



# WSL RULE BOOK 2024

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Surfers may request, in writing from WSL, a copy of all changes from the prior version of the WSL Rule Book.

**World Surf League  
2201 Rosecrans Avenue  
El Segundo, CA 90245  
USA**

Email: [support@worldsurfleague.com](mailto:support@worldsurfleague.com)

[www.worldsurfleague.com](http://www.worldsurfleague.com)

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## PREFACE

This edition of this Rule Book contains all current rules governing the CT, Challenger Series, QS, Specialty Events, Longboard Tour, Junior Tour, Masters Tour, Big Wave Events, [Wave System Events and Airtour that are in effect for the 2024 Surfing Season.

Terms that are used in this Rule Book that are not defined have the meanings ascribed to them in Appendix D – Definitions.

The WSL may amend or supplement this Rule Book from time to time with the consent of the Office of Tours and Competition; provided however that any amendment or supplement that is within the scope of the authority of the Special Committee may only be amended or supplemented with the written consent of the Special Committee. The Special Committee will have authority to review (and approve or reject) proposed changes, implementations or amendments to existing arrangements relating to the CT in the following areas:

- the number and location of CT Events (including any material changes to the dates of the CT Events);
- the number of CT Events held in wave basins;
- the numbers of Surfers participating on the CT; and
- Competition Matters.

WSL shall give to the Special Committee reasonable advance written notice of any proposed changes in relation to Competition Matters, the rationale for the proposed change(s), and reasonable time to consider such matters. When considering such matters, the Special Committee shall have regard at all times for the following Key Principles:

- maintain the integrity of surfing and the CT;
- safeguard the interests of individual athletes participating in the CT;
- enhance the development and growth of the CT and CT Events;
- create a sustainable business model to allow the CT and CT surfing to continue to grow; and
- operate the CT in accordance with ethical principles.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any amendment or supplement that is within the scope of the authority of the Special Committee may be approved solely by the WSL if reasonably deemed necessary by the WSL in response to a pandemic.



## CHAPTER 1: CHAMPIONSHIP TOUR (CT)

This Chapter applies to all CT Events and CT Surfers and Support Staff unless specifically referred to otherwise.

### 1.01 **Prize Money**

- (a) All Prize Money allocations must follow the approved breakdowns in Appendix A to this Rule Book as decided by the Office of Tours and Competition.
- (b) WSL will facilitate all Prize Money payments direct to the Surfer's bank account, unless otherwise agreed.

1.02 **Scheduling:** On completion of the CT Surfing Season, there will be a minimum one-month break before the start of the next CT Surfing Season.

1.03 **Trials:** CT Trials Events formats, dates and details must be finalized prior to the start of the CT Event Window and will be subject to the approval of the Office of Tours and Competition.

1.04 **Event-Related Activities:** If a WSL Regional Office and/or an Event sponsor wants to run extra events and/or surf related activities inside the Event Window, such as expression sessions, celebrity heats, etc., the Event sponsor must obtain the written approval of the Office of Tours and Competition at least sixty (60) days prior to the start of the CT Event Window.

### 1.05 **CT Rankings Points**

- (a) Point breakdowns for all CT Events (other than the WSL Finals) are as shown in Appendix B. Such points are gathered throughout the Surfing Season and will contribute to the Surfers' ranking and Seeding Benefits in accordance with this Rule Book.
- (b) For ties of rankings for qualifying positions on the CT or top 5 positions at the conclusion of the CT Regular Season for the WSL Finals, refer to Rule 1.09 and 1.10.
- (c) Subject to Rule 1.05(b), all ties on year-end CT Rankings will appear as tied in that position for ranking purposes. For seeding purposes, the tie will be broken by considering the following:
  - (i) the results from that Surfing Season's best counting Regular Season CT Events for each such Surfer, counting back from their best performance to their worst. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the tied rankings position while the other Surfer will take the lower rankings position. If the tie is not broken, clause (ii) will apply; and
  - (ii) the Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins (excluding Elimination Rounds) at the Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other Surfer will take the lower rankings position; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from the CT Events that Regular Season Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other Surfer will take the lower rankings position.
- (d) CT Ranking Points will be awarded at all CT Events to all CT Surfers other than Event Wildcards. The WSL Wildcards (two men and two women) who will be selected after the Mid-Season Cut will only be eligible to compete on the CT at the start of the subsequent season; provided that WSL in its sole discretion may

elect for a single WSL Wildcard to compete after the Mid-Season Cut for CT Ranking Points in the available WSL Wildcard slots if the WSL Wildcard is a former world champion or competed in the WSL Finals.

- (e) Following the conclusion of the WSL Finals, the CT Ranking positions for the top five (5) Men and Women will be reallocated to reflect where they placed in the WSL Finals (i.e., first, second, third, fourth or fifth). At the end of the Regular Surfing Season, the Top 5 men and Top 5 women based on CT Ranking Points will qualify for the WSL Finals. If a Top 5 Surfer who has qualified for the WSL Finals is injured and can't compete in the WSL Finals, there will be no injury replacements for such Surfer (e.g., if one of the five WSL Finals Surfers is injured and can't compete, he/she that Surfer will not be replaced by the Surfer who is ranked 6th on the Final CT Rankings prior to the WSL Finals. Competition will go ahead with 4 surfers only in that Division.
- (f) For end of the year Final CT Rankings after the completion of the WSL Finals, if #1 Seeded Surfer is injured and can't compete that Surfer will be #2 In the Final CT Rankings. Seeded Surfers #2, #3 & #4 will be #5 in the Final CT Rankings in case of Injury.

1.06

#### **Formats**

- (a) Men's CT Events prior to the Mid-Season Cut shall consist of thirty-six (36) Surfers and the following format will be used:
  - (i) Opening Round 1 is twelve (12) heats of three (3) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place progressing to the Round of 32 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place progressing to the Elimination Round.
  - (ii) Elimination Round is four (4) heats of three (3) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place advancing to the Round of 32 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishing 33<sup>rd</sup>.
  - (iii) Round of 32 is sixteen (16) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Round of 16 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - (iv) Round of 16 is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - (v) The Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and the Final are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each progressing until a winner is declared in the Finals.
- (b) Men's CT Events after the Mid-Season Cut shall consist of twenty-four (24) Surfers and the following format will be used:
  - (i) Opening Round is eight (8) heats of three (3) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> place progressing to Round of 16 and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place progressing to the Elimination Round.
  - (ii) Elimination Round is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> place advancing to Round of 16 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - (iii) Round of 16 is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - (iv) The Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and the Final are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each progressing until a winner is declared in the Finals.
- (c) Women's CT Events (except the WSL Finals) shall consist of

eighteen (18) Surfers prior to the Mid-Season Cut and the following format will be used:

- (i) Opening Round is six (6) heats of three (3) Surfers, with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place progressing to Round 3, with 3<sup>rd</sup> place progressing to the Elimination Round.
  - (ii) Elimination Round is two (2) heats of three (3) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place progressing to Round of 16 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - (iii) Round of 16 is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - (iv) The Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and the Final are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each progressing until a winner is declared in the Finals.
- (d) Women's CT Events (except the WSL Finals) shall consist of twelve (12) Surfers after the Mid-Season Cut and the following format will be used:
- (i) Opening Round is four (4) heats of three (3) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> place progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place progressing to the Elimination Round.
  - (ii) Elimination Round is four (4) heats of two (2) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> place advancing to the Quarter Finals and 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishing 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - (iii) The Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and the Final are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each progressing until a winner is declared in the Finals.
- (e) The WSL Finals shall consist of the top five (5) men Surfers (based on the CT Ranking Points for the men following the last Regular Season CT Event) and the top five (5) women Surfers (based on the CT Ranking Points for the women following the last Regular Season CT Event) and the following format will be used:
- (i) Match 1 is one (1) heat between the Surfer who placed 5<sup>th</sup> (based on CT Ranking Points following the last Regular Season CT Event) and the Surfer who placed 4<sup>th</sup> (based on CT Ranking Points following the last Regular Season CT Event), with the winner progressing to Match 2. In Match1, the Surfer who placed 4th (based on CT Ranking Points following the last Regular Season CT Event) will have Priority over the Surfer who placed 5th (based on CT Ranking Points following the last Regular Season CT) at the start of the heat.
  - (ii) Match2 is one (1) heat between the winner of Round 1 and the Surfer who placed 3rd (based on CT Ranking Points following the last Regular Season CT Event), with the winner progressing to Match 3.
  - (iii) Match 3 is one (1) heat between the winner of Match 2 and the Surfer who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> (based on CT Ranking Points following the last Regular Season CT Event), with the winner progressing to the Final Match.
  - (iv) The Final Match is best of three (3) heats between the winner of Match 3 and the Surfer who placed 1<sup>st</sup> (based on CT Ranking Points following the last Regular Season CT Event), with the winner being crowned the World Champion.

- (f) CT heats will not be moved out of the original running order regardless of the Surfer's circumstances, except with the approval of the Surfer Representatives and Head of Tours and Competition and only if a Surfer's surfboards have not arrived due to limited travel time between CT Events.
- (g) If travel time is limited to three (3) or less days between CT Events and a Surfer has not received their surfboards due to airline problems and the Surfer has provided the Office of Tours and Competition with evidence from the airline that their surfboards did not arrive, such Surfer will not be required to compete in a heat on the first day of the Event Window. Only those heats where all Surfers have their surfboards can be run on the first day of the Event Window. Any Surfers without their surfboards have until the next day before they must compete in a heat if the CT Event is running.
- (i) The Office of Tours and Competition will decide whether to use the Overlapping Heats system (i.e., where two (2)-Surfer heats are sent into the water to compete simultaneously) at a CT Event (other than the WSL Finals).
- (j) When Overlapping Heats are being conducted at a CT Event refer to Rule 11.02 for format and competition rules.

1.07

#### **CT Seeding Rules**

- (a) "**Base Seed Points**" for CT Surfers, WSL Wildcards and WSL Replacements at the start of each Surfing Season will be determined by WSL prior to the first CT Event and then all Surfers will have 25% of that initial amount of Base Seed Points deducted from each of the first four (4) CT Events of the Surfing Season (Base Seed Points will be zero (0) from the 5th CT Event onwards).
- (b) "**CT Seed Points**" will be the Base Seed Points plus the current CT Rankings Points earned in the Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season.
- (c) WSL Wildcards received for non-injury reasons and WSL Replacements will receive Base Seed Points lower than the last seeded Challenger Series Surfer as determined by the Office of Tours and Competition.
- (d) For reference below in Rules 1.07(e) and (f), the "**Ranking before the Injury**" is the Surfer's CT Ranking from the prior year's Surfing Season when the Surfer is injured during the first five (5) CT Events in the Surfing Season and is their current CT Ranking when injured during any Event after the 5<sup>th</sup> CT Event of the Surfing Season.
- (e) A Surfer who has received a men's WSL Wildcard due to injury will be allocated Base Seed Points in accordance with the following:
  - (i) If their Ranking before the Injury was in the top ten (10), the Surfer will be seeded 13;
  - (ii) If their Ranking before the Injury was in the top twenty (20), the Surfer will be seeded 25;
  - (iii) If their Ranking before the Injury was in the top thirty-four (34), the Surfer will be seeded 34.
- (f) A Surfer who has received a men's WSL Wildcard after the Mid-Season due to injury will be seeded in accordance with the

following for their first 2 events only:

- (i) If their Ranking before the Injury was World Champion (1st), the Surfer will be seeded 8th;
  - (ii) If their Ranking before the Injury was 2nd-5<sup>th</sup>, the Surfer will be seeded 12th;
  - (iii) If their Ranking before the Injury was in the top thirty-four (34), the Surfer will be seeded 34<sup>th</sup>.
- (g) A Surfer who has received a women's WSL Wildcard will be allocated Base Seed Points in accordance with the following:
- (i) If their Ranking before the Injury was in the top five (5), the Surfer will be seeded 7;
  - (ii) If their Ranking before the Injury was in the top ten (10), the Surfer will be seeded 13;
  - (iii) If their Ranking before the Injury in the top seventeen (17), the Surfer will be seeded 17.
- (h) A Surfer who has received a women's WSL Wildcard after the Mid-Season due to injury will be seeded in accordance with the following for their first 2 events only:
- (i) If their Ranking before the Injury was World Champion (1st), the Surfer will be seeded 4th;
  - (ii) If their Ranking before the Injury was 2nd-5th the Surfer will be seeded 8th;
  - (iii) If their Ranking before the Injury was in the top seventeen (17), the Surfer will be seeded 17<sup>th</sup>.
- (i) For seeding purposes, if a prior year's Top 5 or current year's Top 10 CT Surfer is injured for three (3) or more events but qualifies via the CT or Challenger Series, then Rules 1.07(e), (f), (g) and (h) may apply at the discretion of the Office of Tours and Competition.
- (j) CT Events will be seeded in the following order: CT Seed Points, prior year's CT Rankings, prior year's Challenger Series Rankings up to the start of Challenger Series season/ Challenger Series Seed Points after the season start, Regional QS Seed Points, and trialists in order of their results. If a Surfer's order of seeding is unable to be determined, the Office of Tours and Competition will have discretion to establish the seeding order.
- (k) Reseeding may be performed within the Event Window but only prior to the first heat of each round being started.
- (l) In relation to the Regular Season CT Event format described in Rule 1.06, winners of Round 1 may receive benefits within their respective "tier" when re-seeding for Round 3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the final Regular Season CT Event, the Top eight (8) Surfers will keep their seeding regardless of the Round 1 results.
- (i) Seeding Tiers for Men's Regular Season events:
    - (1) All events prior to the final event: 1-4/ 5-12/ 13-24/ 25-36
    - (2) Final event: 1-8/ 9-12/ 13-24/ 25-36
  - (ii) Seeding Tiers for Women's Regular Season events:
    - (1) All events prior to the final event: 1-4/ 5-10/ 11-18
    - (2) Final event: 1-8/ 5-12/ 13-18

## 1.08

### **Replacement**

- (a) Subject to Rule 1.08(c), if a Surfer who has qualified for the CT decides to relinquish their seeded position in a CT Event as a

result of retirement or injury, the Office of Tours and Competition will select a replacement (“**Replacement**”) and the Replacement can be used to fill a maximum of one (1) seed spot (“**WSL Replacement**”). The Office of Tours and Competition will select the WSL Replacement in its sole discretion who will be eligible for a replacement spot for CT Events prior to the Mid-Season Cut. The Office of Tours and Competition will select any other Surfers necessary to fill available seed spots at CT Events (“**Event Replacement**”) in their sole discretion.

- (b) A WSL Replacement has forty-eight (48) hours (or reasonable time depending on the CT Event) after the initial contact attempt by WSL to accept or reject the replacement offer. If a Surfer withdraws within the Event Window and none of the replacements are on-site, another replacement Surfer may be selected by WSL. For seeding and Ranking Points, Event Replacements will be treated in the same manner as an Event Wildcard.
- (c) If any injured or pregnant Surfer checks-in to receive Ranking Points and minimum Prize Money their spot in the heat can be taken by a Replacement without reseeding the other heats in the Opening Round. The Replacement’s normal seeding will apply for later rounds. Further, this Replacement will pay no entry fee and will receive the Prize Money difference between the amount received by the Surfer they have replaced and the result they have attained.
- (d) All Wildcards and Replacements in WSL Events must sign the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement and will be subject to the approval by WSL.

1.09

**Qualification for following Men’s CT Season**

- (a) Surfers who have qualified for the CT will surf all events up to the Mid-Season Cut with a thirty-six (36) man format, after which the format will be reduced to twenty-four (24) men, with the following breakdown:
  - (i) The top twenty-two (22) men from the current CT Rankings who will qualify for all CT Events after the Mid-Season Cut except for the WSL Finals (these Surfers will also qualify for the beginning of the following Regular Season as per Rule 1.09(d) below).
  - (ii) In the case of a tie for any of these positions refer to Rule 1.09(e) below.
  - (iii) One (1) WSL Event Wildcard, which may be a WSL Wildcard for all Events after the Mid-Season Cut or an Event Wildcard for individual events, as determined by Tours and Competition.
  - (iv) One (1) Event Wildcard where required.
- (b) The WSL Finals will be a single event to crown the WSL World Champions, held after the completion of the Regular Season:
  - (i) The Top 5 Surfers from the Regular Season CT Rankings will qualify.
  - (ii) In the case of a tie for any of these positions refer to Rule 1.09(f) below.
  - (iii) If a Top 5 Surfer who has qualified for the WSL Finals is injured and can’t compete in the WSL Finals, there will be no injury replacements for such Surfer (e.g., if one of the five

WSL Finals Surfers is injured and can't compete, that Surfer will not be replaced by the Surfer who is ranked 6th on the Final CT Rankings prior to the WSL Finals. Competition will go ahead with 4 surfers only in that Division.

- (iv) For end of the year Final CT Rankings after the completion of the WSL Finals, If #1 Seeded Surfer is injured and can't compete, that Surfer will be #2 In the Final CT Rankings. Seeded Surfers #2, #3 & #4 will be #5 in the Final CT Rankings in case of Injury.
- (c) If there are five (5) Regular Season CT Events prior to the Mid-Season Cut, then there will be one (1) Throwaway for the purposes of determining the top twenty-two (22) men pursuant to Rule 1.09(a).
- (d) Subject to Rule 1.09(e), the Surfers below will qualify for all WSL Events held prior to the Mid-Season Cut in the following year's men's CT Surfing Season:
  - (i) the top twenty-two (22) men from the current CT Rankings at the Mid-Season Cut in the current Regular Surfing Season;
  - (ii) the top ten (10) men from the Challenger Series Ranking at the end of the current Surfing Season who have not already qualified as one of the top twenty-two (22) men from the current CT Rankings;
  - (iii) two (2) WSL Wildcards (refer to Rule 1.12 for more information); and
  - (iv) if there are Double Qualifiers such that a Surfer with a Challenger Series Ranking of eleven (11) or higher would have qualified, those spots on the CT will instead be treated as additional WSL Wildcards (refer to Rule 1.12 for more information) ("*Additional Men WSL Wildcards*").
- (e) In the case of a tie relating to Surfers ranked twenty-two (22) in the year-end CT Rankings at the Mid-Season Cut, the following applies:
  - (i) Should there be an available WSL Wildcard position, a tied Surfer can be provided with that position and will be seeded as per their CT Ranking, not as a WSL Wildcard would be.
  - (ii) If there is no available WSL Wildcard position, the following applies in the order below:
    - (x) the results from their best counting Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season will be considered, counting back to their best counting Regular Season CT Event to attempt to break the tie. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the twenty-two (22) spot. If the tie is not broken, clause (y) will apply;
    - (y) the Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins (excluding Elimination Rounds) at the Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the twenty-two

(22) spot and the lower ranked Surfer will not re-qualify; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from that Surfing Season will fill the twenty-two (22) spot and the lower ranked Surfer will not re-qualify.

- (f) In the case of (1) a tie between the Surfers ranked five (5) in the Regular Season end CT Rankings or (2) ties among the five (5) Surfers who qualified for the WSL Finals, to determine qualification into the WSL Finals or seeding for the WSL Finals, as applicable, the following applies:
  - (i) the results from that Surfing Season's best counting Regular Season CT Events for each such Surfer, counting back from their best performance to their worst. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position. If the tie is not broken, clause (ii) will apply; and
  - (ii) the Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins (excluding Elimination Rounds) at the Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from the CT that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position.

## 1.10

### **Qualification for following Women's CT Season**

- (a) Surfers who have qualified for the CT will surf all CT Events up to the Mid-Season Cut with an eighteen (18) woman format, after which the format will be reduced to twelve (12) women, with the following breakdown:
  - (i) The top ten (10) women from the current CT Rankings, who will qualify for all CT Events after the Mid-Season Cut except for the WSL Finals (these Surfers will also qualify for the beginning of the following Regular Season as per Rule 1.10(d) below).
  - (ii) In the case of a tie for any of these positions refer to Rule 1.10(e) below.
  - (iii) One (1) WSL Event Wildcard, which may be a WSL Wildcard for all Events after the Mid-Season Cut or an Event Wildcard for individual events, as determined by Tours and Competition.
  - (iv) One (1) Event Wildcard where required.
- (b) The WSL Finals will be a single event to crown the WSL World Champions, held after the completion of the Regular Season:
  - (i) The top 5 Surfers from the Regular Season CT Rankings will qualify.
  - (ii) In the case of a tie for any of these positions refer to Rule 1.10(e) below.
- (c) If there are five (5) Regular Season CT Events prior to the Mid-



- Season Cut, then there will be one (1) Throwaway for the purposes of determining the top ten (10) women pursuant to Rule 1.10(a).
- (d) Subject to Rule 1.10(c), the Surfers below will qualify for all events held prior to the Mid-Season Cut in the following year's women's CT Season:
- (i) top ten (10) women from the current CT Rankings at the Mid-Season Cut in the current Surfing Season;
  - (ii) the top five (5) women from the Challenger Series Ranking at the end of the current Surfing Season who have not already qualified as one of the top ten (10) Surfers from the current CT Rankings;
  - (iii) Two (2) WSL Wildcards (refer to Rule 1.12 for more information); and
  - (iv) if there are Double Qualifiers such that a Surfer with a Challenger Series Ranking of six (6) or higher would have qualified, those spots on the CT will instead be treated as additional WSL Wildcards ("*Additional Women WSL Wildcards*").
- (e) In the case of a tie relating to Surfers ranked ten (10) in the year-end women's CT Rankings, the following applies:
- (i) Should there be an available WSL Wildcard position, a tied Surfer can be provided that position but will be seeded as per their CT Ranking, not as a WSL Wildcard would be.
  - (ii) If there is no available WSL Wildcard, the following applies in the order below:
    - (x) The results from their best counting Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season will be considered, counting back to their best counting Regular Season CT Event to attempt to break the tie. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the ten (10) spot. If the tie is not broken, clause (y) will apply;
    - (y) The Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins (excluding Elimination Rounds) at the Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the ten (10) spot and the lower ranked Surfer will not re-qualify; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from the CT Surfing Season will fill the ten (10) spot and the lower ranked Surfer will not re-qualify.
- (f) In the case of (1) a tie between the Surfers ranked five (5) in the regular season end CT Rankings or (2) ties among the five (5) Surfers who qualified for the WSL Finals, to determine

qualification into the WSL Finals or seeding for the WSL Finals, as applicable, the following applies:

- (i) the results from that Surfing Season's best counting Regular Season CT Events for each such Surfer, counting back from their best performance to their worst. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position. If the tie is not broken, clause (ii) will apply; and
- (ii) the Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins (excluding Elimination Rounds) at the Regular Season CT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from the CT that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position.

