



COMPETITION RULEBOOK

2026

The World Waveski Surfing Association Competition Rulebook reflects the ongoing contributions of athletes, judges, officials, and member nations who have helped shape the sport and its standards over many years.

World Waveski Surfing Association
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Table of Contents

SECTION 1: ADMINISTRATION – WORLD WAVESKI SURFING TITLES (WWST)	4
Definition of Waveski	4
Age Divisions	4
Registration	5
Awarding of World Waveski Surfing Titles to Host Nation	5
Rule Changes and Amendments	6
Seeding	6
Format of World Waveski Surfing Titles (WWST)	7
Format for WWSA Accredited Events	8
Entry Fees	9
Scoreboards	9
Computerised Systems	9
SECTION 2: COMPETITION RULES	10
Contest Program	10
Timing and Wave Counts	10
Competitor Responsibilities & Expectations	11
Contestant Procedures	11
Code of Conduct	12
Penalties and Disciplinary Actions	13
General Principles	13
Payment of Fines	13
General Infringement & Penalties (Guideline)	14
Technical Infringement & Penalties (Guideline)	14
Warning & Escalation System	14
Heat Composition	14
Protests and Appeals	15
Maximum Wave Limits	15
Wave Tabulation	15
Priority Rules	15
Right of way using the Priority System	15
General Priority	16
2-Competitor Heat Priority	17
3-Competitor Heat Priority	18
4-Competitor Heat Priority	18
Interference Penalty	18
Tie-Breaking Procedures	19
Outside Assistance	20
First Aid and Safety	20



Mechanical Communication Device Policy during Competition.....	20
Photography, drones, videographers.....	20
SECTION 3: JUDGING OPERATIONS	21
Judging Panel:	21
Duties of a Judge:	21
Judge Availability & Responsibility:	21
Judging Area/Tower:	22
SECTION 4: JUDGING CRITERIA AND HINTS.....	24
Judging Preparation	24
Waveski Surfing Criteria.....	24
Judging Scale	25
Judging Method.....	25
Judging in Bad Weather/Poor Conditions.....	26
Judging Heavy/Close Heats	26
Judging 4 and 5 Person Heats	27
SECTION 5: INTERFERENCE CALLS	28
Basic Rule	28
Right-of-Way	28
Wave Peak Breaks.....	28
Point Break.....	28
One Peak Break (Reef or Beach)	28
Multiple Peak Situation	29
Right-of-Way in Priority One on One Situations	29
The Right-of-Way Criteria	29
Priority Rules.....	30
Snaking.....	31
Paddling Interference.....	31
Interference Penalty	32
SECTION 6: DUTIES OF THE HEAD JUDGE	33
Meetings	33
Judging Standards	33
Duties of the Tabulator.....	33
Interference Recording.....	33
Statistically Evaluating Judging Performance	34
SECTION 7: ELIGIBILITY AND MEMBERSHIP.....	35
SECTION 8: OBLIGATIONS OF THE HOST COUNTRY	36
Contest site requirements:.....	36
Personnel for National and International Events Conflict of Interest	37
Event Promotions Officer.....	37



Contest Director – Contest Committee	37
WWSA Contest Committee	37
Announcer.....	37
Water Safety and First Aid	37
WWST Head Judge	38
Computer Operator	38
Timers, Disc Operators and Spotter	38
Beach Marshall	38
Tabulator	38
Work Force	39
Security.....	39
Equipment and Services	39
Entry Fees	40
Funds collected	40
Trophies and medals.....	40
SECTION 9: WORLD WAVESKI AGE DIVISIONS/ DRUG TESTING AND DUTY OF CARE.....	42
Divisions	42
Drug Testing.....	42
Duty of Care and Safety	43
SECTION 10: AMENDMENTS	44
SECTION 11: APPENDICES	47
WWSA Seeding/Ranking Policy – World Waveski Surfing Titles	47
Tag Team Rules – WWST	48
Formation of Composite Tag Teams – WWST	48
Tag Team Rules – WWST OPEN.....	49
Penalties:	49
Tag Team Rules – WWST WOMEN	50
Penalties:	50
Host Nation Criteria - WWST	51
Tier One Rating.....	51
Tier Two Rating	52
Tier three rating - accredited Events	52
Divisions where there are 5 or less competitors -.....	1
Adaptive Waveski	2
Medical Diagnostics Form (MDF) for ALL Athletes with Physical Impairments	4
Protest Form – World Waveski Surfing Titles/accredited Events	6



SECTION 1: ADMINISTRATION – WORLD WAVESKI SURFING TITLES (WWST)

Definition of Waveski

Mandatory – Competition Contest Organisers have the responsibility to check craft prior to events commencing. If the mandatory requirements are not met, the competitor must seek an alternative Waveski.

- No longer than 12 feet / 3.66 metres (feet to metres feet x 0.3048).
- Must sit on top with bottom flush on seat.
- Feet/limbs must be in front of body (no kneeling, lying prone or standing on the waveski).
- Propelled by use of paddle not by any form of electric motor.

Recommendations:-

- Seat belt /quad belt/thigh belt and supporting straps such as foot/knee to assist in securing rider to the Waveski.
- Foot wells to assist with stability.
- Fin(s) to provide directional steering.

Safety suggestions

- Leash rope to provide support to the rider if they become separated from the waveski and/or not competent with eskimo rolling in all conditions and/or waveski surfing in challenging surf.
- Helmets – noting that there are varying types and levels of helmets available which can assist in protecting waveski surfers from adverse weather and temperatures, skin lacerations from hitting rocks and reefs,
- Impact vests and protective flotation devices which can assist waveski surfers.

Age Divisions

Open Men's 10+ years; men (WWSA Titles Only)

Open Women's 10+ years; women

Open Men's Adaptive 10+ years; men who meet the adaptive criteria *

Open Women's Adaptive 10+ years; women who meet the adaptive criteria *

Open Transgender Men 10+ years; transgender men

Open Transgender Women 10+ years; transgender women

Open Transgender Men Adaptive 10+ years division is for transgender men who meet the adaptive criteria *

Open Transgender Women Adaptive 10+ years is for transgender women who meet the adaptive criteria *

Age Divisions — Age divisions are surfed in separate genders (male and female) and inclusive of adaptive, *excluding transgender men and transgender women.*

Cadet men	10-16 years
Cadet women	10-16 years
Junior men	17-20 years
Junior women	17-20 years
Senior men	21 – 34 years
Senior women	21 – 34 years
Master men	35 – 49 years
Master women	35 – 49 years
Grand Master men	50 – 59 years
Grand Master women	50 – 59 years
Legend Men	60 – 64 years



Legend Women	60 – 64 years
Grand Legend Men	65 - 69 years
Grand Legend Women	65 - 69 years
Ultra Legends Men	70 years plus
Ultra Legends Women	70 years plus
Tag Team Championship — Open and Women's 10 years plus	

Non-WWST events (accredited and other events supported by the WWSA) can replace Open Men's and single gender age divisions with the below:

Open Championship 10+ years — both genders. This is at the contest committee's discretion regarding the number of women competing (5 or less), location of event, time considerations, surf conditions
Age divisions can be mixed gender if there are insufficient women riders (less than 2) to have separate age divisions. This is at the contest committee's discretion taking into consideration , location of event, time and surf conditions

****Note — Also refer to SECTION 11 and Appendix of these rules for more detailed information regarding age divisions and definition of adaptive division.**

Registration

Only competitors from registered member nations can participate in the WWST and accredited events. The competitor must be officially endorsed as a representative by their member nation's waveski/canoe/surf/kayak association. Endorsement must be evidenced in writing prior to entry into the WWST.

Entry fees and WWSA membership fee is fully paid prior to confirmation of entry into the championships. Verification of age/eligibility for division/country representing. Accepted identification; passport or legal document.

Competitors are responsible for ensuring that all the details on their registration/entry form are correct and authorised personnel are to 'sign off' that this information is completed (ie. accreditation personnel) prior to the competition commencing.

Indemnity form completed. The contest director or authorised delegate of the WWSA will sign off the WWSA registration form prior to the competition commencing.

Competitors remain competitors for the duration of the event regardless of whether they have been eliminated from the competition or are waiting to surf their heat/division.

No rider will be permitted to enter the water/participate in the competition without completing their registration.

Awarding of World Waveski Surfing Titles to Host Nation

The WWST will be held every alternate year for the WWSA riders who are **financial members of member** nations and in good standing with the WWSA. Only countries can be represented as per the International General Assembly of Sport Federations (IGASF) recognition of countries and the WWSA's cooperation Agreement with the International Canoe Federation (ICF).

There must be no less than 4 member nations to validate a world waveski surfing title and subsequent award of championship results.

Applications to host WWST shall be called for by the WWSA no less than 3-4 months prior to the Bi-Annual



general meeting at the World Waveski Surfing Titles. This will give sufficient time for the WWSA to consider the application(s).

Member nations in absentia from the WWST will be able to lodge their vote relating to the nomination(s) received.

If nominations to host the WWST are not presented at the BGM, then the WWSA has the right to call for applications with at least a 2month nomination period and no less than 12 months prior to the planned hosting of the WWST. The WWSA Secretary is to send out a poll to all member nations with proposed options and a closing date to submit applications.

Rule Changes and Amendments

The rules of competition as set out in the rule book must be applied by all competitors competing at the WWST and WWSA accredited events.

Amendments to these rules are the prerogative of the WWSA Committee and the WWSA will advise each Member country once an amendment has been approved. However, where possible the WWSA will consult with member nations to discuss changes proposed.

Amendments to the WWSA Competition Rule Book, will only be applied to WWST and WWSA accredited events held after the amendments are approved.

In addition, proposals for changes to the rule book must be submitted in writing to the Secretary, a minimum of 90 days before a WWSA BGM meeting.

Seeding

(To be read in conjunction with the WWSA's Seeding Policy)

Seeding is based on results from the WWST which includes the most recent WWST. Consideration is given to results from other competitions such as those accredited by the WWSA and/or regional/national competitions.

The objective of seeding is to separate the top riders to achieve a more even and competitive contest and to avoid the top riders from meeting up too early in the draw.

Previous highly ranked competitors who have not competed at a WWST for more than four (4) years will have their seed determined by points obtained from WWSA accredited events or on a case-by-case basis if they have not attended any events that are accredited.

The WWSA Committee determines the seeds for all WWST. The WWSA is to be consulted about the seeding arrangements for all WWSA accredited events. All competitors will be given a seed for each division they have entered.

The seeds for the event are pre-determined based on the above information. All information pertaining to the draw and flow for the event are posted on the WWSA website as entries are received. All delegates and competitors are able to view the flow for the event prior to the competition commencing. Seeds are not finalized until the entry close off date.

If there are any errors such as seed placings or entries being allocated to the wrong division this must be brought to the organizing committee as soon as possible and prior to the event commencing.

If a competitor has moved from one age division to another since the last WWST, their Open Division placing and



other results will be used as a guide for seeding in their new age division.

If for reasons such as 'Acts of God', terrorist threats or anything else that impacts on completion of the event, the Contest Committee will liaise with member nation delegates and determine if any results can be awarded as at the time the event was stopped.

If no results can be awarded the event will be declared 'no results due to incompleteness of the event'.

Format of World Waveski Surfing Titles (WWST)

The number of entries for the WWST is capped at the following:

- Open Men's 80 competitors include provision for Top 32 plus 48 qualifiers
- Open Women's competitors capped at 24

Consideration: if there are less than 24 open women riders, provision can be made to allocate additional open men qualifiers riders capped at 56. ITCD WWSA and Contest officials' discretion.

Maximum number of entries across all age divisions and categories 114 riders, consideration is to be given to the duration of the event and conditions.

The format for the contests will be decided upon by the contest committee elected for the duration of the competition. Factors that will influence the draw and flow will include but not limited to the number of competitors and surf conditions.

There must be a minimum of 50% progression from any heat who will advance through to the next round (winners). Example: 5-man heat; 3 advances, 4-man heat; 2 advances, 2-man heat; 1 advance.

The above scenario also applies to the repechage i.e. 50% progression. **All competitors must be able to have a (2nd chance - repechage) in divisions where there are 6 or more riders.**

Open Men's Division

Both the Open Men's Division and Qualifying Rounds for the Open Men's Division will be first round repechage unless otherwise advised.

Top 32 – Open Men's Division

The WWSA Committee will use all information to determine the Top 32 as per the seeding policy.

The first round of the top 32 is a 4-man format with the top 2 advancing to the next round and the losers surfing off against the final 16 from the qualifying round. Continuing rounds will be winners advance only, losers eliminated from the division

The final 16 in the Open Men's Division will be man on man unless conditions determine otherwise. For places 5 – 8, competitors will surf off in one 4-man heat as the minor final.

Qualifying Round – Open Men's Division

The qualifying round is for competitors wanting to compete in the Open Men's Division but are not in the top 32.

These competitors will surf off in 4-man heats until the final 16 are established. The final 16 will then surf off



against the losers of the first round of the top 32 (see above) – 4-man heats; first round repechage. **The number of competitors in the qualifying round will be dependent upon the overall number of competitors across all other divisions but should not exceed 48.**

Open Women's Division

The contest will run on first round repechage.

Where there are five (5) or less competitors, the category is run as best of 3 rounds where the aggregate of the results from each of the three rounds determine the places. In the event that time does not permit best of 3 rounds, 1 round and/or 2 rounds can be considered.

Refer to aggregate round draw for categories with 5 or less competitors.

Woman on woman format may commence at the beginning of the competition where there are six (6) or more competitors and no less from the semi-finals onwards unless conditions determine otherwise

For places 5 – 8, competitors will surf off in one 4-man heat as the minor final.

Other Divisions (age divisions)

The contest will run on first round repechage.

Where there are five (5) or less competitors, the category is run as best of 3 rounds where the aggregate of the results from each of the three rounds determine the places. In the event that time does not permit best of 3 rounds, 1 round and/or 2 rounds can be considered.

Refer to aggregate round draw for categories with 5 or less competitors.

Format for WWSA Accredited Events

All divisions are to be offered: Open Men's, Open Women's, Open Men's Adaptive, Open Women's Adaptive and all Age Divisions adopting the winners/loser's format. Where categories enable competitors to start in rounds beyond the first round, they will be afforded a repechage.

Accreditation points are awarded for the following divisions:

- Open Men's,
- Open Women's,
- Open Men's Adaptive,
- Open Women's Adaptive
- **All age divisions**

Where there are five (5) women or less entered, the Open Men's Division is replaced with the Open Division which includes both genders (men and women). **Contest Director's decision.**

The Open Women's division continues where there are 2 or more women entered.

