



SSA Swiss Surfing Association

SSA Rulebook
Swiss Surfing Championship (SSC)

1 General

The SSC is a Swiss Surfing Association SSA sanctioned event. It is held annually. The competition date is published on the SSA website and communicated to the SSA members in the newsletter. At least 24 hours before the start of the event the SSA board elects a contest director and a head judge. The SSA members participating in the event (surfers) elect a surfers representative. Decisions on contest issues are made by the contest director. In case of a disagreement by the surfers they can put their demands forward through the surfers representative. If an agreement cannot be reached the decision is made by the contest director, the head judge and the surfers representative, each one of them having one vote. The SSA, as part of Swiss Olympics and supporter of the Olympic movement, has adopted the *IOC's Code of Ethics*. The SSA adheres to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) in the fight against the use of banned substances and methods. Competitors should carefully review ISA's rulebook, IOC's Code of Ethics and WADA regulations.

2 Registration

Any active member of the SSA (member) or another Swiss Surfing club having Swiss nationality may register and take part at the SSC. Members of other nationalities can only participate in the expression session division. Registration is online on the SSA website or at the competition site. Registration closes at 7th of October. The official start of the event is the riders meeting on the evening prior to the first day of competition.

3 Divisions

The main divisions of the SSC are:

Surf Men	Male of any age
Surf Ladies	Female of any age
Longboard Division	Male or female of any age; min. board length is 9ft
Junior Boys	Male under age of 18 years
Junior Girls	Female under age of 18 years
SUP	Female or Male of any age



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Main divisions are held if there is a minimum of 4 inscriptions. Other divisions (Senior, Bodyboard, expression session, etc.) can be held if there is a minimum of 8 inscriptions or by decision of the contest director.

The Contest Director may decide to integrate individual divisions into the Main Divisions, e.g. Junior Girls and Junior Boys surfing in the same division Juniors or Students surfing in the Surf Men and Surf Ladies. The best competitor in each division will be awarded if there are at least 2 competitors in the division.

Age restrictions for further divisions are:

Cadet	Boy or Girl Under 16
Senior	Male or Female 28 years and older
Master	Male or Female 35 years and older
Grandmaster	Male or Female 40 years and older
Kahuna	Male or Female 45 years and older
Grand Kahuna	Male or Female 50 years and older

* Ages are taken from January 1st in the year of participation.

4 Schedule

Competition schedule might change on short notice (don't expect SMS service at any time). It is the competitor's duty to be informed of heat times. If a competitor misses a heat, he will be assigned the last place in the heat. Competition can be cancelled due to adverse wave or weather conditions. If the competition is cancelled all remaining surfers are in the same rank and earn the same points. Competition fee might be partially refunded.

Generally, the contest director, surfer representative and Judges will schedule the event when the best conditions are expected.

5 Competition modus

The competition modus is ISA's double elimination (see ISA rulebook for details). The maximum of competitors allowed is 42 in the Surf Men and Surf Ladies division and 16 in the Junior Boys and Junior Girls division. SSA may extend the maximum allowed competitors at own discretion at any time.



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SSA also may change the competition modus at own discretion if the schedule would be to long (cancelling recharge round f.e.). Anyway, we try that everybody surfs 2 heats.

Heat draw is based on the seeding list. Surfers not yet seeded will be listed first comes first serves basis or randomly chosen.

6 Rules of competition

The rules of competition for the SSC will be communicated at the riders meeting. Standard ISA rules are used for such things as timing, wave count and interference. Rough summary of important rules:

- Heat duration = 20 minutes
(Grand Final Heats may be extended to max 30 minutes).
- Maximum wave count is 10 waves per heat (Contest director may increase the wave count upon discretion for grand final heats).
- The Contest Director/Head Judge have the option to conduct the event using a 3, 4, or 5 surfer priority rule as described below or to only use the TPI Rule above.*
- When heat is finished, surfers are not allowed to get to the beach standing up, surfer needs to lie on their board.
- Lycras need to be put on/off at the Beach Marshal area.
- No freesurf in the competition area (marked by well visible beach flags).

Any disregard may be sanctioned by the contest director (in form of payment).

* 4 -Surfer Heat Priority 4 -Surfer Heat priority works in the following manner:

- The first Surfer to Ride a wave then receives fourth priority (First Surfer).
- The remaining three surfers in the heat have priority over the First Surfer and may paddle for waves without losing this priority until the next Surfer catches a wave (Second Surfer).
- The remaining two surfers in the heat have priority over the First and Second Surfer and may paddle for waves without losing this priority until the next Surfer catches a wave (Third Surfer).
- Once the Third Surfer catches a wave, the initial heat priority order is established:
 - The Surfer yet to catch a wave receives first priority; and the remaining Surfers will receive priority in the order they return to the take-off area.
 - The Surfer with first priority has priority over all other Surfers. The Surfer with second priority only has priority over the Surfers with third and fourth priority. The Surfer with third priority only has priority over the Surfer with fourth priority.



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- If a Surfer is not in the Primary Take Off Zone when the heat starts and arrives late, the Surfer will be allocated the appropriate priority position as determined by the Priority Judge at the time when the Surfer reaches the Primary Take Off Zone.

7 Seeding

Competitors result of the past three years account for his seed. The seeding is based on the points earned by a competitor in each division (Annex A). The seeding list is equivalent to the ranking on the SSA website.

8 Judging

A minimum of three judges will be selected for the judging of the SSC. The judges are not part of the SSA board or the SSA head office. They have judging experience adequate to the level of surfing of the SSC.

9 Competition fee

A competition fee is charged for the registration to each division. This fee is to cover judging costs and other expenses related to the competition and may vary from year to year. An additional service fee is charged for on site registration.

10 Infringements & Penalties:

Not adhering to the rules, will be sanctioned as follows:

- No Show up: no refund of competition fees
- Putting on/off Lycra not at the vicinity of the Beach Marshal: 20 CHF
- Not giving back the competition Lycra right after the heat: 10 CHF
- Contest vest (Lycra) worn the wrong way (SSA Logo on the back): 30 CHF
- Surfing in contest area during heats: 50 – 500 CHF
- Catching a wave in excess of wave count: 10 CHF per wave
- After heat finish coming back to the beach stood up: 40 CHF



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- Derogatory or rude gestures or comments to judges, team officials, event staff, media and public: 100 CHF
- Unsporting conduct: 300 – 1000 CHF

Any other not listed infraction is upon contest director discretion.

The penalties are the maximum applicable. The contest director in consultation with the head judge and other officials may decide to impose a suspended penalty based on the severity. This would be a first warning. Subsequent infringements would attract the maximum penalty.

SSA, September 2021