#### 1.11 **CT Surfers Rules**

- (a) All CT seeded Surfers must sign the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement prior to surfing in the first CT Event of the Surfing Season or by a date designated by WSL. If a Surfer does not sign the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement, the Surfer will not be allowed to compete or eligible for minimum CT Ranking Points and minimum Prize Money.
- (b) All Surfers that qualify for the CT are required to compete in all of the CT Events in accordance with the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement, unless a valid exemption is provided by WSL in accordance with the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement or this Rule Book. Refer to Rule 1.15 for more information.
- (c) During each Surfing Season, CT Surfers must (1) promote the Challenger Series Events in their home region on their Social Media with at least two posts and (2) participate in such other media to promote such events, as reasonably requested by the WSL.
- (d) CT Surfers may apply for any available wildcards to compete in Challenger Series Events. WSL will determine in its sole discretion who receives the wildcards for those events.
- (e) WSL will hold a Surfers' orientation meeting prior to the first Regular Season CT Event of each Surfing Season. Attendance at this meeting is compulsory for all CT Surfers.

#### 1.12 **Wildcards**

- (a) Subject to Rule 1.12(b), for each Surfing Season at Regular Season CT Events:  
Up to the Mid-Season Cut:
  - (i) two (2) (men) and any Additional Men WSL Wildcards / two (2) (women) and any Additional Women WSL Wildcards are to be selected by the Office of Tours and Competition for the Surfing Season at its sole discretion ("**WSL Wildcards**"). WSL Wildcards will receive CT Ranking Points.
  - (ii) two (2) (men) / one (1) (women) wildcard/s will be selected by the Office of Tours and Competition for each CT Event for

which the WSL has an Event wildcard spot or spots ("**Event Wildcard**"). Event Wildcards will not receive CT Ranking Points.

After the Mid-Season Cut;

- (i) one (1) Men WSL Wildcard / one (1) Women WSL Wildcard are to be selected by the Office of Tours and Competition in its sole discretion. WSL Wildcards will not receive CT Ranking Points in CT Events after the Mid-Season Cut; provided that WSL in its sole discretion may elect for a single WSL Wildcard to compete in the CT Events after the Mid-Season Cut for Ranking Points in the available WSL Wildcard slots if the Surfer is a former world champion or WSL Final five competitor.
- (ii) one (1) (men) / one (1) (women) wildcard/s will be selected by the Office of Tours and Competition for each CT Event for which the WSL has an Event Wildcard. Event Wildcards will not receive CT Ranking Points.
- (b) All Wildcards must sign the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement and are subject to approval by the Office of Tours and Competition.

1.13 Intentionally Omitted

1.14 **Amateur Surfers:** Amateurs may surf in Regular Season CT Events provided it is allowed under local amateur rules and they must pay the relevant entry fee for the CT Event. The amateur Surfer can collect Prize Money won in a CT Event, but it is up to them to make sure that this Prize Money is dealt with in the correct manner so that their amateur status is kept should they wish to keep it. Amateurs can refuse the Prize Money and if so, WSL will retain it and the amateur will be refunded their entry fee, in lieu of their Prize Money.

1.15 **Non-Attendance in Events**

- (a) CT Surfers must attend all CT Events which they qualify for. Failure to attend a CT Event will result in the disciplinary action described in Rule 14.12 and the CT Surfer will not receive any CT Seeding Points, Ranking Points or Prize Money for such CT Event, except as otherwise described in this Rule 1.15. Replacements for these no-shows will be decided in accordance with Rule 1.08.
- (b) Non-attendance for extenuating circumstances, injury or pregnancy may be considered by the Office of Tours and Competition. In the case of an injury or pregnancy, a doctor's certificate must be sent notifying WSL as soon as possible of the injury or pregnancy. The WSL Medical Coordinator has the right to follow up and review all these matters.
- (c) If a CT Surfer has provided a medical certificate that is acceptable to the WSL Medical Coordinator, they will receive the minimum CT Seeding Points and Ranking Points (265 for men and 1045 for women) but no Prize Money for a CT Event the Surfer could not compete in.
- (d) If a CT Surfer is not able to attend a CT Event as a result of or in connection with any Pandemic Response Matter and provides evidence to support the restrictions that prevented the CT Surfer from attending the CT Event, which is acceptable to the Office of Tours and Competition, the CT Surfer would receive minimum CT

Ranking Points and minimum Prize Money for the CT Event.

- (e) Intentionally Omitted
- (f) If a seeded CT Surfer who is physically at the relevant CT Event location no later than twenty-four (24) hours before the start of the Event Window advises the Head of Tours and Competition that they are not going to attend their first-round heat for injury reasons but may be present for their second-round heat, their spot will be kept. Evidence of medical advice relating to the CT Surfer's injury and their ability to be ready for their second-round heat must be submitted to the WSL Medical Coordinator before this benefit is granted. If the Surfer does not check-in at the paddle-out time for their second-round heat, a Replacement will be provided their spot in accordance with Rule 1.08 and they will be subject to discipline as if they did not show up to the CT Event (but did advise the Head of Tours and Competition that they were not going to attend).
- (g) If a seeded CT Surfer fails to advise the Head of Tours and Competition they are not attending their first-round heat and does not compete in their first-round heat, then a Replacement will take their spot after the first heat is completed and the Replacement will be reseeded for their second-round heat onwards. Re-seeding for heats will only occur from round three onwards.
- (h) When a CT Surfer does not show for any heat from round three onwards, the other CT Surfer in the heat must surf the heat alone in case the opponent turns up late. The Head of Tours and Competition may adjust the daily schedule by reducing the impacted heat's running time if the Head of Tours and Competition has been informed and is confident that the CT Surfer will not be competing in the CT Surfer's scheduled heat.
- (i) If a CT Surfer is present at a CT Event and is injured while training/warming up for that specific Event and therefore can no longer compete in that Event, then a Replacement Surfer will take their spot. If the Surfer's withdrawal from the Event happens up to two (2) days before the competition starts the heat draw will be re-seeded. If the Surfer's withdrawal happens the Day prior to the start of the competition, the Replacement Surfer will take their spot in the same heat. The Replacement Surfer will be reseeded for their second-round heat onwards. The CT injured CT Surfer will receive minimum points & Prize Money and the Replacement Surfer will only receive the balance of the Prize Money if they advance for the subsequent Round(s).

1.16

#### **CT Event Postponement and Cancellation; Surfing Season Cancellation**

- (a) **If Competition has commenced - Extension of Event Window to Finish a CT Event:** The remaining CT Surfers in the CT Event will be consulted by WSL at an arranged meeting regarding any decision to extend the CT Event window to finish the CT Event; provided that the ultimate decision will be made by WSL in its sole discretion, taking into consideration the best interests of WSL and the sport of surfing.
- (b) **If Competition has commenced - Cancellation of a CT Event due to Force Majeure or Lack of Surf<sup>®</sup>:** The following will apply where a CT Event is canceled by WSL for reasons of Force

Majeure or "lack of surf":

- (i) Prize Money will be paid to CT Surfers in the position they would receive if they had been eliminated in the next possible opportunity in the CT Event. The balance of the Prize Money will be split evenly among the CT Surfers.
  - (ii) If a round is not completed, each CT Surfer will receive the CT Ranking Points they earned from the previous round, or last place CT Ranking Points if the CT Event was cancelled during round 1.
  - (iii) If a round is completed, each CT Surfer will receive the CT Ranking Points they earned from that round.
- (c) **If Competition has NOT commenced - Postponement of a CT Event for any reason:** The following will apply where an Event is postponed by WSL:
- (i) No Prize Money will be paid to the CT Surfers.
  - (ii) No CT Ranking Points will be earned by the CT Surfers.
- (d) **If Competition has NOT commenced - Cancellation for Force Majeure (excluding "Lack of Surf"):** The following will apply where a CT Event is canceled by WSL for reasons of Force Majeure:
- (i) Minimum Prize Money for the CT Event will be paid to the entered CT Surfers.
  - (ii) No CT Ranking Points will be earned by the CT Surfers.
  - (iii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, if more than one (1) CT Event is canceled during a Surfing Season (including if the Surfing Season is canceled), the WSL will determine in its sole discretion whether Minimum Prize Money will be paid for any such additional canceled CT Events.
- (e) **If Competition has NOT commenced - Cancellation for Lack of Surf:** The following will apply where a CT Event is canceled by WSL for reasons of lack of surf:
- (i) The Prize Money for the CT Event will be split evenly among the Surfers.
  - (ii) No CT Ranking Points will be earned by the CT Surfers.

1.17 **Failure to Compete:** CT Surfers must comply with the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement relating to their obligation to compete in all CT Events during the Surfing Season.

1.18 **Pregnancy:** From when a CT Surfer is pregnant and until her return to competition after the birth of her child, the pregnant CT Surfer must provide written notice of her intention to either compete or not compete in each CT Event. This notice must be provided twenty-one (21) days prior to the Event Start Date to WSL via the Office of Tours and Competition. If the CT Surfer confirms they will compete and then prior to the Event Start Date decides not to compete, they will forego the Prize Money for the CT Event but be granted minimum CT Ranking Points. A pregnant CT Surfer must check in at the CT Event with a member of the Office of Tours and Competition to receive Prize Money and CT Ranking Points for that CT Event. In any circumstance, WSL strongly encourages that any pregnant CT Surfer strictly comply with any medical advice they have received regarding travel and competition, and any pregnant CT Surfer may be requested to disclose such medical advice to WSL at any time. In addition, if a pregnant CT Surfer advises WSL that they intend to compete in a CT

Event, and WSL has concerns for the pregnant CT Surfer's safety, WSL may require the pregnant CT Surfer to provide the proper medical clearance documentation (and, if necessary, submit to an independent medical examination) prior to competing in the CT Event. Details of the pregnancy and any medical advice disclosed will be held in confidence by WSL.

- 1.19 **Concussion:** All CT Surfers shall comply with the terms of any Concussion Protocol adopted by WSL. In addition, after a concussion has occurred in practice or competition, the concussed CT Surfer may not return to competition until the CT Surfer is evaluated and cleared to return to competition by a doctor with expertise in concussion. The CT Surfer must provide the proper medical clearance documentation to WSL prior to competing in a CT Event. Details of any medical advice disclosed will be held in confidence by WSL.
- 1.20 **CT Fees:** CT Event Wildcards and Event Replacements must pay a US\$2,000 entry fee to WSL and will not need to pay a further entry fee in the Surfing Season for any CT Event they qualify for. This will be deducted from their Prize Money if the entry is not paid prior to the Event Start Date.
- 1.21 **Competing in Non-WSL Events:** CT Surfers must comply with the obligations relating to events that are not sanctioned by WSL, as described in the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement.
- 1.22 **Enclosed Official Areas**
- (a) All enclosed areas or offices inside the CT Event compound must be smoke free.
  - (b) Alcohol can only be consumed in the designated VIP area (if any).
- 1.23 **Security Passes / Accessible Areas**
- (a) CT Surfers are required to comply with all WSL security requirements for entering the CT Event site and any areas set aside for CT Surfers.
  - (b) Subject to WSL security requirements and safety plans, each CT Surfer shall be provided one guest pass for members of their Support Staff, who are approved by WSL. This pass is for their use only and may not be assigned or transferred to any third party.
- 1.24 **CT Surfer Retirement**
- (a) Upon request, WSL will provide any Surfer who has competed on the CT with the form of notice that is to be provided to become a Retired Surfer before the Surfing Season starts who will then be replaced by the Surfer next in line from the respective Ranking (CT or Challenger Series) that the Retired Surfer qualified through. Refer to Rule 1.08 for more information.
  - (b) Once the first Regular Season CT Event has started in a Surfing Season, any CT Surfer who becomes a Retired Surfer will be replaced by the Season Replacement.
  - (c) Retirement or acceptance of a CT Surfer's retirement does not waive any obligation of the Surfer under the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement or entry terms they have agreed to.
- 1.25 **WSL Limitation of Liability.** WSL will not be held liable for any reliance (including financial or other commitments made to third parties) a CT Surfer places on notifications (written, verbal or otherwise) from a representative of WSL in relation to their

- 1.26 qualification to or relegation from the CT.
- Competing in WSL QS Events.** A CT Surfer who wants to compete in a QS Event must notify the WSL at least thirty (30) days prior to the event start date. WSL shall have the right to approve such participation at its sole discretion.

## **CHAPTER 2: QUALIFICATION SERIES AND CHALLENGER SERIES EVENTS**

This Chapter applies to all Events and Surfers who compete in WSL QS and Challenger Series Events.

### **2.01 License Fees**

- (a) License Fees for QS and Challenger Series Events are set by the Licensing Regional Office.
- (b) By September 30 of the year prior, all Event licensees are to propose Event dates and confirm their commitment for their Event by signing the relevant WSL event license agreement.
- (c) For all Events, fifty percent (50%) of the License Fee is to be paid to the Licensing Region one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the Event. The balance is to be paid ninety (90) days prior to the Event Start Date. New Events need to have paid one hundred percent (100%) of their License Fee for the Event to be listed on the WSL Schedule.
- (d) If the License Fee is not paid before either of the deadlines in this Rule, the Event is immediately removed from the WSL Schedule and the Event dates become available. Double the entire License Fee then becomes payable in full to the Regional Office upon the Event licensee requesting a license for that Event.

### **2.02 Upgrading/Downgrading an Event**

- (a) If any Event licensee wants to upgrade the rating status of their licensed Event, it must provide at least forty-five (45) days' notice to the Regional Office. The Office of Tours and Competition will give final approval for all upgrades.
- (b) If any Event licensee wants to downgrade the rating status of their licensed Event, it must provide at least ninety (90) days' notice to the Regional Office. Failure to do so will result in a fine equal to the License Fee for the lower rated Event.

**2.03 Cancellation of an Event:** If any Event is cancelled by the Event licensee, any License Fee paid prior to such cancellation is non-refundable. A penalty in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the Prize Money will be imposed by WSL, which must be paid no later than ninety (90) days prior to the Event Start Date before the Event will be re-instated by WSL in a future Surfing Season's schedule.

**2.04 Change of Event Details:** If an Event licensee wishes to change the date or location of their licensed Event within sixty (60) days of the scheduled Event Start Date, the Event licensee must pay fifty percent (50%) of the full amount of Prize Money owed for the Event to WSL. This payment will be non-refundable and will be used to pay the Prize Money for the Event when it runs. If the Event does not run in that Surfing Season, the Prize Money paid to WSL is forfeited. Payment is required within seven (7) days of the confirmation from WSL that the Event location/dates have been changed. The Event licensee will be responsible for any costs incurred by a Surfer or the WSL which will include non-refundable payments for accommodation, travel costs and other reasonable costs because of these changes being approved.

### **2.05 Prize Money Taxation**

- (a) Where tax is deducted from Prize Money, the Event licensee must provide each Surfer with a document detailing the deductions along with the applicable forms for refunds. The



Regional Office is to be advised as soon as this requirement becomes known to the Event licensee and must receive a receipt (copy) from the local taxation department stating the names and amounts of taxes paid.

- (b) If the Event licensee does not comply with this Rule within three (3) months from the end of the Event, the Event licensee must promptly provide an explanation to WSL and the Event licensee must comply with the relevant tax laws. The Event licensee must comply with any request by WSL relating to compensating a Surfer for any breach of this Rule by the Event licensee.
- (c) Tax deductions are not to be added to the Prize Money to maintain the minimum award.

2.06

### **Prize Money**

- (a) For new Events, a cash sum equivalent to the Prize Money purse for an Event of that rating must be paid to the Regional Office at least ninety (90) days prior to the Event Start Date. Failure to pay this amount will result in the Event being cancelled and forfeiture of the License Fee. If an Event is cancelled within the ninety (90)-day period, then the cash sum and License Fee will be forfeited and used to offset expenses incurred by Surfers and the Licensing Region.
- (b) For QS and Challenger Series Events, Prize Money Minimum breakdowns are set forth in Appendix C.
- (c) QS and Challenger Series Event Prize Money for foreign Surfers must be paid by bank transfer or US dollars cash. Locals may be paid by check or local currency cash, but these must be calculated at the US\$ buying rate as of payment date.
- (d) Any variations to Prize Money breakdowns set forth in this Rule Book must be approved by WSL.
- (e) All onsite Prize Money is payable by completion of the day the Surfer is eliminated from the Event if paying by any means other than bank transfer. If paying by bank transfer, the Event licensee has seven (7) days from the end of the Event Window to complete payments for all Surfers who have provided banking details. Prize Money for any Surfer who has not provided their bank details seven (7) days after the Event finish date is forfeit to the Licensing Regional Office.
- (f) All Prize Money payments will be paid directly to the Surfer by the Event licensee in accordance with the relevant event license agreement, but not later than fourteen (14) days after the Event finishes.
- (g) Any late payment of Prize Money will result in serious consequences up to and including losing the right to host any subsequent editions of the Event without waiving any right of WSL to claim against the Event licensee.
- (h) All Surfers must sign any forms or provide copies of their ID (passport or valid driver license) to the Event licensee if requested before they leave the Event. Failure to do so may mean loss of Prize Money. Event licensees must have someone on site during the competition hours of each day from competition start to thirty (30) minutes after the Event finishes to receive this documentation. If a Surfer fails to provide or complete the necessary documents, they have seven (7) days from the Event

end date to provide them or they will forfeit their Prize Money.

2.07

**Scheduling**

- (a) WSL will use reasonable efforts to allow current Events the right to establish dates for the Event. However, future tour growth and other conflicts may dictate rescheduling an Event and WSL will always have the sole discretion in designating dates for an Event.
- (b) Only Events that have complied with Rule 2.01(d) and any other requirements of WSL will be placed on the WSL Schedule in WSL's sole discretion.
- (c) QS and Challenger Series Event Scheduling:
  - (i) QS5000 Events can be run at any time during the year and can be held at the same time as scheduled QS Events or CT Events.
  - (ii) Challenger Series Events can only be run during the Challenger Series Season as determined by the Office of Tours and Competition Office and may not be scheduled on the same dates as CT Events or other Challenger Series Events.
- (d) All WSL Event dates can be found on the WSL Schedule, which is always subject to change at the sole discretion of WSL. If a Surfer incurs costs in connection with a change to the WSL Schedule within thirty (30) days of the Event Start Date, the Office of Tours and Competition will consider an application for reimbursement of costs and a claim may be made by the Surfer against an Event licensee for reimbursement of costs.

2.08

**Formats:** The following format will be applied to all men's Challenger Series Events:

<b>FORMAT A</b>			
	<b>Heat Numbers</b>	<b>Heat Time (min)</b>	<b>Seed Placements</b>
Round of 80	8 heats of 4	30 min	32 Seeds
Round of 64	16 heats of 4	30 min	48 Seeds
Round of 32	8 heats of 4	30 min	
Round of 16	8 heats of 2	30 min	
Quarter Finals	4 heats of 2	30 min	
Semi Finals	2 heats of 2	30 min	
Final	1 heat of 2	30 min	
<b>Total</b>	<b>47 heats</b>	<b>23 hr 30 min</b>	

The following formats will apply for all Men's QS Events:

(a) Men's QS5000

<b>FORMAT B</b>			
	<b>Heat Numbers</b>	<b>Heat Time (min)</b>	<b>Seed Placements</b>
Round of 160	16 heats of 4	25 min	64 Seeds
Round of 128	16 heats of 4	25 min	32 Seeds
Round of 96	16 heats of 4	25 min	32 Seeds
Round of 64	16 heats of 4	25 min	32 Seeds
Round of 32	8 heats of 4	25 min	
Round of 16	8 heats of 2	25 min	
Quarter Finals	4 heats of 2	25 min	
Semi Finals	2 heats of 2	25 min	
Final	1 heat of 2	Recommended 35 min but Head Judge can make call on time.	
<b>Total</b>	<b>87 heats</b>	<b>36 hr 25 min</b>	

For Combined Events, or when there are time constraints due to poor surf conditions, the Round of 16 can be run as four (4) Surfer heats

For Combined Events, Round of 160 can have heat times of twenty (20) minutes at the discretion of the Surfing Director, the WSL Tour Director and the Head Judge.

(b) Men's QS1000, QS3000

<b>FORMAT C</b>	<b>Heat Numbers</b>	<b>Heat Time (min)</b>	<b>Seed Placements</b>
Round of 160	16 heats of 4	20 min	64 Seeds
Round of 128	16 heats of 4	20 min	32 Seeds
Round of 96	16 heats of 4	20 min	32 Seeds
Round of 64	16 heats of 4	20 min	32 Seeds
Round of 32	8 heats of 4	20 min	
Round of 16	4 heats of 4	20 min	
Quarter Finals	4 heats of 2	20 min	
Semi Finals	2 heats of 2	25 min	
Final	1 heat of 2	30 min	
<b>Total</b>	<b>83 heats</b>	<b>28 hr</b>	

If time permits, for QS1000-3000, heat times for Format C should be increased to twenty-five (25) minutes.

The following format will be applied to all women's Challenger Series Events:

<b>FORMAT D</b>			
	<b>Heat Numbers</b>	<b>Heat Time (min)</b>	<b>Seed Placements</b>
Round of 48	8 heats of 4	30 min	32 Seeds
Round of 32	8 heats of 4	30 min	16 Seeds
Round of 16	8 heats of 2	30 min	
Quarter Finals	4 heats of 2	30 min	
Semi Finals	2 heats of 2	30 min	
Final	1 heat of 2	30 min	
<b>Total</b>	<b>31 heats</b>	<b>15 hr 30 min</b>	

The following formats will apply for all Women's QS Events:

(a) Women's QS5000 Events

<b>FORMAT E</b>	<b>Heat Numbers</b>	<b>Heat Time (min)</b>	<b>Seed Placements</b>
Round of 72	4 heats of 4	25 min	16 Seeds
Round of 64	16 heats of 4	25 min	56 Seeds
Round of 32	8 heats of 4	25 min	
Round of 16	8 heats of 2	25 min	
Quarter Finals	4 heats of 2	25 min	
Semi Finals	2 heats of 2	25 min	
Final	1 heat of 2	Recommended 35 min but Head Judge can make call on time.	
<b>Total</b>	<b>43 heats</b>	<b>18 hr 5 min</b>	

For Combined Events, or when there are time constraints due to poor surf conditions, the Round of 16 can be run as four (4) Surfer heats.