All other divisions that are offered in **accredited** events must comply with the WWSA competition rules as at the time of the competition. There is provision to have mixed gender age divisions where there are less than 2 women in an age division.



Sufficient time must be allocated to run all the divisions with the Open Men's and Open Women's taking priority over the other divisions. Where conditions have deteriorated impacting on completion of the event; consideration will be given to use the results from the Open Men's and Open Women's to populate out the results for the age divisions. The decision to apply this is done in consultation with the ITCD - WWSA.

Entry Fees

Entry Fees are to be paid at time of lodgement of entry. Unless otherwise advised and mutually agreed to by the WWSA Executive and host nation, entry fees and WWSA fees are coordinated and managed by the **Host Nation in collaboration with the WWSA**.

Entry fees to the WWST as laid out by host country to be approved by the WWSA Executive.

Funds collected on behalf of WWSA or host nation or vice versa must be paid over to the WWSA or host nation no later than 30 days after collection.

Scoreboards

To ensure high standards the WWSA has set out specific guidelines to be adhered to with regards to the Scoreboard. The Scoreboard is the connection between the Officials, Competitors, Media, and Public to the event:

- Minimum board size.
- Signage specifications, lettering.
- Heat colour indication /order.
- Flow and progression.
- Contest Director's notice board.

Computerised Systems



Both the WWST and WWSA accredited contests must be run on a live heat system integrated with the WWSA Live Heat program. The ITCD must be given access to the live heat system before i.e. **no less than 7 days prior to the event commencing**, during and after the contest.

The ITCD WWSA or nominated other must approve any changes

To regulate a judging system the WWSA must approve a system that meets the standards of the WWSA. This will be outlined in the host country's contract to run the WWST and/or WWSA **Accredited** contest.

The cost of the system will be borne by the host country.

<<< Scan this code using your mobile phone camera for a
Step by Step Guideline on Setting up a
WWSA accredited event on LiveHeats



SECTION 2: COMPETITION RULES

Contest Program

The Contest Director (s) and **the contest committee** team determine at the start of the day the program of events.

There must be a contest briefing for all competitors, judges, contest personnel prior to the commencement of each day's competition and/or at any time changes are made to the schedule and/or conditions. The contest briefing must be delivered in English and if appropriate local language. Information about the day's events is to be placed on a notice board next to the marshalling area. Follow up information to be relayed onto Live Heats and any other medium agreed to prior to the event commencing.

At all material times the program remains unchanged unless conditions change and/or there are other mitigating reasons.

It is the responsibility of competitors to familiarise themselves with this information.

There has to be a minimum of 18 inches of wave height before surf can be deemed contestable. The Contest Director and committee will monitor heats with regards to surfable waves noting in the absence of any surfable waves within a nominated time period e.g. 15 minutes provision will be made to stop the heat and reconvene when conditions improve.

Timing and Wave Counts

Heat Times: 20 minutes unless conditions determine otherwise.

Finals: 20 - 25 minutes subject to conditions.

Wave Counts: best 2 waves with unlimited waves.

Finals containing 5 competitors will be extended by 5 minutes.

Priority buoy or take off zone is only used in man-on-man formats.

The use of a priority take off zone will be at the discretion of the Contest Director and Contest Committee with consideration to local conditions.

Where heats only contain 2 competitors because of a 3rd and 4th competitor withdrawing from the heat, or the heat flow drops to 2 competitors, then consideration will be given to reducing the heat time to 10-15 minutes subject to conditions.

However, the two competitors may mutually agree to 'flip a coin' to determine 1st and 2nd place. This excludes straight finals where there are only 2 competitors in a division; the final must be run.



Competitor Responsibilities & Expectations

Contestant Procedures

- A competitor must register directly with the Beach Marshall and collect their competition rash singlet. The competitor must return the competition singlet direct to the Beach Marshall at the end of their heat. Failure to comply unless there are extenuating circumstances is penalty infringement i.e. half of second highest scoring wave.
- The competitor must take responsibility for wearing the correct coloured competition singlet. If the competitor wears the incorrect coloured singlet or no competition singlet, nil points will be awarded until the correct coloured competition singlet is worn.
- To register a result, a competitor must enter the water and attempt to surf.
- Penalty for not turning up for a heat unless there are extenuating circumstances is elimination or repechage default from that division.
- Competitors must ensure that they avail themselves of all information pertaining to the day's draw and timetable of events.
- Competitors faced with back-to-back heats must let the contest director know as soon as possible so that a delay for the start of the next heat can be organized.
- The contest director will determine 'free surfing' for competitors. Competitors who have registered with the beach marshal must not free surf prior to their heat.
- Official timing of all heats will be done by the Head Judge.
- All heats are started from in the line-up under the Contest Directors direction. A five-minute visual and PA warning is to be given prior to the finish of any heat.
- Siren or horn blasts must be used to start and finish heats. One blast to start and two blasts to finish. The Head Judge will indicate when a heat is to commence.
- A large disc system or flag or light must also be used, green to start and yellow for the last five minutes.
- The first of two sirens must blow immediately when the commentator reaches zero.
- Official end of the heat is when the siren is first audible to the Head Judge. A red disc or flag is used to indicate the end of the heat.
- The disc or flag or light must be in the neutral position with no colour showing, once the commentator reaches zero on his countdown.
- The commentator must give a five-second countdown at the end of the heat and when reaching zero, the heat must end immediately. The Head Judge and Spotter will determine if a wave has been caught within the final seconds before the heat concludes. Waves caught upon 'zero seconds' remaining in the countdown or upon the final siren shall not be scored. i.e. Once the siren sounds, zero seconds remain and the heat has concluded.
- Any competitor intentionally manoeuvring and riding during the progress of the next heat will be scored interference and will be penalised half of second highest scoring wave. Competitors must not ride a wave in the contest area prior to the start of their heat or the wave will not be scored. Once the siren has sounded to indicate that the heat has finished, competitors must not surf a wave into the beach unless they are up and riding before the end of the heat. The penalty for surfing a wave after the heat has finished is the loss of half of the second scoring wave.
- At the end of and during the heat, the competitor must be clearly in possession of the wave face, making a manoeuvre for the wave to be scored. It will be at the sole discretion of the spotter to call the competitor 'up and riding'. (The competitor must be propelled by the wave).
- If the Contest Director wishes to use the minimum time delay between heats (of 10 seconds) he must provide a marshalling area in the water outside of the line up.
- In the case of a water start the maximum time between heats shall be 5 minutes, unless unforeseen circumstances arise.
- Under no circumstances will there be any time extensions once a heat has started and if the heat is interrupted for any reason, it will be stopped by the Head Judge. It will be resumed at the time it was stopped and will run for the originally set period. The Head Judge in consultation with the judging panel at



the time of stopping /restarting must be aware of altered conditions making it possible for judges to keep the same scale.

- When heats are in progress any unauthorised competitor in the competition area will be penalised; half of second scoring wave from their subsequent heat. This also includes competitors who have completed their events and are no longer in the competition. This ruling also applies to clearing the water before the start of each day's event.
- Where water starts are being used, competitors in the next heat will be permitted to paddle out on the flats (i.e. with five minutes to go, unless otherwise advised) and will congregate out of the line up outside the take-off area. Surfers may paddle towards the line-up once the signal that the previous heat has finished. The Contest Director may vary the paddle out time during inclement conditions (e.g. 10 minutes) as long as competitors do not encroach on riders in the current heat.
- Heats are not stopped unless there is an injury to competitor(s). However, a particular division or round may be stopped if the surf conditions change to such an extent that competitor's safety and welfare are compromised. Examples of this include stormy and/or on-shore conditions or where waves are almost non-existent or have gone flat. In the event that conditions deteriorate, the Contest Director and Committee will meet with Team Managers as soon as possible to discuss postponement of the competition or relocation to another venue.
- The Contest Director or delegate is the only authorized person who can give the schedule of events.
- The Contest Director must have an official notice board where the daily schedule is posted for all the competitors to see. Any discrepancies need to be brought to the attention to the Contest Director as soon as possible via the competitor's nation's delegate. No competitor is to directly approach the Contest Director; only through the previously mentioned process i.e. Team Manager/Captain or designated authorised other.

Code of Conduct

This is a contentious issue and one that requires sensitive management by the contest committee and team managers/captains.

Competitors will be required to sign on their entry form that they will behave in a manner that respects the host country's cultural differences and is consistent with community expectations.

Where it is demonstrated that the behaviour of a competitor(s) has brought the competition into disrepute then the Contest Committee has the right to impose a penalty on the competitor(s). This is expanded upon below describing further in two parts – during the competition (water) and outside the competition (on land).

In the opinion of the Priority and Head Judge, if a competitor excessively hassles another competitor who has Priority in an unsportsmanlike manner an interference can be called. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

If a competitor utilizes their priority in an unsportsmanlike manner to intentionally block another competitor with lower or no priority outside of the Primary Take-off Zone, an interference will be called against them. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

If a competitor(s) deliberately encroaches on another competitor(s) performance on a wave(s) the penalty for the first offence is loss of half of second scoring wave and penalty for the second offence is elimination from the division (the competitor(s) must leave the water immediately).

Examples of intimidatory behaviour or conduct unbecoming to the competition include – restricting a competitor in a position where they can neither surf left or right without causing an interference, using a paddle or Waveski or other items of equipment to 'block/hinder' a competitor, abusive language with intimidatory threatening



behaviour. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

As the penalty for the above offences are very serious, the Head Judge will need to ensure that they are vigilant in their observation of competitors in the heats. There is a very fine line between competitive strategies and unsportsmanlike behaviour. At all times the Contest Director, Team Managers, Head Judge and Competitors will need to be aware of the parameters which apply to both.

Alcohol Consumption and Socially Unacceptable Behaviour during the competition and at the competition venue and site

Competitors knowingly consuming alcohol, presenting in a drug induced or intoxicated manner and/or behaving in a socially unacceptable manner will be removed from the competition site and will face disciplinary actions determined by the Contest Committee and offending competitor(s) national delegate(s). Penalties may include elimination from the competition and/or monetary fine.

Abusive behaviour towards other competitors and/or contest committee and public displays of personal equipment abuse, which brings the sport into disrepute will result in the offending competitors being fined (amount to be agreed to) and/or sanctions being placed on them. This may include elimination from the competition.

Penalties and Disciplinary Actions

General Principles

The World Waveski Surfing Association (WWSA) maintains a zero-tolerance approach to conduct that undermines the integrity, safety, and reputation of Waveski Surfing.

Penalties for infringements during WWSA-accredited events may include warnings, fines, disqualification, suspension, or a combination thereof. All penalties are imposed at the discretion of the Contest Director (CD) in consultation with senior event officials, including the Head Judge where applicable.

For competitors under the age of 18, any fines imposed are the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. Failure to comply with disciplinary sanctions may result in withdrawal from competition and/or suspension from all WWSA events until compliance is achieved.

Payment of Fines

All fines imposed during a WWSA event must be paid immediately.

Any Waveski Surfer who:

- Fails to pay an imposed fine, and
- Has qualified for the next round

will be withdrawn from that round.

Failure to pay a fine will result in the competitor being barred from participating in any WWSA-accredited event until the fine is settled.



General Infringement & Penalties (Guideline)

Infringement	Penalty Guideline \$US Dollars
Assault (verbal or physical) toward judges, officials, staff, competitors, media or public	\$500 fine, disqualification and suspension
Derogatory remarks, verbal abuse, swearing, or rude gestures	\$300 fine and/or disqualification
Unsporting conduct	\$100–\$200 fine and/or disqualification
Bringing the sport into disrepute	\$250 fine, disqualification and/or suspension
Damage to property	\$200 fine plus repair costs and/or suspension
Abuse of contest equipment or event property	\$80 fine plus costs
Abuse of own equipment	\$50 fine

Technical Infringement & Penalties (Guideline)

Infringement	Penalty Guideline
Competitor “no show”	\$80 fine
Surfing in contest area during heats	\$80 fine, disqualification or both
Surfing outside allocated heat times	\$50 fine, disqualification or both

Warning & Escalation System

Where appropriate, a first infringement may receive a formal warning. Subsequent infringements will attract the **maximum applicable penalty**.

The Contest Director, in consultation with senior officials, may impose suspended penalties depending on the severity of the infringement.

Infringements not specifically listed may still result in warnings, fines, disqualification and/or suspension.

Heat Composition

COMPETITION SEEDING & PROGRESSION FORMATS are available via LiveHeats
(Flow must be signed off by ITCD before inserted into LiveHeats)

Communication with the World Waveski Surfing Association can be done via email: info@worldwaveski.org



Protests and Appeals

Any competitor has the right to protest the result of a heat. All protests must be in writing and be submitted on behalf of the Competitor by their Manager or Coach or Captain or Designated other to the Contest Director within 20 minutes of the protest being advised. The merits of each protest will be considered by the Contest Director, the Head Judge and by the Technical Director, where after the Contest Director will rule on the protest. At all times competitors must be familiar with the competition rules and accordingly lodge their protest within the allocated time.

In the case of an interference call, the offending rider will be notified of the interference call, by the Head Judge as soon as it is known. This may be by loud speaker if possible, during the heat.

Any protest that is lodged in respect of the interference must be submitted in writing within 20 minutes of the offending rider being officially notified i.e. results are on the official results board.

Video tape can be used for evidence in the event of a protest providing it is viewed by contest director/protest panel within 20 minutes of the protest being lodged.

The Contest Director will convey the result of the appeal to the offending rider, and his decision will be final.

The Contest Director may impose a monetary levy for lodgement of protests; refer to **Protest Form** in Appendices. Where a monetary levy is imposed; the levy will be refunded to the competitor if the protest is upheld.

Maximum Wave Limits

There will be no wave maximum i.e. there are unlimited waves for all heats.

Wave Tabulation

Heats - to decide a winner in all heats, the best 2, waves on each Judge Sheet, are tabulated and placed on each judge's sheet. The results are then transposed to a Master Sheet with all five Judges results. The high and low Judge for each competitor is crossed off and the three-remaining added. The lowest total first, next lowest second, etc. (REFER SECTION 7 – DUTIES OF THE TABULATOR).

The best two waves must prevail in all heats.

In the case of computer judging, the competitors' wave score will be the average of remaining judges wave scores after high and low judges are cut out.

In the case of heats where there are 4 or less judges, the heat scores are aggregated with the average taken from the combined result of the best 2 waves.

