

World Waveski Surfing Association (WWSA) COMPETITION RULEBOOK 2022



The World Waveski Surfing Association would like to acknowledge the International Surfing Association (ISA) for permission to adapt the ISA surfing rules in development of this rule book. Thanks also to the many people who contributed to the development of this rule book which is a living document and is consistent with contemporary surfing.

World Waveski Surfing Association (WWSA) Competition Rule Book Revised and reviewed June 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION & CONTENTS

1. ADMINISTRATION WORLD WAVESKI SURFING TITLES (WWST)

Events // Definition Waveski // Team Sizes // Registration // Awarding World Champs // Rule Changes // Team List // Seeding // Format of World Champs // Meetings // Entry Fees // Scoreboard // Fees Collected // Computerised System

2. COMPETITION RULES

Timing & Wave Counts // Heat times & Scoring // Penalties // Judging Conduct // Heat composition // Protests // Wave Maximums // Wave Tabulation // Priority // Ties // Outside Assistant // First Aid

3. JUDGING

Numbers // Duties // Sheets // Scribes // Availability // Scoring // Criteria // Errors // Media Contact

4. JUDGING CRITERIA

Preparation // Surfing criteria // Scoring system // Judging Method // Bad conditions // Close Heats // Four & Five Man Heats

5. INTERFERENCE RULES

Basic Rule // Right of Way // Snaking // Paddling interference // Penalties

6. DUTIES OF THE HEAD JUDGE

Meetings // Judging Standards // Wave Count

7. DUTIES OF THE TABULATOR

Sheet evaluation // Interferences // Missed Rides // Tallies // Ties

8. EVALUATING JUDGING PERFORMANCE—

STATISTICALLY Judging accuracy // Errors // Tabulation Sheets

9. WWSA Eligibility Rules WWSA Membership

10. OBLIGATIONS OF HOST COUNTRY

Day to Day Responsibilities // Housing // Catering // Functions & Facilities // Requirements // Personnel // Equipment & Services // Trophies

11. WORLD WAVESKI AGE DIVISION // DRUG TESTING // DUTY OF CARE

APPENDIX — Seeding Policy and Procedures

Tag Team Rules

Criteria for use of WWSA logo and association/support/sanctioning of waves events

Adaptive Waveski Division Criteria

SECTION 1: ADMINISTRATION WWST

World Waveski Surfing Titles

The WWST will be held every alternate year for the WWSA riders who are members of affiliated nations and in good standing with the WWSA. Only countries can be represented as per the Sport Accord recognition of countries.

WWSA World Titles events include the following divisions:

- A) Open Men's 10+ years — men only (WWSA Titles Only)
- B) Open Women's 10+ years — women only
- C) Open Men's Adaptive 10+ years — men only
- D) Open Women's Adaptive 10+ years — women only

Age Divisions — Both genders and inclusive of adaptive

- A) Cadets 10-16 years
- B) Juniors 17-20 years
- C) New Age 21- 29 years
- D) Senior 30 – 39 years
- E) Master 40 – 49 years
- F) Grand Master 50 – 59 years
- G) Legends (previously referred to as Veterans)
60– 64 years
- H) Grand Legends 65 years plus
- I) Tag Team Championship — Open and Women's

Non-WWST events (sanctioned and other events supported by the WWSA) can replace Open Men's with the below

Open Championship 10+ years — both genders.

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

Definition Of A Waveski

No longer than 12 feet/ 3.657 metres. Competitor must sit on top with bottom flush on seat. Feet must be in front of body in foot wells with foot straps. Must have fin(s). Must have seat belt/quad belt to secure rider to seat. Propelled by use of paddle.

Registration

A competitor can only represent a country if he/she has residency in that country. The competitor must be officially endorsed as a representative by their member nation's waveski/canoe association. Endorsement must be evidenced prior to entry into the WWST.

1. Entry fees and WWSA membership fee is fully paid prior to confirmation of entry into the championships.
2. Verification of age/eligibility for division/country representing. Accepted identification such as passport/certificate of birth.
3. 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.
4. Indemnity form completed. The contest director or authorised delegate of the WWSA will sign off the WWSA registration form prior to the competition commencing.
5. 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.
6. No rider will be permitted to enter the water/participate in the competition without completing their registration.

Award of WWST to a Host Nation

Applications to host WWST shall be made in writing and be submitted to the WWSA Secretary. Such an application must be received in sufficient time to be included in the agenda of the Bi-Annual General Meeting (BGM) held during a World Championship.

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 2 month nomination period and no less than 12 months prior to the planned hosting of the WWST. The WWSA Secretary to send out poll to all member nations with proposed options and a closing date to submit applications.

Rule Changes

The rules of competition as set out in the rule book must be applied by all competitors competing at the WWST and WWSA sanctioned 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 sanctioned 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 and Draw (To be read in conjunction with the WWSA's Seeding Policy)

Seeding is based on results from the WWST which includes the two most recent WWST. Consideration is given to results from other competitions such as those sanctioned 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 an international level for a number of years will have their seed determined by points obtained from WWSA sanctioned events or on a case by case basis if they have not attended any events that are sanctioned.