For Combined Events, Round of 72 can have heat times of twenty (20) minutes, at the discretion of the Surfing Director, the WSL Tour Director and the Head Judge.

(b) Women's QS1000 – QS3000 Events

<b>FORMAT F</b>	<b>Heat Numbers</b>	<b>Heat Time (min)</b>	<b>Seed Placements</b>
Round of 64	8 heats of 4	20 min	32 Seeds
Round of 48	8 heats of 4	20 min	16 Seeds
Round of 32	8 heats of 4	20 min	16 Seeds
Round of 16	4 heats of 4	20 min	
Quarter Finals	4 heats of 2	20 min	
Semi Finals	2 heats of 2	25 min	
Final	1 heat of 2	30 min	
Total	<b>35 heats</b>	<b>12 hr</b>	

If time permits, for QS1000-3000, heat times for Format F should be increased to twenty-five (25) minutes.

All QS1000-QS5000, LQS and QJS men and women's Events must run the final eight (8) Surfers (Quarter Finals) onward as two (2)-Surfer heats. Four (4)-Surfer heats may be used provided approval has been obtained by the Office of Tours and Competition.

QS and Challenger Series Event heats will not be altered from the original running order regardless of the Surfers' circumstances; provided that when a group of Surfers' boards have not arrived due to limited travel time between Events, the Surfing Director, Surfer Representative and WSL Tour Representative will decide on a case-by-case basis whether this exception applies to a Surfer.

**For Men's QS and Challenger Series Events:**

- (a) **QS1000 and QS3000 Events** must allow for a minimum of ninety-six (96) Surfers using Format C and allow for a minimum of three (3) days running time.
- (b) **QS5000 Events** must allow for a minimum of one hundred and twenty-eight (128) Surfers using Format B and allow for a minimum of five (5) days running time.
- (c) **Challenger Series Events** must allow for eighty (80) Surfers using Format A.

**For Women's QS and Challenger Series Events:**

- (a) **QS1000 - QS3000 Events** must allow for a minimum of forty-eight (48) Surfers and use Format F.
- (b) **QS5000** must allow for a minimum of seventy-two (72) Surfers using Format E and allow for a minimum of three (3) days running time.
- (c) **Challenger Series Events** must allow for forty-eight (48) Surfers using format D.

2.09

**Trials & Other Events at QS/Challenger Series Events**

- (a) If an Event licensee is permitted by WSL to run Trials for a QS Event, one (1) position will be kept open in the main QS Event for the winner of those Trials.
- (b) The breakdown of these trialists must be at least fifty percent

(50%) off the QS Rankings (with the ratio of current to prior year's QS Rankings applicable to this fifty percent (50%) to be determined by the Office of Tours and Competition) and fifty percent (50%) for the Licensing Region to select if there are excess entry numbers.

- (c) For QS Events, positions must be made available to the Licensing Region for up to the top four (4) JQS Surfers from the Region. QS Ranking points will be provided to the Surfers competing in Trials conducted pursuant to this Rule 2.09(c).
- (d) If a QS Event is permitted by WSL to run a regional Surfer -only Trials then a maximum of one (1) position will be kept open and selection is up to the Licensing Region. QS Ranking points will not be provided to the Surfers competing in Trials conducted pursuant to this Rule 2.09(d).
- (e) Trials qualifications must be run prior to the licensed Event dates unless permitted by the Office of Tours and Competition.
- (f) Any Challenger Series Events holding other categories or Trials to decide qualifiers for an eighty (80) Event format must hold these prior to the allocated minimum days required for the relevant Event.
- (g) All rules not specific to an Event will apply to Trials.
- (h) In the Trials, a full WSL qualified judging panel, if available, is to be used as in the main Event. Where these Judges are unavailable due to other Event commitments or are in transit to the Event, their replacements must be WSL recognized Judges. All Judges are to receive full benefits as per WSL requirements.
- (i) Trialists are those Surfers whose current seeding status fall outside of the seeded Surfers allowed for the proposed size of the QS/Challenger Series Event in Rule 2.08.
- (j) Any Surfer who is eliminated from a Trials will retain their original position on the Alternates list.
- (k) If any Event sponsor wants to run extra events and/or surf related activities inside the Event Window, such as expression sessions, celebrity heats, etc., they must obtain prior approval from the Office of Tours and Competition at least sixty (60) days prior to the Event Window.
- (l) WSL is not responsible for Trials being held by a third party (including Event licensee), or any liability that arises from the same, even if permitted to be conducted within the Event Window.
- (m) All Surfers competing in Trials for an Event are encouraged to become a member of WSL, and if the Event licensees/Trials promoter do not require Surfers to be a member of WSL, they are responsible to all Surfers for all matters relating to the Trials, including requiring all Surfers to agree to be bound by this Rule Book and to hold and maintain health insurance. Notwithstanding anything an Event licensee/Trials promoter represents, Surfers of Trials cannot compete in an Event without becoming a member of WSL.

## 2.10

### **QS: Challenger Series Rankings Points and Regional Rankings**

- (a) Challenger Series Points and Regional QS Points will be allocated as per the point schedules shown in Appendix B.
- (b) For all ties for Qualifying Positions on year-end Challenger Series

or regional QS Rankings, they will be broken in the following manner:

- (i) the results from that Surfing Season's best counting Challenger Series/Regional QS Events for each such Surfer, counting back from their best performance to their worst. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position. If the tie is not broken, clause (ii) will apply; and
  - (ii) the Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins at the Challenger Series/Regional QS in that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from the Challenger Series/Regional QS that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position. When calculating the total number of heat wins at Challenger Series/Regional QS in a Surfing Season, heat wins in round one will not count.
- (c) Regional QS Rankings will be calculated during the current Surfing Season. The number of events counting in each Region will be determined by the Office of Tours and Competition and the relevant Regional Office, and this information will be made available to the regional Surfers. The resulting accumulation of points are the Surfer's "Regional Points," and their ranking against the other Surfers in the Region indicates the Surfer's "Regional QS Ranking."
  - (d) The Surfer who obtains the highest Regional QS Ranking at the end of a Surfing Season will be the Regional Champion for the following Surfing Season.
  - (e) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Rule 2.10, for purposes of determining the seed order for a QS Event, if there is a tie in the QS Rankings of any Surfers, the tie will be broken as specified in Rule 2.21.

## 2.11 **Events Counting Towards Qualification:**

### *Challenger Series*

If there are seven (7) Challenger Series Events then the best five (5) results will count; If there are six (6) Challenger Series Events then the best four (4) results will count; if there are five (5) Challenger Series Events then the best three (3) results will count; and if there are four (4) or less Challenger Series Events then all results will count.

### *Regional QS Series*

Number of Events counting will be determined by the Office of Tours and Competition and the relevant Regional Office.

## 2.12 **Injury or Pregnancy Ranking Adjustments**

- (a) In order to receive consideration for Regional QS or Challenger Series Event injury or pregnancy adjustments, WSL must receive a written application, acceptable medical certification and the Surfer must have missed more than fifty percent (50%) of the Regional QS or Challenger Series Events in the relevant year. In addition, the Surfer must have a QS Ranking in the top one hundred and fifty (150) for men at the time of the injury and top seventy-five (75) for women at the end of the previous or current

Surfing Season. If the adjustment is approved by the Office of Tours and Competition, the Surfers' final ranking will be their QS Ranking plus twenty-two (22) for men and plus ten (10) for women.

- (b) A Surfer may also apply for a mid-season injury ranking adjustment if they have been injured in that Surfing Season and have provided a medical certification confirming that they have not been able to compete until after the Mid-Season Date. If the adjustment is approved by the Office of Tours and Competition, the Surfer will receive their seeding from the beginning of the year and not their ranking until such time the successful applicant either better their previous year's ranking or they compete in the minimum number of QS/Challenger Series Events counting towards their year-end Regional QS or Challenger Series Ranking. The Office of Tours and Competition may approve other adjustments to a Surfer's ranking if extreme circumstances have resulted in the time limit being exceeded. The WSL Medical Coordinator shall have sole discretion when assessing a Surfer's health and the validity of a medical certificate.

2.13

#### **Qualification Series Fees**

##### International Events

- (a) Anyone who intends to compete in any WSL QS/Challenger Series Event outside of their country must pay the international Surfers fee and purchase the travel insurance policy offered through MemberPro for that Surfing Season.
- (b) All Event fees will be as per the WSL online entry system.
- (c) No additional fee is required for a Surfer to enter in any Regional QS/Challenger Series Event if the Surfer has paid the relevant membership fees in full.

##### Regional Events

- (a) In all WSL Regions, a Surfer fee is applicable for those wishing to compete in their own Region only, set by the applicable Regional Office.
- (b) In QS 1000-5000 Events, regional Surfers can pay a Surfer fee set by the Regional Office as described in Rule 2.13(a)(Regional Events). They will be allocated prior Surfer Season's seeding rights.
- (c) Entry into men's Challenger Series Events requires payment of international Surfer fees applicable to International Events.
- (d) Any Surfers that make it into any QS/Challenger Series Event Prize Money Round must pay the difference between the Regional or one-off and international Surfer fee as described in Rule 2.13(a)(International Events). This difference in fee, if not paid upfront, will be subtracted from the Prize Money earned.

Any Surfer who competes without paying their Surfer fee where applicable will not receive points for that Event and will lose all previous seeding rights. Surfers will not be permitted to compete if they have not purchased a travel insurance policy through MemberPro.

CT Surfers pay the applicable entry fee into all WSL QS/Challenger Series Events but are not required to pay any QS Surfer fees.



Life Members designated by WSL or former CT World Champions do not pay any QS Surfer fees but must pay applicable entry fees for WSL QS/Challenger Series Events and purchase travel insurance policy through MemberPro.

There is no difference in fees for amateurs and professionals when entering WSL Events.

Amateurs may receive points, Prize Money and seeding status as if they were professional Surfers. Their names will appear on the WSL Rankings and they will not be denoted as an amateur. Any local rules or laws that are relevant to the status of an amateur will apply in this situation. Amateurs who turn professional during the year will not lose previously gained points.

2.14 **Entry Fees:** Entry Fees for all Events will be as set forth in MemberPro.

2.15 **Event Registration and Entry Procedure**

- (a) Registration for all QS/Challenger Series Events must be done online through MemberPro unless there are extenuating circumstances that do not allow for the Surfer to do so, in which case the Surfer should contact your WSL Regional Office immediately. Regional Office Contact information is available on the Competitor Services page of the WSL website.
- (b) All online QS/Challenger Event registrations must be made by 5:00 pm USA Pacific Coast time on the date the Event entries close (as reflected in MemberPro) to maintain seeding rights.
- (c) If an Entry Fee payment is declined, the Surfer will be sent an email notification and given seven (7) days to rectify the problem. After seven (7) days, if no payment is received, the Surfer will be removed from the entry and seed list for the QS/Challenger Series Event. If the Surfer subsequently re-enters the QS/Challenger Series Event, they will be placed at the bottom of the seed list as any other new entries would be at the time of successful entry to the QS/Challenger Series Event.
- (d) Where a Surfer enters multiple QS/Challenger Series Events whose Event Windows overlap, the Surfer will be entered into the higher rated QS/Challenger Series Event. If the QS/Challenger Series Events have the same rating, the Surfer will be contacted as soon as possible, and the Surfer will have seven (7) days to respond with a choice of which QS/Challenger Series Event to enter. Should the Surfer not respond within seven (7) days, only the entry for the QS/Challenger Series Event that the Surfer entered first as indicated by MemberPro will be confirmed.
- (e) Entry payments received after the closing date and prior to the Event Start Date will be treated on a first come first served basis until the QS/Challenger Series Event is full.
- (f) Event organizers cannot accept any entries and must refer the Surfers to MemberPro.
- (g) Beach entries must be made with the WSL Regional Representative at the Event Site and any Surfers who submit a beach entry will be placed on the Alternate list. For additional information, please refer to Rule 2.23.

## 2.16 Surfer Regional Status for Membership Purposes

- (a) The WSL has residency requirements to determine whether membership of a Surfer can be changed (“**Regional Status**”). These requirements are complex. Consequently, Surfers applying to a WSL Region often have questions about their residency status as it applies to membership. The following Rule is designed to acquaint Surfers with the WSL residency requirements and to provide answers to common questions. The following information is not a complete explanation of the laws and regulations about residency and should not be relied on for actual residency in a state, territory or country. Considerations for WSL may change from time to time, and the most relevant considerations for a particular Region can be provided by the respective Region (contact details for each Regional Office are on the last page of this Rule Book).
- (i) **What Residency Requirements are Considered When Approving an Application to Change a Surfer’s Regional Status?** To qualify for a Regional Status change, a Surfer must have been a **bona fide resident** of the Region for at least the time period set by the respective WSL Regional Office. Time periods vary from Region to Region, so check their requirements. In addition, whether the Surfer is an adult or a minor, for the time period prior to an application, they must not have been claimed as a dependent for tax purposes by their parents or guardians if they are not legal residents of the proposed Region.
- (ii) **What does “bona fide residence” mean? Bona fide residence** is synonymous with the legal concept of domicile. A person’s domicile is the place where that person lives permanently and returns to after any absence. To be a bona fide resident of a Region, a Surfer must be physically present in that Region and demonstrate their intent to make the Region their permanent home.
- (iii) **How would the Surfer demonstrate intent that the WSL Region is their permanent home?** No single action will demonstrate the Surfer’s intent. WSL will look for a combination of actions when evaluating the application to change Regional Status, with reference to other considerations specific to that Region. Of all the possible actions displaying intent, the most important are:
- (v) filing a resident personal income tax form in the country and /or state for the relevant Region;
  - (w) current driver’s license in that Region;
  - (x) ownership or continuous lease of a home in the Region;
  - (y) permanent or continuous employment in the Region; and
  - (z) presence of spouse, children, and other close relatives in the Region.
- Of course, any other evidence illustrating the intent to make the Region their permanent home should be submitted with the application.
- (b) **What else should I know about WSL Residency Requirements for Regional Membership?**

- (i) In order to be a bona fide resident for membership purposes, a Surfer must be a citizen or a permanent resident of the country (or part of it) in the proposed Region.
  - (ii) A Surfer cannot maintain domicile in two Regions simultaneously. In other words, a Surfer cannot be a bona fide resident of a country or in the case of Hawaii another state of USA, if they appear to maintain their domicile outside of that Region.
  - (iii) A Surfer cannot establish residency by simply moving to another Region. They may overcome this presumption only by other action which demonstrates their intent to reside permanently in the new Region.
- (c) **What Should a Surfer Do to Apply for Change in Regional Status?** If a Surfer wishes to apply to compete as a member of another Region, they should do the following:
- (i) Read the information in this Rule for guidance as to whether a change to the Surfer's Regional Status is possible.
  - (ii) Contact their current Regional Office, and the new Regional Office that they intend to be considered to be a part of.
  - (iii) Take into account any other requirements of theirs that will be considered for their application to be successful.
  - (iv) Write a written explanation requesting the change of WSL Region, with supporting information referring to the guidance in this Rule and the requirements of the relevant Region, together with evidence of the same.
  - (v) Send the application to the Region you are requesting to be moved to.
- (d) **Who Determines the Success of a Surfer's Application?** The staff at the applicable Region will determine whether a Surfer's application to change the Surfer's Regional Status is accepted, based on the Region's requirements, and any other regulations as determined by the Office of Tours and Competition. If a Surfer does not agree with a determination relating to their application, they can submit the reasons for such disagreement to the Office of Tours and Competition, who will make a final determination, in their sole discretion.

2.17

**Entry Confirmations**

- (a) At the closing date of an Event, the accepted Surfers will be informed that they were accepted, and their credit cards charged automatically via MemberPro; provided that a Surfer's credit card will not be charged if an Event is full. If an Event is full, the Surfer will be placed on an Alternates list.
- (b) Surfers who are placed on the Alternates list and who are moved into the Event will have their credit card charged at that time. If the Surfer wishes to be removed from the Alternate list, the Surfer must notify WSL prior to the Event Start Date. For more information, refer to Rule 2.17(c). Once a Surfer has been entered into the Event and they are charged the Entry Fee, refunds are not available.
- (c) Once entry has been confirmed, every Surfer must attend any required pre-Event safety briefing and collect their credentials for the Event.

2.18

**Entry Cancellation, Refunds and Medical Certificates**

- (a) Subject to Rule 2.18(b), if a Surfer cancels an Event entry after the Event closing date, the Surfer will forfeit the Surfer's Entry Fee for that Event.
- (b) If an injury notification is delivered in writing to the relevant WSL Regional Office seven (7) days before the relevant Event Start Date and a medical certificate is produced that complies with Rule 2.18(e), the Surfer will receive a refund of their Entry Fee less a \$50 administration fee.
- (c) All cancellations of Event entries after the Event entries have closed must be in writing by email to [cancellations@worldsurfleague.com](mailto:cancellations@worldsurfleague.com) detailing the name of the Event, the reason for cancellation and the Surfer's details.
- (d) If a cancellation of an Event entry is made by a CT Surfer in any Challenger Series Event, the Office of Tours and Competition has the right to replace that Surfer with another CT Surfer if available even though that CT Surfer may not have entered the Event by the Event closing date.
- (e) Medical certificates must be dated and produced no later than forty-eight (48) hours after the respective cancellation of an Event entry or injury notification referred to in Rule 2.18(e). The WSL Tour Director will make the decision on whether the evidence provided is adequate.

2.19

**Selection of Entries**

- (a) Selection of Entries for Regional QS1000-5000 Events and Challenger Series Events will be allocated using the following selection procedure (provided each Surfer has entered the QS/Challenger Series Event properly per this Rule Book). All wildcards must be approved by the Office of Tours and Competition, or it's nominated representative.
- (b) Regional QS 1000-3000-5000;
  - (i) CT Surfers;
  - (ii) Non-requalifying CT Surfers from the prior year and the next ten (10) for men/next five (5) for women on the prior year's final Challenger Series Rankings (who have not qualified for the current year's CT);
  - (iii) Regional Junior seeds: Top three (3) men and two (2) women from that Region's prior year's Junior Rankings
  - (iv) The defending champion for the relevant QS Event;
  - (v) A maximum of one (1) CT World Champion from the past five (5) years, with Priority for the CT World Champion from the Licensing Region of the Event, and if one does not exist, then the most recent CT World Champion.
  - (vi) Prior year's Regional ranking seeds per Rule 2.10(c). A Region may change to the current year Regional Rankings for entry selection during the season. This will be determined in consultation with the Tours and Competition Office and communicated to the regional Surfers prior to the relevant regional series start date;
  - (vii) Wildcards as follows:

### Wildcard Allocation Table

<b>Men and Women - QS1000-QS3000</b>				
<b>Event Format</b>	<b>Number of Wildcards</b>	<b>Wildcards Selected by WSL</b>	<b>Wildcard Selected by Event Licensee</b>	<b>Round</b>
16-person	2	1	1	16
24-person	2	1	1	16
32-person	4	2	2	32
48-person	4	2	2	32
64-person	4	2	2	64
72-person	4	2	2	64
96-person	4	2	2	64
Great than 96-person	4	2	2	64
<b>Men and Women QS5000</b>				
Men				
128+-person	6	3	3	1 WSL / 1 Event each in round 64, 96 and 128
Women				
60+-person	4	j2	2	1 WSL / 1 Event each in Round 48 and 72

(c) Challenger Series:

- (i) Twelve (12) men and seven (7) women from the CT who did not make the Mid-Season Cut;
- (ii) Ten (10) men and five (5) women from the previous year's Challenger Series rankings;
- (iii) Three (3) men and two (2) women who were CT Surfers that did not requalify for either the CT or the Challenger Series;
- (iv) 49 men and 30 women as allocated as follows:
  - Africa - (5) Men / (3) Women
  - Asia - (6) Men / (4) Women
  - Australia - (8) Men / (5) Women
  - Europe - (8) Men / (5) Women
  - Hawaii - (6) Men / (4) Women
  - North America - (8) Men / (5) Women
  - South America (8) Men / (4) Women
- (v) One (1) men's and one (1) women's World Junior Champion; and
- (vi) Five (5) men's and three (3) women's wildcards per event.

If there are any double qualifiers among the three (3) Challenger Series spots for men and two (2) spots for women who were CT Surfers who did not requalify for either the CT or Challenger Series, the former CT Surfer will receive the spot that was allocated for a CT Surfer, and the additional spot (e.g., the spot created by the double qualification) will be provided to the next highest ranked Surfer on the Challenger Series.

- (d) Surfers whose entries are received before the Event closing date are placed in order of the applicable Rankings (as per the Selection of Entries order) as of the QS/Challenger Series Event closing date, and if the Surfer has no applicable Ranking, they will be prioritized by their date of entry.
- (e) Surfers whose entries are received after the Event closing date are prioritized by their date of entry. These entries will be placed on the bottom of the Alternates list in order and the Surfer loses all seeding rights.
- (f) All remaining positions will be allocated per their position on the Alternates list.
- (g) For Hawaiian QS Events, due to local restrictions, Event details cannot be confirmed until such time that the permits are secured for the QS Event, and the number of days is confirmed. Therefore, the following will apply:
  - (i) Events that are scheduled to run for three (3) days will use the ninety-six (96) or one hundred and twelve (112)-person format; and
  - (iii) Entry selection for QS Events (using the ninety-six (96)-man format will be as follows:
    - (x) Sixteen (16) local Hawaiian Surfers; and
    - (y) the Order from Rule 2.19 will apply.
- (h) A four (4) day QS Event will use the one hundred and twenty-eight (128)-person format.
- (i) QS Events that use formats greater than a ninety-six (96)-person format will use the selection requirement as determined by WSL.

