Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescuers, 5 new Age Managers, 1 new ART Operator, and our first Bronze Observer. These achievements show the growing diversity of skills within the club and the willingness of members to support lifesaving activities in a range of operational and support capacities.

A further priority during the year was ensuring members completed their skills maintenance and were ready for the season. To make this more accessible, the club held afternoon maintenance sessions and trialled coordinating training with Surf Life Saving NT and Darwin Surf Club so more Darwin surf lifesavers could complete requirements before the season started. We thank all 32 current members for completing their skills maintenance and helping ensure the club remained patrol ready throughout the year.



Highlight 3: Revitalising Our Nippers Program

After several years without an active junior program, 2025 marked the successful return of the Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club Nippers program. This achievement was made possible through the commitment and effort of our members, volunteers, age managers and families, with strong leadership from program leaders Federico Boede Sanchez and Katina Croft, who played a key role in bringing the program back to life. Delivered across the Mindil Beach and Lake Alexander facilities, the program helped reconnect young families with the club and rebuild a pathway for junior participation, water confidence and surf safety education.



RE-ESTABLISHING THE PROGRAM

A major achievement this year was bringing the Nippers program back into operation after it had been inactive for several years. Its return reflects a renewed focus on junior development and community participation.



BUILDING SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE

The program gave children the opportunity to build water confidence, learn beach safety and develop practical surf lifesaving skills in a safe and supportive environment across both training locations.



CREATING FUTURE MOMENTUM

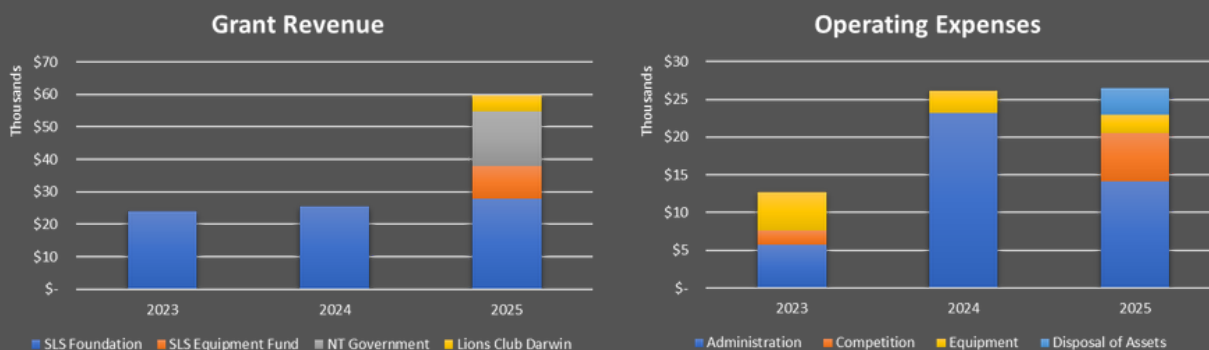
With the program now active again, the club has a strong foundation to build on. The focus ahead will be on growing participation, supporting volunteers and strengthening the junior pathway.

Finance Report

Director of Finance William Tollner

2025 was a year of strong progress for Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club. The club's increased activity and continued success reflect the hard work, commitment and generosity of our volunteers, members and committee. Their efforts allowed the club to expand its programs and activities while maintaining a disciplined and cost-conscious financial approach.

The club remained profitable during the year, supported by increased grant revenue secured through a broader range of alternative funding sources. Grant revenue increased from \$25,601 in 2024 to \$59,614 in 2025, an increase of approximately 133%. This funding has supported club operations, improved facilities and provided the resources needed for continued growth.



Since year-end, the club has also received a large proportion of outstanding receivables, increasing cash reserves to \$83,241. It's safe to say, Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club is now in a very stable financial position and is well placed to support its members, programs and future development.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank our sponsors, Surf Life Saving Northern Territory, Surf Life Saving Australia, the committee, and all club members for their continued support and efforts throughout the year. Their contribution is greatly appreciated and plays an important role in the ongoing success of the club.



Administration Report

Director of Administration Samantha Ratley

In 2025, Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club continued to demonstrate strong governance and year-round commitment to administrative excellence. Across the year, the Board held nine general board meetings, one special meeting, and the Annual General Meeting. While the patrol season itself spans only four months, the volume of work undertaken throughout the year highlights the ongoing effort required to support the club's operations, members and strategic direction.

A major focus this year was strengthening member engagement. This was achieved through the introduction of a dedicated member group chat and a more consistent online presence. Our social media activity saw significant growth, with 31 posts published, 51,268 total views, 1,158 interactions, and 1,136 followers, representing a 70% increase in followers over the year.

The announcement of Luke Marcroft and Adam Traugott as the club's newest Life Members generated the highest engagement, reaching 5,939 views, 3,528 impressions and 25 comments. This strong response reflects the connection our members have with the club and the value placed on recognising service and contribution.

Behind the scenes, work also progressed on improving our administrative systems. A new document storage platform and updated email system are nearing completion. These improvements will support better record-keeping, smoother transitions between board members, and more secure management of club information.

During the year, we also established a working group to review the club's constitution, which has remained in effect since 2008. The club has evolved significantly over the past 18 years, and modernising the constitution is important to ensure it reflects current operations and supports the club's future direction. The proposed updated constitution will be presented to members at the 2026 Annual General Meeting.



Acknowledgement

This report reflects the commitment, effort and generosity of the many people who supported Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club throughout 2025. The club's progress across patrols, education, junior development, competition, administration and community activities has only been possible because of the time and energy contributed by our members, volunteers, committee, families and supporters.

The achievements outlined in this report are the result of a strong collective effort and a shared commitment to the club's future. Whether through patrol service, training, events, behind-the-scenes support or governance, every contribution has played an important part in the club's success.

Mindil Beach Surf Life Saving Club thanks all members, supporters and partner organisations for their continued support throughout 2025.

Thank you for your
continued support of Mindil
Beach Surf Life Saving
Club.

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