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

No competitor is seeded beyond the first round. 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 is to 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 the new division.

In the event of inclement weather, adverse surf conditions and/or the number of competitor entries are such that the event cannot be completed in the allocated time frame, the contest director in conjunction with authorized personnel may alter the composition of heat numbers (such as changing man on man to man to 3-4 man heats). If this should occur then all competitors are advised as soon as information is known.

Format for the WWST

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.

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) – four man heats; first round repechage and capped at 64 competitors.

Open Women's Division

The contest will run on the winners/losers format with second chance unless otherwise determined. Depending on the number of entries ie 5 or less and if time permits, the best of 3 heats may be considered.

Woman on woman format may commence at the beginning of the competition 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 (mixed gender, age divisions)

The contest will run on the winners/losers format with second chance unless otherwise determined. Depending on the number of entries ie 5 or less and if time permits, the best of 3 heats may be considered.

Where for any reason it is not possible to hold or complete the Final for any of the divisions, including the Open, the WWSA may consider final placings based on results at the time the competition was stopped.

Please refer to further explanation regarding entries where there is only one competitor entered. A competitor must enter the water and attempt to surf for placings/points to be awarded.

Format for WWSA Sanctioned Events

Same as the WWST, however Open Men's Division is replaced with Open Division which includes both genders.

SECTION 2: COMPETITION RULES

Contest Format

The Contest Director and WWSA Committee determines at the start of the day the program of events. At all material times the program remains unchanged unless conditions change and/or there are other mitigating reasons. Information about the above will be placed on a notice board/or via electronic notification. It is the responsibility of competitors to familiarize themselves with this information.

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.

Scoreboard

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

1. Minimum board size.
2. Signage specifications, lettering.
3. Heat colour indication /order.
4. Flow and progression.
5. Contest Director's notice board.

Computerized Judging System

WWSA sanctioned contest must be run on a computerised system where possible. To regulate a judging system the WWSA will approve a system that it feels meets the standards of the WWSA which will be outlined in the host country's contract to run the WWST. The cost of the system will be borne by the host country.

Timing and Wave Counts:

a) Heat Times 20 minutes unless conditions determine otherwise. Finals 20 - 25 minutes subject to conditions. Wave Counts: best 2 waves with unlimited waves unless the contest director decides otherwise due to conditions. 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.

b) A competitor must register direct with the Beach Marshall and collect competition rash singlet and 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 ie 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, competitors go to the water and attempt to surf.

Penalty for not turning up for a heat unless there are extenuating circumstances is elimination or re-charge 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 is organized.

The contest director will determine 'free surfing' for competitors. Competitors who have registered with the beach marshall must not free surf prior to their heat.

c) Official timing of all heats will be done by the Head Judge.

d) 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.

e) 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.

f) A large disc system or flag or light must also be used, green to start and yellow for the last five minutes.

g) 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.

h) The disc or flag or light must be in the neutral position with no colour showing, once the commentator reaches zero on his countdown.

i) 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.

j) Any waveski surfer intentionally manoeuvring and riding during the progress of the next heat will be scored interference. Waveski surfers 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.

k) At the end of and during the heat, the waveski rider 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 waveski rider ' up and riding'. (The waveski rider must be propelled by the wave).

l) 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.

m) In the case of a water start the maximum time between heats shall be 10 minutes, unless unforeseen circumstances arise.

n) 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.

There is an unlimited wave count for all heats.

When heats are in progress any unauthorised waveski competitor in the competition area will be penalised. 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.

o) 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.

Heats are not stopped unless there is an injury to a competitor(s). However a particular division or round may be stopped if the surf conditions change to such an extent that competitors 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.

p) The Contest Director or delegate is the only authorized person who can give the schedule of events.

q) 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 nations delegate. No competitor is to directly approach the Contest Director, only through the previously mentioned process.

r) **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).

Outside assistance where competitors are given an unfair advantage over other competitors: This may include waving of paddles, whistling by outsiders indicating sets of waves are coming – penalty for first offence; loss of half of second scoring wave. Second offence - elimination from the particular division.

s) **First Aid:** 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).

t) **Unsportsmanlike behaviour and 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 has been described further in two parts – during the competition (water) and outside the competition (on land)

During the Competition (water)

Excessive Hassling

In the opinion of the Priority and Head Judge, if a Waveski surfer excessively hassles another

Waveski surfer who has Priority in an unsportsmanlike manner an interference can be called.

1) Using Priority

In the opinion of the Priority or Head Judge, if a Waveski surfer utilizes their priority in an unsportsmanlike manner to intentionally block another Waveski surfer with lower or no Priority outside of the Primary Take-off Zone, an interference will be called against them.

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 'balk' a competitor, abusive language with intimidatory threatening behaviour

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.

On land

The Competition Venue and Site – 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.

Alcohol Consumption and Socially Unacceptable Behaviour – 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.