2.20

**QS Surfer Seed Points:**

- (a) Regional QS Seed Points will be determined by the relevant Regional Office in consultation with the Office of Tours and Competition based on a combination of the prior year's final QS Ranking points and the current QS Ranking points. Subject to the number of events to be held in each Region, the Current Regional QS season points may become the Seed Points at a certain stage in the season, as determined by the Regional Office in consultation with Tour and Competition. Regional Surfers will be informed of the Seeding rules prior to the start of the Regional Qualifying Series Events.
- (b) Challenger Series Seed Points:  
CT Surfers who do not continue past the Mid-Season Cut will be allocated Base Seed points higher than Regional Seeds, in CT Rankings order;  
Regional Rankings Seeds will be allocated Base Seed points in a specific alternating Region order as determined by the Office of Tours and Competition; and  
Regional order will be based on the prior year's QS/Challenger Series Rankings and the performance by each region.

- (c) Challenger Series Seed Points will be a combination of Base Seed points and current Challenger Series Rankings points for the first half of the total number of events in the Challenger Series Season. From the Event after half-way point in the season Current Challenger Series Rankings points will become the Seed Points.

2.21 **QS Seed Order:** Selected Entries for a Regional QS/Challenger Series Event are seeded in the following order at the time of the heat draw for the relevant Event (including which round the Surfer is seeded into):

- (a) CT Surfers based on current CT Seed Points;
- (b) Remaining Surfers based on current Regional QS or Challenger Series Seed Points for the relevant event;
- (c) WJC champions with or without Regional QS or Challenger Series Seed Points;
- (d) Former CT World Champions; and
- (e) Any Surfer without Regional QS or Challenger Series Seed Points selected by date of entry.

If there is a tie among Surfers based on their current Challenger Series Ranking Points (see Rule 2.10), to determine the seeding, the tie will be broken as follows:

The results from their best counting Challenger Series Events in that Surfing Season will be considered, counting back to their best counting Challenger Series Event to attempt to break the tie. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken. If the tie is not broken, the Surfer with the higher prior year's ranking will receive the higher seed.

2.22 **Defending Champions at QS Events**

- (a) Defending champions of a QS Event in the immediate Surfing Season following the same QS Event that they won will be treated as follows:
  - (i) Regional QS 1000-5000 Events, the Surfer will be guaranteed entry.
  - (ii) If the QS Event was cancelled due to a Force Majeure, this Rule will apply to the next Surfing Season's QS Event only, if it runs. If the QS Event does not run for two (2) consecutive years, for any reason, this Rule will not apply.
- (b) Defending champions referred to in Rule 2.22(a) must enter the relevant QS Event in accordance with Rule 2.15 if they want to take advantage of the benefits offered by this Rule.

2.23 **Replacements**

- (a) Seeded Surfers, who have not yet competed and intend not to compete are to be replaced by the highest seeded Surfer in the previous round, who has not yet competed, then by Replacements if available. If none are available, the heat will be surfed with the Surfers who are present.
- (b) In the case of no shows in all heats, reseeding will not occur, and the following replacement policy is to be used.
- (c) If available, a Replacement will be substituted for any no-show in all heats of any round where there are seeded positions allocated at the five (5) minute mark of the heat prior, or if no heat immediately prior five (5) minutes before the Surfer's heat starts.
- (d) A previously advancing Surfer cannot be replaced.

- (e) Any Surfer once eliminated from the main QS/Challenger Series Event cannot re-enter the QS/Challenger Series Event for any reason. This does not include any Surfer who competed in a Trials.
- (f) Once competition within the Event Window starts, replacements of spots (excluding "WSL International" or Event Sponsor wildcard spots) will be filled by Surfers on the Alternates list. Replacements or wildcard spots will be filled by a Surfer nominated (within a reasonable time determined by the Tour Manager for the Event) by WSL or the Event Sponsor respectively prior to the Alternates list being referred to. Should a Surfer not be nominated in a timely manner that may affect the Event's schedule, the replacement may be taken from the Alternates list.

2.24

**Failure to Compete**

- (a) After the start of the Event, if a seeded Surfer does not show by the end of their first heat, their points and Prize Money (if applicable) are forfeit. Prize Money is to be paid to the WSL Regional Office.
- (b) All no-show Alternates who fail to check-in when called will be placed at the bottom of the Alternates list once they finally check-in.
- (c) Where Surfers have been delayed due to circumstances out of their control, the WSL Tour Director may place them at the top of the Alternates list (in their seed order if more than one Surfer is involved).
- (d) Entry fees are not refundable if a Surfer misses their heat.
- (e) If any Surfer decides not to surf for any reason other than serious injury, which would require acceptable medical certification or has a legitimate concern for their safety (and has stated the same in writing) then that Surfer will not receive any points or Prize Money for that QS/Challenger Series Event.
- (f) If a Surfer is injured and does not intend to check-in for their heat and advises the Beach Marshall and the relevant Tour Manager that they won't be surfing prior to that heat, the Surfer may receive points and any applicable Prize Money for that place and can be replaced by the next eligible Surfer.

2.25

**Pregnancy:** From when a Surfer is pregnant and until her return to competition after the birth of her child, the pregnant Surfer must provide written notice of her intention to either compete or not compete in each QS/Challenger Series Event. This notice must be provided twenty-one (21) days prior to the Event Start Date to WSL via the Office of Tours and Competition. If the Surfer confirms they will compete and then prior to the Event Start Date decides not to compete, they will forego the Prize Money for the Event but will be granted rankings points equivalent to the Surfer's seeding. A pregnant Surfer must check in at the Event with a member of the Office of Tours and Competition to receive Prize Money and ranking points for that Event. In any circumstance, WSL strongly encourages that any pregnant Surfer strictly comply with any medical advice they have received, and any pregnant Surfer may be requested to disclose such medical advice to WSL at any time. In addition, if a pregnant Surfer advises WSL that they intend to compete in an Event, and WSL has



concerns for the pregnant Surfer's safety, WSL may require the pregnant Surfer to provide the proper medical clearance documentation (and, if necessary, submit to an independent medical examination) prior to competing in the Event. Details of the pregnancy and any medical advice disclosed will be held in confidence by WSL.

2.26 **Concussion:** All Surfers shall comply with the terms of any Concussion Protocol adopted by WSL. In addition, after a concussion has occurred in practice or competition, the concussed Surfer may not return to competition until the Surfer is evaluated and cleared to return to competition by a doctor with expertise in concussions. The Surfer must provide the proper medical clearance documentation to WSL prior to competing in an Event. Details of any medical advice disclosed will be held in confidence by WSL.

2.27 **Non-Attendance in QS/Challenger Series Events Entered**

- (a) Where a confirmation and payment is received and the Surfer does not show up and has an inadequate excuse (as determined by the WSL Tour Director), the Surfer will incur applicable fines which may include the loss of seeding rights for a future QS/Challenger Series Event they compete in as determined by the WSL Discipline Director.
- (b) In the case of multiple no-shows, the loss of seeding rights shall be increased by one QS/Challenger Series Event for each no-show.
- (c) Consideration may be provided if a Surfer was physically unable, due to an accident or compassionate reasons due to family trauma, to notify WSL of their non-attendance. Other Surfers cannot inform the Event on someone's behalf. In these circumstances, the Surfer is to notify the WSL Tour Director as soon as is practicable.

2.28 **Media Obligations by Surfers**

- (a) If requested to attend, the press conference for the QS/Challenger Series Event is compulsory for all such Surfers.
- (b) All finalists must attend the on-site awards presentation immediately after the final of QS/Challenger Series Event is held.

2.29 **General Rules for WSL Events**

- (a) Any QS/Challenger Series Event offering appearance incentives must contact WSL for approval.
- (b) All WSL Events must use the official WSL computer scoring system as prescribed by the WSL. Should the WSL computer scoring system not be used when approved by WSL (e.g., the Plus/Minus System), the results and scores must be provided to WSL in the format requested by WSL.
- (c) The WSL video replay system must be used at all Challenger Series Events.
- (d) There must be a dedicated Surfing Director at all Challenger Series Events, and the Office of Tours and Competition must be notified of the identity of the Surfing Director.
- (e) The Surfing Director of each QS Event must be approved by WSL.
- (f) All enclosed areas or offices inside the Event compound must be smoke free. Alcohol may only be consumed in the designated VIP area (if any).

2.30 **Minimum Age**

- (a) A Surfer must be at least fifteen (15) years of age as of the first day

of the Event to compete in any Event that is outside such Surfer's region.

- (b) A Surfer must be at least thirteen (13) years of age as of the first day of the Event to compete in any Event in such Surfer's region.
- (c) A Surfer who is under eighteen (18) years of age as of the first day of the Event must always have a parent or legal guardian onsite at the Event. If a Surfer does not have a parent or legal guardian onsite, they will not be permitted to compete.

## CHAPTER 3: SPECIALTY EVENT RULES

- 3.01 **Applicable Rules:** International or Regional Events must conform to all rules in this Rule Book except to the extent WSL provides a specific waiver of any rule herein (which may be granted or refused by WSL in its sole discretion).
- 3.02 **Licensing**
- (a) A license agreement with WSL is required to conduct “Specialty” Events.
  - (b) License Fees for a Specialty Event will be confirmed in the respective specialty Event license agreement provided by WSL.
  - (c) WSL will have sole discretion to license any Specialty Event in any Surfing Season.
  - (d) Prospective events must negotiate with WSL for an appropriate Event Window, Prize Money, potential appearance of CT Surfers, and any other factors considered relevant by WSL.
- 3.03 **Specialty Event Scheduling:** Specialty Events cannot run during the Event Window of a CT Event unless approved by the WSL.
- 3.04 **Surfer Appearance:** Event licensees will need to obtain permission from each individual Surfer who wishes to compete in the Event once WSL has granted them a license to conduct the Event.

## CHAPTER 4: LONGBOARD RULES

- 4.01 **Licensing:** For a longboard Event to receive licensing from WSL:
- (a) The Event must be approved by WSL as a Regional Event in accordance with this Rule Book and the licensee must provide all relevant information as requested by WSL; and
  - (b) The Event must have the Prize Money set by the WSL Regional Office and a license fee will be payable to WSL as set by WSL.
- 4.02 **Prize Money**
- (a) Regional Qualifying Events Prize Money minimums will be set by the applicable WSL Regional Office in consultation with the Office of Tours and Competition.
  - (b) WLT Prize Money will be as follows:

### Regular Season WLT Event

Place	Prize Money
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$5,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$2,500
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$1,300
5 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,000
9 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 750
17 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 700
Total:	\$25,700

### WLT Finals

Place	Prize Money
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$15,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$ 8,000
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$ 7,000
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 6,000
5 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 5,000
6 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 4,000
7 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 3,000
8 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 2,000
Total	\$50,000

- 4.03 **Scheduling**
- (a) WLT Events and the WLT Finals may run a maximum of ten (10) days.
  - (b) Regional Qualifying Events will have the number of days set by the applicable WSL Regional Office.
- 4.04 **Rankings Points**
- (a) The men's and women's Rankings Points for Regional Qualifying Events will be allocated pursuant to the QS1000 point breakdown in Appendix B.
  - (b) The men's and women's Rankings Points for the Regular Season WLT Events will be allocated the QS5000 Event point breakdown in Appendix B and the men's and women's Rankings Points for

the WLT Finals will be allocated the Challenger Series point breakdown in Appendix B.

- (c) Ranking Points will be awarded at all WLT Events to all Surfers other than Event Wildcards.
- (d) To determine the last Qualifying Position for the WLT and for seeding purposes, the tie will be broken by considering the following:
  - (i) the results from that Surfing Season's best counting Regular Season WLT Events for each such Surfer, counting back from their best performance to their worst. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the tied rankings position while the other Surfer will take the lower rankings position. If the tie is not broken, clause (ii) will apply; and
  - (ii) the Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins (excluding Elimination Rounds) at the WLT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other Surfer will take the lower rankings position; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from the WLT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other Surfer will take the lower rankings position.

#### 4.05 **Qualification for the WLT**

- (a) The Regular Season WLT Events shall consist of twenty-four (24) men Surfers and twenty-four (24) women Surfers, in each case made up of (1) the top ten (10) ranked Surfers from the prior WLT Season, (2) seven (7) Regional Seeds (one (1) from each Region) based on the regional rankings, (3) five (5) WSL Wildcards and two (2) Event Wildcards determined by the Office of Tours and Competition. Event Wildcards will be selected after the last Regional Longboard Qualifying Series event is completed. Qualification for the WLT will be decided by the Office of Tours and Competition each year and communicated to the relevant Surfers when such decision is made.

#### 4.06 **Qualification for the WLT Finals**

- (a) If there are more than two (2) Regular Season WLT Events in any season, the results from the top Two(2) Regular Season WLT Events will count towards a Surfers final ranking at the end of the Regular Season.
- (b) The WLT Finals shall consist of the top eight (8) men Surfers (based on the Ranking Points for the men following the last Regular Season WLT Event) and the top eight (8) women Surfers (based on the Ranking Points for the women following the last Regular Season WLT Event). Following the conclusion of the WLT Finals, the Ranking positions for the top eight (8) men and top eight (8) women will be reallocated to reflect where they placed in the WLT Finals (i.e., first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth).
- (c) In the case of (1) a tie between the Surfers ranked eight (8) in the Regular Season end Rankings or (2) ties among the eight (8) Surfers who qualified for the WLT Finals, to determine qualification into the WLT Finals or seeding for the WLT Finals, as applicable, the following applies:

- (i) the results from that Surfing Season's best counting Regular Season WLT Events for each such Surfer, counting back from their best performance to their worst. If one Surfer betters the other as this is applied, the tie is broken, and that Surfer will take the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position. If the tie is not broken, clause (ii) will apply; and
- (ii) the Surfer with the higher total number of heat wins at the Regular Season WLT Events in that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position; provided, however, that if there is still a tie, the Surfer with the higher average heat score from that Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other will take the lower rankings position.

#### 4.07

#### **Event Formats**

- (a) For Regional Qualifying Events, formats will be dependent on the number of entries and approved by WSL.
- (b) The Regular Season WLT Events shall consist of twenty-four (24) men Surfers and twenty-four (24) women Surfers, in each case made up of (1) the prior year's WLT top ten (10) ranked Surfers, (2) seven (7) Regional Seeds (one (1) from each Region) based on the regional rankings, and (3) five (5) WSL Wildcards and two (2) Event Wildcards, determined by the Office of Tours and Competition after the completion of all seven Regional Qualifying series have been completed.

The following format will be used:

- (i) Round 1 is eight (8) Surfers in three (3) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to Round 3 and the Surfers who place 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> advancing to Round 2
- (ii) Round 2 is eight (8) Surfers in two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to Round 3 and the loser eliminated equal 17<sup>th</sup>)
- (iii) Round 3 is eight (8) Surfers in two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to the Quarter Finals and the loser eliminated equal 9<sup>th</sup>)
- (iv) Quarter Finals is four (4) two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to the Semi-Finals and the loser eliminated equal 5<sup>th</sup>)
- (v) Semi-Finals is two (2) two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to the Finals and the loser eliminated equal 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- (vi) Finals is one winner and a runner up
- (c) The following format will be used for the WLT Finals:
  - (i) Match #1: Seed 8 x seed 7 x seed 6 with the winner advancing to match #2. Match #1 to start with the following priority order - Seed 6 with 1st priority, seed 7 with 2nd priority and seed 8 with 3rd priority
  - (ii) Match #2: Winner of match 1 x seed 5 x seed 4 with the winner advancing to match #3. Match #2 to start with the following priority order - Seed 4 with 1st priority, seed 5 with 2nd priority and advancing surfer with 3rd priority

- (iii) Match #3: Winner of match 2 x seed 3 with the winner advancing to match #4
  - (iv) Match #4: Winner of match 3 x seed 2 with the winner advancing to final round
  - (v) Match #5: Winner of match 4 x #1 seed with the winner of two (2) out of three (3) heats winning the World Title
- (d) WSL can implement alternate formats for events which are held in Artificial Wave Systems. All formats to be approved by the Commissioners Office.
- 4.08 **Entry Rules:** The Entry rules described in Rules 2.15-2.18 will apply to all Regional Qualifying Events.
- 4.09 **Surfers Fee and Insurance:** Any Surfer who intends to compete in any WSL Event outside of their country must pay the international Surfers fee. In addition, all Surfers must purchase a travel insurance policy through MemberPro.
- 4.10 **Seeding**
  - (a) WLT Seeding: Surfers will be allocated Base Seed Points as determined by the Office of Tours and Competition in the following order;
    1. Top ten (10) Surfers from prior year's WLT Rankings;
    2. Seven (7) Regional Seeds ordered based on performance on the prior season's WLT; by each Region as a whole or the qualified Regional Seeds individually, as determined by the Office of Tours and Competition;
    3. Five (5) WSL Wildcards; and
    4. Two (2) Event Wildcards.
  - (b) Regional Qualifying Seeding: Seeding will be determined by the Regional Office in consultation with the Tours and Competition Office
- 4.11 **Regional Qualifying Ranking:** The Qualifying Rankings of a Region can only be of current Surfers registered with that Region.
- 4.12 **Board Requirements**
  - (a) Traditional longboard Malibu shape to be used, minimum 9 feet in length.
  - (b) Multiple fins may be used.
- 4.13 **Judging Criteria for Longboard:** The Surfer must perform controlled maneuvers in the critical part of the wave utilizing the entire board and wave using traditional longboard surfing. The Surfer who performs this to the highest degree of difficulty with the most style, flow and grace will receive the highest score for a Ride. Further to the above, the following are key elements for Judges to consider:
  - Nose riding and rail surfing
  - Critical part of wave
  - Variety
  - Speed and power
  - Commitment
  - Control
  - Foot work

It's important to note that the emphasis of certain elements is contingent upon the location and the conditions on the day, as well as changes of conditions during the day.

The following scale may be used to describe a Ride that is scored:

0–1.9 = Poor; 2.0–4.9 = Fair; 5.0–6.4 = Good;  
6.5–7.9 = Very Good; 8.0–10.0 = Excellent.

- 4.14 **Injury Ranking and/or Seeding Compensation:** Any application for injury compensation should be made in writing to the Office of Tours and Competition and the Office of Tours and Competition will determine the correct action to be taken.
- 4.15 **Missing Heats / Non-Attendance / Failure to Compete:**
- (a) For Regional Qualifying Events, refer to Chapter 2.
  - (b) For WLT Events
    - (i) WLT Surfers must attend all WLT Events which they qualify for. Failure to attend a WLT Event will result in a fine of US\$1,000 and the WLT Surfer will not receive any WLT Seeding Points, Ranking Points or Prize Money for such WLT Event, except as otherwise described in this Rule 4.15.
    - (ii) Non-attendance for extenuating circumstances, injury or pregnancy may be considered by the Office of Tours and Competition. In the case of an injury or pregnancy, a doctor's certificate must be sent notifying WSL as soon as possible of the injury or pregnancy. The WSL Medical Coordinator has the right to follow up and review all these matters.
    - (iii) If a WLT Surfer has provided a medical certificate that is acceptable to the WSL Medical Coordinator, they will receive the minimum WLT Seeding Points and Ranking Points but no Prize Money for a WLT Event the Surfer could not compete in.
    - (iv) WLT Surfers must comply with the Athlete Agreement relating to their obligation to compete in all WLT Events during the Surfing Season.
    - (v) From when a WLT Surfer is pregnant and until her return to competition after the birth of her child, the pregnant WLT Surfer must provide written notice of her intention to either compete or not compete in each WLT Event. This notice must be provided twenty-one (21) days prior to the Event Start Date to WSL via the Office of Tours and Competition. If the WLT Surfer confirms they will compete and then prior to the Event Start Date decides not to compete, they will forego the Prize Money for the WLT Event but be granted minimum WLT Ranking Points. A pregnant WLT Surfer must check in at the WLT Event with a member of the Office of Tours and Competition to receive Prize Money and WLT Ranking Points for that WLT Event. In any circumstance, WSL strongly encourages that any pregnant WLT Surfer strictly comply with any medical advice they have received regarding travel and competition, and any pregnant WLT Surfer may be requested to disclose such medical advice to WSL at any time. In addition, if a pregnant WLT Surfer advises WSL that they intend to compete in a WLT Event, and WSL has concerns for the pregnant WLT Surfer's safety, WSL may require the pregnant WLT Surfer to provide the proper medical clearance documentation (and, if necessary, submit to an independent medical examination) prior to competing in the WLT Event. Details of the pregnancy and any medical advice disclosed will be held in confidence by WSL.
- 4.16 **Media Obligations:** For all WLT or Regional Qualifying Events, the



winner must perform up to sixty (60) minutes of various media obligations on behalf of WSL. Any other Surfers in these events will cooperate and participate in reasonable media associated requests by WSL.

## CHAPTER 5: JUNIOR TOUR RULES

- 5.01 **Age:** The maximum age a Surfer can turn in any year to compete in a Junior Event will be twenty (20), except for any Surfer who qualifies for the WJC if it is held in the following calendar year. A Surfer must be at least fifteen (15) years of age as of the first day of the Event to compete in any Event that is outside such Surfer's region. A Surfer must be at least twelve (12) years of age as of the first day of the Event to compete in any Event in such Surfer's region.
- 5.02 **Surfers Fee and Insurance:** Any Surfer who intends to compete in any WSL Event outside of their country must pay the international Surfers fee. In addition, all Surfers must purchase a travel insurance policy through MemberPro.
- 5.03 **Entry Rules:** The entry rules described in Rules 2.14-2.18 will apply to all JQS Events.

### WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP (WJC)

#### 5.04 World Junior Championship Prize Money Breakdown

##### Men and Women – 24 Surfer Format

Place	Prize Money
1st	\$10,000
2nd	\$5,000
3rd	\$2,500
5th	\$2,000
9th	\$1,500
17th	\$1,000
Total:	\$48,000

- 5.05 **World Junior Ranking:** The results for the one-off World Junior Championship Event will determine the World Junior Rankings for that Surfing Season.
- 5.06 **Scheduling:** Any WJC Event will not fall on the same dates as any QS 5000-rated Event or above without Office of Tours and Competition approval. All Events (including WJC Events) are subject to the approval of the Office of Tours and Competition.
- 5.07 **World Junior Championship Qualification:**  
Regional JQS end of season cut-off for WJC Qualification to be determined when WJC date and location is confirmed. At this cut-off date;  
The below Surfers will qualify for the men's WJC:  
(a) two (2) from each of the seven (7) WSL Regional Offices made up of the highest ranked JQS Surfers.  
(b) ten (10) wildcards as selected by the WSL.  
The below Surfers will qualify for the women's WJC:  
(a) two (2) from each of the seven (7) WSL Regional Offices made up of the highest ranked JQS Surfers; and  
(b) ten (10) wildcards as selected by the WSL.
- 5.08 **WJC Seed Order:** Surfers will be seeded into the WJC as follows:

- (a) Any current CT Surfers who qualify for the WJC based on their current CT seeding;
  - (b) Top four (4) from the previous year's WJC ranking;
  - (c) The latest Challenger Series Ranking;
  - (d) Each of the seven (7) WSL Region's junior champions; and
  - (e) Remaining Surfers from the JQS regional Rankings.
- 5.09 **World Junior Championship Format:** Men's and Women's WJC Events shall consist of twenty-four (24) Surfers and the following format will be used:
- (a) Round 1 is eight (8) heats of three (3) Surfers with 1<sup>st</sup> place progressing to Round 3 and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place progressing to Round 2.
  - (b) Round 2 is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner advancing to Round 3.
  - (c) Round 3 is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to Quarter Finals.
  - (d) Quarter Finals onwards are two (2)-Surfer heats until a winner is decided.
- The format described in this Rule 5.09 is the standard format for men's and women's WJC Events.
- 5.10 **Qualification into QS / Challenger Series Events for the following year:** 5.10 Qualification into QS / Challenger Series Events for the following year: Subject to QS seeding:
- (a) The top two (2) Surfers in both the men's and women's WJC will be guaranteed entry into all Regional QS Events in their region.
  - (b) Men's and women's World Junior Champions will be allocated spots in all of the following season's Challenger Series Events.

## JUNIOR QUALIFICATION SERIES (JQS)

- 5.11 **JQS Events Prize Money and Points:** Regional Events on the JQS Prize Money minimums will be set by the WSL Regional Office in consultation with the Office of Tours and Competition.
- 5.12 **JQS Rankings Points:** The men's and women's Rankings Points for JQS Events will be allocated pursuant to the QS1000 point breakdown described in Appendix B.
- 5.13 **Selection of Entries:** Selection of entries for JQS Events will be allocated using the following selection procedure:
- (a) Two (2) wildcards, one (1) to WSL and one (1) to the Event licensee;
  - (b) Top four (4) from WJC results of the previous year who will first fill their respective allocations described in clause (c) (if they enter in accordance with this Rule Book);
  - (c) All remaining entries will be provided to WSL Regional Surfers in order of their JQS Ranking in the previous year;
  - (d) International Surfers may fill any available entry positions, in their respective JQS order;
  - (e) Any additional vacancies will be filled by order of time of entry.
- 5.14 **JQS Seed Order:** Seeding for the JQS Events will be in the following order:
- (a) Top four (4) Surfers from the previous WJC if they enter in accordance with this Rule Book (any format under a thirty-two (32)-person format will be top two (2) Surfers);

- (b) Regional Surfers from the prior year's JQS Rankings;
- (c) Regional Surfers without a JQS Ranking by their order of entry;
- (d) International Surfers based on order of entry.

5.15 **JQS Ranking:** The JQS Rankings of a Region can only be of current Surfers registered with that Region.

## CHAPTER 6: MASTERS TOUR RULES

- 6.01 **Age:** In order for a Surfer to compete they must be within the applicable age groups allowing them to be seeded in accordance with Rule 6.04 as of the Event Start Date.
- 6.02 **Prize Money:** One-off men's or women's World Championship must have minimum Prize Money as set by the Office of Tours and Competition.
- 6.03 **Selection of Invitees:** Selection of invitees for Masters World Championship for will be allocated using the following selection procedure:
- (a) For the forty-five (45) to fifty-four (54) (inclusive) year-old division:
    - (i) Eleven (11) Surfers for the men and five (5) Surfers for the women as selected from the International Professional Surfing ("IPS")/WSL rankings and pre-1976 selected Event results selected at the sole discretion of WSL; and
    - (ii) One (1) WSL wildcard.
  - (b) For the fifty-five (55) years and older division:
    - (i) Eight (8) Surfers for the men selected from the IPS/WSL rankings and pre-1976 selected Event results selected at the sole discretion of WSL; and
    - (ii) One (1) WSL wildcard.
- Agers referenced above will be determined at the Event Start Date.
- A defending champion must be provided a spot in the Event in the same category.
- 6.04 **Seed Order:** Seeding for the Masters Events will be in the following order:
- (a) defending champion;
  - (b) invites based on Masters seed points; and
  - (c) WSL Wildcards.
- 6.05 **Format:** The format will be a round robin (number of rounds to be decided based on Event site) with a number of Surfers (determined by WSL) competing after the round robin in a finals format until a two (2) Surfer final is decided and the winners are declared champion of their respective division.
- 6.06 **Scheduling:** A Masters Event can be held at any time during the year, but dates will be at the sole discretion of WSL as CT Events will be given Priority for particular dates during the year.
- 6.07 **Invitation of Surfers:** Surfers accepting an invitation from WSL to enter a Masters Event must complete all necessary forms and formalities as requested by WSL before competing.
- 6.08 **Events Counting towards Qualification:** All of a Surfer's Masters tour results will be counted towards a Surfer's ranking at the end of each Surfing Season.

## CHAPTER 7: BIG WAVE EVENTS

This Chapter applies to Big Wave (BW) Events held by WSL at Nazaré, Portugal and to BW Surfers (even if they compete in any other WSL Tour or Event), once they have entered into the WSL BW Surfer Agreement with WSL (the “**BW Surfer Agreement**”) and to BW Surfers Support Staff unless specifically referred to otherwise. Rules within Chapters 10–11 may apply provided there is no conflict with the Rules within this Chapter, and the Office of Tours and Competition deems the relevant rule to apply in the case of conflict. For the avoidance of doubt, Chapters 13 and 14 apply to BW Surfers.

### 7.01 Scheduling

- (a) The Nazaré Tow Surfing Challenge is a competitive tow-in event and is referred to here as “**Nazaré BW**”. The number of Nazaré Events (which may include both competitive and non-competitive invitational or exhibition events) that take place per BW Season will be decided by the WSL Office of Tours and Competition (each a “**BW Event**” and collectively “**BW Events**”)
- (b) The WSL Schedule will be updated as soon as practicable each calendar year relating to the status of all scheduled BW Events.

### 7.02 BW Event Announcement

- (a) A tentative forecast call (a “**Yellow Alert**”) will be made by the WSL approximately seventy-two (72) hours prior to the start date of a BW Event and the WSL will notify all relevant BW Surfers prior to that announcement, allowing time for BW Surfers and staff to make appropriate travel arrangements and prepare the site and equipment.
- (b) WSL will announce a BW Event as being “Green” forty-eight (48) hours prior to the start date of a BW Event and will notify all relevant BW Surfers prior to that announcement. For avoidance of doubt, a BW Event is considered as being “Green” when the weather and surf forecasts are such that the Commissioners Office concludes that it is probable that the BW Event will be held during the period commencing forty-eight (48) hours after a BW Event is announced as being “Green”.
- (c) BW Surfers are expected to notify the WSL’s Head of Competition or its representative upon their arrival at the local event area for a BW event. Any BW Surfer who has not arrived at the local event area for a BW Event at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the start of the BW Event and/or is at risk of not arriving in time to prepare properly for the applicable BW Event is subject to replacement by an alternate Surfer or team, as determined by WSL in its sole discretion.

### 7.03 Prerequisites to Compete

- (a) In order to compete at a BW Event, a Surfer must sign the BW Surfers Agreement, including the relevant WSL Waiver, Release and Indemnity form prior to the start of a BW Event and by the date designated by WSL.
- (b) WSL will hold a BW Event safety and logistics meeting prior to each BW Event of each BW Season. The meeting is compulsory for all BW Surfers who are competing in a BW Event and all Team (as defined below) members (if applicable). Any Team member who fails to attend the meeting will not be permitted to participate in the BW Event.

- (c) All BW Surfers and Team members (if applicable) must comply with the WSL Safety Plan for the event, including all Pandemic Response Matter-related requirements (e.g., COVID-19 testing).

7.04 **Prize Money**

- (a) Any Prize Money allocations for a BW Event will be determined prior to the BW Event start by the Commissioners Office but will be in proportion to the breakdown set out in the BW Surfers Agreement relevant to such BW Event ("**BW Prize Money**").
- (b) WSL will facilitate all BW Prize Money payments directly to the BW Surfer's bank account, unless otherwise agreed by WSL.

7.05 **BW Competition Area**

- (a) All BW Events will have a buoy in the Competition Area where spare surfboards may be attached prior to the BW Event or when the Head Judge or Office of Tours and Competition permits.
- (b) Except as otherwise specified in the rules below, when a PWC picks up a BW Surfer (requested, for safety or otherwise), the BW Surfer will be dropped off in a safe area in the Competition Area (as determined by the Head Judge) and which provides no clear advantage to that BW Surfer when beginning their paddle to return to the line-up.

7.06 **Non-Attendance in BW Events**

- (a) BW Surfers must attend the BW Events for which they qualify or are invited, and which they agree to attend.
- (b) The Office of Tours and Competition will consider extenuating circumstances including injury, pregnancy as an exception to this Rule 7.06 (an "**Excused Absence**").
- (c) A doctor's certificate must be sent notifying WSL as soon as possible of an Excused Absence. The WSL Medical Coordinator has the right to follow up and investigate any information in all of these cases. Any information provided to WSL will be kept confidential.

7.07

**Pregnancy:** From when a BW Surfer is pregnant and until their return to competition after the birth of their child, the pregnant BW Surfer must provide written notice of her intention to either compete or not compete in a BW Event. This notice must be provided twenty-one (21) days prior to the start of the BW Season, or, if required during the BW Season, as soon as reasonably practicable, to WSL via the Commissioners Office. If the BW Surfer confirms they will compete and then prior to the Event Start Date decides not to compete, they will forgo the Prize Money for the Event. A pregnant BW Surfer must check in at the BW Event with a member of the Commissioners Office or the Tour Representative to receive Prize Money and points for that BW Event. In any circumstance, WSL strongly encourages that any pregnant BW Surfer strictly comply with any medical advice they have received, and any pregnant BW Surfer may be requested to disclose such medical advice to WSL at any time. In addition, if a pregnant BW Surfer advises WSL that she intends to compete in a BW Event, and WSL has concerns for the pregnant BW Surfer's safety, WSL may require the pregnant BW Surfer to provide the proper medical clearance documentation (and, if necessary, submit to an independent medical examination) prior to competing in the BW Event. Details of the pregnancy and any medical advice disclosed will be held in confidence by WSL.

- 7.08 **Concussion:** All BW Surfers shall comply with the terms of any Concussion Protocol adopted by WSL. In addition, after a concussion has occurred in practice or competition, the concussed BW Surfer may not return to competition until the BW Surfer is evaluated and cleared to return to competition by a doctor with expertise in concussion. The BW Surfer must provide the proper medical clearance documentation to WSL prior to competing in an Event. Details of any medical advice disclosed will be held in confidence by WSL.
- 7.09 **Security Passes / Accessible Areas**
- (a) All BW Surfers will be identified for security reasons with credentials specified for the BW Event by WSL.
  - (b) Each BW Surfer shall be provided one (1) guest pass for a member of their Support Staff or family provided the individuals have been approved by WSL. All such persons must comply with WSL Safety Plans.
- 7.10 **WSL Limitation of Liability:** WSL will not be held liable for any reliance (including financial or other commitments made to third parties) a BW Surfer places on notifications (written, verbal or otherwise) from a representative of WSL, including, without limitation, in relation to their qualification to or relegation from competing in a BW Event, or their position as a BW alternate for a particular BW Event. All payments due to a BW Surfer are as set out in the BW Surfer Agreement and WSL shall not be liable for any payments until a BW Surfer has executed such agreement.
- 7.11 **Format: Nazaré BW Event**
- (a) The Nazaré BW Event format is a tow-in surfing event.
  - (b) BW Surfers shall be selected by WSL in its sole discretion.
  - (c) The Nazaré BW Event shall have the following format:
    - (i) Nine (9) teams (each a "Team") with two (2) BW Surfers in each Team.
    - (ii) The Teams shall be selected by WSL in its sole discretion, and may consist of men, women or both.
    - (iii) Each Team in a heat shall be assigned a jersey. WSL shall provide the BW Surfers with jerseys and a BW Surfer is required to wear the provided jersey throughout the Nazaré BW Event (i.e., during surfing as well as while riding on or driving a PWC).
    - (iv) Each BW Surfer participating in a Team can determine the allocation of waves with the BW Surfer's teammate. BW Surfers must communicate with WSL each time there is a change in the BW Surfer who will be surfing.
  - (d) Re-qualification for the following season's event will be decided by WSL in its sole discretion who will decide if teams will be replaced or remain in the following season's event.
- 7.12 **Heats:**
- (a) The nine (9) Teams participating in the Nazaré BW Event shall be divided into three (3) groups: Group A, Group B and Group C, as determined by WSL in its sole discretion. Each Group will have three (3) teams.
  - (b) There will be six (6) heats of forty (40) minutes each during the Nazaré BW Event (subject to Rule 7.11 above). Each group shall participate in two (2) heats as set out below:
    - Heat 1: Group A (Teams 2, 6, 8)



- Heat 2: Group B (Teams 1, 5, 7)
  - Heat 3: Group C (Teams 3, 4, 9)
  - Heat 4: Group A (Teams 2, 6, 8)
  - Heat 5: Group B (Teams 1, 5, 7)
  - Heat 6: Group C (Teams 3, 4, 9)
- (c) During competition any injured athlete and/or athlete unable to compete will not be replaced and the entire team will be required to leave the competition area.
- (d) A Team Captain for each team for the following season will be named by the WSL in its sole discretion.

7.13 **Wave Count**

- (a) There is no limit to how many waves either BW Surfer on a Team may Ride during a single heat or course of the BW Nazaré Event.
- (b) WSL retains the right to extend the total time for the Nazaré BW Event or reduce the number of heats, depending on the conditions at the Nazaré BW Event. As determined by WSL in its sole discretion. WSL shall endeavor in each case to ensure that the total time allocated to each Team is comparable.
- (c) There will be a five (5) minute warning provided to all competing BW Surfers prior to the end of each heat at the Nazaré BW Event.

7.14 **Priority**

- (a) The Nazaré BW Event will utilize three Team Heat Priority which works in the following manner, subject to Rules 11.11 and 11.13(j):
- (b) The first Team to Ride a wave then receives third priority (First Team).
- (c) The remaining two (2) Teams in the heat have priority over the First Team and may attempt to line up any waves without losing their priority until one of them Rides a wave (Second Team).
- (d) Once the Second Team rides a wave, the initial heat priority order is established:
- (i) The Team yet to ride a wave receives first Priority; and
  - (ii) the remaining Teams will receive Priority in the order they return to the Primary Take-Off Zone and effectively become "Ready to Surf".
  - (iii) The Team with first Priority has Priority over both other Teams. The Team with second Priority only has Priority over the Team with third priority.
- (e) A Priority Judge and a Priority system operator will be positioned in a location with a clear view of the break and will allocate Priority during the Nazaré BW Event, which will be communicated to the BW Surfers and their support staff via a visual display board and radio.
- (f) The Team with first Priority shall have the first choice to select any incoming waves. Teams with a lower priority (second or third) may claim any wave that the Team with first Priority has passed on (in the order in which the remaining Priority allocations are posted). Teams with a lower priority may also evaluate any wave a team with a higher Priority is evaluating, as long as they do not interfere with the Priority team's trajectory or, in any way, hinder their scoring potential.
- (g) If a Team with third Priority attempts to line-up but misses a wave they will not lose their Priority position unless (i) the BW Surfer let's go of the rope or (ii) they position themselves outside the Take-Off

Zone for any of the available peaks, as determined by the Priority Judge.

- (h) If a Team with a lower Priority makes a committed effort to line up a wave but has to abandon the wave due to another team with a higher Priority making a committed effort or Riding the same wave, then the team with the lower Priority will not lose its Priority.
- (i) A wave will be considered selected once a BW Surfer lets go of the tow rope, makes a clear effort to line up a wave, or exclude other Teams from freely catching a wave by blocking their trajectory. Once a wave is selected by a BW Surfer, regardless of whether the BW Surfer Rides the wave, that BW Surfer's Team will move to the last available Priority upon returning to the take-off area.
- (j) Once a Team Rides a wave and recovers the BW Surfer, the team should head back to the "Ready Area" adjacent to the surf zone they wish to compete on (Peak 1, 2 or 3). Priority allocation is based on who the Priority Judge believes has reached the "Ready Area" and effectively became ready to surf first. Once a Team becomes ready they may resume surfing, starting at the last available Priority. In cases where multiple BW Surfers reach the "Ready Area" and become ready to surf at the same time, priority will go to the Surfer who did not have the last priority.
- (k) A team is considered "Ready to surf" once the designated Surfer gets on the Tow Line.
- (l) If a Team is not in one of the "Ready Areas" adjacent to the zone they wish to compete on when the heat starts and arrives late, the Team will be allocated the appropriate priority position as determined by the Priority Judge at the time when the Team reaches the "Ready Area" and becomes "Ready to Surf".
- (m) All BW Surfers are expected to observe customary rules for vessel interference and avoid interfering with other Teams, including minimizing wakes in the paths of the other Teams.
- (n) If priority has been assigned to a Team and one of the members of the team needs medical assistance; there is an equipment malfunction; or a Surfer/Driver swap is initiated, the Team shall no longer be considered "Ready to Surf" and their priority will be suspended. Once the Team becomes "Ready to Surf" again, priority will be reinstated.

#### 7.15 **Priority Interference and Penalties**

- (a) Any Priority interferences will be decided by the Judges, Head Judge and the Priority Judge.
- (b) Interference Penalties will be as follows (refer to Chapter 11 for more detail):
  1. Interference Penalty 1: The value of the interfering Surfer's second highest scoring Ride will be halved.
  2. Interference Penalty 2: The interfering Surfer's second highest scoring Ride will tally as a zero.
  3. Interference Penalty 3: The interfering Surfer's highest scoring Ride will tally as a zero.
  4. Disqualification: The Surfer and/or Team will be disqualified from the Heat

- (c) Priority penalties will be communicated to the interfering Team and the other BW Surfers by radio.
- (d) For priority situations when an interference is called on a Team, then Interference Penalty 2 will apply. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if there is an interference (e.g., by dropping in or blocking) that prevents a Team from performing on a potential scoring Ride (i.e., a Ride that the Judges determine could have resulted in one or the Team's two highest scoring Rides) in the final ten (10) minutes of a heat, then Interference Penalty 3 will apply. If a majority of the Judges determine that the interference during the final ten (10) minutes was intentional, the interfering Team will be Disqualified.
- (e) In the event of a collision or near miss between a Team heading back to the lineup and a Team Riding a wave, which adversely impacts the scoring potential for the Team Riding the wave (if the majority of the Judges deem the collision/near miss occurred on a wave with no scoring impact on the current heat result then there is no interference penalty), the following applies:
  - (i) If a Team heading back to the lineup has no ability to remove themselves from the line of a Team Riding a wave, then no there is no interference penalty.
  - (ii) If a Team heading back to the lineup accidentally causes a collision or near miss with the Team Riding a wave, it is up to a majority of the Judges to call an interference penalty. In determining whether to call an interference penalty, the Judges will consider the Team's safety and the Team's positioning/effort to avoid the situation. If an interference penalty is called, Interference Penalty 1 will apply.
  - (iii) If a majority of the Judges determine that the Team heading back to the lineup deliberately caused the collision or near miss with the Team Riding a wave then Interference Penalty 2 will be called on the Team heading back to the lineup.
  - (iv) If a majority of the Judges determine that the Team Riding the wave deliberately caused a collision with a Team heading back to the lineup, then Interference Penalty 2 will be called on the Team Riding the wave. Any such interfering Team will be subject to additional sanctions under Rule 14.02.
- (f) Where any Team incurs two (2) interference penalties, they must immediately leave the Competition Area (failure to do so will result in a penalty in accordance with Chapter 14 of this Rule Book) and:
  - (i) If both interferences are in a non-priority situation, then Interference Penalty 1 will apply to both.
  - (ii) If one interference is in a non-priority situation and the other in a priority situation, regardless of the order, then Interference Penalty 1 will apply to the Team's highest scoring Ride and Interference Penalty 2 will apply to the second highest scoring Ride.
  - (iii) If both interference penalties are in a priority situation, or one of the interference penalties is within the final ten (10) minutes of the heat (See Rule as per 7.15 (b), the Team will be disqualified from the heat.
- (g) If neither Team in an interference situation has established priority over the other Team involved, then Interference Penalty 1 will apply

regardless of whether the other Teams in the heat (not involved in the interference situation) hold priority or not.

7.16 **Judging Criteria for the Nazaré BW Event:** BW Surfers must perform to the WSL judging key elements to maximize their scoring potential. Judges analyze the following major elements when scoring a Ride in a Nazaré BW Event:

- Commitment
- Degree of Difficulty
- Intensity and size of the wave for the Ride
- Control
- Maneuvers

*NOTE:* It's important to note that the emphasis of certain elements is contingent upon the location and the conditions on the day, as well as changes to the conditions during the day.

*NOTE:* The following scale may be used to describe a Ride that is scored:

0–1.9 = Poor; 2.0–4.9 = Fair; 5.0–6.4 = Good; 6.5–7.9 = Very Good; 8.0–10.0 = Excellent

7.17 **Nazaré BW Wave Tabulation:** Scores for each Ride will be determined as follows:

- (a) the maximum score will be ten (10) and the minimum score will be zero (0);
- (b) the highest and lowest Judges' scores will be eliminated for each Ride;
- (c) the remaining Judges scores will be totaled and then averaged, to two (2) decimal places;
- (d) a BW Surfer's best score is doubled and added to the BW Surfer's second-best score with the total being the BW Surfer's final score, which will determine the men's and women's Best Individual Performance winner; and
- (e) the final score for each BW Surfer on each Team will be combined, and the team with the highest total score will be the winner of the Award for Best Team Performance.

7.18 **Ties:** Where heat scores are tied, the tie will be split by counting each BW Surfer's best counting wave score. If the tie cannot be broken in this manner, then each Surfer's next best wave would be counted until the tie is broken. Should the tie remain despite the above-mentioned procedure, WSL may, in its sole discretion, hold a Surf Off to determine the heat positions or determine that the BW Prize Monies be shared by the BW Surfers.