Priority Rules

Right of way using the Priority System

For heats where priority applies, the priority system will determine which competitor has priority to a wave at that time. The competitor with priority has the unconditional right of way and can paddle for and ride any wave and any wave direction they select. The competitor's opponent/s can paddle for and ride the same wave in any direction and be scored providing they do not:



Hinder the scoring potential of the ride for the competitor with priority.

Cross in front of or bottom turn around the competitor with priority, regardless if the competitor is up and riding a wave or in the process of catching a wave.

If a competitor without priority does not comply with 1) a priority interference penalty will be called against them. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

If a competitor incurs an interference penalty they will lose priority. The Priority Judge will determine the new priority position of the competitors in the heat.

General Priority

Before priority has been established, all non-priority rules apply.

The Priority Judge will make any call on priority using a coloured display system corresponding to the competitor's competition jersey colours in the water to indicate priority and may consult the judging panel for close calls. With all display systems, if vertical then order of priority will be from top to bottom and if horizontal then order will be from left to right. Once Priority has been established, it is the competitor's responsibility to check the priority system for their priority position at all times.

'Blocking Rule' in Non-Priority Situations

For all Events with a Priority Judge, a competitor with the inside position will be allocated lowest priority applicable at the time if they:

- Make a committed paddle for a wave and block a competitor from catching that wave;
- Position themselves in the take-off zone and block another Competitor from catching a wave.

Excessive Hassling in Non-Priority Situations

For all Events with a Priority Judge, in the opinion of the Priority and Head Judge, if a competitor excessively hassles, blocks or hinders another competitor from paddling in the line-up they will be allocated lowest Priority applicable at the time. If the behaviour is aggressive or unsportsmanlike then an interference may also be called. Penalty; Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

Subject to no. 6), wave priority is lost as soon as a competitor rides a wave or makes a committed paddle to catch and misses a wave.

No. 5) will not apply in 3-competitor or 4-competitor heats if the competitor is:

- Paddling alongside a competitor with higher Priority, who then catches the wave.
- They are blocked by a competitor with higher Priority by paddling or positioning.

Under priority allocation it is the competitors' responsibility to continually check the priority system for verification.

If a competitor inside has second or third priority and their opponent paddles for, but misses a wave, the inside competitor automatically assumes the higher priority. Therefore, if they also paddle for, but miss the wave, then they have also lost priority. That is, both competitors have then lost priority even though only one wave has passed and there was not sufficient time to change the priority.

"Blocking Rule" in Priority Situations

The Priority competitor will lose priority if in the opinion of the Head Judge or Priority Judge they:

- Paddle in front of the non-Priority competitor to deliberately impede them from catching a wave.



- Position themselves in the take-off zone to prevent another Competitor from catching a wave.
- Use their priority by either paddling for or taking off on a wave to block their opponent when the Competitor with priority appears to have had no intention to score. In this situation priority can be awarded regardless of which competitor reaches the take-off zone first after the Ride.

If a competitor with superior priority paddles outside the primary take-off zone (including if they sit on inside position), the competitor will have their priority suspended until they re-enter the primary take-off zone. If the competitor does not re-enter the primary take-off zone, they will no longer be the priority competitor. The Priority judge will determine the competitor's new priority position in the heat. All attempts will be made to verbally announce the priority competitor as they start to leave the primary take-off zone by a verbal warning via the PA system. Events to provide a microphone for the PA to the Priority Judge for this purpose that is able to override the beach announcers, to relay priority decisions like this although competitors should not rely on the same and rather always rely on the priority disc for the event.

Priority interference may be called individually by the Head Judge only if the majority of the judging panel do not see the incident. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

In all cases where a dispute results from a decision or a malfunction of the priority system, the Organisation Committee will consult with the Head Judge and Contest Director to determine a resolution which may include a re-surf.

Allocation is based on who the Priority Judge believes has reached the primary take off zone first. In cases where competitors appear to reach the primary take off zone at the same time, priority will go to the competitor who did not have the last priority.

Once a heat has ended all priority ceases. If a competitor is riding on a wave as the heat ends, they can't be interfered with by any competitor (even if that competitor had higher priority before the heat ended). If an interference occurs the violating competitor will receive a priority situation interference. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

When a competitor rides a wave prior to a head start, that competitor takes the lowest priority position in their heat once it has begun and retains it after any restart.

In the discretion of the Priority Judge, if a competitor's equipment is damaged and they actively make their way to their replacement equipment or when a competitor gets washed out of the primary take off zone by a set:

- The competitor's priority is suspended, indicated by the competitor having 'No Priority' and
- The competitor's priority position (1st, 2nd etc...) they had when they were in the primary take off zone can be reinstated once they return to the primary take off zone.

(Please refer to situations where a competitor is in danger to assist in determining whether the heat is stopped and all help is rendered).

2-Competitor Heat Priority

Competitor heat priority works in the following manner:

- At the start of a heat once the first wave has been ridden, the second competitor gets automatic priority for any other wave they choose, unless the competitor Rides the wave before the heat starts or if the Competitor is not in the Competition Area before the heat start.
- A competitor cannot lose second priority by paddling for and missing a wave but if the Competitor catches the wave and it is evident they are under the power of the wave, they lose second priority.
- Allocation is based on who the Priority Judge believes has reached the Primary Take off Zone first. In cases where Competitors appear to reach the line-up at the same time, priority will go to the Competitor who



did not have the last priority.

- If a competitor is not in the Primary Take-Off Zone when the heat starts and arrives late, priority will be allocated to the other Competitor at the discretion of the Priority Judge.

3-Competitor Heat Priority

- Competitor heat priority works in the following manner:
- The first competitor to ride a wave then receives third priority (first competitor).
- The remaining two competitors in the heat have priority over the first competitor and may paddle for waves without losing this priority until one of them catches a wave (second competitor).
- Once the second competitor catches a wave, the initial heat priority order is established:
- The competitor yet to catch a wave receives first priority; and
- the remaining competitors will receive priority in the order they return to the take-off area.
- The competitor with first priority has priority over both competitors. The competitor with second priority only has priority over the competitor with third priority.
- If a competitor is not in the primary take off zone when the heat starts and arrives late, the competitor will be allocated the appropriate priority position as determined by the Priority Judge at the time when the competitor reaches the primary take off zone.

4-Competitor Heat Priority

Competitor Heat priority works in the following manner:

- The first competitor to ride a wave then receives fourth priority (first competitor).
- The remaining three competitors in the heat have priority over the first competitor and may paddle for waves without losing this priority until the next competitor catches a wave (second competitor).

The remaining two competitors in the heat have priority over the first and second competitor and may paddle for waves without losing this priority until the next competitor catches a wave (third competitor).

Once the third competitor catches a wave, the initial heat priority order is established:

- The competitor yet to catch a wave receives first priority; and the remaining competitors will receive priority in the order they return to the take-off area.

The competitor with first priority has priority over all other competitors. The competitor with second priority only has priority over the competitors with third and fourth priority. The competitor with third priority only has priority over the competitor with fourth priority.

If a competitor is not in the primary take off zone when the heat starts and arrives late, the competitor will be allocated the appropriate priority position as determined by the Priority Judge at the time when the competitor reaches the primary take off zone.

Interference Penalty

loss of half of second highest scoring wave in all cases unless otherwise stated.

For priority situations when an interference is called on a competitor, then the competitor's second-best scoring wave will be halved. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.



In non-priority situations when an interference is called on a competitor, the competitor's second-best scoring wave will be halved. Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

When an interference is called on a competitor while paddling to catch a wave or while riding a wave, the ride will be scored zero.

Interference will be denoted by a triangle on the Judges sheet.

Any interfering competitor must be penalized and once an interference decision is made, it can only be modified by the Head Judge if they deem the decision was made relying on inaccurate technology (video/audio). The Judges will not enter into any discussion over the interference call.

Any protest relating to a decision should be submitted in accordance with (protests protocol please see in section under Protests.).

Exception: where a double interference is called, neither competitor gets an extra wave. An extra wave or heat delay as decided by the Head Judge at the time will also apply to interference from water photographers, water security personnel or other outside interference.

Where any competitor incurs two interferences, they must immediately leave the Competition Area.

If both interferences are in a non-priority situation, both scoring rides will be halved.

If one interference is in a non-priority situation and the other in a priority situation, one scoring ride will be halved and the other scored a zero.

If both interferences are in a priority situation the competitor will be disqualified from the heat.

If neither competitor in an interference situation has established priority over the other competitor involved, the penalty will be a non-priority interference regardless of other competitors in the heat (not involved in the interference situation) hold priority or not, competitor's second-best scoring wave will be halved; Penalty - loss of half of second highest scoring wave.

This rule will be applied to one-on-one, 3-Competitor and 4-Competitor heats.

The composition of heats will be determined in terms of the provisions of SECTION 1 – FORMAT FOR WWST

Heats will be made up of a maximum of four surfers provided that in the first round of any contest, five-man heats will be permitted if the circumstances so dictate. The Contest Director and the WWSA appointed contest committee will decide the composition of heats after entries have closed. A minimum of 50% of the competitors in a heat must advance through to the next round (winners round). For example, 5-man heat (3 advance), 4-man heat (2 advance), 2-man heat (1 advance). This scenario also applies to repechage rounds with 50% advancing.

Tie-Breaking Procedures

In a 2-man, 3-man, four-man heat and 5-man a general judging consensus using plus/minus system on the judging tally sheet must break ties. Where scores cannot be separated then the plus and minus system is used to decide the best two waveski surfers, then used again to split those two waveski surfers. This also applies to 2-man heats to separate the two surfers.

Count backs on tied judging sheets are to go to the highest scoring wave from the best 2 waves and if necessary, continue to the next highest wave until the tie is broken. In the event that the tie cannot be broken in this manner, the tabulator would then count the best 3 waves, the best 4 waves and up until the tie is broken on the tied sheet only.



Only unbreakable ties will be re-surfed or in the case of the final awarding equal placings.

Outside Assistance

Competitors are able to receive assistance to run waveskis and paddles up the beach, repair damaged equipment, exchange waveskis and paddles. Competitors are also able to receive assistance in the water to retrieve/replace paddles and surf equipment as long as the person(s) who provides the assistance does not encroach on other competitors, and/or assists the competitor(s) in any way that might give them an advantage. Penalty for person(s) providing assistance where it is deemed that a competitor(s) has been given an unfair advantage is loss of half of second scoring wave levied against the competitor(s).

All team managers, captains, competitors must be aware that assisting competitors in the water that gives them an unfair advantage over other competitors such as waving of paddles, whistling by outsiders indicating sets of waves are coming a penalty will be enforced– penalty for first offence; loss of half of second scoring wave second offence - elimination from the particular division. The Team may also be given a monetary fine.

First Aid and Safety

At all times the safety of the competitor(s) takes priority. In the event that competitors require assistance because of an emergency including separation from paddle and/or waveski, injury in the surf or experiencing difficulties which could lead to drowning; the Head Judge will announce over the loud speaker that a competitor(s) is in trouble and all help is rendered. The heat is stopped and recommenced at a time to be advised. In this instance there is no penalty applied to the competitor(s). Refer to the priority system where competitors become separated from their craft.

Mechanical Communication Device Policy during Competition

The WWSA prohibits any mechanical / electronic communication device, (including megaphones) that links a competitor in the action of competing with another party during WWSA competitive events. Examples of this includes smart phones, smart watches, electronic hearing devices.

Photography, drones, videographers

Maximum of two photographers in the line-up during a heat with no more than one to a camera and the other the event video. These photographers must have a minimum size mm, cannot use hard boards for flotation and be WWSA approved. After checking in with the event director and signing a waiver, if required, they can enter the water only during assigned heats. The Contest Director and Head Judge can remove the photographer or photographers from the water if they deem that they are impeding the running of the contest i.e. interfering with a competitor's potential to catch and surf a wave.

The usage of Drones must be approved by the WWST Contest Committee. Drones must comply with any local aviation and air space regulations.



SECTION 3: JUDGING OPERATIONS

The standard of the judging panel is based solely on the individual's qualifications. All judges must have attained accreditation from their respective country's surfing association.

Competitors, sponsors, spouses, relatives or any person(s) that may potentially have a conflict of interest are not to judge.

Judging Panel:

- Judging panels for each heat will consist of up to five judges who will rotate from a larger judging panel. A panel of up to **seven judges** is the minimum necessary to conduct an event on a full-time basis.
- The judging panel roster should not require any judge to judge for more than 3 heats without a break.
- Each judging panel will officiate under the control and discretion of a Head Judge.
- Where participation is low, events may utilise less judges, but this must be signed off by the WWSA committee prior to the event.

Duties of a Judge:

Judges are responsible for:

- Scoring waves in accordance with the official WWSA Judging Criteria
- Maintaining impartiality and professionalism
- Avoiding conflicts of interest
- Following Head Judge instructions
- Ensuring consistent application of rules

Judges must not engage with competitors, coaches, or media during active judging duties unless authorised by the Head Judge.

Judge Availability & Responsibility:

Judges must be present and available for all scheduled heats unless excused by the Head Judge. Failure to attend assigned duties may result in removal from the judging panel.

Check-In: Judges must check in to the Head Judge at least 15 minutes prior to heat starting time allowing time to get a realistic view of the waves, and the surfing standard.

Judge Details: The name of the judge and the scribe together with the division event and heat number, must be entered in the appropriate sections of the judging sheet before the next heat starts. **Paper judging sheets may be replaced by using iPad or other electronic devices.**

Sheets: Judges sheets must be handed in promptly at the end of the heat. Judges must not tally the sheet or alter scores. If a score is unclear or must be changed, blank out the square and use the next one. All alterations must be signed by the Head Judge.

Quality Judging: Each judge must give 100% effort; maximum concentration is essential to ensure personal bias is



eliminated and that top efficiency is reached. Judges observed to be judging at a sub-standard level or observed to be biased in their judging will be dropped from further judging.

Judges are to score every ride by each competitor.

The Judges to be used in the finals will be those who have shown the highest degree of consistency over the contest.

Judging statistics and their calculation are detailed in SECTION 8 – STATISTICALLY EVALUATING JUDGING PERFORMANCE.

Judges are responsible for ruling interference situations described in Section 5.

Judges finishing their rostered events should remain on hand in the administration area until the last event has been tallied. Judges must be available until protests can no longer be lodged.

Scoring: The wave scoring will be done from zero to ten. Broken into one tenth decimal increments, e.g. 5.2, 7.3, 8.1

Separation: Judges must be visually separated and it is the responsibility of the Head Judge to see that the judges do not discuss scores or interference calls. (Unable to see each other's score sheets).