Priority Rules

a. Right of way using the Priority System

1) For heats where priority applies, the priority system will determine which Waveski surfer has priority to a wave at that time. The Waveski surfer with priority has the unconditional right of way and can paddle for and Ride any wave and any wave direction they select. The Waveski surfer'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 waveski surfer with priority.
- Cross in front of or bottom turn around the Waveski surfer with priority, regardless if the waveski surfer is up and Riding a wave or in the process of catching a wave.

2) If a waveski surfer without priority does not comply with 1) a priority interference penalty will be called against them.

3) If a waveski surfer incurs an interference penalty they will lose priority. The Priority Judge will determine the new priority position of the waveski surfers in the heat.

b. General Priority

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

2) The Priority Judge will make any call on Priority using a coloured display system corresponding to the Waveski surfer'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 waveski surfer's responsibility to check the priority system for their priority position at all times.

3) 'Blocking Rule' in Non-Priority Situations

For all Events with a Priority Judge, a waveski surfer 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 Waveski surfer from catching that wave;
- Position themselves in the take-off zone and block another Waveski surfer from catching a wave.

4) Excessive Hassling in Non-Priority situations

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

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

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

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

7) Under priority allocation it is the waveski surfers' responsibility to continually check the priority system for verification.

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

9) "Blocking Rule" in Priority Situations - The Priority waveski surfer will lose priority if in the opinion of the Head Judge or Priority Judge they:

- Paddle in front of the non-Priority waveski surfer to deliberately impede them from catching a wave.
- Position themselves in the takeoff zone to prevent another Waveski surfer from catching a wave.
- Use their priority by either paddling for or taking off on a wave to block their opponent when the Waveski surfer with priority appears to have had no intention to score. In this situation priority can be awarded regardless of which waveski surfer reaches the take-off zone first after the Ride.

10) If waveski surfer with superior priority paddles outside the primary take-off zone (including if they sit on inside position), the waveski surfer will have their Priority suspended until they re-enter the primary take-off zone. If the waveski surfer does not re-enter the primary take-off zone, they will no longer be the Priority waveski surfer. The Priority judge will determine the waveski surfer's new priority position in the heat. All attempts will be made to verbally announce the Priority waveski surfer 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 waveski surfers should not rely on the same and rather always rely on the priority disc for the event.

11) Priority interference may be called individually by the Head Judge only if the majority of the judging panel do not see the incident.

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

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

14) Once a heat has ended all priority ceases. If a waveski surfer is riding on a wave as the heat ends they can't be interfered with by any waveski surfer (even if that waveski surfer had higher priority before the heat ended). If an interference occurs the violating waveski surfer will receive a priority situation interference.

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

16) In the discretion of the Priority Judge, if a waveski surfer's equipment is damaged and they actively make their way to their replacement equipment or when a waveski surfer gets washed out of the primary take off zone

by a set:

- The waveski surfer's priority is suspended, indicated by the waveski surfer having 'No Priority' and
- The waveski surfer'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.

c. 2-Waveski Surfer Heat Priority

2-Waveski surfer heat priority works in the following manner,

- At the start of a heat once the first wave has been ridden, the second Waveski surfer gets automatic priority for any other wave they choose, unless the Waveski surfer Rides the wave before the heat starts or if the Waveski surfer is not in the Competition Area before the heat start.
- A Waveski surfer cannot lose second priority by paddling for and missing a wave but if the Waveski surfer 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 Waveski surfers appear to reach the line-up at the same time, priority will go to the Waveski surfer who did not have the last priority.
- If a Waveski surfer is not in the Primary Take-Off Zone when the heat starts and arrives late, priority will be allocated to the other Waveski surfer at the discretion of the Priority Judge.

d. 3-Waveski Surfer Heat Priority

3-Waveski surfer heat priority works in the following manner,

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

e. 4-Waveski Surfer Heat Priority

4-Waveski surfer Heat priority works in the following manner,

- The first waveski surfer to ride a wave then receives fourth priority (first waveski surfer).

- The remaining three waveski surfers in the heat have priority over the first waveski surfer and may paddle for waves without losing this priority until the next waveski surfer catches a wave (second waveski surfer).
- The remaining two waveski surfers in the heat have priority over the first and second waveski surfer and may paddle for waves without losing this priority until the next waveski surfer catches a wave (third waveski surfer).
- Once the third waveski surfer catches a wave, the initial heat priority order is established:
 - (i) The waveski surfer yet to catch a wave receives first priority; and
 - (ii) the remaining waveski surfers will receive priority in the order they return to the take-off area.
 - (iii) The waveski surfer with first priority has priority over all other waveski surfers. The waveski surfer with second priority only has priority over the waveski surfers with third and fourth priority. The waveski surfer with third priority only has priority over the waveski surfer with fourth priority.
- If a waveski surfer is not in the primary take off zone when the heat starts and arrives late, the waveski surfer will be allocated the appropriate priority position as determined by the Priority Judge at the time when the waveski surfer reaches the primary take off zone.