7.19 **PWC and Team Responsibilities**

- (a) The BW Surfers in Teams shall share the driving duties determined by the Team members at their discretion. The qualified jet ski driver must sign the BW Surfers Agreement, including the relevant WSL Waiver, Release and Indemnity form prior to the start of a BW Event and by the date designated by WSL.
- (b) Each Team must provide a "Spotter" who will be positioned in the Nazaré BW Event tower, who will be the primary communication conduit to the Team via radio on an assigned private channel. The Spotter will be positioned adjacent to the WSL's Head of Competition or its representative, the Priority Judge and the Water Safety Director

and will assist in managing communications to his or her specific Team.

- (c) Each Team must provide a qualified jet ski driver, who will be a dedicated safety person for the Team. For the avoidance of doubt, multiple Teams can use the same qualified jet ski driver as their dedicated safety person.
- (d) Each Team shall be responsible for the provision, storage, rigging, fuel and maintenance of their PWC and safety equipment.
- (e) WSL shall provide a waterproof radio for use during the Nazaré BW Event to each Team who requires a radio and requests the same in advance of the Nazaré BW Event.
- (f) All BW Surfers shall be solely responsible for their own surfing equipment, wetsuits, and personal flotation devices.
- (g) All BW Surfers (and jet ski drivers) must wear a personal flotation device during the Nazare BW Event.
- (h) Each Team shall be responsible for their own replacement PWC in case of damage or break down to their PWC's in competition. WSL will also provide designated replacement PWC's located at the Beach Marshal vessel area if required.

## **CHAPTER 8: WAVE SYSTEM (“WS”) EVENT RULES**

The Rules in this Chapter are applicable to all competitive surfing Events that are conducted in a WS. In advance of any Event conducted in a WS, the Office of Tours and Competition will provide the rules for the Event to the Surfers competing in the Event at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the Event.

## CHAPTER 9: AIRTOUR RULES

The Rules in this Chapter are applicable to all competitive surfing AirTour Events.

### 9.01 **Invitation of Surfers**

- (a) Surfers (CT or non-CT Surfers) must be invited to compete in AirTour Events by WSL.
- (b) Surfers accepting an invitation from WSL to enter an AirTour Event must complete all necessary forms, waivers and contracts as requested by WSL before competing.
- (c) Performances both in and out of WSL competition will be considered when selecting which Surfers to invite to an AirTour Event.
- (d) Wildcards may also be selected to compete and could be selected by video competition or otherwise at the discretion of WSL.

### 9.02 **Scoring: General Scoring**

- (a) Each completed Air is scored and there can be multiple Airs during a Ride.
- (b) Each Air is scored from 0.1 to 10.0 (ten), broken into one-tenth increments (e.g., 7.3).
- (c) The average of the three (3) Judges' scores is the score for the respective Air.
- (d) Qualifying Round:
  - (i) At the end of the qualifying round, a Surfer's best Air score is doubled and added to the Surfer's second-best score with the total being the Surfer's final qualifying round score.
  - (ii) For the avoidance of doubt, a Surfer's qualifying round Score can consider Airs from both heats during the Qualifying Round.
- (e) Final: At the end of the final, the Surfer's single best Air score is taken to determine their place.

### 9.03 **Format**

- (a) AirTour Events shall consist of eighteen (18) Surfers and the format will consist of a Qualifying Round and a Final.
- (b) The Qualifying Round involves six (6) heats that run for thirty (30) minutes each. Each Surfer will compete twice in the Qualifying Round. Once in heats 1 – 3, and again in heats 4 – 6.
- (c) The Surfer is placed into their heat at the discretion of WSL.
- (d) The six (6) Surfers with the best qualifying round scores will progress through to the Final.
- (e) The Final is one thirty (30)-minute heat, but subject to change by WSL.

### 9.04 **Ties**

- (a) For ties at the end of the qualification round, the tie will be split by counting each Surfer's next best counting Air score. If a tie cannot be broken in this manner, the tie will be broken as determined by WSL at the time in its sole discretion (e.g., by current ranking if available, Surf Off or some other fair method of distinguishing the Surfer's performance).
- (b) For ties at the end of the final:
  - (i) For first place, a Surf Off (or Surf Offs) will be conducted between the relevant Surfers until a winner is determined. The Surf Off will run for a time determined by WSL at the time.
  - (ii) For all other places in the final, ties will not be broken and the relevant Prize Money for those places will be split equally between the Surfers.

### 9.05 **Scheduling:** An AirTour Event can be held at any time during the

year, but dates will be at the sole discretion of WSL. CT Events may be given Priority during their Event Window. An AirTour may also be run or sanctioned separate from a CT Event.

9.06 **Judging Panel Composition:** The judging panel for an AirTour Event will comprise three (3) international judges.

9.07 **Judging Criteria**

- (a) Surfers must perform to the WSL judging key elements to maximize their scoring potential.
- (b) Judges analyze the following major elements when scoring a completed Air during an AirTour Event:
  - Innovative and progressive maneuvers;
  - Degree of difficulty;
  - Technicality;
  - Height/amplitude;
  - Commitment;
  - Style;
  - Speed;
  - Power; and
  - Control.

It's important to note that the emphasis of certain elements is contingent upon the location and the conditions on the day, as well as changes of conditions during the day.

The following scale may be used to describe a Ride that is scored:  
0–1.9 = Poor; 2.0–4.9 = Fair; 5.0–6.4 = Good;  
6.5–7.9 = Very Good; 8.0–10.0 = Excellent

9.08 **Priority and Interference**

- (a) There is no Priority during an AirTour Event.
- (b) Interference rules for non-Priority situations apply (see Rule 11.03) except that if an interference is called on a Surfer, only the Surfer's best wave will be counted for their heat score.



## CHAPTER 10: COMPETITION RULES

The rules in this Chapter are applicable to all Events unless specifically stated otherwise in this Chapter or a rule directly conflicts with this Chapter, in which case, the conflicting rule in its respective Chapter will apply.

- 10.01 **The "Call":** For CT Events and non-CT Events where a representative of the Office of Tours and Competition attends in their official capacity:
- (a) In relation to competition proceeding, the waves must be considered contestable in size and shape. The Head of Tours and Competition (or designated representative) will make the final decision (i.e., the "Call") in consultation with the Head Judge and CT Surfer Representative(s), which decision will take place in a private area with only these three (3) parties in attendance.
  - (b) If conditions are deemed contestable for both men and women in accordance with Rule 10.01(a) and both men's and women's Surfer Representative cannot agree as to whether the men or women will compete first, the Head of Tours and Competition (or designated representative) will make the final decision in consultation with the Head Judge and Competition Director, if applicable.
  - (c) Where Rule 10.01(a) and (b) does not apply:
    - (i) In relation to the competition proceeding, the waves must be considered contestable in size and shape in the opinion of the majority of the Surfer Representative, Head Judge and Competition Director. This decision is to take place in a private area with only the three (3) parties mentioned above involved. The Surfers Representative is to be determined by the remaining Surfers in the Event provided their heat is not the first heat to continue after the call. For a combined Event, the Competition Director, men's and women's Surfer Representatives and Head Judge will meet to make the call.
    - (ii) If conditions are deemed contestable for both men and women in accordance with Rule 10.01(c)(i) and both men's and women's Surfer Representative cannot agree as to whether the men or women will compete first, the Competition Director will make the final decision in consultation with the Head Judge.
  - (d) The Head of Tours and Competition (or representative) or Head Judge can call the Event "off" during a heat if no waves are ridden and conditions deteriorate rapidly or unexpectedly.
- 10.02 **Heat Times**
- (a) For heat times of all WSL Events, please refer to Rule 2.08.
  - (b) Variations to heat times in CT Events and QS/Challenger Series Events may be allowed in cases where there may be insufficient time to finish an Event. The Office of Tours and Competition representative, Surfing Director and Head Judge will decide this at the relevant time.
  - (c) WSL timing devices and methods must be used at all WSL Events. The Head Judge will officiate timing of all heats.
  - (d) Under no circumstance will there be any time extensions once a heat has started. If a heat is interrupted for any reason it will be stopped by the Head Judge and will be resumed when all Surfers are in as near as possible the same position at the time the heat was stopped and will run for the remainder of the originally set period. If in a Priority situation, Surfers retain their Priority position. Notwithstanding the

foregoing, if the Head Judge in their sole discretion determines no Surfer had a definite advantage at the time of cancellation or altered conditions make it impossible for the Judges to keep the same scale, the entire heat may be re-run.

- (e) If no Surfers have had a Ride after ten (10) minutes have passed in any heat of thirty (30) minutes or less or Event finals, the Head Judge may: (a) continue, with the Priority situation maintained; (b) restart, with the Priority situation continuing if it had been established; or (c) postpone and re-run the heat in their sole discretion taking into account all circumstances.
- (f) If no Surfers have had a Ride after fifteen (15) minutes have passed in any heat of thirty-five (35) minutes or more (except for Event finals), the Head Judge may: (a) continue with the Priority situation maintained; (b) restart, with the Priority situation continuing if it had been established; or (c) postpone and re-run the heat in their sole discretion taking into account all circumstances.
- (g) The Head of Tours and Competition or Head Judge may declare that there will be no heat restarts for an Event prior to any Event starting due to time restrictions.
- (h) If the Beach Marshall tells Surfers in a heat the wrong heat time then the following shall occur:
  - (i) If actual heat time is shorter than the time told by the Beach Marshall, there will be a restart at a later time for the remaining time period with all Surfers starting from the line-up.
  - (ii) If actual heat time is longer than told by the Beach Marshall, the heat will run through to the end of the actual set time by the Head Judge.
- (i) For non-CT Events, the WSL Tour Representative is the only person who can give the exact schedule of Events, however information provided on the Event's official notice board by them or by the Beach Marshall will be considered official. If any other employee of the Event or WSL is asked, and wrong information is received, subsequently missing a heat or some other problem, then the Surfer has no right to protest. If the WSL Tour Representative gives wrong information and a Surfer subsequently misses a heat, then a re-surf must occur. The WSL Tour Representative may also at their discretion hold a Surfer's heat at an unscheduled time if they determine the Surfer has a legitimate excuse to warrant such an action. For CT Events, the role described above will be the responsibility of the Office of Tours and Competition.
- (j) The Event licensee must provide an official notice board where the daily schedule is posted for all the Surfers to view at any time.

10.03

#### **Heat Start & Finish**

- (a) All Surfers must remain in any designated marshalling area prior to the heat start if informed to do so. The marshalling area will be determined by the Head Judge.
- (b) Siren or horn blasts must be used to start and finish heats with one (1) blast to start and two (2) blasts to finish.
- (c) A five (5)-minute visual warning as described in Rule 10.03(d) and a PA warning is to be given prior to the finish of the heat.
- (d) For the timing disc system, a large disc system must also be used with a green side to indicate the heat has started (visual warning) and a yellow or orange (orange for those Events wishing to use yellow as a

vest color) to indicate to the Surfers there is less than last five (5) minutes left in the heat.

- (e) The commentator must give a five (5)-second countdown at the end of each heat and when the countdown reaches zero the siren must sound and the heat must end immediately. The official end of the heat is at the start of the first blast.
- (f) The timing disc system must be in the neutral position with no color showing once the commentator reaches zero in the countdown.
- (g) At the end of the heat, Surfers must return to the beach in a prone position. A Surfer can be penalized at the Head Judge's discretion if the Surfer rides a wave during the next heat. In addition, any Surfer who remains in the Competition Area during the next heat and does not make every effort to return to the beach can also be penalized in accordance with this Rule Book.
- (h) At the end of and during the heat, the Surfer must be clearly in possession of the wave on the wave face, making a movement to stand, their hands having left the rails (rail grabs excluded) for the wave to be scored. No waves are to be scored by the judging panel if a Surfer's hands have not left the rails by the time the siren first starts at the beginning of the heat or if, before the time the first of the two sirens starts for the end of the heat, the Surfer's hands haven't left the rails.
- (i) A Surfer must not Ride a wave in the Competition Area prior to the start of their heat or the Ride will not be scored and a fine per wave may be imposed. If in a Priority situation, their opponent(s) will automatically gain Priority, unless on official hold.
- (j) Time delay between heats once the Surfers in the heat have paddled out, must be no more than two (2) minutes unless due to unforeseen circumstances or if the overlapping heat format is being used.
- (k) At five (5) minutes before the start of competition, Surfers will be warned that they must leave the Competition Area. At the two (2)-minute warning, any Surfer still in the Competition Area who is not making a concerted effort to paddle to the beach will be fined in accordance with Rule 14.12.
- (l) For finals Events, it will be recommended that the heat be started once a set has reached the Competition Area.

10.04

#### **Heat Interruptions**

- (a) In the Event of any heat having to be stopped by extreme danger potential as decided by the Head Judge and the Head of Tours and Competition (or their designated representative) at CT Events or the WSL Tour Representative at non-CT Events, the following procedures are to be adopted:
  - (i) Head Judge to stop heat and start continuous horn blasts and moving of the timing disc system to off position.
  - (ii) If available, communicate with jet skis drivers to remove Surfers from the Competition Area to safety in accordance with the WSL PWC safety management plan and Chapter 12 of this Rule Book.
  - (iii) When it is determined by the same people or person who stopped the heat that conditions are again safe, the heat will restart with the time left from when the heat was stopped unless the Head Judge deems that conditions have changed or that fair competition between the Surfers would be compromised. In these situations, the heat will restart for the full time period.

- (b) If a Surfer feels they are in danger due to shark or similar risk of animal attack and they leave the water, the Head Judge must stop the heat and use the procedure in this Rule 10.04 to warn fellow heat Surfers even if the Head Judge cannot see the danger.
- (c) Where an incident occurs that deems a heat may be re-surfed in accordance with a Rule of this Rule Book, the heat will be called as "under review." The relevant Surfers (as determined by the Head Judge) will be notified immediately and should a re-surf be declared, the results earned in the heat that caused the re-surf will be substituted by the re-surf heat results for official purposes.
- (d) Where unforeseen circumstances occur relating to a heat, the Office of Tours and Competition (CT Events) or WSL Tour Representative (non-CT Events) will consult with the Head Judge to determine a resolution, which may include a re-surf of the heat.
- (e) In CT Events only, the Head Judge can suspend a heat (indicated by a single horn blast) at any time to review an incident that may affect the current heat situation. Upon completion of the review and a decision being made, the heat can either;
  - (i) Continue from the time it was suspended; or
  - (ii) Restart if the incident was deemed to affect the current heat situation.

The Head Judge will consult with the Head of Tours and Competitions Office or others deemed relevant by the Head Judge at the time, and Surfers will be notified of (i) or (ii) by beach commentators.

- (f) In the event of a sound system failure, the heat can be placed on hold at the discretion of the Head Judge, who will communicate with the water safety team to inform Surfers of the situation. The Head Judge will decide in its discretion whether to restart or recommence a heat once a heat has been placed on hold.

**10.05 Wave Tabulation:** Heat tabulation for all WSL Events:

- (a) the high and low Judges' scores are eliminated for each wave;
- (b) then the average of the remaining Judges' scores totaled will be determined out of ten (10), to two (2) decimal places; and
- (c) at the end of the heat a Surfer's two (2) best counting Rides are totaled for such Surfer's heat score.

**10.06 Ties:** Where heat scores are tied, the tie will be split by:

- (a) counting each Surfer's best counting wave score;
- (b) if the tie cannot be broken in this manner, the Tabulator would then compare each Surfer's next best wave until the tie is broken; and
- (c) if the tie can't be broken after the foregoing, the Surfers will participate in a Surf Off unless the tie is to zero, then the advancing procedure to the next round will be per their seeding. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Head of Tours and Competition will have discretion to re-surf the heat where the Head Judge determines there were no rideable waves.

**10.07 Protests:** Judges' decisions in Events that involve judgment, such as, but not limited to, the score for a Ride, are final. No Surfer may protest any such judgment decisions. If there is a reasonable belief that a Judge's decision in an Event conflicts with the rules in this Rule Book, a Surfer may appeal the decision and ask that a correct ruling be made. The process for lodging a protest is as follows.

- (a) For CT Events, a Surfer must contact the Office of Tours and Competition to lodge a protest. The Office of Tours and Competition will

arrange time and place for the Surfer to review the matter under protest with the Head Judge. The Head Judge will discuss the matter under protest with the Surfer for up to thirty (30) minutes. The Head Judge will then consider the matter under protest and render a final decision. There will be no further review of the matter under protest.

- (b) For CS, QS, WLT, LQS, WJC, and Regional Junior Series Events:
  - (i) A Surfer must fill out a protest sheet, which is available from the Beach Marshal.
  - (ii) A Surfer must return the completed protest sheet to the Beach Marshal.
  - (iii) The Beach Marshal will provide the protest sheet to the Head Judge.
  - (iv) The Head Judge will discuss the matter under protest with the Surfer at the end of the day for up to thirty (30) minutes.
  - (v) The Head Judge will then consider the matter under protest and render a final decision. There will be no further review of the matter under protest.

The appeal process herein is the manner in which Surfers may or will dispute judging decisions, and each Surfer shall not publicly dispute or otherwise disparage any judgment decisions.

#### 10.08 **Announcements**

- (a) Beach commentators can never announce approaching sets.
- (b) The Head Judge has the right to override sound blackouts while television crews etc. are doing interviews and can tell the beach commentators to make timing and situation calls during their interviews. It is imperative that Events provide interview areas in low sound locations (and, in any event, beach interviews should not be conducted near speakers). Communication with the Surfers in the water and compliance with this Rule Book always has Priority.
- (c) During a heat, the beach commentator should not announce the Surfers' scores or standard of Ride until all the Judges' scores are entered into the system.
- (d) Scores and heat situation must be announced throughout the entire heat.
- (e) If the beach commentator gives a score and it is wrong due to either Judges entering an incorrect score or the commentator giving the wrong score, the Surfers will have no right to protest.
- (f) If any Surfer requires information from the water during a heat they must use hand signals as described below:
  - (i) Scores or heat situation (last score, heat score, score needed to win, etc.) is one arm straight directly above the Surfer's head.
  - (ii) Time remaining is one hand touching another above the head.
  - (iii) Priority is both arms above the head.

#### 10.09 **Surfer Caddy Rules**

- (a) A Surfer must register their Caddy with the Beach Marshall prior to receiving their competition jersey and such Caddy must not be subject to any current discipline or order of WSL.
- (b) A Surfer's Caddy (one (1) per Surfer maximum) may enter the water once a board is lost or broken unless in surf conditions where water Caddies are not being allowed.
- (c) Water Caddies may enter the water in a defined marshalling area if the Head Judge deems appropriate.
- (d) If the Caddy (1) rides a wave or (2) interferes with the other Surfers in

any way, in the opinion of the judging panel, the Surfer for whom they are caddying will be fined per wave. An interference penalty will also be levied on the Surfer for whom they are caddying.

- (e) All Caddies are subject to this Rule Book just as the Surfer they represent is, which may be enforced on the Surfer if the Caddy fails to comply with this Rule Book.
- (f) Surfers may only use replacement surfboards carried by their own Caddy once their heat has started.
- (g) Any use of any equipment other than a surfboard (e.g., inflatable boats, water patrols' boards or jet skis, photographers' craft or previous or current heat Surfers' or other Caddies' surfboards) will be deemed an interference if the Surfer, after using one of them, re-enters the Competition Area and Rides an extra wave, or interferes with any other Surfer by paddling or positioning. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the water patrol determines that a Surfer is in a life-threatening situation, the water patrol may remove the Surfer from the impact zone and place the Surfer in a safe place, no closer to the Primary Take-Off Zone, from where the Surfer may continue their heat.
- (h) Caddies who have passed on their board to the Surfer they are caddying for can obtain use of the PWC, if being used and available, to transport them to a lost surfboard or the beach. If they are taken to the lost surfboard, they can transport it back to the marshalling area; however, if they are transported to the beach, they must paddle back to the defined marshalling area for Caddies.
- (i) If a Surfer has elected to have no Caddy, then they must return to the beach or boat holding their extra surfboards to make the changeover.
- (j) Surfers must make their own way back to the Primary Take-Off Zone under their own power, without assistance in any way other than as permitted by a PWC within this Rule Book.
- (k) The Head Judge may set parameters at the beginning of an Event for all Caddies to adhere to strictly in relation to the behavior and this Rule Book.

10.10 **Electronic Coaching.** Surfers are prohibited from receiving electronic communication in the Competition Area from any source outside of the WSL or WSL Tour Representative.

10.11 **Approved Equipment**

- (a) At all times, the Office of Tours and Competition will have the right to require Surfers to use equipment specified by the Office of Tours and Competition whether for safety or other reasons. Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) the Office of Tours and Competition will not have the right to require the use of a specified brand of surfboard, leash or traction pad and (ii) for the CT, any such requirement shall be subject to the terms of the Athlete Agreement. At all times, fair competition and the best interests of the sport will be the Priority.
- (b) Subject to Rule 10.11(d), The WSL Tour Director at Events may in the Director's discretion declare a Surfer ineligible to be scored or their scores/results forfeited if the instructions relating to equipment being used are not followed by a Surfer.
- (c) For CT Events, the WSL App and the related wearable technology will be official equipment of the WSL. Subject to the exceptions set forth in the Athlete Agreement, Surfers will be required to use the WSL App in the water (i.e., in competition) at all CT Events in which the WSL App

is available for use. The WSL App is an additional tool to aid Surfers in their heat. In the event of a conflict between the heat information (i.e., (1) Priority, (2) remaining time in the heat, (3) wave scores, and (4) points needed to advance) provided by the LED system or the beach announcer and the WSL App, the LED system/beach commentator will take precedence over the WSL App. The failure of the WSL App to work during a heat will not affect the results of that heat.

- (d) Surfers may be denied the ability to use certain equipment while competing in Events (i.e., no SUPs, paddles or surf skis) by the Office of Tours and Competition.

10.12 **Failure to Compete:** In non-CT Events where Surfers refuse to compete, even though the majority of the Head Judge, WSL Tour Representative and Surfer Representative has agreed competition will continue, a penalty will be issued to such Surfers in accordance with Chapter 14. If no Surfers compete, then the highest seed will advance. The heat is to run as scheduled with or without the Surfers in the water.