Corrections/Alterations: Judges may not change their scores or interference calls either on the computer terminal or the manual judging sheets. In the event that a mistake has been made the judge should have the Head Judge make the correction for them.

Missed Waves: If a judge misses a wave or part of a wave, they should place an 'M' in the square of the manual Judges Sheet, contact the Head Judge immediately and have the wave included into his sheet by the Head Judge on the basis of comparison to the previous rides on the other Judges sheets.

Other Errors: At times, errors of a special or unique nature occur with respect to judging, this includes timing and scores. The Technical Director, along with the Head Judge, will rule of these special circumstances case by case. At their own discretion, the Technical Director may consult with those qualified observers (defined as off-duty judges, spotters or other officials) who may have witnessed the incident in question.

Verification: Judges must wait until the completion of the tabulator's work before checking the completed sheets.

Ethics /Integrity: No judge may pass comment on a competitor's chances in any event, to the public, media, contestants or that judge may be dismissed from the panel and other action will be taken by the Contest Director and WWSA Contest Committee.

Judging Area/Tower:

The **Contest Director and Head Judge** will be responsible for the application of this rule.

The Judges, spotter, announcer, Head Judge and Priority Judges must have unrestricted view of the full width of the wave being **surfing by the competitor at all times.**

Side on view or a view that does not give the judges an accurate or appropriate perspective of the wave is not acceptable.

If a fixed structure (podium) is in place, this podium (or podiums) must be erected **in consultation with the Contest Director and Head Judge.**



- If a contest is moved the judges must be positioned at the vantage point that allows them best viewing of the wave being surfed – even if this requires temporary structures to be positioned on the beach.
- The judges must be provided with a suitable weatherproof protective shelter.
- The Head Judge is in sole control of the Judging area.
- Unauthorized people including coaches, managers, agents, sponsors, competitors, friends, family Committee members or even committee members (who are not part of the judging panel or one of the contest officials) are not permitted in the Judging area.
- Smoking and use of alcohol is not permitted in the judging area during any contest.
- Judges and officials who are on duty must turn their cell phones off.
- Only those tablets or laptops that are being used to run an event may be turned on in the judge's enclosure.



SECTION 4: JUDGING CRITERIA AND HINTS

Judging Preparation

Make sure you take part in the pre-event meeting to establish the criteria and rules that will be used. You must be at the judges' tower punctually. This means one heat before your first heat, so that you can check conditions and be available in case a judge does not show up. Be prepared for all conditions and if necessary, bring sweaters, towels, pants and a coat in case of rain. The judges must know the rules and be able to implement them in any situation. Study the breakdown of the criteria mentioned below and in SECTION 3 - JUDGING CRITERIA TO BE USED IN JUDGING:

'A surfer must perform radical controlled manoeuvres in the critical section of a wave with speed, power and flow to maximize scoring potential. Innovative/progressive surfing as well as variety of repertoire (manoeuvres) will be taken into consideration when rewarding points for waves ridden. The surfer who executes the criteria with the maximum degree of difficulty and commitment on the better waves shall be rewarded with the high scores.'

Waveski Surfing Criteria

The criteria have purposely been broken into two sentences. The first sentence being the major emphasis of the criteria, concerns the manoeuvres, how radical and controlled they are and the section of the wave they are performed on.

The criteria can be graded into four main sections:

Radical Controlled Manoeuvres:

This is by far the most important part of the criteria. Modern day manoeuvres basically constitute change of direction of the board on the wave (not the competitor on the board). Such manoeuvres would include re-entries, cutbacks, floaters, aerials, tube rides etc. How radical they are, followed by the amount of control and commitment put into each of them will score.

Power, Commitment, Control:

It is important to note that even if a surfer has completed 90% of the manoeuvre it WILL NOT score if they lose control and fall off.

Most Critical Section:

This part of the criteria describes where on the wave manoeuvres should be performed to score the maximum points. The critical section of the wave is the pocket closest to the curl. The degree of commitment and the risk involved in performing close to the curl is the reason that it scores higher. The degree of difficulty and the risk taken should be rewarded accordingly.

With Speed, Power and Flow

Speed and Power become more apparent when performed in the critical section of the wave. Generally, the greater the speed the more powerful the manoeuvre will be when performed in the critical section of the wave. Flow relates to how the surfer links their turns together on the wave and how manoeuvres are functional in regards to where they are performed. A surfer that is flowing with the wave generally will look as though he/she is reading the wave well and performing the manoeuvres that are suitable to the sections being surfed.

Innovative and progressive surfing:



Innovation is a critical element that top surfers must employ in order to distinguish themselves from fellow competitors. Innovative manoeuvres by definition require by definition require commitment and hence when executed require significant and reward.

Maximum degree of difficulty and commitment:

Difficulty relates to commitment and control reflects skill that may be masked by flow thus this last sentence is a simplistic overview.

Wave selection is the single most important factor for a competitor in their heat. The selected waves dictate the manoeuvres they are able to perform. The best wave may not necessarily be the biggest. The competitor does not automatically score high because of wave size or quality.

They must comply with the criteria in order to unlock the potential of the wave.

Judging Scale

The zero-to-ten-point scoring system used by the WWSA is broken into the following categories:

0.0 - 1.9	=	Poor
2.0 - 3.9	=	Fair
4.0 - 5.9	=	Average
6.0 - 7.9	=	Good
8.0 - 10.00	=	Excellent

NOTE: Refer to this judging scale to establish first wave exchanges. Use whole points and half points as much as possible during the heat e.g. 3.5, 4.0, 6.5. Resort to decimal places only, when necessary, e.g. at the end of a heat use full scale decimals e.g. .1, .4, .1 and .3.

During the course of a heat, try to use the whole of your scale from 0 - 10 regardless of surf conditions. Score the good waves up and the bad waves down.

Avoid scoring higher as the heat continues. Bear in mind, the previous scoring waves. The last wave exchange should be in context to the first waves scored in the heat. It's important that a judge concentrate on the scoring of individual waves and ignores the final outcome of the heat. No riders are identical. So, try to differentiate between all scoring waves. Do not deliberate on your scores - put pen to paper.

Judges **should** not change their score or interference scores. In the event that a mistake has been made, the judge should have the Head Judge make the correction for them.

During the heat, call wave counts as frequently as possible while the contestants are not riding. Repeat wave counts. Avoid being influenced by the spectators, commentators or friendships and other outside influences. Have the confidence to stand by your own decisions. During the heat, do not express your opinions to other judges. Judging booth should be set up so that judges cannot view each other's scores. The booth should be silent except for the head judge and any relevant questions to the head judge while a heat is in progress.

Judging Method

It is important to score the first wave exchanges in the heat correctly, that will set the scale for the rest of the heat. Try to make at least one point spread between your first two scoring rides. Then, if your next wave falls in between your first two you still have a good spread comparison between the scores is imperative between a heat. Try to see the waves in terms of point potential. While the competitor is riding a wave, manoeuvring you are allocating points that will be added automatically in your mind. Thus, at the end of the wave or in case of a fall, you immediately have the score. Do not compare this score with previous score and remember, never deduct



points because a competitor fell off the wave.

Important: Each judge must give 100% effort. Maximum concentration is essential to ensure personal bias is eliminated and your contribution to the panel is significant.

Judging in Bad Weather/Poor Conditions

A lot of events are held in marginal conditions. All places can suffer from poor quality surf so you have to be able to adjust to the conditions. In poor surf concentrate on competitors who are utilising mini power-pockets on the wave with explosive moves that are normally timed to occur at these spots on the wave.

Observe if each manoeuvre is being linked directly to another, without grovelling (rail to rail turns through the flat sections should be distinguished from hopping all the way to the next section).

Establish if the surfer is generating/creating enough speed out of turns because the wave will certainly not be co-operating. Also notice which competitors are completing each wave flawlessly with major, perfectly executed manoeuvres

Conditions and level of ability can change from heat to heat judging scale should be adjusted accordingly to the discretion of the head judge.

NOTE: In poor conditions there are normally few waves. Watch low scores as they will be counted in the final tabulation.

Judging Heavy/Close Heats

Difficult heats should be accepted by a judge as a challenge. This means judging methodically, being extremely critical, watching details, picturing the whole wave in your mind. In every contest there will always be some heats that are more difficult than others either because they are the first heats of the day, due to worsening conditions or because it is a close heat due to the level of surfing that is taking place, good or bad. This is when the top judges come to the forefront. The following factors should be considered when analysing each wave in such heats:

- Where was the first manoeuvre executed?
- How well was it executed?
- How well were the manoeuvres connected together?
- Did the competitor execute rail to rail turns through the flat sections or did they just hop all the way through to the next section?
- Compare the outside manoeuvres to the inside manoeuvres.
- Compare take-off areas and how deep the competitor was at the initial point of take-off.
- Consider how the competitor utilised the wave.
- The ability of the competitor to make sections and whether the manoeuvres were functional in doing so.
- Did the competitor actually complete the manoeuvre and with control?
- What did the competitor complete before failing?

Comparison between first scoring wave and last scoring wave is extremely important.

Inexperienced judges tend to over score last waves as they forget or totally ignore what has taken place during a heat and this often affects a result. This is an area where you can learn a lot from an experienced judge. They have the ability to concentrate on the broad picture of what is happening in the heats as well a minor detail such as a paddling interference.



Judging 4 and 5 Person Heats

100% concentration is the key. Not just to have each score down correctly but also to assist the Head Judge with wave and interference calls, in such heats, the ability to score the wave instinctively in your mind, and to allocate the score automatically at the end of the ride is of utmost importance.

When several competitors are riding at the same time, it's important to watch everyone. However, it is essential that you focus on the more critical areas. For example, take off point, the first manoeuvre and other outside manoeuvres because this is where the riders greatest scoring potential will occur. The beginning of a wave is far more important and therefore when competitors are riding, concentration should be apportioned according to each riders scoring potential on their waves. The competitor(s) scoring potential at the end of a wave is obviously much lower. It is important to get your scores down on your sheet as quickly as possible. Continuously call wave score counts. If unsure about a score never ask a fellow judge because they might have missed or be on a different scale to you. Always ask the Head Judge for assistance because that is what he is there for.



SECTION 5: INTERFERENCE CALLS

Basic Rule

The competitor deemed to have the inside position for a wave has unconditional right of way for the entire duration of that ride, interference will be called if during that ride a majority of Judges feel that a fellow competitor has possibly hindered the scoring potential of the competitor deemed to have right of way for the wave.

Anyone who takes off in front of a competitor with right-of-way in a non ONE-on-ONE heat has the chance to ride or kick out of the wave without being called interference, unless they hinder the scoring potential of the competitor with right of way by any means. These include excessive hassling or breaking down a section.

Anyone riding a wave in one-on-one heats has the chance to kick out of the wave immediately without being called interference when the priority competitor using their right of way catches that wave, unless they hinder the scoring potential of the surfer with the right of way by any means. These include excessive hassling, or breaking down a section or other applicable paddling interferences. If they continue to ride the wave and they do not hinder the scoring potential of the competitor with the right of way, they will be scored a zero and the wave will count as one of their maximum allowable rides but not as one of their scoring rides.

Right-of-Way

{in Four Person, Three Person and Non-Priority One on One Situations}

Wave possession or right of way in these situations will vary slightly under the following categories as determined by the nature of the contest venue. It is the responsibility of the judge to determine which competitor has the inside position based on whether the wave is a superior right or left. If at the initial point of take-off neither the right nor left can be deemed superior, then the right of way will go to the first competitor who makes a definite turn in their chosen direction (by making an obvious right or left turn).

Wave Peak Breaks

Point Break

When there is only one available direction on any given wave, the competitor on the inside shall have unconditional right of way for the entire duration of that wave.

One Peak Break (Reef or Beach)

One peak situation: if there is a single well-defined peak with both a left and a right available, at the initial point of take-off and neither the right or left can be deemed superior then the right of way will go to the first competitor who makes a definite turn in their chosen direction (by making an obvious right or left turn).

A second competitor may go in the opposite direction on the same wave without incurring a penalty, providing they do not interfere with the first competitor who has established right of way (i.e. the 2nd rider may not cross the path of the first competitor in order to gain the opposite side of the peak unless they do so without hindering, in the majority of judges opinion, the inside competitor).



Multiple Peak Situation

With multiple random peaks. In these conditions wave possession may vary slightly according to the nature of an individual wave:

With Two Peaks, there will be cases where one swell will have two separate, defined peaks far apart that eventually meet at some point. Although two competitors may each have inside position on those respective peaks, the competitor who first manoeuvres shall be deemed to have wave possession and the competitor must give way by cutting back or kicking out before hindering the right of way surfer.

If two competitors take off and manoeuvre at the same time on two separate peaks that eventually meet, then:

If they both give way by cutting back or kicking out, so that neither is hindered, there will be no penalty.

If they cross paths and collide or hinder one another, the judges will penalise the competitor who has been the aggressor at the point of contact. Penalty will be half of second highest scoring wave.

If neither competitor gives way by cutting back or kicking out; both will share responsibility for the confrontation and a double interference will be called.

Right-of-Way in Priority One on One Situations

Neutral priority until the first wave is ridden:

In a two person/one on one heat the priority disc system will determine wave possession. The competitor with priority has unconditional right of way for both directions on the wave they select.

The second competitor cannot take-off on the same wave as the priority surfer, regardless of direction or distance between them, unless the competitor does not hinder the scoring potential of the competitor with priority.

As soon as the priority competitor begins to manoeuvre on their chosen wave, the second competitor must stop paddling at that point and give way. If a competitor continues to paddle or ride the same wave as a priority competitor, they will be called priority interference, unless the competitor does not hinder the scoring potential of the competitor with priority.

If they incur an interference penalty, they will also lose priority.

The Right-of-Way Criteria

The choice of right-of-way criteria for each of the above possible situations is the responsibility of the Head Judge or the senior available Judge in that order.



Priority Rules

Mandatory in WWST events and WWSA Accredited events unless there has been an exemption provided by the WWSA and ITCD prior to the event commencing. The Head Judge will be the priority referee using coloured discs corresponding to the competitors' colours in the water to indicate priority. Priority discs must be located on one end of the judging booths. A buoy, where applicable, will be placed just outside the surfing break, which surfers use by paddling around to gain priority. Placement of the buoy will be decided by the Contest Committee. In the absence of a buoy the Head Judge will determine the priority take off zone.

Wave priority is lost as soon as the surfer;

- a) Rides a wave
- b) Paddles for a wave and misses the wave

At the start of a heat, it is neutral priority until the first wave has been ridden. The second competitor gets automatic priority for any other wave they choose, unless the competitor rides the wave before the heat starts. If this happens then that wave will not count and the remaining competitor will get automatic first priority.

