

From: Jotform noreply@jotform.com
Subject: We have received your response for 2024/25 HSL Awards of Excellence
Date: 11 May 2025 at 8:48 am
To: secretary@birubipointslsc.org.au



2024/25 HSL Awards of Excellence

Nominator Name	Rohan Fisher
Nominator Email	secretary@birubipointslsc.org.au
Club	Birubi Point
Nominee Name	Brad Delaporte
Award	Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year
Type of Nomination being submitted:	Full Entry Nomination (continue to criteria below)
Nominee Photo	IMG_3307.jpeg

Q1. Tell us about the member/individual or program/innovation being nominated.

Bradley Delaporte, an outstanding 18-year-old, represents very best of youth in surf lifesaving. Brad is working full time completing his carpentry apprenticeship. He leads a very a lifestyle, social, sporty and always busy, yet continues to find time to help others. He is a dedicated patrolling member and trainer. Brad's commitment, maturity, and extraordinary voluntary contributions have established him as an integral of the club's lifesaving efforts. His passion for lifesaving embodies the values of service, leadership, and selflessness that define the Surf Life Saving movement.

Brad holds a wide range of lifesaving qualifications, including the BM (Bronze Medallion), First Aid, ART, IRB Crew and recently IRB Driver and Silver Medallion Patrol Captain, all which demonstrate his personal growth and readiness to lead. Brad excels on patrol, actively assisting his Patrol Captain, undertaking board and IRB rescues and ensuring swimmer safety. His proactive measures, such as educating beachgoers about rip currents and safe practices, exemplify his dedication to lifesaving.

Brad completed his Trainer's Course this season when he was just 17, the youngest in the Hunter Branch since 2019.

Subsequently, he assisted in the training of SRC and BM candidates, including adult trainees twice his age, with patience, clarity, and expertise, and with a 100% success rate, which led to his endorsement as a Bronze trainer in January and secured his place as a valuable member of the Birubi Point SLSC Education team.

Brad is known for his approachable demeanour, and trainees are consistently grateful for his mentorship and tailored guidance. His ability to engage, encourage, and support trainees has significantly contributed to the club's patrolling expansion. Brad will be a major asset in shaping our next generation of lifesavers.

Brad's contributions are further evidenced by small yet meaningful actions, such as washing training rash vests at home and transporting trainees to ensure their participation. This act of service underscores his deep understanding of the club's needs and his outstanding commitment to lifesaving.

Despite personal adversity, including the loss of his aunt, Brad maintained his commitment to work, the club and its members, balancing responsibilities with exceptional resilience.

Brad's Patrol Captain summarised his impact: "There is only one young person who... continues to apply himself with diligence and enthusiasm and reflects everything that our club stands for...if he is an example of our youth group, then I think the future is in good hands for the future."

Q2. What has been achieved?

Brad has excelled, both as a patrolling lifesaver and as a trainer of our future lifesavers. During the 24/25 season, Brad completed over 50 hours of patrol, contributed additional hours to external water safety support, and dedicated approximately 100 hours to training delivery for SRC and BM candidates. Additionally, he invested approximately 30 hours obtaining IRB Drivers and Patrol Captain's certification.

Beyond these achievements, Brad's leadership was exemplified by his support and guidance of IRB Crew candidates while undertaking his own IRB Driver qualification, ensuring they were confident in developing their skills.

Brad was initially nervous that his age might affect the way trainees received instruction, and took a deliberate and structured approach, immersing himself in knowledge, and refined his delivery to ensure that his expertise commanded respect, rather than relying on his position as a trainer alone. His method proved highly effective, as trainees began to trust and value his guidance, ultimately respecting his depth of understanding of his age.

Brad's prowess as a lifesaver was further demonstrated when he participated in a two-person rescue under challenging conditions. In rough surf, he acted promptly, despite the additional obstacle of a language barrier that made verbal communication with those being rescued nearly impossible.

Demonstrating patience, composure, and clarity, Brad effectively communicated by demonstration, ensuring both individuals understood his instructions. His calm, adaptive approach ensured that both victims were safely returned to shore without the need for further treatment—an outcome that highlights Brad’s ability to remain effective in complex and demanding lifesaving scenarios.

Brad’s effectiveness as a trainer is reflected in the profound gratitude expressed by his trainees. Those he helped achieve their BM were so appreciative of his guidance, patience, and encouragement that they presented him with a water bottle engraved with his name—a small but powerful gesture that underscores the deep and positive impact he has had on the club.

Brad’s dedication extends beyond our club. He worked collaboratively, welcoming trainees from neighbouring clubs into his squad, and assisted in the planning of interclub SRC training initiatives which strengthen engagement and retention beyond the Branch. His ability to unite members from different clubs to promote inclusivity, and foster confidence among trainees, reflects his vision for surf lifesaving as a collective effort.

Brad has proven himself as an exceptional Youth Surf Lifesaver who will continue to enhance our club’s surf lifesaving capabilities well into the future.

Q3. What impact has this had, and for whom?

Brad has profoundly impacted individuals, his club, and the broader community. As a trainer, Brad has directly expanded the club’s patrolling membership, addressing a critical need for SRC and Bronze Medallion holders. He has empowered both youth and adult trainees, fostering confidence, skill development, and a sense of belonging. Brad’s ability to engage trainees of all ages strengthens the club’s culture and enhances our capabilities.

Brad has taken it upon himself to support youth retention and engagement by providing informal mentorship to younger club members. During quiet patrol periods, he actively works with youth trainees to refine their skills, ensuring they stay engaged and motivated. His ability to recognize moments for skill development beyond scheduled sessions demonstrates a genuine commitment to fostering long-term participation in surf lifesaving.

Brad’s patrol contributions have positively affected the public at the beach. During the 24/25 season, Brad’s proactive measures, strong water competency, and lifesaving actions including board and IRB rescues, ensured swimmers remained safe between the flags. His engagement with beachgoers educated them about rips and water safety, fostering a culture of awareness and prevention. Brad’s actions exemplify the lifesaving spirit of vigilance and care, creating a safer beach environment for all.

Brad’s ability to inspire others and foster collaboration has

created a ripple effect within the lifesaving community, strengthening cross-club engagement, enhancing retention and broadening lifesaving capabilities. His vision for a united and inclusive lifesaving community reflects his dedication to both collaboration and development.

Within the club, Brad's contributions extend to creating a positive culture of camaraderie and inclusivity. He actively supports struggling trainees, mentors adult candidates, and handles practical tasks to ensure training sessions run smoothly. Brad's actions demonstrate care and commitment both to individuals and to the club as a whole.

Brad's involvement in social interactions and club governance is exceptional for someone his age. He actively welcomes new members, helping them integrate into patrol teams and training programs, ensuring a positive experience from the outset. Despite his youth, Brad has attended AGMs and this year's Special General Meeting to support the endorsement of the club's revised constitution. His willingness to engage at a strategic level highlights his investment in the club's long-term growth and success, setting an example for other young members.

Brad's nomination for Youth Surf Lifesaver of the Year celebrates his exceptional contributions, leadership, and commitment to lifesaving. His selflessness, innovation, and ability to inspire make him a truly deserving candidate.