10.13 **Competition Attire**

- (a) Under no circumstances can a Surfer be forced to wear any attire while competing or in award ceremonies other than the competition jersey.
- (b) Surfers will wear the competition jersey provided by WSL until returned to the Beach Marshall at the completion of the heat. Surfers must wear the competition jersey during post-heat interviews and during the awards presentation.
- (c) The covering of the competition jersey by national flags, towels, etc. during post-heat interviews or during the awards presentation is not allowed.
- (d) Surfers may not bring their surfboard onto the awards presentation stage.
- (e) All Surfer sponsorships must be tasteful and in accordance with standards of decorum expected of professional Surfers. Sponsorships that may reflect adversely upon the image and reputation of the WSL, cast the WSL in an unfavorable light, insult or offend the community or any group within the community or be viewed as hateful, abusive, obscene or divisive, as reasonably determined by the WSL, are prohibited.
- (f) All names, brands, logos and other marks and identifiers on a Surfer's apparel, headwear, and surfboard must be in good taste as to size, location and quantity, as reasonably determined by the WSL
- (g) All sponsorships of products that are illegal are prohibited.
- (h) All sponsorships of tobacco, drugs that are prohibited under WADA, weapons, and adult products are prohibited.
- (i) All sponsorships of gambling companies and products are prohibited without the prior written consent of the WSL (i.e., such sponsorships will be reviewed by WSL on a case-by-case basis upon the request of a Surfer).
- (j) Wetsuits may not contain the branding for any company other than the company that manufactured the wetsuit; provided that the company is a **Consumer Wetsuit Company**. The only exception to this Rule will be for an apparel company that arranges for the manufacture of a wetsuit for the Surfer by a third party. In which case, the branding of only that apparel company may be included on the wetsuit as follows:

- (1) branding on the left OR right chest - no bigger than 2" x 2", AND
- (2) branding on the left OR right shoulder - no bigger than 2" x 2" AND
- (3) branding on the left OR right calf - no bigger than 2" x 2" (i.e., three brand locations). The branding on all wetsuits and bathing suits of any Consumer Wetsuit Company that are worn in competition must be consistent as to size, number and location as the branding wetsuits and bathing suits that are available for sale to the general public; provided that wetsuits and bathing suits that contain special branding of the Consumer Wetsuit Company for the Surfer that are visible outside the competition jersey are permitted if they are in good taste as to size, location and quantity, as reasonably determined by the WSL.
- (k) Surfers may not bring their surfboard onto the awards podium.
- (l) Surfers may not hold their surfboards in post -heat interviews. WSL will make a surfboard stand available directly next to the post -heat interview backdrop and Surfers may place their boards in the stand and WSL will ensure that the surfboards are shown on the broadcast.
- (m) Surfers may wear a wetsuit/board shorts, footwear, sunglasses and/or watch provided to them by their apparel, equipment and/or accessories sponsor bearing the branding of the sponsor on the awards presentation stage; provided that such items are a bona fide part of the business of such sponsor. Surfers may also wear on the awards presentation stage a cap or other headwear (and/or carry a drink bottle) bearing the branding of a personal sponsor, if approved by WSL (which may be withheld).

#### 10.14 **Additional Event Obligations**

- (a) All functions, meetings, etc. are to be held near the Event Site and at a reasonable time.
- (b) All Events must supply trophies for at least all finalists in each Event.
- (c) All Beach Marshals must be English speaking.
- (d) Scoreboards - If electronic scoreboards are used, the guidelines set by the Office of Tours and Competition must be adhered to.
- (e) Event Areas
  - (i) All Event site areas are to be non-smoking.
  - (ii) No alcohol is to be consumed in the Surfers' area or outside of the designated VIP bar area (if any) during competition.
  - (iii) All Events must have a well-secured sizeable Surfers' area with storage and an area to prepare for heats that has a view of the Competition Area. Sufficient free drinking water must be provided for the maximum capacity of the Surfer's area. Food must be available in or around the Event site.
  - (iv) The Surfer's area will be available for Surfers and one (1) member of their Support Staff.
  - (v) Surfers are held responsible for their Support Staff 's behavior.
  - (vi) Events must make every reasonable effort to clear the Competition Area one (1) hour before competition starts for use by Surfers only.
  - (vii) Parking passes should be made available to all CT Surfers at CT Events and at least the top sixteen (16) men seeds and Top eight (8) women seeds at all non-CT Events.
  - (viii) All WSL Events must provide adequate accommodation as decided by the WSL (one (1) person per room in accommodation near the Event site) for the WSL selected staff for the duration of



the Event. The WSL Tour Director is to be directly involved in the selection and approval of accommodations for WSL traveling staff. If, after consultation with the contest, accommodation is not in compliance with WSL guidelines, in the judgment of the WSL Tour Director, WSL staff will attempt to find adequate accommodation in accordance with the relevant WSL Event Planner, which will be charged to the Event. Accommodation details, including hotel name, address, phone numbers, etc. must be provided to the relevant WSL Regional Office at least one (1) month prior to the Event start.

- (ix) WSL will fine Event licensees if obligations under this Rule Book are not fully complied with. Any fines imposed must be paid upon WSL's demand and prior to any further license being provided to the Event licensee. Any future Event will not be placed on any future schedule of Events until any outstanding fine is paid in full.

10.15 **Water Photographers:** Guidelines for water photographers are as follows:

- (a) Only WSL authorized water photographers are permitted in the water at WSL Events. Authority and access for water photographers at CT Events will be provided by WSL. Authority and access for water photographers at non-CT Events will be provided by the Surfing Director.
- (b) A maximum of two (2) water photographers are permitted in the line-up during any heat at WSL Events.
- (c) Water photographers' movement within the Competition Area will be controlled by the Head Judge, who has the ability to order their removal at their sole discretion.

10.16 **Double Banks:** For double banks to be used during an Event, the WSL Tour Director, Head Judge and a Surfer Representative must agree that it is required to finish the Event in time and:

- (a) a "no competition zone" of at least one hundred (100) meters between the two (2) banks must exist; and
- (b) a minimum three (3) Judge panel (with all Judges scores counting towards the final average) to be used.

10.17 **Time Extensions to Non-CT Events:** Time extensions to any non-CT Event will only be allowed if approved by WSL and the majority of Surfers still in the competition agree. The Event is responsible for paying all the Surfers' reasonable costs because of extending the time period. Surfer(s) unable to remain will receive points and the Prize Money equivalent to the round they have reached.

10.18 **Non-CT Event Cancellation or Postponement (other than due to Force Majeure or Lack of Competitive Surf):** If an Event licensee of a non-CT Event changes and/or cancels its dates within sixty (60) days of the original scheduled Event start date, then the Event licensee (not WSL) will be responsible to cover all costs incurred which are unavoidable. This includes costs for the Surfers, officials and WSL staff rescheduling or canceling each of their flights and accommodation.

10.19 **Non-CT Event Cancellation or Postponement Due to Force Majeure or Lack of Competitive Surf**

- (a) Without affecting any Force Majeure clause in a relevant WSL Event license agreement, if an Event is canceled due to Force Majeure or Lack of Competitive surf, the following is applicable:
  - (i) If Competition has NOT commenced – Postponement for any reason: (i) no Prize Money will be paid to Surfers; and (ii) all

Surfers who have paid an entry fee will not have that entry fee refunded.

- (ii) If Competition has NOT commenced – Cancellation for Force Majeure or Lack of Surf: (i) all Surfers who have paid an entry fee and are not guaranteed Prize Money will have their entry fee refunded; and (ii) seeded Surfers, who have paid an entry fee and are guaranteed Prize Money will receive the greater of (x) minimum Prize Money (y) their entry fee.
- (iii) If Competition has commenced but the first Prize Money heat has not started – Cancellation for Force Majeure or Lack of Surf: (i) Surfers will receive the points applicable to their result at that time; (ii) surfers who have competed and lost receive no refund of their entry fee; (iii) Surfers who are still competing but not guaranteed Prize Money will have their entry fee refunded; and (iv) seeded Surfers who have paid an entry fee and are guaranteed Prize Money will receive the greater of (x) minimum Prize Money (y) their entry fee.
- (iv) If Competition has commenced but the Prize Money Round is not completed – Cancellation for Force Majeure or Lack of Surf: (i) Advancing Surfers will receive the points applicable to the last non-advancing place in the uncompleted round. Prize Money, however, shall be applicable to the following round; (ii) non-advancing Surfers, who have already lost shall receive points and Prize Money applicable to that round; (iii) non-advancing Surfers, who have not competed shall receive points for the last non-advancing place in the uncompleted round and the Prize Money from that round.
- (v) If the Event is canceled due to Force Majeure of Lack of Surf after a Prize Money Round is completed, all Surfers still in the Event will receive points for the minimum placing in the round they advanced to.

10.20 **Death or Disablement of a Surfer at an Event:** If a Surfer dies (not in competition) or becomes disabled at an Event, WSL will hold a meeting consulting all remaining Surfers in the Event and a decision will be made by the Office of Tours and Competition (or their representative) on whether the Event will continue or be canceled. If a Surfer dies while competing during a heat, the Event will be canceled and the same would be considered a Force Majeure Event. If the Event is canceled, Rule 10.19 will apply as applicable.

10.21 **Transgender Athlete Policy.** As an Olympic sport, and with aspirations for all of WSL's disciplines to be included in the Olympics, the WSL has adopted the International Surfing Association (ISA) policy on transgender participation (the "**ISA Transgender Policy**"). The eligibility of a Surfer to compete either in a men's or women's Event under this Rule shall be subject to compliance with the ISA Transgender Policy.

## CHAPTER 11: PRIORITY RULES & INTERFERENCE

### 11.01 Application of Priority Rules & Interference

- (a) The Rules in this Chapter are applicable to all WSL Events unless specifically stated otherwise in another Chapter.
- (b) An interference penalty can only be called if a majority of the judging panel mark an interference on their Judge's Sheet.
- (c) The Head Judge will be able to call an interference penalty if a majority decision could not be reached (taking into account Judges who did not see it and cannot vote on the call).
- (d) Where unforeseen circumstances occur with respect to competition, including relating to Priority and timing, a resolution, which may include a re-surf, will be determined by:
  - (i) At CT events: The Head Judge and/or Head of Tours and Competition will consult with any relevant people at their discretion.
  - (ii) At Non-CT events: The Head Judge will consult with the WSL Tour Representative, Competition Director, or other relevant people at their discretion.

### 11.02 **Overlapping Heats:** When Overlapping Heats are being conducted at an Event:

- (a) Two (2) Surfer Priority rules will apply to each individual heat. Priority will be displayed and announced separately for each heat.
- (b) The Surfers in the heat that started first ("**First Heat**") have unconditional Priority over the Surfers in the other heat ("**Second Heat**"), no matter where they are in relation to the Line-up.
- (c) Interference penalties will apply to each individual heat and to any Surfer who interferes with either of the Surfers in the other heat.
- (d) If there is deliberate unsportsmanlike interference by any Surfer with either of the Surfers in the other heat, the Judges can call an interference penalty against the interfering Surfer even if the Surfer has unconditional priority. If the Judges call an interference penalty, they will take into consideration the circumstances described in rules 11.17(b), 11.18, 11.19 and 11.20 to determine what Penalty to apply.
- (e) If a Surfer with Priority in the Second Heat paddles alongside a Surfer in the First Heat who then catches the wave, the Second Heat Surfer will not lose their Priority.
- (f) There will be no restarts under Rule 10.02(e) and (f).

### Non-Priority Rules

#### 11.03 **Right of Way in Non-Priority Situations**

- (a) For non-Priority situations, the Surfer deemed to have the inside position for a wave has unconditional right of way for the entire duration of that Ride. An interference penalty will be called if during that Ride a majority of Judges determine that a Surfer has hindered the scoring potential of the Surfer with the right of way for the wave. Examples of interference include excessive hassling and leash pulling. If the Judges call an interference penalty, Interference Penalty 1 will apply.
- (b) The choice of right-of-way criteria for each of the situations described within Rules regarding "Right of Way in Non-Priority Situations" is the responsibility of the Head Judge or the most senior available WSL Judge in that order.

- (c) 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 each Judge to determine which Surfer has the inside position based on whether the wave is a superior right or left, but never on which Surfer is first to their feet.

- 11.04 **Point Break:** When there is only one available direction on any given wave, the Surfer on the inside shall have unconditional right of way for the entire duration of that wave.
- 11.05 **Reef or Beach Break – 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 Surfer who makes a definite turn in their chosen direction (by making an obvious right or left turn). A second Surfer may go in the opposite direction on the same wave without incurring a penalty, provided they do not interfere with the first Surfer who has established right of way (i.e., they may not cross the path of the first Surfer in order to gain the opposite side of the peak unless, in the majority of Judges opinion, they do so without hindering the inside Surfer).
- 11.06 **Reef or Beach Break – Multiple Peak Situations:** With multiple random peaks, the right of way may vary slightly according to the nature of an individual wave.
- (a) With two (2) peaks, there will be cases where one (1) swell will have two (2) separate, defined peaks far apart that eventually meet at some point. Although two (2) Surfers may each have inside position on those respective peaks, the Surfer who is first to their feet shall be deemed to have the right of way and the second Surfer must give way by cutting back or kicking out before hindering the right of way Surfer.
- (b) If two (2) Surfers stand at the same time on two (2) separate peaks that eventually meet, then:
- (i) If they both give way by cutting back or kicking out, so that neither is hindered, there will be no penalty.
- (ii) If they collide or hinder one another, a Surfer will be penalized by the Judges if either or both indicate aggression at the point of hindrance. If an interference penalty is called, Interference Penalty 1 will apply.
- (iii) If neither Surfer gives way by exiting the Ride and both share responsibility for the confrontation, then both Surfers will receive Interference Penalty 1.
- 11.07 **"Snaking"**
- (a) The Surfer who is farthest inside at the initial point of take-off and has established the right of way is entitled to that wave for the duration of their Ride, even though another Surfer may subsequently take off behind them. The Judges will not penalize the Surfer because they have right of way even though they are in front.
- (b) If the second Surfer has not hindered the original Surfer with right of way, then the Judges may choose not to penalize them and will score both Surfers' Rides.
- (c) If in the opinion of the Judges, the second Surfer has interfered with (snaked) the original Surfer with right of way, by causing them to pull out or lose the wave, then an interference penalty may be called on the second Surfer, even though they were behind the first when the penalty was called. If an interference penalty is called, Interference Penalty 1 will apply.

## 11.08 **Padding Interference**

- (a) A Surfer paddling for the same wave should not excessively hinder another Surfer who has inside position.
- (b) An interference penalty may be called if:
  - (i) The violating Surfer makes contact with the inside Surfer, hindering them and resulting in the Surfer having to change their line while paddling to catch the wave causing possible loss of scoring potential.
  - (ii) The violating Surfer obviously causes a section to break down in front of the inside Surfer which would not normally have done so causing loss of scoring potential.
  - (iii) If an interference penalty is called, Interference Penalty 1 will apply.
- (c) In the event of a collision or near miss between a Surfer paddling out and a Surfer Riding a wave, which adversely impacts the scoring potential for the Surfer Riding the wave (if the majority of the Judges deem the collision/near miss occurred on a wave with no scoring impact on the current heat result then there is no interference penalty), the following applies:
  - (i) If a Surfer paddling out has no ability to remove themselves from the line of a Surfer Riding a wave, then there is no interference penalty.
  - (ii) If a Surfer paddling out accidentally causes a collision or near miss with the Surfer Riding a wave, it is up to a majority of the Judges to call an interference penalty. In determining whether to call an interference penalty, the Judges will consider the Surfer's safety and the Surfer's positioning/effort to avoid the situation. If an interference penalty is called, Interference Penalty 1 will apply.
  - (iii) If a majority of the Judges determine that the Surfer paddling out deliberately caused the collision or near miss with the Surfer Riding a wave then Interference Penalty 2 will be called on the Surfer paddling out.
  - (iv) If a majority of the Judges determine that the Surfer Riding the wave deliberately caused a collision with a Surfer paddling out, then Interference Penalty 2 will be called on the Surfer Riding the wave. Any such interfering Surfer will be subject to additional sanctions under Rule 14.02.

## **Priority Rules**

### 11.09 **Right of Way using the Priority System**

- (a) For heats where Priority applies, the Priority system will determine which Surfer has Priority to a wave at that time. The Surfer with Priority has the unconditional right of way and can paddle for and Ride any wave they select. The Surfer's opponent(s) can paddle for and Ride the same wave in any direction and be scored providing they do not;
  - (i) Hinder the scoring potential of the Ride for the Surfer with Priority.
  - (ii) Cross in front of or bottom turn around the Surfer with Priority,

regardless if the Surfer is up and Riding a wave or in the process of catching a wave.

- (b) If a Surfer without Priority does not comply with Rule 11.09(a), Interference Penalty 2 will be called against them.
- (c) If a Surfer incurs an interference penalty, they will lose priority. The Priority Judge will determine the new priority position of the Surfers in the heat. It's the responsibility of the Surfers to check for changes to the priority in a heat at all times.

#### 11.10 **General Priority**

- (a) Before Priority has been established, all non-Priority rules apply.
- (b) The Priority Judge will make any call on Priority using a colored display system corresponding to the Surfer's competition jersey colors 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 Surfer's responsibility to check the Priority system for their Priority position at all times.
- (c) Wave Priority is lost as soon as a Surfer Rides a wave or makes a committed paddle to catch a wave and misses a wave.
- (d) Rule 11.10(c) will not apply in heats with more than two (2) Surfers if the Surfer is:
  - (i) Paddling alongside a Surfer with higher Priority, who then catches the wave.
  - (ii) They are blocked by a Surfer with higher Priority by paddling or positioning.
- (e) If a Surfer inside has second or third Priority and their opponent paddles for, but misses a wave, the inside 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 Surfers have then lost Priority even though only one (1) wave has passed and there was not sufficient time to change the Priority.

#### 11.11 **"Blocking Rule" in Non-Priority Situations:** For all Events with a Priority Judge, a Surfer with the inside position will be allocated lowest Priority applicable at the time if they:

- (a) Make a committed paddle for a wave and block a Surfer from catching that wave; or
- (b) Position themselves in the take-off zone and block another Surfer from catching a wave.

#### 11.12 **Excessive Hassling in Non-Priority situations:**

For all Events with a Priority Judge, in the opinion of the Priority and Head Judge, a Surfer excessively hassles, blocks or hinders another Surfer from paddling in the line-up they will be allocated the lowest Priority applicable at the time. If the behavior is aggressive or unsportsmanlike then an Interference Penalty 1 may also be called. The Surfer will also be subject to additional sanctions under Rule 14.02.

#### 11.13 **"Blocking Rule" in Priority Situations:**

- (a) The Priority Surfer will lose Priority if in the opinion of the Head Judge or Priority Judge they:
  - (i) Paddle in front of the non-Priority Surfer to deliberately impede them from catching a wave.
  - (ii) Position themselves in the take-off zone to prevent another Surfer

- from catching a wave.
- (iii) Use their Priority by either paddling for or taking off on a wave to block their opponent when the Surfer with Priority appears to have had no intention to score. In this situation, Priority can be awarded regardless of which Surfer reaches the take-off zone first after the Ride.
  - (b) If a Surfer with superior Priority paddles outside the Primary Take-Off Zone (including if they sit on inside position), the Surfer will have their Priority suspended until they re-enter the Primary Take-Off Zone. If the Surfer does not re-enter the Primary Take-Off Zone, they will no longer be the Priority Surfer. The Priority Judge will determine the Surfer's new Priority position in the heat. All attempts will be made to verbally announce the Priority Surfer as they start to leave the Primary Take-Off Zone by a verbal warning via the PA system. Surfers should not rely on the verbal warnings and should always confirm Priority by viewing the Priority Disc for the Event.
  - (c) An Interference Penalty 2 may be called individually by the Head Judge only if the majority of the judging panel do not see the incident.
  - (d) In all cases where a dispute results from a decision or a malfunction of the Priority system, the Office of Tours and Competition (CT Events)/WSL Tour Representative (non-CT Events) will consult with the Head Judge and Priority Judge to determine a resolution, which may include a re-surf.
  - (e) Allocation is based on who the Priority Judge believes has reached the Primary Take Off Zone first. In cases where Surfers appear to reach the Primary Take-Off Zone at the same time, Priority will go to the Surfer who did not have the last Priority.
  - (f) Once a heat has ended all Priority ceases. If a Surfer is Riding on a wave as the heat ends, they can't be interfered with by any Surfer (even if that Surfer had higher Priority before the heat ended). If an interference occurs, an Interference Penalty 2 will be called.
  - (g) When there is PWC assistance, the allocation of Priority when two (2) Surfers are being transported at the same time will be decided by the Priority Judge after taking into account both pick-ups and drop-offs. PWCs cannot overtake each other at any time when returning a Surfer to the line-up.
  - (h) If the Head Judge or Priority Judge determines that Priority is affected by either the PWC pilot's capacity or mechanical problems in a certain situation, Priority will be allocated as the Head Judge or Priority Judge deems appropriate.
  - (i) If any unauthorized PWC assistance is used by any Surfer, they automatically move to lowest Priority.
  - (j) When a Surfer Rides a wave or receives PWC assistance prior to a heat start, that Surfer takes the lowest Priority position in their heat once it has begun and retains it after any restart.
  - (k) In the discretion of the Priority Judge, if a Surfer's equipment is damaged and they actively make their way to their replacement equipment (including catching a wave in prone position or use of a PWC for Surfer safety) or when a Surfer gets washed out of the Primary Take-Off Zone by a set:
    - (i) the Surfer's Priority is suspended, indicated by the Surfer having "No Priority"; and

- (ii) the Surfer's Priority position (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, etc.) they had when they were in the Primary Take-Off Zone can be reinstated once they return to the Primary Take-Off Zone.

11.14 **Two (2)-Surfer Heat Priority:** Two (2)-Surfer Heat Priority works in the following manner, subject to Rules 11.11 and 11.13(j):

- (a) At the start of a heat, once the first wave has been ridden, the second Surfer gets automatic Priority for any other wave they choose, unless the Surfer Rides the wave before the heat starts (refer to Rule 11.13(j)) or if the Surfer is not in the Competition Area before the heat start.
- (b) If a Surfer with second Priority paddles for and misses a wave they will not lose their Priority position unless (i) their hands left the rails, as they attempted to stand or they paddled outside the Primary Take-Off Zone, as determined by the Priority Judge and (ii) the Surfer with first Priority Rides a wave and returns to the Primary Take-Off Zone before the Surfer with second Priority.
- (c) Allocation is based on who the Priority Judge believes has reached the Primary Take-Off Zone first. In cases where Surfers appear to reach the Primary Take-Off Zone at the same time, Priority will go to the Surfer who did not have the last Priority.
- (d) If a Surfer is not in the Primary Take-Off Zone when the heat starts and arrives late, Priority will be allocated to the other Surfer at the discretion of the Priority Judge.