From then on, the only way to establish wave priority is by paddling around the buoy or to the take-off zone.

The first competitor around the buoy or to the take-off zone has priority and if the other competitor wishes they may also paddle around the buoy or take off zone to establish second priority.

Wave priority is indicated by the Head Judge by showing a coloured disc which will correspond with the competitor's competition singlet. If no competitor has wave priority, no discs are shown and the interference rule will determine priority.

A competitor cannot lose second priority by paddling for, and missing a wave but if the competitor catches the wave and falls off as they attempt to surf the wave, they lose second priority.

If a competitor inside has second priority and their opponent paddles for, but misses a wave, the inside competitor automatically assumes priority. Therefore, if they also paddle for, but miss the wave, then they have also lost priority. That is, both competitors have then lost priority even though only one wave has passed and there was not sufficient time to change the priority disc.

The competitor who has priority will also not be allowed to paddle in front of the other competitor to deliberately impede them from catching a wave or they will lose priority. The competitor will also lose priority if in the opinion of the Head Judge they place themselves in the wave for a non-paddle take off, in order to prevent the other competitor from catching that wave.

Priority interference may be called individually by the Head Judge, only if the majority (3 of 4) do not see the incident.

In events where the priority buoy is moved out of position during a heat, towards the beach, the Head Judge will allocate wave priority. In cases where the priority buoy moves to approximately more than a 30-second paddle from the line-up, the buoy will stay in use for the remainder of that heat. In all cases the buoy cannot be replaced until after the heat.

Allocation is based on whom the Head Judge believes has reached the line-up first. In cases where both competitors appear to reach the lineup at the same time priority will go to the competitor who did not have the last priority. Under priority allocation it is the competitors' responsibility to continually check the priority disc for verification. Under no circumstances must the priority rule be suspended in one-on-one competitions.

If it is impossible for the Head Judge to establish who has paddled around the priority buoy or got to the take-off



zone first then no priority will be given unless the competitors in the heat, when asked agree that only one has priority. If neither agrees then no priority will be given and once the first have from then on has been ridden, the second competitor will get automatic priority for any other wave they choose.

When there is no priority; the interference rule shall determine wave possession. Both competitors may ride the wave in opposite directions, provided they do not interfere with each other.

In all cases where a dispute results from a malfunction of the Priority system, the Head Judge and Contest Committee will arbitrate and decide whether to suspend priority or continue with an alternative system.

Snaking

The competitor who is farthest inside at the initial point of take-off and has established wave possession is entitled to that wave for the duration of their ride, even though another surfer subsequently takes off behind them. The Judges will not penalize the competitor because they have 'right-of-way' even though they are in front.

If the second competitor has not hindered the original competitor with right-of-way, then the judges may choose not to impose a penalty and will score both competitors' rides.

A competitor must not take off on the opposite side of a broken wave peak to gain possession of the opposite wave face, when another competitor has already established possession on the inside of the peak. An interference will be called if the majority of the judges feel that the competitor surfing/riding from behind the broken peak has hindered the scoring potential of the other competitor who has established possession of the inside of the broken peak.

If, in the opinion of the judges, the second competitor has interfered with (snaked) the original competitor with right-of-way by causing them to pull out or lose the wave, then interference may be called on the second competitor, even though they are behind the first when the penalty is called.

The above situations apply only to multiple surfer heats or One on One in non-priority situations. In One on One it remains as one-person one wave no exceptions, i.e. a surfer has priority. See rule 5. Priority for clarification.

Paddling Interference

In three- or four-man heats or non-priority one on one situations, another competitor paddling for the same wave should not excessively hinder a competitor who has inside position.

Paddling interference may be called if:

The offending competitor makes contact with or forces the inside competitor to change their line whilst paddling to catch the wave causing possible loss of scoring potential.

The offending competitor obviously causes a section to break down in front of the inside which would not normally have done so and by causing loss of scoring potential.

When a competitor is put in a position while paddling out that they cannot get out of the way and a collision happens due to this, it is up to a majority of the judges to call interference on whether it is felt to be accidental or not.

When paddling out from the beach, and when in the lineup if two competitors make contact, the judges will penalize with an interference the competitor who is deemed to be the aggressor.



Interference Penalty

If a majority of judges call interference, then that wave will count in the final tally as a zero score. This applies to a riding or a paddling interference, where the competitor catches that particular wave. Three of the five Judges must call interference to be considered a majority. If a majority of

Judges call interference, then in the final tally, the following penalties will apply:

In best two waves - the second wave will be scored half of its potential points;

If a competitor has less than the required minimum scoring rides i.e. one wave and receives an interference then they will be scored half of this wave. Interference will be shown as a triangle 'Δ' on each judge's scorecard.

The triangle is placed around their score is caused by riding; above their score if in riding a wave and causing interference while paddling for that wave ridden; or between scores if caused by paddling for that ride) with an arrow drawn to the riders score who was interfered on.

A Head Judge may be included and in this case an interference would be determined on three of six Judging sheets.

Any interfering competitor must be penalised and a drop-in decision can only be disputed by making an official protest.

Where any competitor incurs 2 or more interference penalties, they must immediately leave the competition area. Failure to do so will result in a fine or disqualification.



SECTION 6: DUTIES OF THE HEAD JUDGE

Meetings

Convening a meeting of Official Judges Seminar prior to the commencement of the event will occur with the Contest Director and the WWSA Contest Committee. Such meeting will be for the purpose of instruction, standardisation of procedures and methods. The Head Judge will also convene a meeting of all judges each morning of the contest before the contestants enter the water. The purpose of this meeting will be to update Judges on any change, and to point out any recurring errors from the previous day.

Judging Standards

Judges whose ability is found to be substandard in the opinion of the Head Judge and Contest Director and WWSA Contest Committee, will be removed from the Judging Panel and will not be permitted to judge during the event. The Head Judge will organise the remaining judges into Judging Panels so that Judges will only judge a maximum of three consecutive heats.

The Head Judge will frequently scrutinise the judge's evaluation sheet and will identify Judge/s who do not maintain an acceptable judging standard. These judge/s will be reported to the Contest Director and WWSA Contest Committee and a decision will be taken to drop the judge or not.

While heats are in progress the Head Judge will scrutinise, judges score sheets to ensure maintenance of uniform standards between one heat and the next and the use by the judges of the full range of scoring options. In addition, the Head Judge will ensure that interference rule is fairly and consistently applied. If the need should arise to inform a judge that his standards or proceedings are not compatible with the other officiating judges, action would only be taken by the Head Judge between the end of one heat and the commencement of the next heat.

The Head Judge will be responsible for maintaining a wave count record for each heat ensuring that colours are adequately identified for the judges.

The Head Judge is responsible for the wave count which can be done by the spotter. The Head Judge must adjudicate on the missed waves and determine the appropriate score.

Head judge must check and sign tabulated sheets/electronic scoring. These results may then be posted after the 10-minute protest period. Once posted, results cannot be changed.

Duties of the Tabulator

On the receipt of the completed Judges sheets at the end of a heat the Tabulators will immediately check to see if:

- All the Judges sheets have been handed in
- That the correct number of waves have been scored on each sheet, and
- That any interference calls have been recorded.

Interference Recording

In the event that an interference call is recorded by the majority of Judges, the Tabulator will notify the Technical Director of this fact in terms of the protest rule at Section 2 – COMPETITION RULES.

If a ride has been missed, an attempt will be made to identify the missing ride by referring to other Judges sheets,



under the direction of the Head Judge.

If the ride is identified to the satisfaction of the Head Judge, then a score is given to the ride by:

- Averaging the scores awarded by other Judges for the ride.
- Taking this average score and adjusting it, if necessary, to bring it into line with the scoring level that the Judges use.

The Head Judge, when satisfied that the best attempt has been made to establish the correct value of the missed ride, will ensure that this value is written on the Judging Sheet. Where an interference is ruled and the competitors appeal is dismissed then an Interference penalty is tabulated by applying the provisions of SECTION 5. INTERFERENCE CALLS.

On completion of these formalities, the Judges sheets may be totalled. The two best scoring waves will be circled and the total entered in the section for top waves. These scores are totalled, any interference penalties deducted and a total entered in the total column. The heat places are then calculated and entered on the Judges sheet.

The competitor with the highest score will receive 1st place, the second highest score 2nd place and so on, if a Judge ties two or more surfers, the places awarded to each of the tied competitors will be the average of the affected placing points added together (e.g. if 3rd, 4th and 6th are tied: $3+4+5=12$. Divide by 3 places gives an average (placing of 4th).

When no further calculations are required on the Judges sheets the results are transcribed onto a Tally Sheet, which is completed in the following way:

- The Competitors names are entered on the tally sheet.
- The Judges names are entered across the page at the top of each column.
- Placing is copied down beneath each judge.
- The highest and lowest placing are crossed off for each competitor.
- Total the placings that remain and enter the total in the total point's column, then complete the competitor's heat places.
- Complete the competitors heat places.
- If at this point a tie situation occurs, the Tabulator will proceed to break the tie as follows (see Section 2 – Competition Rules).

Statistically Evaluating Judging Performance

The level of accuracy of a judge is measured by comparing the placing given by a judge in a particular heat against the actual placing in that heat, provided that, where a judge has failed to call an interference that has been ruled by a majority of judges, the level of accuracy of such judge, shall be measured by comparing placings given by such judge, exclusive of the interference penalty, against the actual heat placing.

The evaluation is made on all the competitors in the heat from first place to last place. A perfect score is a zero and is awarded to a Judge who has correctly placed all the competitors in the heat.

One point is added to a Judges score for each place error made. In other words, if the Judges placing is subtracted from the actual placing - or vice versa as the case may be - the difference is the Judges degree of error.

The Judge's score is then entered in the appropriate column on the Tabulation Sheet and then recorded on the Judges record sheet. A Judges accuracy is then calculated by dividing their score by the number of heats judged. In making this evaluation the number of heats judged by each Judge should not vary by more than 10%.

A practical evaluation should also be made and weighed against the statistics when deciding the competence of a judge. This should include such things as the ability to discern between interference situations.



SECTION 7: ELIGIBILITY AND MEMBERSHIP

To be eligible to surf in the WWST a competitor must comply with all the following requirements:

Must be a current registered member of an association/club which is affiliated with its member nation governing body.

Must be officially endorsed by his/her respective national association or equivalent.

Must have residency of a country which is affiliated to the WWSA, and which body is in good standing with the WWSA. For the purposes of membership, regions of countries are not recognized separate to that of the country as per IGASF Regulations.



SECTION 8: OBLIGATIONS OF THE HOST COUNTRY

The Host Country's responsibility will cover a period of ten days as follows unless otherwise determined:

Day 1 & 2 Teams arrive, orientation and accreditation of competitors, officials, teams and judges' meetings.

Day 3 to 10 World Championships

Day 11 Teams depart

During the period specified above, the Host country will be responsible for providing the following:

During the contest, officials and judges will be provided with food and beverages as agreed.

Suitable venues with snacks and refreshments for an opening function and closing function/prize giving.

Suitable venues for:

- Competitors Meeting
- Judges' meetings / Seminar
- The WWSA Bi-Annual General Meeting
- The Meeting of the WWSA Committee

Contest site requirements:

At each contest site the Host will provide the following:

A Judges tower/stand must have sufficient height to give all Judges an uninterrupted view of the entire contest area. The tower must be large enough to hold the Judges and for their Scribes. The tower should also be enclosed so as to afford protection from the elements. Chairs for the Judges and Scribes must be provided.

Suitable facilities for the Tabulators in the form of a tent or similar structure must be located in close proximity to the Judges tower, with the entire area being roped off. All stationary necessary during the contest must also be provided, public address facilities must also be provided, and must be located near the tabulator.

A notice board must be provided for the posting of information for the contestants and officials as well as posting heat information and results.

Beach Marshalls and Time Keepers must be located near the Tabulator, and a table and chairs must be provided. A minimum of three sets of vests must be provided; sizes of vests must be safe and suitable for all competitors. Heat time will be recorded by an electronic timing device, with a suitable back-up. Timing discs must be erected next to the Vest Marshall. In addition, an air horn or siren must be provided.

A Head Judge must be appointed by the Host country and must comply with the following requirements: must have had considerable experience as an WWSA Contest Head Judge and must judge regularly at national or regional level contests.

A souvenir program must be printed for distribution to competitors, officials and the public. Trophies/medals will be provided by host nation as per described further in this rule book



Personnel for National and International Events Conflict of Interest

In the event that a competitor(s) carries an official portfolio they are to remove themselves from a situation where the official role or competitive role comprises their ability to make an independent decision. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Event Promotions Officer

To create and control the event mood as decided on by the event sponsors. To liaise with both the event Sponsors and the Contest Director. To use the information collected locally along with the information provided by the WWSA and respective team managers (i.e. biographical information). Works to create as much local media interest as possible. Reports to the Contest Director.

Contest Director – Contest Committee

Prepare the event format and schedules and ensure that everyone is contributing towards the event and are doing their assigned tasks.

To ensure the surfing aspect of the event runs on schedule and according to the rules and that the staff are not making any errors. Reports to the WWSA Contest Committee and works with the Head Judge.

WWSA Contest Committee

To aid the Contest Director in rules definition, to provide the correct seeding for each round of competition, arbitrate any major problems between the competitors/team management and the event. Works closely with the Contest Director and the Head Judge.

Announcer

Primary job is to bring the event concept to the spectators in an entertaining and instructive fashion and to lead the Assistant Announcer in getting the surfing information from the Bio Sheets and the scoring Tabulators to the spectators and competitors. Reports to the Contest Director and works closely with the Event Promotions Officer.

Announcers may at the beginning of a heat introduce riders and their colours. However, during the course of the heat, they must refrain from making reference to a rider by their name. E.g. rider in red your first wave scored... The announcer must refrain from making any reference to the calibre of the wave riding, that sets are coming and anything that might give a rider an advantage or influence the judges.

Water Safety and First Aid

There must be a designated first aid officer in attendance at all times during the competition. The water safety officer needs to have rescue craft including life buoy or other flotation device available and in good repair during the competition. The water safety officer is fully briefed during about all competitors and particular those who pose a greater risk during the competition such as cadets, women, veterans and adaptive competitors.



WWST Head Judge

Assembles the group of WWST judges for training at the Judging Seminar in conjunction with the Contest Director and WWST contest committee, selects the final Judging panels to be used at the event, including any ASP Judges. Cannot overrule the judging Panel concerning interference and priority, unless the majority of the judges did not see the incident. Reports to the Contest Director and works with the WWST judges and WWST Contest Committee.