f. Interference Penalty

1. For priority situations when an interference is called on a waveski surfer, then the waveski surfer's second-best scoring wave will be halved.
2. In non-priority situations when an interference is called on a waveski surfer, the waveski surfer's second-best scoring wave will be halved.
3. When an interference is called on a Waveski surfer while paddling to catch a wave or while riding a wave, the ride will be scored zero.
4. Interference will be denoted by a triangle on the Judges sheet.
5. Any interfering waveski surfer 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.
6. Any protest relating to a decision should be submitted in accordance with (protests).
7. Exception: where a double interference is called, neither waveski surfer 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.
8. Where any waveski surfer incurs two interferences they must immediately leave the Competition Area
 - a. If both interferences are in a non-priority situation, both scoring rides will be halved.
 - b. 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.
 - c. If both interferences are in a priority situation the waveski surfer will be disqualified from the heat.
9. If neither waveski surfer in an interference situation has established priority over the other waveski surfer involved, the penalty will be a non-priority interference regardless of other waveski surfers in the heat (not involved in the interference situation) hold priority or not, waveski surfer's second-best scoring wave will be halved. This rule will be applied to one-on-one, 3- Waveski surfer and 4-Waveski surfer heats.
10. The composition of heats will be determined in terms of the provisions of SECTION 1 – FORMAT FOR WWST
11. 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 waveski surfers in a heat will advance.

General Contest Aspects

- a) There has to be a minimum of 18 inches of wave height before surf can be deemed contestable.
- b) 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 ie interfering with a competitor's potential to catch and surf a wave.

Protests

- a) 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 Rider by their Manager or Coach to the Contest Director within 10 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.
- b) 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 ten minutes of the offending rider being officially notified ie results are on the official results board.
- c) Video tape can be used for evidence in the event of a protest providing it is viewed by contest director/protest panel within 10 minutes of the protest being lodged.
- d) The Contest Director will convey the result of the appeal to the offending rider, and his decision will be final.
- e) The Contest Director may impose a monetary levy for lodgement of protests.

Wave Maximums

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

Wave Tabulation

- a) Heats - to decide a winner in all heats, the best 2, waves on each Judge Sheet, are tabulated and placed on each judges sheet. The results are then transposed to a Master Sheet with all five Judges results. The high and low Judge for each waveski surfer is crossed off and the three remaining added. The lowest total first, next lowest second, etc. (REFER SECTION 7 – DUTIES OF THE TABULATOR).
- b) The best two waves will prevail
- c) In the case of computer judging, the waveski riders' wave score will be the average of remaining judges wave scores after high and low judges are cut out.
- d) 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.

Ties

a) In a four-man heat, a general judging consensus using plus/minus system on the judging master sheet must break ties. In the case of a 3 way tie, then the plus and minus system is used to decide the best two waveski surfers, then used again to split those two waveski surfers. If the tie still cannot be broken the tabulator goes back to the best 3 waves on the tied sheet only.

b) Count backs on tied sheets are to go to the best 3 waves then the best 2 waves, and then 1 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 5 waves and so on until the tie is broken on the tied sheet only. Only unbreakable ties will be resurfed or in the case of the final awarding equal placings.

SECTION 3: JUDGING

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. Politics and judges representing a country become irrelevant if the judge does his/her job properly.

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

Judging panels: Panels for each heat will consist of between four and five judges who will rotate from the judging panel. A panel of six judges is the minimum necessary to conduct an event on a full-time basis. Each judging panel will officiate under the control and discretion of a Head Judge, whose duties are more fully described in Section 6.

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.

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 should 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 others 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 waveski rider'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.

SECTION 4 : JUDGING CRITERIA AND HINTS

Before Judging

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 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:

a) 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 waveski surfer 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.

b) 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.

c) 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.

d) 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.

e) 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 waveski surfer in their heat. The selected waves dictate the manoeuvres they are able to perform. The best wave may not necessarily be the biggest. The waveski surfer 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:

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 may 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 can not view each others 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 heats. 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 waveski surfer fell.

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 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 waveski surfers 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 groveling (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 waveski surfers 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 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:

- a) Where was the first manoeuvre executed?
- b) How well was it executed?
- c) How well were the manoeuvres connected together?

- d) Did the waveski surfer execute rail to rail turns through the flat sections or did they just hop all the way through to the next section?
- e) Compare the outside manoeuvres to the inside manoeuvres.
- f) Compare take-off areas and how deep the waveski surfer was at the initial point of take-off.
- g) Consider how the waveski surfer utilised the wave.
- h) The ability of the waveski surfer to make sections and whether the manoeuvres were functional in doing so.
- i) Did the waveski surfer actually complete the manoeuvre and with control?
- j) What did the waveski surfer complete before failing?
- k) 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 as minor details such as a paddling interference.

Judging 4 and 5 Man 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 waveski surfers are riding, concentration should be apportioned according to each riders scoring potential on their waves. The waveski riders 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

1. Basic Rule

- a) The waveski surfer 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 waveski surfer deemed to have right of way for the wave.
- b) Anyone who takes off in front of a waveski surfer with right-of-way in 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 waveski surfer with right of way by any means. These include excessive hassling or breaking down a section.
- c) 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 waveski surfer 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

waveski surfer 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.

