



**Stuart Ayres**  
Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism  
and Western Sydney

**Shelley Hancock**  
Member for South Coast

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **GOVERNMENT FUNDING BOOST FOR AUSTRALIAN SURF ROWERS LEAGUE OPEN**

Australia's biggest surf boat racing event will return to the shores of NSW for another three years, thanks to a funding boost from the NSW Government.

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said next year's Australian Surf Rowers League (ASRL) Open will be held at Mollymook Beach, bringing thousands of visitors to the region.

"While we are in these unprecedented times, we are committed to re-energising regional areas and their communities, which is why the NSW Government will continue investing in events across the state," Mr Ayres said.

"The ASRL Open is expected to inject more than \$3 million into the regional NSW visitor economy from 2021 – 2023, which is fantastic news for local accommodation providers, restaurants and attractions who will reap the economic and social benefits."

"The ASRL Open has been staged since 1997 and has been embraced by the surf lifesaving community all around the country and I am delighted it's returning to NSW for another three years with the support of Destination NSW."

Member for South Coast Shelley Hancock said the return of events could not come at a better time following the summer bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic.

"To have the ASRL Open back at Mollymook Beach next year is a much-needed morale boost for our local community," Mrs Hancock said.

"We want every opportunity to show visitors what the South Coast is known for, from our beautiful beaches and stunning scenery, to our friendly hospitality and great food and wine, and the 2021 ASRL Open will do just that – helping put us back on the map."

The ASRL Open is the only dedicated national competition for surf boats in Australia and caters to every division of crew racing for both males and females ranging from 15 years old up to 70 years in masters categories.

The 2021 ASRL Open will be held at Mollymook Beach from 18 – 21 February.

All NSW businesses, residents and visitors must follow the latest NSW Health advice. For information, go to [www.nsw.gov.au/COVID-19](http://www.nsw.gov.au/COVID-19).

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