Computer Operator

Appointed and paid for by the host nation with positioning and onsite expenses paid. Provides computer scoring system which is designed for the WWST judging panel.

Timers, Disc Operators and Spotter

Work on a rotation basis calling colours, operating priority and timing discs. Reports to the Contest Director but gets directions from the WWST Head Judge.

Beach Marshall

Ensures that all competitors are checked-in for their heats. The beach marshal must not register riders and hand out competition vests until the Contest Director has given permission to do so. At no time should riders paddle out before the safety and rescue team is in place and in attendance. The Beach Marshall formally notes that the competitor(s) have checked in for their heats. The Beach Marshall will advise the announcer if competitors have not checked in. The announcer will request every 5 minutes before the heat and during the heat if competitors have not checked in.

Tabulator

In all manually judged heats the Tabulator receives the score sheets from the judging panel and tabulates them in accordance with the WWSA competition rules. In computer scored heats the tabulator collects the manual heat sheets from the judges, and the results are then used only as a check against the official computer results. Reports to the Contest Director and is assisted by the Head Judge

Tabulators must do their job in the following order:

In heats that the computer is used. They must check that the judges scores have been entered correctly. in non-computer judged heats they must do the following:

- Check wave-count
- Check for any missed waves i.e. if either of the two above occur, call the Head Judge or Contest Director for assistance.
- Check for interference, if there is a majority, then it counts and any judges sheet which does not have it marked must have a Triangle placed on that wave.
- Circle or highlight scoring waves.
- Tally scoring waves.
- Give placings.
- Transpose placings onto master sheets. Lowest place-points equalling the top placed competitor Always try to use different colour ink to the judges if possible.



Work Force

Used to set-up and tear-down the event site and the event promotional banners etc. Reports to the Contest Director for set-up and the Event Promotion Coordinator for the promotional assistance such as banners and pamphlets.

Security

To keep the competition and official areas free from unauthorised entry by non-competitors and spectators and to keep the site secure overnight. Reports to the Contest Director.

Equipment and Services

Outlined below is a list of the event equipment that is needed to run a successful WWSA event:

- Judging Scaffolding Must be waterproof (construction sheds preferable) and needs walkway behind judges for Head Judge. Must have partitions between judges and minimum of six bays with desks or tables and comfortable chairs. Area also needs to be allocated for the timing and priority discs. Timing disc to be near announcers and Head Judge.
- Team Enclosure / Stand - Separate stands for use by waveski riders, media, VIPs and spectators.
- Electricity / Generator Electricity connection where available or large commercial size generator. Separate lines for PA and computer.
- PA System To announce to contestants and public commentators to be situated with earshot of Head Judge booth preferably with a partition between the announcers and Judges.
- Telephones, printers
- Tables - Placed in media, competitors, VIPs and staff areas as required.
- Chairs -As many as possible, all will be used.
- Score, Progress and Notice Boards - To graphically illustrate the progress of the event a post heat result.
- Canopy & Umbrella For use by officials, media, VIPs and contestants' areas.
- **Access to toilets and hand sanitiser or equivalent no less than 150 metres from the contest site unless otherwise agreed.**
- **First Aid Kit**
- **Access for ambulance if required. There needs to be efficient and effective communication between contest officials and transportation for medical care.**
- Time Disc / Flag Need to be minimum 1 metre square being **green (HEAT IN PROGRESS)** and **red (end of heat)**, **flashing amber light or disc indicating 5 minutes remain in the heat**
- in colour and placed on judging tower. Lighting system may be used provided it is clearly visible at all times green, yellow and red.
- Competition Vests Minimum of 4 sets, (1 kept aside for presentation) of five colours:
- **red (or pink fluorescent)**, white, **yellow (fluorescent)**, **light blue (fluorescent)**, **green (fluorescent)** Must be made out of flexible Lycra nylon fabric. the colours of the rash tops must be easily distinguishable during periods of intense sunlight - morning and setting sun and cloudy conditions.
- Area for Computer and operator on judging tower with own power supply. This must be waterproof but airy.
- Clipboards Approximately 12 - 15 for use by judges plus staff.
- Area for WWSA Technical Director in or near media/judging area.
- Heat & Master Sheet A standard copy of which is supplied by the WWSA and must be run off as specified. For use by Judges and Tabulators in manual tabulation.
- Food and Drinks Please do not forget to feed your judges and officials regularly! Have food ready at



specific times and coolers full of drinks in judges tower, staff and media areas. If possible, competitor and VIP areas also to have drinks but suggest large 5 - 10-gallon water coolers with paper cups.

- Stationary Miscellaneous pens, pencils, staplers etc. to be provided.
- Power Supply 240 Volt. Uninterrupted electric power for all needs including WWSA Computer. If using generators make sure, they are big enough to handle all needs. Separate lines to be run to individual areas.
- Copy Machine Must be at the event site and working the day before the event if you want the event to run trouble free. Suggested that a smaller back-up machine is available. This can be used by staff other than media where the large one is situated.

The Contest Director(s) and Committee appointed for the competition, together with the Head Judge, will hold meetings for competitors and officials prior to the commencement of the Championships. Attendance at meetings is mandatory for all Team Captains, Managers, and suitable prior notice of such meetings will be given. The purpose of such meetings is to acquaint participants with the arrangements for the competition procedures during the event and judging standards and requirements.

Entry Fees

Competitor Entry Fees must include a \$30.00 WWSA Membership Fee. This fee is collected Bi-Annually through the WWST events.

Each Member Nation is required to pay their Bi-Annual Membership Fees of \$150 prior to Day 1 of the WWST event.

Funds collected

Entry Fees for a WWST can be collected through the WWSA LiveHeats Event, linked directly to the WWSA Wise Banking Account.

The WWST Event Co-Ordinator will work directly with the WWSA Executive Committee which includes the WWSA Treasurer, to facilitate payments for the operational costs associated with a WWST event.

Member Nation Fees can be paid via the WWSA Website: www.worldwaveski.org

Trophies and medals

The host nation provides the following trophies and medals for the divisions/categories listed as follows noting:

- There must be a minimum of two (2) competitors to run a division.
- If only one competitor enters a division, they compete in the next available division closest to their age division. Competitors surf up an age division but not down unless they are at the top end of the age division categories in which case they surf down into the next division.
- Described as follows – noting that the age divisions have separate genders (men and women)

One (1) cadet will surf in the juniors,

One (1) junior will surf in the senior,

One (1) senior will surf in the masters

One (1) master will surf in the grand masters

One (1) grand master will surf in the legends

One (1) legend will surf in the grand legends



One (1) grand legend will surf in the Ultra Legends
 One (1) Ultra legend will surf in the grand legends

The following trophies are awarded across all divisions 1-4, medals awarded to places 5-8 in the Open Men's and Open Women's

Open Division (men and women)

Trophies are awarded for 1st – 4th place across all open divisions, medals for places 5-8 (Open Men and Open Women only), please see as follows.

Open Men	10 years plus (trophies 1-4, medals 5-8)
Open Men Adaptive	10 years plus (trophies 1-4)
Open Transgender Men	10 years plus (trophies 1-4)
Open Transgender Men Adaptive	10 years plus (trophies 1-4)
Open Women	10 years plus (trophies 1-4, medals 5-8)
Open Women Adaptive	10 years plus (trophies 1-4)
Open Transgender Women	10 years plus (trophies 1-4)
Open Transgender Women Adaptive	10 years plus (trophies 1-4)

Age Divisions (men and women)

Trophies are awarded for 1st – 4th place

Cadets:	10 years – 16 years
Juniors:	17 years - 20 years
Seniors:	21 years – 34 years
Masters:	35 years – 49 years
Grand Masters:	50 years – 59 years
Legends:	60 years – 64 years
Grand Legends:	65 years - 69 years
Ultra Legends:	70 years plus

Tag Team

Trophies are awarded for 1st – 4th place, with trophies awarded for each member of the Tag Team i.e.

Open (mixed gender):	10 years plus
Women's (women only):	10 years plus



SECTION 9: WORLD WAVESKI AGE DIVISIONS/ DRUG TESTING AND DUTY OF CARE

Divisions

Open Men 10 years plus, men only (WWSA Titles only)
 Open Women 10 years plus,
 Open Men Adaptive 10 years plus
 Open Women Adaptive 10 years plus
 Open Transgender Men Adaptive 10 years plus
 Open Transgender Women Adaptive 10 years plus
 Open Championship 10 years plus both genders (for all events other than the WWSA World Titles)

Separate gender (men and women) divisions for the following age divisions include adaptive participants.

Cadets 10 -16 years
 Juniors 17-20 years
 Seniors 21-34 years
 Masters 35-49 years
 Grand Masters 50-59 years
 Legends 60- 64 years
 Grand Legends 65 - 69 years
 Ultra Legends 70 years plus
 Tag Team – Open and Women's see separate rules

Ages taken from the day the event is advertised to start. Competitors younger than 10 years will be considered on an individual basis and approval to compete will be determined by the WWSA executive.

Each division must contain at least 2 competitors to surf a division at the World Championships. 5 competitors or less in a division is run as a straight final with the scope to offer an aggregate of 3 rounds. Exceptions where surf conditions and logistics impact on completing 3 rounds. *Please refer to Appendices Divisions where there are 5 or less competitors for explanation.

Competitors cannot surf out of their age division unless they are the sole entrant for that division. Where this occurs, a competitor is able to compete in a division closest to his age division. For clarification riders compete in division going upwards i.e. one cadet may compete in the junior division, OR downwards one grand legend may compete in the legend division.

Competitors cannot compete outside of their category unless they meet the criteria.

Drug Testing

Competitors need to be aware that WWSA complies with the international code of conduct and legislative responsibilities regarding drug taking. As such competitors who register for the WWSA World Titles can be tested for the presence of drugs both illicit and performance enhancing and masking agents. The full list of banned drugs and testing procedures can be downloaded from the World Anti-Doping Agency website; www.wada-ama.org. Penalty for refusing to provide a sample is elimination from the competition.



Penalty for returning a positive sample is banning from WWSA titles for 2 years for first offence and banning from WWSA titles for life for second offence. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that they are familiar with the current list of banned substances and testing procedures.

Duty of Care and Safety

At all times during the competition, the Contest Director in conjunction with authorised personnel (Contest Committee, First Aid Officer and National Team Managers/Delegates) has the authority to suspend, postpone and/or cancel the competition if the surf conditions are such that the safety of competitors could be compromised.

Competitors should not enter the water if they feel that the conditions are beyond their ability. The Contest Director and WWSA Contest Committee will consult with competitors on a regular basis regarding the conditions.

Competitors who enter the competition have a responsibility to disclose any known medical condition/illness which may affect their safety in the surf e.g. diabetes, asthma, history of heart conditions, epilepsy, previous spinal, neck and head injuries.

The wearing of protective head gear is at the discretion of the competitor. Life jackets are not a prerequisite for competitors and again the wearing of same is at the discretion of the individual.

It is a requirement that competitors are competent with the following.
 safely swim in the surf at least 150 – 200 metres unaided
 Eskimo roll – duck dive (planned and unplanned)
 Hold their breath under water for at least 20 seconds

The above criteria will be managed on a case-by-case basis for all riders.

All adaptive competitors must appoint a 'caddy' to assist in the competition such as getting in and out of the surf, on and off their waveski.

The contest committee appointed for the duration of the competition will have the discretion to decide whether a competitor has the ability to compete in the event. The contest committee will consult with athletes and team managers before a final decision is made.

Wetsuits, rash singlets, booties, gloves and other apparel assist with maintaining core body temperature, protection from the sun, wind and cold and minimizing the impact from sea urchins, rocky reef breaks.

Competitors are encouraged to maintain adequate nutrition and hydration during competition and protect themselves from the elements.

Competitors under the age of 18 years **must have** parental/guardian authority before competing. Competitors under the age of 10 years will be considered on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of contest officials taking into consideration level of expertise/ability, surf conditions.



SECTION 10: AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the rule book have been discussed with the Committee of the WWSA and communicated and agreed to at the General Meetings of the WWSA. Where meetings have not been held agreement has been reached by consensus via email.

For ease of reference the following years indicate when changes were agreed to.

- 1997 – Agreement to develop a rule book for Waveski surfing; Brad and Wayne James organise to adapt surfing rules to Waveski surfing
- 1999 – Agreement to define a Waveski, outside assistance to competitors, Agreement to set minimum number of competitors per division as two (2). Agreement that where one competitor enters an advertised category (division) that they will be awarded the category (division) e.g. one veteran enters the veteran age division and will be able to surf in a division closest to their age.
- 2000 – Agreement to insist that independent nations witness the draw for the competition 2001 – Agreement to introduce the New Age Division, Tag Team, independent control by host
- nation but endorsed by WWSA, unfair advantage – interference penalties. Agreement to introduce International Technical Contest Director for interpretation of rules
- 2004 – Agreement to acknowledge International Surfing Association (ISA) rules adapted for Waveski surfing.
- 2006 – Clarification of unsportsmanlike conduct and accompanying penalties, interference penalties, change in age division (Grand Masters 50-54 years and Veterans 55 years plus both genders), clarification of outside assistance, Statement pertaining to conflict of interest, Tidying up of drug testing. Clarification of seeding policy. Introduction of monetary protest levy. Alternate years for WWSA World Titles.
- Introduction of Women's Tag Team to be trialled at 2006 WWSA Championships.
- 2007 – Agreement by member nations that alcohol is not to be consumed by competitors at the competition site during the competition. Competitors knowingly consuming alcohol and behaving in a socially unacceptable manner will be removed from the competition site and will face disciplinary actions determined by the Contest Committee and offending competitor(s) national delegate(s). Agreement by member nations to alter the Open Division format to include Top 32 (refer to seeding policy) man on man with a priority take off zone (if possible). All other competitors for the Open division to go through qualifying rounds. First round only to include repechages.
- 2009 – AGM Agreement by member nations to remove the Core Board from future WWSA events. Agreement by member nations to change the Grand Masters Age Division from 50-54 years to 50-59 years and the Veterans Division to 60 years upwards.
- 2010 – Agreement via email – Women's division to revert back to winners/losers' format and if there are sufficient entries i.e. greater than 6 to have man on man from semi-finals. Women's division to be surfed in optimum conditions for women.
- Change in seeding policy – Only immediate past WWSA Titles result to be used for seeding at future WWSA Titles.
- 2011 – Agreement via email incorporate into age divisions placings by women. Women must enter the mixed gender age divisions to be awarded an age division. E.g. Junior women's WWST is based on the highest result by a woman in the mixed gender junior division. In time there where there are at least 4 women in an age division category, consideration will be given to separate the age divisions e.g. Master's Men's and Master's Women's. To be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect gender equity and equality.
- 2012 – Agreement via email – contest can only commence when all beach safety officials are in place.
- 2012 – Agreement via email – WWSA manages all entries and receives entry fees on line via internet banking process.
- 2012 – Agreement via email – draw and flow determined by seeds and available on line prior to



competition.