2. 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. Basically it is the responsibility of the judge to determine which waveski surfer 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 waveski surfer who makes a definite turn in their chosen direction (by making an obvious right or left turn).

a. Point Break

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

b. 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 waveski surfer who makes a definite turn in their chosen direction (by making an obvious right or left turn).

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

c. Multiple Peak Situation

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

i) 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 waveski surfers may each have inside position on those respective peaks, the waveski surfer who first manoeuvres shall be deemed to have wave possession and the second waveski surfer must give way by cutting back or kicking out before hindering the right of way surfer.

ii) If two waveski surfers take off and manoeuvre at the same time on two separate peaks that eventually meet, then:

- a. If they both give way by cutting back or kicking out, so that neither is hindered, there will be no penalty.
- b. If they cross paths and collide or hinder one another, the judges will penalise the waveski surfer who has been the aggressor at the point of contact.
- c. If neither waveski surfer gives way by cutting back or kicking out and both share responsibility the confrontation, then a double interference will be called.

3. Right-of-Way in Priority One on One Situations

Neutral priority until the first wave is ridden:

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

wave they select.

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

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

4. 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.

5. Priority Rules

- a. Mandatory in one on one heats. The Head Judge will be the priority referee using coloured discs corresponding to the waveski surfers' 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:

- i) Rides a wave
- ii) Paddles for a wave and misses the wave

- b. At the start of a heat, it is neutral priority until the first wave has been ridden. The second waveski surfer gets automatic priority for any other wave they choose, unless the waveski surfer rides the wave before the heat starts. If this happens then that wave will not count and the remaining waveski surfer 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 waveski surfer around the buoy or to the take off zone has priority and if the other waveski surfer 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 waveski surfer's competition singlet. If no waveski surfer has wave priority, no discs are shown and the interference rule will determine priority.

- c. A waveski surfer cannot lose second priority by paddling for, and missing a wave but if the waveski surfer catches the wave and falls off as they attempt to surf the wave, they lose second priority.
- d. If a waveski surfer inside has second priority and their opponent paddles for, but misses a wave, the inside waveski surfer automatically assumes priority. Therefore, if they also paddle for, but miss the wave, then they have also lost priority. That is, both waveski surfers have then lost priority even though only one wave has passed and there was not sufficient time to change the priority disc.

- e. The waveski surfer who has priority will also not be allowed to paddle in front of the other waveski surfer to deliberately impede them from catching a wave or they will lose priority. The waveski surfer 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 waveski surfer from catching that wave.
- f. Priority interference may be called individually by the Head Judge, only if the majority (3 of 4) do not see the incident.
- g. 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.
- h. Allocation is based on whom the Head Judge believes has reached the line-up first. In cases where both waveski surfers appear to reach the lineup at the same time priority will go to the waveski surfer who did not have the last priority. Under priority allocation it is the waveski surfers responsibility to continually check the priority disc for verification. Under no circumstances must the priority rule be suspended in one on one competitions.
- i. 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 waveski surfers 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 waveski surfer will get automatic priority for any other wave they choose.
- j. When there is no priority; the interference rule shall determine wave possession. Both waveski surfers may ride the wave in opposite directions, provided they do not interfere with each other.
- k. In all cases where a dispute results from a malfunction of the Priority system, the Head Judge and Contest Committee will arbitrate.

6. Snaking

- a) The waveski surfer 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 waveski surfer because they have 'right-of-way' even though they are in front.
- b) If the second waveski surfer has not hindered the original waveski surfer with right-of-way, then the judges may choose not to impose a penalty and will score both waveski surfers' rides.
- c) A waveski surfer may not take off on the opposite side of a broken wave peak to gain possession of the opposite wave face, when a waveski surfer has already established possession on the inside of the peak. An interference will be called if the majority of the judges feel that the waveski surfer surfing/riding from behind the broken peak has hindered the scoring potential of the waveski surfer who has established possession of the inside of the broken peak.
- d) If, in the opinion of the judges, the second waveski surfer has interfered with (snaked) the original waveski surfer with right-of-way by causing them to pull out or lose the wave, then interference may be called on the second waveski surfer, even though they are behind the first when the penalty is called.

e) 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, ie a surfer has priority. See rule 5J for clarification.

7. Paddling Interference

In three or four man heats or non-priority one on one situations , another waveski surfer paddling for the same wave should not excessively hinder a waveski surfer who has inside position. Paddling interference may be called if;

- i) The offending waveski surfer makes contact with or forces the inside waveski surfer to change their line whilst paddling to catch the wave causing possible loss of scoring potential.
- ii) The offending waveski surfer 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.
- iii) When a waveski surfer 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.
- vi) When paddling out from the beach, and when in the lineup if two waveski surfers make contact, the judges will penalize with in an interference the waveski surfer who is deemed to be the aggressor.

8. 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 waveski surfer 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 waveski surfer has less than the required minimum scoring rides ie 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 judges 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 waveski surfer must be penalised and a drop-in decision can only be disputed by making an official protest.

Where any waveski surfer 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

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.

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 judges 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.

