

CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS
SUGGESTED GUIDELINES OF THE COALITION OF SURF CLUBS

1. Heats will be 15 minutes, Final heats will be 20 minutes.
2. Each heat will begin and end with one horn blast and display of a green flag. A five-minute warning will be given with two horn blasts. At the conclusion of the heat, competitors will immediately return to the beach as the next heat begins. If a competitor stands up before the beginning of the heat it will result in the loss of the points scored for the highest scoring wave for the competitor in that heat. Exiting competitors must not stand up after the conclusion of their heat. Violation of this will result in a deduction of the lowest scoring wave of the competitor's heat total.
3. In all water starts, competitors may enter the water at the five-minute warning (two horn blasts). Competitors waiting for their heat to start must stay clear of the heat in progress. Failure to do so will result in a paddling interference, with a loss of the lowest scoring wave in the competitor's wave total.
4. Surfboards must be a minimum of 9 feet in length. Women and juniors may use boards which are 3 feet longer than the height of the contestant. No paddling gloves. Cords are optional. The Contestant assumes responsibility for not using a leash.
5. Maximum wave count and number of scoring waves will be set depending on the surf conditions of the contest. The surfer will be advised of the maximum total of waves they may catch prior to the commencement of the heat. Upon reaching the maximum wave totals, competitors will exit the water.
6. Interference:
 - A. The first rider up, closest to the curl, has wave possession. In the event that two riders stand up at the same time, the rider closest to the curl has possession. (Standard point break rule).
 - B. In the event that two riders stand up on an unbroken wave, the first competitor up has possession. (Standard reef or beach break rule). The other rider may take off in the opposite direction. To have possession of a wave, the rider must be on his feet in front of or in the curl after the first turn. Any action which impedes a contestant riding or taking off on a wave by dropping in, taking off, or paddling in front of the rider in possession will result in an interference called (Loss of highest scoring wave in that heat). In cases where a rider is in front of another unknowingly or so appears to judges and if the rider exits with no impedance, no interference shall be called. (No harm, no foul).
7. Snake rule: Paddling in front, around, or behind a competitor to impede and take wave possession is known as snaking. This interference results in a loss of the highest scoring wave in the competitor's heat.
8. Judging will be on a 20 point system only. The five judges on the stand drop high and low scores and use the rest. Competitors will be judged on style, wave selection, length of ride and controlled functional maneuvers. Shuffling and hopping back and forth on the surfboard will be considered poor style and will not be scored as high as walking.

9. **Protests must be filed in writing and placed in a protest box or tin within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the heat in question.** You must speak with a contest director or the head judge only.

10. All contestants must check-in a half-hour before their heat to sign a waiver. Judges must check-in thirty minutes before the commencement of the contest. Judges may not surf in the contest unless otherwise agreed upon by the head judge and contest directors.