- 2015 – Agreement via email – double points awarded for Tag Teams that substitute an Open rider with one of the following: - Junior or Woman or Veteran.
- 2015 – Agreement via email – replace Open with Open Men's for WWSA Titles, Open Division – both genders continue for all other events including those accredited by the WWSA. Refer to agreement 2011.
- 2015 – Agreement via email unlimited waves for man-on-man heats with priority.
- 2015 – Agreement via email and meeting – consideration to use results other than the immediate previous WWSA Titles results for seeding purposes. Therefore, replacing seeding criteria agreed to in 2010 and replacing draw and flow available on line. Draw and flow will be determined once all accreditation of competitors has been completed.
- 2015 – Agreement via email and meeting – the WWSA appoints within its own committee a contest committee whose primary function is to ensure that the seeds, flow and draw for the WWSA Titles are determined.
- 2015 – 2016 – Agreement via email, the WWSA introduces an adaptive waveski division to include both Men's and Women's for commencement 2016 WWSA Titles Portugal.
- 2015 – Agreement via email, the WWSA creates a new position on the WWSA Committee – Adaptive Waveski and equal opportunity; to be formally endorsed at the 2016 bi-annual general meeting.
- 2019 – Agreement via email unlimited wave counts, priority in four-man heats, accepting entries from age 10 years and up.
- 2022 – Agreement to implement 4-man priority system into heats for the WWST. Agreement via email to rename the Veterans division to Legends (for 2022 WWST). Agreement via email to change the age criteria for the Legends (Veterans) to 60-64 years and create another division Grand Legends 65 years plus.
- 2023 - Agreement to further explain the criteria for point accumulation/aggregation for competitors in divisions with 5 or less competitors
- 2023 – Agreement to strengthen and explain accredited criteria for host nations
- 2023 – Agreement to change the current mixed gender age divisions to separate genders – men and women Commencing January 2024
- 2023 – Agreement to implement transgender men and transgender women commencing January WWST 2024
- 2023 - Agreement to implement transgender adaptive men and transgender adaptive women commencing January WWST 2024
- 2023 – Agreement to change the age divisions for the following: seniors; 20-34 years, masters 35-49 years. New age division (21-29 years) has been amalgamated into the senior's division commencing January 2024.
- 2023 – Agreement to implement a medical diagnostic form (MDF) for all adaptive riders competing in WWST and WWSA accredited events; commencing January 2024
- 2024 - Agreement to implement best of 3 rounds - aggregate for divisions with 5 or less competitors
- Agreement to include the determination of tied heats with 2, 3, 4, 5-man heats, Agreement to include clause for stopping an event. Agreement that Tags Team events do not take priority over the other divisions.
- 2025 - Agreement to remove acknowledgement to the ISA for continuation of the Competition Rule Book noting that the WWSA has further strengthened its knowledge, understanding and application of contemporary waveski surfing rules.
- 2025 - Reviewed and revised definition of a Waveski,
- 2025 - Changed age division effective from January 2026. Grand Legends 65-69 years,
- 2025 - Reviewed and included Ultra Legend Division for both genders 70 years plus,
- 2025 - Review of Adaptive Criteria - distinguishing between upper and lower limb impairments,
- 2025 - Agreement that no less than 4 member nations must participate in a WWST to validate results and championship awards.



This rule book is regularly reviewed and evaluated to ensure consistency, currency and accuracy. The WWSA will address as soon as possible any unintentional errors or omissions of fact that is brought to their attention.

Jackie Dillon (President)

Tagan Smith (International Technical Contest Director)

January 2026



SECTION 11: APPENDICES

WWSA Seeding/Ranking Policy – World Waveski Surfing Titles

Background (and related references)

- The WWSA rule book prescribes inter alia ‘the purpose of seeds is to prevent riders from meeting up until the latter part of the competition’.
- WWST 2000, AGM (South Africa), the notion of ‘Transparency’ prevails in preparing the contest draw and allocation of seeds. Hence, two countries independent to the host nation in addition to WWSA officials are to be present at the draw.
- World Titles 2001, AGM (Bakio, Spain) seeds and results from previous world titles and any other information to assist with the draw to be used such as national ranking.
- Addendum – Seeding Policy for the Open Division to be introduced at the 2009 WWST Updated for the commencement of the 2016 surfing year and in time for the 2016 WWST World Titles.

Objective

The seeding policy aims to ensure a balanced and transparent process is adopted for initially identifying highly ranked surfers. The policy exists to ensure all competitors are separated and spread equitably across the 1st rounds in World Waveski Surfing Championships. All riders are given a ‘seed’ based on the below methodology and criteria.

Methodology/Rationale

The World Waveski Surfing Association (WWSA) stipulates the following process for identifying seeded surfers at each World Waveski Surfing Titles (WWST):-

- No competitor shall be seeded beyond the 1st round of any event regardless of format. **Any variations to this must be approved by the ITCD.**
- The basis for identifying seeded riders is derived from known contest results held by individual competitors.
- Identifying Seeded Surfers - All Divisions
- Four (4) levels of consideration prevail when identifying seeded riders for WWST and WWSA accredited events. These are prioritised in the following order –
 - **1st Level Consideration** – Results from the most recent WWST – points are awarded based on results and contribute to the seeding/ranking for the next WWST. **Maximum points 2000 for each division**
 - **2nd level Consideration** - Results from a WWSA accredited event held in the period between WWST events. Points are awarded based on results and contribute to the seeding/ranking for the next WWST. **Noting that if competitors have competed in multiple accredited events between the WWST, their highest result from each category/division prevails. Maximum points is 50% of the maximum award from the WWST - 1000 points for each division.**
- **Maximum combined points 3000**
 - **3rd Level Consideration** - Most recent National result. If surfers from the previous WWST are absent from the current event AND remaining registered competitors for the current event and do NOT hold any result from the previous WWST and WWSA accredited events then contest officials are to use results from a country’s most recent national result.
 - **4th Level Consideration** - Any other significant result which may assist contest officials in separating top riders. Consideration may also be given to the ‘actual’ number of competitors in attendance who have World and/or National rankings and/or competitors who are highly ranked but have not recently competed.



Once the draw is done it is not to be altered or changed unless an error has occurred (e.g. competitor in wrong age division).

(NOTE - this seeding policy should be read in conjunction with AGM minutes recorded 2000 & 2001 in South Africa and Spain respectively)

Tag Team Rules – WWST

Formation of Composite Tag Teams – WWST

Considerations were discussed and addressed in Brazil 2004 for 'composite' Tag Teams (i.e. multi- national representation occurring within single teams) to compete in the international tag team event at World Waveski Titles.

A 'composite' tag team must NOT contain a competitor from a nation that already submits a full Tag Team for the event.

Nations are able to field up to a maximum of two tag teams in each division, ie two open tag teams and two women's tag teams. The tag teams must be made up of different individuals with the exception that a woman from a women's tag team can join a nation's open tag team.

Nations are to register the names of their tag team members at accreditation and sign on. Nations are able to register a reserve for a tag team. However, the reserve cannot be a member of a nation's other tag team.

Composite Tag Teams cannot contain a member from a country that is also represented in another composite tag team e.g.

Composite Team #1 - 2 Spaniards + 1 Greek + 1 Puerto Rican

Composite Team #2 - 1 Brazilian + 2 Dutch+ 1 Argentinian

The two competitors from the same country must be together in the same composite team. They cannot be split across two different composite teams. (i.e. Dutch in the above example)

NOTE * - NO provision exists that denies a composite tag team from being recognised in final standings of a Tag Team event at the World Waveski Titles. Composite tag teams have equal status and if a team performs better than any full national team, the result stands.

Should a composite team achieve 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc the individuals comprising the team have earned the right for their result to be recognised. Having met the requirements to form a composite team in the first instance, they have surfed and competed fairly.

The individuals comprising the composite team also earn the right to take whatever result they achieve back to each of their respective home nation/s for exposure, marketing and promotion possibilities for either themselves as individuals or for the sport in their country.



Tag Team Rules – WWST OPEN

Each Country may field up to a maximum of two national Open tag teams. There may be multiple international composite tag teams – (please see criteria above).

Teams are 6 competitors or 4 competitors (dependent upon numbers and determined by the Competition Director), with one team member from each team only in the water at one time. unless it is a water start. If this is the case the other team members are to congregate in an area designated by Contest Officials.

Bonus points (i.e. double points) are awarded for teams that substitute an Open rider with any **one** of the following: **cadet OR junior OR woman OR legend OR grand legend OR ultra legend** e.g. if a junior's two wave count = 11 points this is then doubled to make 22 points which is then added to the other team riders' scores.

- Team order of surfing once given, prior to the heat start, cannot be changed. Identification of riders can be achieved by using 'marker pen' with identification number on surfer's arm i.e., 1,2,3 and so on.
- Each team must be provided with a 'box', i.e. an area of approximately 4 metres square near the shoreline, with all boxes to be next to each other.
- Teams must stay inside their box until the end of their heat, unless allowed to leave by the referee.
- Referee checks order of surfing.
- Heat length will be 90 minutes or 60 minutes depending on the team size.
- Each surfer can only catch 2 waves, with each wave counting.
- Tabulation of final results is achieved by adding all the 4 or 6 surfers' 2 wave scores together.
- Heats start with all surfers inside of the team box. Consequently, tags must be made inside the box.
- Competitors must return to their box carrying their own equipment.
- Interference is as per non priority heat rules i.e. there is no priority in the tag team event
- Each team is allowed 1 'Double Whammy' surfer. This surfer will have 1 of his 2 rides score double points.
- The 'Double Whammy' surfer must raise his paddle immediately at the completion of a ride to score double points, even if it is his last ride.
- The team must complete their wave count and must have all their surfers inside the team box within the time period.
- If a competitor has to change waveskis during the heat, one of his team members can take him a replacement board, after the referee grants permission.
- No alcohol is to be consumed during this event (please refer to alcohol policy in waveski rule book).

Penalties:

- _ Surfer competes out of turn 2 points loss
- _ Surfer leaves boxed area 2 points loss
- _ Surfer catches more than wave limit 2 points per wave loss
- _ Surfer completes tag outside of box 2 points loss
- _ Surfer does not complete tag 2 points loss
- _ Surfer returns to box without board 2 points loss
- _ Surfer does not carry board back to box 2 points loss
- _ Interference (in or out of water) 5 points loss
- _ Non-completion of wave limit & return to box within time 5 points loss
- _ Completion of wave limit but does not return to box within time 5 points loss



Tag Team Rules – WWST WOMEN

Each Country may field up to a maximum of two Open Women tag teams. There may be multiple international tag teams – (please see criteria above).

- Teams of 2 competitors with one team member from each team only in the water at one time; unless it is a water start. If this is the case the other team member is to congregate in an area designated by Contest Officials.
- Team order of surfing once given, prior to the heat start, cannot be changed. Identification of riders can be achieved by using 'marker pen' with identification number on surfer's arm i.e., 1 or 2.
- Each team must be provided with a 'box', i.e. an area of approximately 4 metres square near the shoreline and all boxes to be next to each other.
- Teams must stay inside their box until the end of their heat, unless allowed to leave by referee.
- Referee checks order of surfing.
- Heat length will be 30 minutes and in some cases 40 minutes (depending on conditions)
- Each surfer can only catch 2 waves, with each wave counting.
- Tabulation of final results is achieved by adding all the 2 surfers 2 wave scores together.
- Heats start with all surfers inside of the team box. Consequent tags must be made inside the box.
- Competitors must return to their box carrying their own equipment.
- Interference is as per non priority heat rules i.e. there is no priority in the tag team event
- Each team is allowed 1 'Double Whammy' surfer. This surfer will have 1 of her 2 rides score double points.
- The 'Double Whammy' competitor must raise her paddle immediately at the completion of a ride to score double points, even if it is her last ride.
- The team must complete their wave count and must have all their surfers inside the team box within the time period.
- If a surfer has to change boards during the heat one of her team members can take her a replacement board, after the referee grants permission.
- No alcohol is to be consumed during this event (please refer to alcohol policy in waveski rule book).

Penalties:

- _ Surfer competes out of turn 2 points loss
- _ Surfer leaves boxed area 2 points loss
- _ Surfer catches more than wave limit 2 points per wave loss
- _ Surfer completes tag outside of box 2 points loss
- _ Surfer does not complete tag 2 points loss
- _ Surfer returns to box without board 2 points loss
- _ Surfer does not carry board back to box 2 points loss
- _ Interference (in or out of water) 5 points loss
- _ Non-completion of wave limit & return to box within time 5 points loss
- _ Completion of wave limit but does not return to box within time 5 points loss



Host Nation Criteria - WWST

Current Financial Member of the WWSA with a previous track record of good standing.

Competition surf break to be World Class Standard and/or consistent enough to be able to run an event over 9 days.

Complies with the WWSA Competition Rule Book as current to the date of the competition.

Contest organisers to be well resourced and to fully brief the WWSA re logistics and remain in constant contact with the WWSA on at least a 2 monthly basis and then monthly 6 months out from the advertised date of competition.

Sufficient financial resources to coordinate and run the event. The WWSA will not be held liable for any budget shortfalls. The WWSA is able to provide on request a budget for host nations.

At least one member of the contest committee to be able to speak, write and understand English or have access to someone who can interpret.

- Host nation in collaboration with the WWSA oversees and manages the entries,
- Host nation in collaboration with t manages the entry fees – included in the entry fees is provision for open and closing functions including presentation dinner (to be at a reasonable and suitable venue protected from inclement weather)
- Host nation coordinates in collaboration with the WWST ITCD and committee – the draw and flow for the event.
- Entry form to be made available for competitors to enter online no less than 6 months out from the event.
- Host nation coordinates with the WWSA a suitable venue to hold the biannual general meeting (BGM); cost to be borne by the WWSA; however, costs are discussed prior to the confirmation of the venue.
- Proximity of the event to major airport, tourist destination, accommodation to be of a reasonable and safe standard for families to stay.
- Promotion of the event to be in conjunction with the WWSA and other associated media forums (hard print, websites, social media pages).
- Other requirements relative to the location of the competition to be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

Events where member nations can have some recognition/ association/accredited by the WWSA and use of the WWSA logo.