SECTION 7 : 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:

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

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:

- a) Averaging the scores awarded by other Judges for the ride.
- b) 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 waveski surfers 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 totaled. The two best scoring waves will be circled and the total entered in the section for top waves. These scores are totaled, 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 waveski surfer 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 waveski surfers 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:

- a) The Competitors names are entered on the tally sheet.
- b) The Judges names are entered across the page at the top of each column.
- c) Placing are copied down beneath each judge.
- d) The highest and lowest placing are crossed off for each waveski surfer.
- e) Total the placings that remain and enter the total in the total point's column, then complete the competitor's heat places.
- f) 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.

SECTION 8 : 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 Judges 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 9 : WORLD WAVESKI SURFING TITLES (WWST) ELIGIBILITY RULES

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

Must be a current registered member of an association/club which is affiliated with its Member nation 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 Sport Accord regulations.

SECTION 10 : 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 events

Day 11 Teams depart

During the period specified above, the Host country will be responsible for providing: a) During the contest, officials and judges will be provided with food and beverages as agreed to.

b) Opening and closing functions/prize giving and conference facilities:

c) The Host must provide a suitable venue with snacks and refreshments for an opening function and closing function/prize giving.

d) Suitable venues must be provided for:

* Competitors Meeting

* Judges meeting / Seminar

* The WWSA Bi-Annual General Meeting * The Meeting of the WWSA

e) Contest site requirements: At each contest site the Host will provide the following:

f) 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.

ii) Suitable facilities for the Tabulators in the form of a caravan 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.

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

iv) 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.

v) Timing discs must be erected next to the Vest Marshall. In addition an air horn or siren must be provided.

vi) 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 or ASP contest Head Judge

and must judge regularly at national or provincial level contests.

vii) A souvenir program must be printed for distribution to competitors, officials and the public.

viii) 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 waveski surfers/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 waveski surfers. Reports to the Contest Director and works closely with the Event Promotions Officer.

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 waveski surfers.

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 by WWSA with positioning and onsite expenses paid for by the Host province provides computer scoring system which is designed for the WWST judging panel. All hardware and software supplied by the computer operator except the TV monitors.

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 marshall 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:

- a) in heats that the computer is used. They must check that the judges scores have been entered correctly.
- b) in non-computer judged heats they must do the following:
 1. Check wave-count
 2. Check for any missed waves i.e. if either of the two above occur, call the Head Judge or Contest Director for assistance.
 3. 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.
 4. Circle or highlight scoring waves.
 5. Tally scoring waves.
 6. Give placings.
 7. 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.

Assistant Tabulator

Works with the Tabulator to speed manual calculation of results and the checking of the computer results. Reports to the Tabulator, must check tabulation in the same order with emphasis on No. 4. Most mistakes occur because one of the waveski riders best waves are missed. Whenever a mistake is found and the adjustment is made, make sure that the placing (No. 6 above) are changed if necessary.

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:

- a) 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.
- b) Team Enclosure / Stand - Separate stands for use by waveski riders, media, VIPs and spectators.
- c) Electricity / Generator Electricity connection where available or large commercial size generator. Separate lines for PA and computer.
- d) P A 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.
- e) Telephones, printers and Fax Machines
- f) Tables - Placed in media, competitors, VIPs and staff areas as required.
- g) Chairs -As many as possible, all will be used.
- h) Score, Progress and Notice Boards - To graphically illustrate the progress of the event a post heat results.
- i) Canopy & Umbrella For use by officials, media, VIPs and contestants areas.
- j) Portable Toilets If insufficient at site then extra for use by public. Also others for use by event only.
- k) First Aid Kit and access for ambulance if required.
- l) Time Disc / Flag Need to be minimum 1 metre square being green and yellow in colour and placed on judging tower. Lighting system may be used provided it is clearly visible at all times green and yellow.
- m) Competition Vests Minimum of 3 sets, although 4 is recommended (1 kept aside for presentation) of four colours red (orange to pink or fluorescent), white, yellow (fluorescent), black (dark blue or purple). Must be made out of flexible lycra nylon fabric. Try not to use draw strings as waveski riders catch them in the belts.
- n) Area for Computer and operator on judging tower with own power supply. This must be waterproof but airy.
- o) Clipboards Approximately 12 - 15 for use by judges plus staff.
- p) Area for WWSA Technical Director in or near media/judging area.

- q) 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.
- r) 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.
- s) Stationary Miscellaneous pens, pencils, staplers etc. to be provided.
- t) 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.
- u) 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.
- v) Copy Paper and Toner Events always run out on the weekend when most needed. Have plenty on hand as it can always be used later. Usually 2-3 reams used per day.

The Contest Director and WWSA Committee, together with the Head Judge, will hold meetings for competitors and officials prior to the commencement of the Championships. Attendance at meetings is encouraged, 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

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 WWSA via paypal system or other similar internet banking transfer. Entry fees to WWST as laid out by host country to be approved by the WWSA Executive.

Funds collected

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.

