

The Scottish Surfing Federation

Event Sanction Policy



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SSF EVENT SANCTION POLICY

Purpose

- This document sets out the Scottish Surfing Federation (SSF) position on surfing competitions and events in Scotland organised by other individuals, groups, clubs or institutions.
- It also provides guidance to those who wish to deliver such events in Scotland, and a process for engaging with the SSF and local surfing community.

Summary

- The SSF is supportive of surfing competitions and events that are held in the right places, at the right time and with proper consultation and involvement of the SSF and local surfing communities.
- The overall vision of the SSF is to encourage the participation in, promotion and practice of surfing in Scotland, represent the interests of Scotland's surfers and surfing communities and protect Scotland's surf breaks. Competitions and events form a crucial part of delivering this aim, which is why the SSF has established this policy.

Scottish Surfing Federation

- The SSF is the governing body for the sport of surfing in Scotland. It is recognised formally by SportScotland, The European Surfing Federation and the International Surfing Association.
- The SSF delivers national-level events such as the Scottish National Surfing Championships, which acts as a qualifying event for the national team. The SSF is responsible for the organization of the Scotland national teams who travel to compete in international competition at World and European Championship level organized by bodies such as the International Surfing Association and



European Surfing Federation. The SSF is also responsible for supporting SCO athletes who compete in international surfing at a professional level.

- The SSF represents surfers in Scotland and is the primary point of contact and engagement for the sport. For full details of the SSF and its articles of association see [www.thessf.com].

SSF competition and event policy

The SSF is generally supportive of surfing competitions and events in Scotland which are seen to be beneficial to the local area and surfing community where the competition is held. Such events have the potential to bring a range of benefits such as progressing the level of the sport in Scotland and local or even national economic benefits.

Local and national level competitions have taken place in Scotland with the first national championships held in 1973. Such events have provided a focal point for progression and cohesion within the Scottish surfing community. Throughout the history of the sport a series of international competitions have been held in Scotland including a number of European Surfing Championships held from the 1970s through to the 1980s, the Inter-Celtic Watersports Championships in the 1990s.

Over the past decade, a more formal programme of national level competitions has been established. There has also been a rise in the staging of (semi-regular) international events, such as the UKPSA tour and the 6 star World Qualifying Series event in Thurso.

For the most part, these competitions and events have had a positive impact on the sport. However the proliferation of events has the potential to conflict with the SSF aims and objectives, and with the views of local surfing communities, if a proper process of engagement is not followed. There have been recent examples of such conflicts arising, which has been a material consideration in establishing this



policy. Detailed requirements for prospective event organisers is set out at annex a but the general principles for a successful event are:

- Consideration of where the event will take place, for example:
 - Safety provisions and contingencies.
 - Avoiding 'Secret' or low-key spots and any such indirectly related promotion of such;
 - Existing Facilities and infrastructure for competitors, officials and spectators.

- Consideration of when an event will take place, for example:
 - Running the event as efficiently as possible to minimize impact on non-competing local / visiting surfers.
 - Avoiding peak times where possible.
 - Agreement of and clear communication about the timescales for potential impact.

- Proper consultation, engagement and involvement with the SSF and the local surfing community – see guidance at annex a.



Annex A – Guidance for organising a surfing event in Scotland

This guidance focuses on two main categories of surfing competitions and events in Scotland:

1. An internal event, defined as an event conducted within Scotland organised by an SSF-affiliated club, individual members or affiliates.
2. An external event, defined as an event conducted within Scotland organised by an individual, group or institution that based outwith Scotland or is not the SSF or its affiliates.

Benefits

Events which are sanctioned by The SSF will receive services which will benefit the event, host region and organizing body;

- The event will be added to The SSF calendar.
- The SSF will strive to ensure where practical no other SSF Sanctioned events will clash with the proposed event on the given date and location.
- The SSF will promote the event via www.thessf.com and SSF social media, encouraging participation and spectator numbers at the event by reaching SSF members.
- The organizing body of the event may use The SSF logo on their event posters and promotional material – The SSF will email the organizing body a file containing the logo.
- The SSF will help to facilitate consultation between the local surfing community and the prospective events organiser.

Overall Event Sanction Approval Criteria

- The event must not clash with any events on the SSF calendar.
- The event should maximize benefits to the local area and surfing community in the host region as far as possible. A detailed plan should set out how this will be achieved.
- The SSF logo must be present on event posters and promotional materials.



1. Internal Event Sanction Requirements

- The purpose of the Internal Event Sanction Requirements is to support affiliated surf clubs in the provision of running an event.
- An application (in the form of email addressed to scottishwaveriders@googlemail.com) for Sanction of the contest must be made to the SSF **a minimum of 1 month** prior to the proposed date of the event.
- The event shall comply with the SSF constitution; particular reference made to the following sections;
 - Competitive Surfing;
 - I.E. *Unless otherwise stated all SSF sanctioned Scottish surfing competitions will adhere to the format and requirements as outlined in the most current version of the ISA (International Surfing Association) Rulebook.*
 - Child Protection.
 - Anti-Doping.
- The organizers should either have adequate insurance for the event (event may be eligible under SSF insurance if discussed in application) and lifesaving provision considered should it involve water borne activities.
- If the event takes the form of a competition all competitors must be active members of the SSF
- Should the event be considered to be used in any purposes towards 'National Team Selection' the Eligibility criteria outlined within the SSF constitution shall be adhered to.

2. External Event Sanction Requirements

- The purpose of the External Event Sanction Requirements is to ensure that adequate consultation and involvement is made with the local surfing community prior to any event taking place. The overriding aim is to ensure that such an event will be of mutual benefit to the organizers as well as the surfing community of the host location.



- An application (in the form of email addressed to scottishwaveriders@googlemail.com) for Sanction of the contest must be made to the SSF **a minimum of 6 months** prior to the proposed date of the event.
- Upon receipt of the application The SSF will engage with the local surfing community and respond to the applicant within 6 weeks upon receipt of the application.
- Events will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and any Sanction fees and pre-approval requisites (via SSF or host surfing community) shall be communicated to the applicant within 6 weeks of the initial application.
 - In terms of pre-approval requisites, as a minimum entry fees for eligible SSF members shall be waived by the applicant. Likewise any additional membership fees required for eligible SSF members to qualify for such an event will be cover by the applicant or SSF membership shall be accepted in lieu of membership for the body who is running the event.
 - For any given event there will be a mutually agreed number of SSF wildcard allocated entries assessed on a case-by-case basis.
 - For any given event there will be a mutually agreed manning provision in terms of SSF judges, beach marshals, officials, security, which will be assessed on a case-by-case basis - associated costs of which will be agreed upfront and covered by the applicant.
 - Sanction fees will be assessed based upon the size and profile of the event with a sliding scale from:
 - Scottish non affiliated -> UK -> European -> International -> Pro Level i.e WSL (WQS -> WCT)
 - As an indicative figure for 2015/2016 a minimum Sanction fee of £600 shall apply
 - 50% of the proceeds from Sanction fees will be donated from The SSF to the SSF affiliated surf club/ local surfing community in the council area where the contest is being



held. This money will be used to invest in the development of surfing at a local level. The remaining 50% of the proceeds from the Sanction fee will be used by The SSF to invest in the development of surfing at a Scottish National level.