The WWSA has established the following criteria for nations to use. At all times the WWSA must give authority for the use of the WWSA logo and any kind of association/accredited required. This is by no means to sound onerous or 'big brother' watching but rather ensures that the integrity of the event is assured. Tiers 1,2 or 3 don't appear on your event page but more rather what it means.

Tier One Rating

Use of WWSA Logo in promotional material and able to state 'Proud Members of the WWSA'

Criteria:

- Member of the WWSA and of good standing (i.e. no previous adverse findings)



- Fosters the growth of the sport
- Follows and adheres to WWSA competition rules current at time of event

Tier Two Rating

Use of WWSA logo in promotional material and able to state 'Proudly Supported by the WWSA'

Criteria:

- Member of the WWSA and of good standing (i.e. no previous adverse findings)
- Follows and adheres to WWSA competition rules current at time of event
- Event open for Internationals to compete
- The event is professionally run and coordinated without any intentional compromise to the integrity of the sport of waveski surfing
- Judging panel who meet acceptable standards of judging i.e. minimum requirement to have attended a recognised and accepted judging certification course.
- Does not take priority or precedence over the existing WWST held in alternate years
- Fosters the growth of the sport
- Acknowledgement of the event on social media websites and WWSA website.
- Indemnifies the WWSA from any claims i.e. financial loss, adverse outcomes, injuries and accidents

Tier three rating - accredited Events

Use of WWSA logo in promotional material and able to state 'Proudly accredited by the WWSA'.

Tier three rating enables the results from the Open Men's, the Open Women's, Open Men's Adaptive and Open Women's Adaptive and all age divisions attract points towards ranking for future WWST events.

Please refer to seeding/ranking provisions.

Criteria

- Member of the WWSA and of good standing (i.e. no previous findings)
- Does not take priority or precedence over the WWST which are held in alternate years
- One (1) accredited event per calendar year per member nation
- One (1) accredited event per calendar year per region i.e. Africa, South America, Australia/New Zealand, Europe
- Fosters the growth of the sport of waveski surfing
- The event is professionally run and coordinated without any intentional compromise to the integrity of the sport of waveski surfing
- Indemnifies the WWSA from any claims i.e. financial loss, adverse outcomes; injuries and accidents
- Application for accreditation to be no less than three months prior to the date of advertised competition unless otherwise agreed to.
- Minimum of ten (10) days between each accredited event unless otherwise agreed to.
- Event must be run and completed no less than three (3) months before the WWST.
- Open for internationals to compete from member nations
- Event venue to be a premium surf location - accessible for competitors of all ages and ability including adaptive riders
- **There must be sufficient time and provision to enable the following divisions/categories to be run. Open Men, Open Women and Adaptive – Open Men and Open Women divisions with a provision that 5**



women or less; Open (mixed gender) and Open Women; and All age divisions as per the WWSA competition rule book.

- **The Open Men (mixed gender) and Open Women's divisions, Open Men Adaptive (mixed gender) and Open Women Adaptive are to take priority over the age divisions. In the event that the competition cannot be completed in the time allocated; results for the Age Divisions can be obtained from the results of the Open divisions.**
- **Live Heat format: aligned with the WWSA live heat system - the draw, flow and seeds are determined in consultation with the ITCD - WWSA.**
- Non competing suitably qualified judges with evidence of having attained a surfing judging certificate with experience in Waveski and/or surfing competitions - no less than 3 judges plus Head Judge
- Non competing contest director with the flexibility of a contest committee where a non-competing contest director is difficult to procure - approval by the Executive of the WWSA must be obtained prior to the event commencing.
- Compliance with WWSA rule book at time of competition.
- Acknowledgement of the event on social media websites and WWSA website

Divisions where there are 5 or less competitors -

The division is run as best of 3 aggregate rounds. In the event that conditions such as inclement weather impact on the 3 aggregate rounds 1 round and/or 2 rounds can be considered. The division is not run on a winners/loser's flow.

SCOPE

Divisions with 2, 3, 4 or 5 competitors facilitated at World Waveski Surfing Titles where a result is obtained over 3 rounds.

PURPOSE

Clarifying how results are calculated and managed across the 3 rounds.

CONSIDERATIONS

Where a division/category has a maximum of only 2, 3, 4 or 5 competitors best of 3 aggregate rounds is implemented
There is no scope to run repechage rounds with 5 or less competitors.

METHOD

- Surfers compete in 3 different heats / finals. Scheduling is at the discretion of Contest Director
- Each round is to be viewed as the equivalent of a final. The rounds may not necessarily be of similar duration (i.e. 20, 25 or 30 minutes).
- Each surfer **MUST** wear the same colour contest rash top each time they compete
- Judging occurs the same as any other heat within the event. Wave scores are tabulated and the score totals determines the result of the heat with placings identified for each surfer's colour.
-

EXAMPLES (Where there are 5 surfers in the division)

SURFER COLOUR	ROUND 1 PLACES
RED	2
WHITE	1
BLUE	5
YELLOW	4
GREEN	3

In round 1, WHITE has won the first heat. Two further heats/rounds are held until a total of 3 rounds are completed and each surfer has a result in each round.

SURFER COLOUR	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3
RED	2	3	2
WHITE	1	2	1
BLUE	5	1	5
YELLOW	4	5	4
GREEN	3	4	3

The focus now shifts onto the accumulative totals relative to the placing each surfer achieved within all of their heats. Note, these are not judges scores but final position placings in each heat/round. The highest and lowest placings are **not** dropped as this method will have already previously occurred within the tabulation of wave scores (where there are 3-5 judges) to arrive at final placings within each heat/round. Eliminating of Highest / Lowest placing contradicts the principle of identifying consistency in performance and is not applied.

EXAMPLES (Where there are 5 surfers in the division)

RED: $2^{\text{nd}} + 3^{\text{rd}} + 2^{\text{nd}} = 7$ (placings total)

WHITE: $1^{\text{st}} + 2^{\text{nd}} + 1^{\text{st}} = 4$ (placings total)

SURFER COLOUR	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL
RED	2	3	2	7
WHITE	1	2	1	4
BLUE	5	1	5	11
YELLOW	4	5	4	13
GREEN	3	4	3	10

The principle applied is that the lower combined total of placings will reflect the surfer who achieved a consistently higher placing across all 3 rounds relative to the performance of the other surfers. Therefore, demonstrating they have been the stronger performing competitor on average. Conversely, a higher total of placings will reflect where surfers consistently placed in the minor positions.

In the example below, WHITE (1^{st}) with the lowest total of placings has achieved consistently higher placings than the other surfers across the 3 rounds contested (a 1^{st} ; 2^{nd} and 1^{st}). Note that WHITE has not won all 3 heats/rounds but has demonstrated stronger overall performance based on consistency in the places achieved. Note that despite BLUE winning round 2, their overall performance across all rounds was consistently in the minor placings. Accordingly, based on Final Place Totals, RED (2^{nd}) is the next higher performing surfer followed by GREEN (3^{rd}), BLUE (4^{th}) then YELLOW (5^{th})

SURFER COLOUR	ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL	<u>FINAL PLACE</u>
RED	2	3	2	7	2^{nd}
WHITE	1	2	1	4	1^{st}
BLUE	5	1	5	11	4^{th}
YELLOW	4	5	4	13	5^{th}
GREEN	3	4	3	10	3^{rd}

CONTINGENCIES

What is the impact of time, weather and hazards etc... that prevents from all rounds being run?

- **One Round Only** - When only one round can be held, that round is regarded as the Final.
- **Two Rounds Only** - If only 2 rounds are held and a third round is unable to be run; the same principle is applied as above where the lowest placings total is determined to be the winner.

If a Draw exists between 2 surfers based on placings totals, the next method is to review individual wave scores for ALL waves on their judging sheets (not the average score for each wave) in order to separate the surfers in a countback situation. If this method fails to separate the surfers beyond this approach, then only in such circumstances may a surf-off be considered for the 2 affected surfers.

Adaptive Waveski

Adaptive Waveski - The WWSA fully embraces the inclusion of all athletes in world waveski surfing events.

Contest organisers will ascertain the surf break and suitability of the conditions and communicate accordingly to competitors and other officials. Competitors safety will be taken into consideration at all times.

Criteria

- All adaptive riders wanting to compete in the adaptive division must complete a Medical Diagnostic Form (MDF) – Please see attached. Riders with a current Adaptive Assessment Licence/certification can use this as evidence in lieu of completing an MDF.
- All adaptive riders need to have a 'caddy' to assist with access/egress. Notification is to be provided to the WWST contest officials regarding any particular requirements at the time of lodging entry.
- Adaptive riders are also able participate in categories other than the adaptive division; i.e. open men's, open women's, men and women age divisions. However, the level of assistance will only occur at the time of entry/egress from the water. Adaptive riders cannot be rendered assistance to get back on their craft if by doing so gives them an unfair advantage over abled bodied riders.
- Exclusions to this is where any rider (s) both abled bodied or adaptive are experiencing difficulties in the surf and require water safety assistance.

Surf Class	Adaptive– Waveski – Eligible Impairments
Description	Any surfer who rides the wave in a seated position and uses a paddle that does not require assistance paddling onto and into a wave.
Impaired muscle power	Athletes with impaired muscle power have a Health Condition that either reduces or eliminates their ability to voluntarily contract their muscles in order to move or to generate force. Examples include: spinal cord injury (complete or incomplete, tetra-or paraplegia), muscular dystrophy, post-polio syndrome and spina bifida.
Impaired passive range of movement	Athletes with impaired range of movement have a restriction or a lack of passive movement in one or more joints. Examples include: arthrogryposis and contracture resulting from chronic joint immobilisation or trauma affecting a joint.
Limb deficiency	<p>Lower Limb Bilateral above knee amputations or bilateral below knee amputations, ankles, or combination of 1 above knee amputation and 1 below knee amputation or congenital equivalent. Loss of feet related to infections such as sepsis (meningitis), stroke, injury.</p> <p>Upper limb deficiencies including partial loss of arms that impact on competence to manage a paddle including paddling onto a wave, eskimo rolling will be considered. This includes loss of fingers, hands that are congenital, related to infection such as sepsis (meningitis), stroke, injury.</p>
Hypertonia	Athletes with hypertonia have an increase in muscle tension and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch caused by damage to the central nervous system. Examples include: cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.
Ataxia	Athletes with ataxia have uncoordinated movements caused by damage to the central nervous system. Examples include: cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury, stroke and multiple sclerosis
Athetosis	Athletes with athetosis have continual slow involuntary movements. Examples include cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and stroke.

Medical Diagnostics Form (MDF) for ALL Athletes with Physical Impairments

To be eligible for WWSA Adaptive Surfing, an athlete must have an underlying medical diagnosis (Health Condition) that results in a Permanent and Eligible Impairment.

Instructions for Athletes*:

- Download this Medical Diagnostic Form and have your Medical Doctor fill it out in English.
- Be sure your doctor provides evidence of your physical impairment (X-ray, EMG, ASIA, etc.).
- Completed forms by your doctor AND the diagnostic evidence of your physical impairment must be submitted at the time of lodging an entry for the WWST and/or WWSA Accredited event.

*This requirement applies for all athletes with physical impairment competing in WWST Adaptive Divisions. The athlete's entry will not be processed until the MDF is completed and lodged.

Athlete Information (to be completed by the National Federation)

Family name:			
Given name(s):			
Gender:	Male Female Other	Date of Birth:	(dd/mm/yyyy)
National Federation:		Home address	

Medical Information (to be completed in **English** by a registered Medical Doctor, M.D.)

Athlete's Medical Diagnosis (Health Condition):			
Include description of body part/s affected and limitations:			
Primary Impairment/s arising from the Medical Diagnosis (Health Condition):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Impaired Muscle Power <input type="checkbox"/> Limb Deficiency <input type="checkbox"/> Hypertonia <input type="checkbox"/> Impaired Passive Range of Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Athetosis <input type="checkbox"/> Ataxia			
Medical condition is: <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent <input type="checkbox"/> Stable <input type="checkbox"/> Progressive <input type="checkbox"/> Fluctuating			
Year of onset:		(yyyy)	Congenital (birth) <input type="checkbox"/>

<p>Evidence to support the above diagnosis MUST be attached in English for ALL athletes. Athletes may not be classified without evidence to support the medical diagnosis.</p> <p>Medical Diagnostic Report and Physical Examination results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Report <input type="checkbox"/> Photo for Athletes with amputation <input type="checkbox"/> ASIA scale <input type="checkbox"/> X-rays for Athletes with dysmeli <input type="checkbox"/> EMG <input type="checkbox"/> Biops <input type="checkbox"/> CT <input type="checkbox"/> X-ray <p>Report(s) from additional diagnostic testing (for example, EMG, MRI, CT, X-ray)</p> <p>WWSA holds the right to request additional diagnostic evidence including, but not limited to, EMG, MRI, CT, X-ray.</p>	
<p>Treatment History:</p>	
<p>Regular Medication – List dosage and reason:</p>	
<p>Presence of additional medical conditions/diagnoses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Vision impairment <input type="checkbox"/> Impaired respiratory function <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Hypermobility/ instability Intellectual impairment <input type="checkbox"/> Impaired metabolic functions <input type="checkbox"/> Impaired muscle endurance Hearing impairment <input type="checkbox"/> Impaired cardiovascular functions (e.g., Chronic fatigue) <input type="checkbox"/> Psychological diagnoses Pain <p>Other: _ Describe:</p>	

<input type="checkbox"/> I declare to the best of my knowledge that the above information is true and correct.	
Doctors Name:	
Medical Specialty:	Registration Number:
Address:	
City:	Country:
Phone/ E-mail:	Competitor's signature/date

World Waveski Surfing Association

Protest Form – World Waveski Surfing Titles/accredited Events

- Please complete using BLOCK LETTERS To be submitted to the Contest Director.
- The form is to be lodged by the competitor(s) nominated country representative (manager, captain or delegate or authorised other), together with \$50 US or equivalent
- Form must be submitted within 20 minutes of the protest being advised.
- A refund of \$50 US or equivalent will be given if the protest is upheld.

Name of competitor(s) **Country**

Date/time

Division/Heat/Number

Description of protest

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Competitor Name/signature

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Country Delegate Name/signature

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Protest Form received by:

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Contest Director: Name/signature

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☐ Protest Upheld

☐ Protest Denied

Cash refunded:

.....

Cash received:

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