Trophies and medals

The host nation provides the following trophies and medals for the following divisions/categories

1. Note: If only one competitor enters a mixed gender age division, they are still awarded the trophy for having entered the division as long as they compete in the next available division closest to their age division .
2. 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

- One (1) cadet will surf in the juniors,
- One (1) junior will surf in the new age,
- One (1) new age 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 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)

3. 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's (men only): 10 years plus (trophies 1-4, medals 5-8)

Open Men's Adaptive (men only): 10 years plus (trophies 1-4)

Open Women's (women only): 10 years plus (trophies 1-4, medals 5-8)

Open Women's Adaptive (women only): 10 years plus (trophies 1-4)

Mixed Gender Age Divisions (men and women)

4. Trophies are awarded for **1st – 4th place**

Women are also awarded **1st – 4th place** based on the results of competing in the mixed gender division. Where there are 4 women or more in a particular age division, consideration will be given for them to surf in a women's only age division category. If this occurs, the women will therefore not be surfing against the men in the mixed age division eg 4 new age women will surf in the New Age Women's div.

Cadets: 10 years – 16 years

Juniors: 17 years - 20 years

New Age: 21 years – 29 years

Seniors: 30 years – 39 years

Masters: 40 years – 49 years

Grand Masters: 50 years – 59 years

Legends: 60 years – 64 years

Grand Legends: 65 years plus

Tag Team

Trophies are awarded for **1st – 4th place**, one trophy per team with sufficient medals for each member of the team.

Open (mixed gender): 10 years plus

Women's (women only): 10 years plus

SECTION 11 : WORLD WAVESKI AGE DIVISIONS/ DRUG TESTING AND DUTY OF CARE

Divisions

- a) Open Men's 10 years plus, men only (WWSA Titles only)
- b) Open Women's 10 years plus, women only
- c) Open Men's Adaptive 10 years plus, men only
- d) Open Women's Adaptive 10 years plus women only
- e) Open Championship 11 years plus both genders (for all events other than the WWSA World Titles)

All genders for the following age divisions include adaptive participants

- c) Cadets 10 -16 years
- d) Juniors 17-20 years
- e) New Age 21-29 years
- f) Seniors 30-39 years
- g) Masters 40-49 years
- h) Grand Masters 50-59 years
- i) Legends 60- 64 years
- j) Grand Legends 65 years plus
- k) 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. Depending on time constraints consideration may be given to running the best of 2 or 3 heats for divisions with 5 or less competitors. If running only two heats and there is a tie for the places then a third heat will be used to determine final placings.

Where there are 4 women or more in a particular age division, consideration will be given for them to surf in a women's only age division category. If this occurs, the women will not surf against the men in the mixed age division eg 4 new age women will surf in the New Age Women's div. The divisions will be renamed; Men's New Age and Women's New Age.

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 ie one cadet may compete in the junior division, one grand legend may compete in the legend division.

In the event that only one competitor enters his/her respective division, he or she will be awarded their respective World Waveski Surfing Titles trophy.

If there is only one woman enters the Open women's event she is still awarded 1st place trophy

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 Waveski Surfing Association (WWSA) Competition Rule Book Revised and reviewed June 2022*

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

At all times during the competition, the Contest Director in conjunction with authorized 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 expected though that competitors are competent at swimming and can safely swim in the surf at least 150 – 200 metres unaided (dispensation afforded to adaptive waveski surfers).

It is recommended that all adaptive competitors 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 will need to 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.

Amendments to the rule book have been discussed with the Executive of the WWSA and communicated and agreed to at the Annual 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) eg one veteran enters the veteran age division and will be able to surf in the 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 trialed 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 repercharge.

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. Eg. Junior woman's WWST is based on the highest result by a woman in the mixed gender junior division. In time where there are at least 4 women in an age division category, consideration will be given to separate the age divisions eg. 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 continues for all other events including those sanctioned 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.

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.

Gus Presa
President

Virgile Humbert and Clement Guilbert
Vice President and International Technical
Contest Directors

June 2022

Appendices

WWSA Seeding 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 waveski surfers 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.

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 world waveski surfing championships. These are prioritised in the following order -

* **1st Level Consideration** – Results from the WWST which includes previous WWST. There is also dispensation for competitors who are highly ranked but have not recently competed.

** **2nd Level Consideration** - (Most recent National result) and/or WWSA sanctioned event. If surfers from the previous 2 World Titles are absent from the current event AND remaining registered competitors for the current event do NOT hold any result from the previous 2 World Titles then contest officials are to use results from a country’s most recent national result.

*** **3rd 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.

All competitors and officials are able to access the competition draw, flow and format prior to the commencement of the competition.

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)

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) A 'composite' tag team must NOT contain a competitor from a nation that already submits a full Tag Team for the event.
- b) If a nation can field more than one complete Tag Team (of different individuals), then they may do so.

Tag Team Rules – WWST

c) Composite Tag Teams can not 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 Swiss

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

The two competitors from the same country must be together in the same composite team. They can not be split across two different composite teams. (i.e. Swiss 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

No alcohol is to be consumed during this event (please refer to alcohol policy in waveski rule book) (Note additional information regarding formation of Composite Tag Team)

Open Tag Team – One Team per Nation and Multiple International Tag Teams *(please see criteria for International Tag Teams)

1. Teams of 6 surfers or 4 surfers (dependent upon numbers), with one team member from each team only in the water at one time.
2. Bonus points (i.e double points) are awarded for teams that substitute an Open rider with any one of the following; cadet/junior or woman or legend/grand legend e.g. a junior's two wave count = 11 points this is then doubled to make 22 points which is then added to the other 5 riders" scores.
3. Team order of surfing once given, prior to the heat start, cannot be changed.
4. Each team must be provided with an area of approximately 4 metres square near the shoreline and all areas to be next to each other.
5. Teams must stay inside their box until the end of their heat, unless allowed to leave by referee.
6. Referee checks order of surfing, tags and controls other on beach aspects of the tag team event.
7. Heat length will be 90 minutes and in some cases 60 minutes (where there is only a 4 man tag team)

8. Each surfer must catch 2 waves, with each wave counting.
9. Tabulation of final results is achieved by adding all the 4 or 6 surfers 2 wave scores together.
10. Heats start with all surfers inside of the team box. Consequent tags must be made inside the box.
11. Surfers must return to their box carrying their own equipment.
12. Interference is as per 4 man heat rules.
13. Each team is allowed 1 'Double Whammy' surfer. This surfer will have 1 of his 2 rides score double points.
14. 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.
15. The team must complete their wave count and must have all their surfers inside the team box within the time period.
16. If a surfer has to change boards during the heat one of his team members can take him a replacement board, after the referee grants permission.
17. 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 more than one women's tag team up to a maximum of two tag teams. There may be multiple international tag teams – (please see criteria above).

1. Teams of 2 surfers with one team member from each team only in the water at one time.
2. Team order of surfing once given, prior to the heat start, cannot be changed.
3. Each team must be provided with an area of approximately 4 metres square near the shoreline and all areas to be next to each other.
4. Teams must stay inside their box until the end of their heat, unless allowed to leave by referee.
5. Referee checks order of surfing, tags and controls other on beach aspects of the tag team event.
6. Heat length will be 30 minutes and in some cases 40 minutes (depending on conditions) 7. Each surfer must catch 2 waves, with each wave counting.
8. Tabulation of final results is achieved by adding all the 2 surfers 2 wave scores together.
9. Heats start with all surfers inside of the team box. Consequent tags must be made inside the box.
10. Surfers must return to their box carrying their own equipment.
11. Interference is as per 4 man heat rules.
12. Each team is allowed 1 'Double Whammy' surfer. This surfer will have 1 of her 2 rides score double points.
13. 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.

14. The team must complete their wave count and must have all their surfers inside the team box within the time period.

15. If a surfer has to change boards during the heat one of his team members can take her a replacement board, after the referee grants permission.

16. 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

- Member of the WWSA and 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 8 days
- Abide by the WWSA 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
- Sufficient financial resources to coordinate and run the event. 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
- WWSA oversees the entries, manages the entry fees and coordinates in collaboration with the host nation – the draw and flow for the event
- Proximity of the event to major airport, tourist destination, accommodation to be of a reasonable 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)
- Entry form to be made available for competitors to enter on line no less than 6 months out from the event.
- Host nations who have not hosted a World Waveski Event before will need to liaise with the WWSA and if need be a committee member of the WWSA to review the surf location.
- Internal politics of the host nation not to impact/impinge on the successful running of the event.

1. (Other Waveski Surfing Events) Events where member nations can have some recognition/ association/sanctioning 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/sanctioning 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

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

- Does not take priority or precedence over the existing WWSA titles held in alternate years
- Fosters the growth of the sport
- Acknowledgement of the event on social media websites and WWSA website.

Tier Three Rating - Use of WWSA logo in promotional material and able to state 'Proudly Sanctioned 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 including the adoption of the seeding criteria
 - Event open for Internationals to compete
 - Accredited Head Judge and judging panel recognised as meeting acceptable standards of judging
 - Agreement that the WWSA will not be held liable for any budgetary shortfalls, incidents or accidents both in and out of the water
 - The event is professionally run and coordinated without any intentional compromise to the integrity of the sport of waveski surfing
 - Does not take priority or precedence over the existing WWSA titles held in alternate years
 - Fosters the growth of the sport
 - Acknowledgement of the event on social media websites and WWSA website.
-

Adaptive Waveski	Criteria
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	Athletes with limb deficiency have total or partial absence of bones or joints as a consequence of trauma (for example traumatic amputation), illness (for example amputation due to bone cancer) or congenital limb deficiency (for example dysmelia).
Leg length difference	Athletes that have a difference in the length of their legs as a result of a disturbance of limb growth, or as a result of trauma
Short stature	Athletes with short stature have a reduced length in the bones of the lower limbs and/or trunk. Examples include: achondroplasia, growth hormone dysfunction, and osteogenesis imperfecta.
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.
Vision Impairment	Athletes with impaired vision have reduced or no vision caused by damage to the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the brain. Examples include: retinitis pigmentosa and diabetic retinopathy.