11.15 **Three (3)-Surfer Heat Priority:** Three (3)-Surfer Heat Priority works in the following manner, subject to Rules 11.11 and 11.13(j):

- (a) The first Surfer to Ride a wave then receives third Priority (First Surfer).
- (b) The remaining two (2) Surfers in the heat have Priority over the First Surfer and may paddle for waves without losing this Priority until one of them catches a wave (Second Surfer).
- (c) Once the Second Surfer catches a wave, the initial heat Priority order is established:
  - (i) The Surfer yet to catch a wave receives first Priority; and
  - (ii) the remaining Surfers will receive Priority in the order they return to the Primary Take-Off Zone.
  - (iii) The Surfer with first Priority has Priority over both other Surfers. The Surfer with second Priority only has Priority over the Surfer with third Priority.
  - (iv) 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.
  - (v) If a Surfer with third Priority paddles for and misses a wave they will not lose their Priority position unless (i) their hands left the rails, as they attempted to stand or (ii) they paddled outside the Primary Take-Off Zone, as determined by the Priority Judge.

11.16 **Four (4)-Surfer Heat Priority:** Four (4)-Surfer Heat Priority works in the following manner, subject to Rules 11.11 and 11.13(j):

- (a) The first Surfer to Ride a wave receives fourth Priority (First Surfer).
- (b) The remaining three (3) 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).
- (c) The remaining two (2) Surfers in the heat have Priority over the First



- and Second Surfer and may paddle for waves without losing this Priority until one (1) of those Surfers catches a wave (Third Surfer).
- (d) Once the Third Surfer catches a wave, the initial heat Priority order is established:
    - (i) The Surfer yet to catch a wave receives first Priority; and
    - (ii) the remaining Surfers will receive Priority in the order they return to the Primary Take-Off Zone.
    - (iii) 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.
  - (e) 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.
    - (i) If a Surfer with fourth Priority paddles for and misses a wave they will not lose their Priority position unless (i) their hands left the rails, as they attempted to stand or (ii) they paddled outside the Primary Take-Off Zone, as determined by the Priority Judge.

#### 11.17

#### **Interference Penalty**

- (a) Interference Penalties will be as follows:
  1. Interference Penalty 1: The value of the interfering Surfer's second highest scoring Ride will be halved.
  2. Interference Penalty 2: The interfering Surfer's second highest scoring Ride will tally as a zero.
  3. Interference Penalty 3: The interfering Surfer's highest scoring Ride will tally as a zero.
  4. Disqualification: The Surfer will be disqualified from the heat
- (b) For Priority situations when an interference is called on a Surfer, then Interference Penalty 2 will apply. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in CT and Challenger Series Events only, if there is an interference (e.g., by dropping in, paddling, blocking) that prevents a Surfer from performing on a potential scoring Ride (i.e., a Ride that the Judges determine could have resulted in one or the Surfer's two highest scoring Rides) in the final five (5) minutes of a heat, then Interference Penalty 3 will apply. For the avoidance of doubt, a violation of this Rule does not mean an automatic violation of Rule 11.20. If a majority of the Judges determine that the interference during the final five (5) minutes was intentional, the interfering Surfer will be Disqualified.
- (c) In non-Priority situations when an interference penalty is called on a Surfer, then Interference Penalty 1 will apply.
- (d) When an interference penalty is called on a Surfer while paddling to catch a wave or while Riding a wave, the Ride will be scored zero.
- (e) Interference will be denoted by a triangle on the Judge's Sheet.
- (f) Any interfering Surfer will 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.
- (g) In non-Priority heats, the Surfer who is interfered with will be allowed an additional wave beyond their wave maximum, within the prescribed time limit. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, if there is a double interference called, neither 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.

- (h) Where any Surfer incurs two (2) interference penalties, they must immediately leave the Competition Area (failure to do so will result in a penalty in accordance with Chapter 14 of this Rule Book) and:
  - (i) If both interferences are in a non-Priority situation, then Interference Penalty 1 will apply to both.
  - (ii) If one interference is in a non-Priority situation and the other in a Priority situation, regardless of the order, then Interference Penalty 1 will apply to the Surfer's highest scoring Ride and Interference Penalty 2 will apply to the Surfer's second highest scoring Ride.
  - (iii) If both interference penalties are in a Priority situation, or in CT and Challenger Series Events only one of the interference penalties is within the final 5 minutes of the heat (See Rule as per 11.17 (b)), the Surfer will be disqualified from the heat.
- (i) If neither Surfer in an interference situation has established Priority over the other Surfer involved, then Interference Penalty 1 will apply regardless of whether the other Surfers in the heat (not involved in the interference situation) hold Priority or not. This rule will be applied to one-on-one, three (3)-Surfer and four (4)-Surfer heats.

- 11.18 **Excessive Hassling in Priority situations:** In the opinion of the Priority and Head Judge, if a Surfer excessively hassles another Surfer who has Priority, in an unsportsmanlike manner, an Interference Penalty 2 can be called against the interfering Surfer. For the avoidance of doubt, a violation of this Rule does not mean an automatic violation of Rule 11.20 but may include sanctions under Rule 14.02.
- 11.19 **Using Priority:** In the opinion of the Priority or Head Judge, if a Surfer utilizes their Priority in an unsportsmanlike manner to intentionally block another Surfer with lower or no Priority outside of the Primary Take-Off Zone, an Interference Penalty 2 will be called against the interfering Surfer. For the avoidance of doubt, a violation of this Rule does not mean an automatic violation of Rule 11.20.
- 11.20 **Serious Unsportsmanlike Interference:** If the Head Judge and the Head of Tours and Competition determine that an interference during an Event was intentional or unsportsmanlike and results in the injury of another Surfer, notwithstanding any penalty available under Rule 14.09 (which may include suspension from Events or an entire Tour), a Surfer will lose the benefit of counting their best Event result when calculating their Ranking on the relevant Tour (e.g., if this Rule is violated at a QS/Challenger Event, their QS Ranking will be effected). In addition, the heat in question can be re-surfed if determined by the Head Judge that the result was affected by the Surfer's conduct referred to within this Rule.
- 11.21 **Unauthorized Use of Transportation:** If a Surfer uses any outside assistance during a heat, such as a skateboard, scooter, car or bike to travel along to beach to aid the Surfer in getting to the break or jet ski or boat to return to the break (other than where provided and permitted by the WSL), they will receive an Interference Penalty 2.

## CHAPTER 12: PERSONAL WATERCRAFT (PWC) GUIDELINES

- 12.01 **Use of PWC:** All WSL Events have the option to allow the use of PWC assistance during an Event under the approved guidelines as decided by the Office of Tours and Competition from time to time, including those in this Chapter.
- 12.02 **Guidelines for PWC Use**
- (a) Events insurance must cover PWCs in case of accidents involving pilots, Surfers and the general public.
  - (b) PWCs will be allowed under the following conditions.
    - (i) Extreme surf conditions;
    - (ii) Long paddle back to line-up;
    - (iii) Safety reasons; and
    - (iv) When the wake will not cause adverse damage to the waves.
  - (c) The decision on the use of PWCs will be made by majority vote of the Head Judge, Surfer Representative and Office of Tours and Competition (CT)/ WSL Tour Representative (all other events).
  - (d) The direction they are to use to get back to the line-up will be determined at the Event by the Head Judge and pilot's team leader with the route causing the least wake in the Primary Take-Off Zone.
  - (e) The line-up drop-off point will be preferably wide or outside of the Primary Take-Off Zone with a buoy to mark the position. The maximum paddle time from the line-up drop-off point to the Primary Take-Off Zone should be no less than thirty (30) seconds.
  - (f) The inside pick-up point is to be decided by the Head Judge on the day depending on surf conditions. Basically, near the end of the wave or set zone within the Competition Area, the PWCs will sit in deep water and move in as the Surfer exits a wave. If a Surfer fails to make the inside pick-up point, the PWC can't move up the line-up to get them. They must wait for the Surfer to paddle to the inside pick-up position unless a Surfer's safety is at risk. If a pilot acts contrary to this Rule, they are subject to discipline in accordance with this Rule Book.
- 12.03 **Qualified Pilots:** WSL will supply the Events with a list of qualified PWC pilots in accordance with the WSL PWC safety management plan. There will be two (2) lists of names.
- (a) The first list will be a select group from which one (1) must be selected and used as the Team Leader and decision maker. Contact WSL for this list.
  - (b) The second list will be composed of all other authorized pilots from which the remainder of the pilots to be used must be chosen. All pilots must have CPR skills, tow in/out experience and hold any required permits, licenses or certifications required by the rules and regulations governing the location of the Event. The PWC pilots must provide evidence of all required permits, licenses or certifications prior to working at an Event.
  - (c) If WSL does not have an active PWC safety management plan at any time, the obligation to provide qualified PWC pilots will fall on the Event licensee/organizer and nothing in this Rule Book removes or substitutes any obligation within the relevant Event license agreement.

12.04 **Priority:** The allocation of Priority when two (2) riders are being transported at the same time will be decided by the Priority Judge after taking into account both pick-ups and drop-offs. PWCs cannot overtake each other at any time when returning a Surfer to the line-up drop-off point.

12.05 **Head Judge Authority with respect to PWC**

- (a) The Head Judge may place a heat on hold due to unforeseen circumstances. If a Surfer is injured by a PWC during the course of a heat, the heat can be put on hold while the Surfer receives medical attention. Once the medical attention is completed, the heat will be restarted with the remaining available time in the heat.
- (b) If the Head Judge determines that Priority is affected by either the PWC pilot's capacity or mechanical problems, Priority will be allocated as the Head Judge deems fit.
- (c) The Head Judge will determine at the start of each day of competition if PWC assistance is permitted to transport the Surfers from where they have lost their surfboard to the marshalling area or the beach as directed (while safety concerns for any Surfer remain paramount).

12.06 **General**

- (a) Where only one (1) PWC is available, use of it will be suspended until such time as both PWCs are back in use or until the Head Judge, consults with the WSL Tour Director, Surfer Representative and Surfing Director and they have decided that it is suitable to allow the one (1) PWC to operate.
- (b) Two-way radio communication between all PWC pilots and Head Judge must be available at all times.
- (c) Caddies that have passed on their board to the Surfer they are caddying for can obtain use of the Surfer's PWC, if not being used and it is available, to transport them to the lost surfboard or the beach. If they are taken to the lost surfboard, they can be transported back to the marshalling area; provided, however, that if they are transported to the beach, they must paddle back to the defined marshalling area for Caddies.
- (d) If PWC assistance is used by any Surfer with Priority they automatically lose that Priority with the possible exception of Rule 11.3(k).

## CHAPTER 13: JUDGING

- 13.01 **Selection of and Review Judges:**
- (a) No person who has a Vested Interest in a result of a heat or Event may Judge at a WSL Event. Only the Office of Tours and Competition will have the authority to make appointments and substitutions for an Event. A Surfer's request for the standing down of a Judge based on a claim they have a Vested Interest will be heard and handled by the Office of Tours and Competition.
  - (b) Following the completion of each CT Event, the Head Judge will conduct a review of the scoring of each Judge on the Judging Panel for such Event, and will determine a rating for such Judge for such Event.
- 13.02 **Judging Panel Composition:** The following compositions of judging panels must be available for the respective Event:
- (a) **CT Events:** One (1) International Head Judge, seven (7) International Scoring Judges and one (1) International Priority Judge. The number of Scoring Judges from any Regional area or Country is limited to a maximum of three (3). There must be five (5) Judges scoring each heat.
  - (b) **Challenger Series Events:** One (1) International Head Judge, seven (7) International Scoring Judges and one (1) International Priority Judge. The number of Scoring Judges from any Regional area or Country is limited to a maximum of three (3). There must be five (5) Judges scoring each heat.
  - (c) **World Junior Championships:** One (1) International Head Judge, seven (7) International Scoring Judges and one (1) International Priority Judge. The number of Scoring Judges from any Regional area or Country is limited to a maximum of three (3). There must be five (5) Judges scoring each heat.
  - (d) **QS 5000 Events:** One (1) Regional Head Judge, seven (7) Regional Scoring Judges and one (1) Regional Priority Judge. There must be five (5) Judges scoring each heat.
  - (e) **QS 3000 Events:** One (1) Regional Head Judge, a minimum of six (6) Regional Scoring Judges and one (1) Regional Priority Judge. There must be a minimum of four (4) Judges scoring each heat.
  - (f) **QS 1000, Regional Pro Junior and Regional Longboard Events:** One (1) Regional Head Judge, a minimum of five (5) Regional Scoring Judges and one (1) Regional Priority Judge. There must be a minimum of three (3) Judges scoring each heat.
  - (g) **Men and Women Combined QS Events:** The higher rated event panel composition will be utilized.
  - (h) **World Longboard Tour:** One (1) International or Regional Head Judge, seven (7) Regional Scoring Judges and one (1) Regional Priority Judge. There must be five (5) Judges scoring each heat.
  - (i) **AIRTOUR:** The judging panel for an AirTour Event will be composed of three (3) International Judges.
  - (j) **BW:** One (1) International Head Judge, two (2) International Judges and three (3) Regional Judges. There must be five (5) Judges scoring each heat.
- 13.03 **Split Panels:** In exceptional circumstances where the chances of finishing an Event are in jeopardy, a split panel of three (3) Judges

may be used. If it is known ahead of time that split panels will be used (e.g., due to excess entry numbers), WSL Approval must be obtained and a minimum of a four (4)-Judge panel is permitted.

13.04 **Wave-Scoring Scale:** Rides are scored from 0.1 to 10.0 (ten), broken into one-tenth increments (e.g., 7.3).

13.05 **Judging Criteria (not relevant to Chapter 4 – Longboard and Chapter 7 – Big Wave Events):** Surfers must perform to the WSL judging key elements to maximize their scoring potential. Judges analyze the following major elements when scoring a Ride:

- Commitment and degree of difficulty
- Innovative and progressive maneuvers
- Combination of major maneuvers
- Variety of maneuvers
- Speed, power and flow

It's important to note that the emphasis of certain elements is contingent upon the location and the conditions on the day, as well as changes of conditions during the day. For CT and CS Events, the Head Judge will provide the Surfers with the judging criteria for each competition day during an Event prior to the start of such competition day.

The following scale may be used to describe a Ride that is scored:

0–1.9 = Poor; 2.0–4.9 = Fair; 5.0–6.4 = Good;

6.5–7.9 = Very Good; 8.0–10.0 = Excellent

13.06 **General Judging Rules**

- (a) Judges should be visually separated. It is the responsibility of the Head Judge to see that the Judges do not discuss scores or interference calls.
- (b) Judges may not change their scores or interference calls either on the computer terminal or on the manual Judge's Sheets. In the Event that a mistake has been made, the Judge should have the Head Judge make the correction for them.
- (c) If a Judge misses a Ride, or part of a Ride, they should place an "M" in the square of the manual Judge's Sheet, the Head Judge will provide the missed score based on the other Judge's scores for the missed Ride but including consideration for that Judge's position when scoring previous Rides.
- (d) Where unforeseen circumstances occur with respect to competition (which includes but is not limited to Priority and timing), a resolution, which may include a re-surf, will be determined by:
  - (i) At CT events: The Head Judge and/or Head of Tours and Competition who will consult with any relevant people at their discretion.
  - (ii) At Non-CT events: The Head Judge who will consult with the WSL Tour Representative, Surfing Director or other relevant people at their discretion.
- (e) A judging, scoring or heat result decision once made may only be changed if, in the opinion of the judging panel, there is enough evidence to consider a re-evaluation. A re-surf or a score change may be considered by that judging panel at the time. The Head Judge has the authority to call a re-surf without the involvement of Surfers in the heat, if it is deemed appropriate. The Head Judge is

to decide who should be involved in a re-surf if applicable and when the re-surf may occur. The Head Judge can delay the start of the next heat or round while a decision is made.

- (f) A decision once made by the WSL judging panel can only be protested via the Head Judge or the Head of Tours and Competition. No other Judges are to be approached relating to any calls and/or decisions (including any approach by Surfer Support Staff). See process for protests described in Rule 10.07.
- (g) No Judge of a WSL Event may make any comments, on a Surfer's chances in any Event, to the public, media, or other Surfer. If a Judge does make a comment violating this Rule, their contract with WSL will be immediately reviewed notwithstanding any other rights WSL may have, contractual or otherwise.

13.07 **Judging Fees**

- (a) Minimum payment for Judges, and other Judging payment information, for all Events will be as described in the WSL Event Planner or Event License Agreement.
- (b) All judging fees for CT, Challenger Series, WJC and BW are to be paid in US\$.

13.08 **Judging for Non-Event Activities:** All activities held during the Event Window that are surf-related and take on any form of competition are to be judged by WSL Judges, who are working at the Event (if each of the Judges agrees to do so). Pay rates for such activities are listed in the Event and Judging Planner.

13.09 **WSL Computer Scoring System**

- (a) The computer scoring system prescribed by WSL is compulsory at all WSL Events.
- (b) Computer scoring operator hours, rates and conditions are as described by WSL in the relevant Event license agreement or Event Planner.

13.10 **WSL Judging Area**

- (a) No Surfers or Support Staff may enter the judging area at any time unless specific access has been granted by the Office of Tours and Competition.

13.11 **Role of the Head Judge in CT and CS Events**

- (a) Communicate and coordinate with PWC teams for Surfer assistance and safety.
- (b) Oversee the Judging Panel's scores, interference calls and priority calls throughout the Event.
- (c) Establish the judging criteria with the Judging Panel at the beginning of the competition day, and reiterate it at the start of each heat. The Head Judge will also consistently monitor and maintain this scale throughout the Event.
- (d) Facilitate the use of the judging replay system.
- (e) Supervise all judging elements at the Events, adhering to the judging criteria and this Rule Book.

## CHAPTER 14: WSL CONDUCT POLICY

- 14.01 **Introduction.** This Policy applies to all Surfers, Support Staff, and Judges who are involved with or who participate in Events. All Surfers, Support Staff, and officials shall always comply with this Rule Book and conduct themselves in a professional manner that will not reflect unfavorably on the sport of surfing, WSL, or its members, officers, representatives, Events, or sponsors. All Surfers shall comply with WSL's Anti-Doping Policy. The requirements of WSL's Anti-Doping Policy and the sanctions for violating that Policy are addressed separately in that policy.
- 14.02 **Sportsmanlike Conduct:** All individuals bound by this Policy must act at all times with Sportsmanlike Conduct, which is defined as, but not limited to: (i) respect for WSL Tour and Event sponsors, Judges, opponents, WSL management, WSL representatives, spectators, members of the media or any other person within the designated Event site, including refraining from making derogatory comments on Social Media; (ii) respect for facilities and operational procedures at Events; and (iii) refraining from the following at an Event venue:
- (a) visible gestures, which are commonly understood to be derogatory, profane, and/or highly offensive or would indicate a sexually explicit act;
  - (b) use of profane or abusive language (in any comments which disparage WSL Tour and Event sponsors, Judges, opponents, WSL management, WSL representatives or otherwise dispute or disparage the Event judging);
  - (c) illegal (e.g., underage) or immoderate use of alcohol;
  - (d) use of illegal drugs; and
  - (e) intentional and purposeful displays and /or exposures of nudity.
- This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of violations of Sportsmanlike Conduct but merely a general guideline. Any person bound by this Policy and found to violate this Rule shall be subject to the following disciplinary action:
- (i) Monetary Fines and Disqualification. The monetary fine amounts for an offense of this Rule range from \$1,000 USD to \$100,000 USD per offense. An offender under this Rule may also be subject to disqualification from the Event or future Events.
  - (ii) Suspension and Expulsion. Any offender under this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour upon the first offense. Where multiple offenses occur within one (1) or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct, the Surfer may also be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from the WSL.
  - (iii) The use of illegal drugs which also violate the WSL Anti-Doping Policy shall also be subject to sanctions under that Policy.
- 14.03 **Additional Standards of Conduct:** All individuals bound by this Policy who are convicted of a crime or subject to a disposition of a criminal proceeding (including an adjudication of guilt or admission to a criminal violation; a plea to a lesser included offense; a plea of nolo contendere or no contest; or the disposition of the proceeding through a diversionary program, deferred adjudication, disposition of supervision, conditional dismissal, or similar arrangements) are subject to discipline. But even if the conduct does not result in a criminal



conviction, individuals bound by this Policy who are found to have engaged in any conduct (i) detrimental to the integrity of and public confidence in the WSL or (ii) that reflects unfavorably on the sport of surfing, WSL, or its members, officers, representatives, Events, or sponsors will be subject to discipline. Any offender under this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour upon the first offense.

14.04 **Damage to Surfing's Image:** In addition to the obligations set forth in Rule 14.11, individuals bound by this Policy shall not engage in any conduct that could cause damage to the image of the sport of surfing. For purposes of this Rule, "damage to the image of the sport of surfing" is defined as any act, regardless of time or place, which casts the sport of surfing or WSL in a negative light, which shall include any comments which disparage WSL Tour and Event sponsors, Judges, opponents, WSL management, WSL representatives or otherwise dispute or disparage the Event judging. Without restricting the application of this Rule, "damage to the sport of surfing" will include any comments or broadcast from Social Media that the Surfer is responsible for and any comments by a Surfer or a member of their Support Staff on any other person's Social Media. For the purposes of this Rule, a Surfer is responsible for their and their Support Staff's Social Media. Any Surfer found in violation of this Rule shall be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- (a) **Monetary Fines and Disqualification.** The monetary fine amounts for an offense of this Rule range from \$1,000 USD to \$100,000 USD per offense. An offender under this Rule may also be subject to disqualification from the Event or future Events.
- (b) **Suspension and Expulsion.** Any offender under this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour upon the first offense. Where multiple offenses occur within one (1) or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct, the Surfer may also be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from the WSL.

14.05 **Official WSL Equipment and Surfboards.** No individual bound by this Policy shall make any alterations or changes to any official WSL equipment, without the WSL's prior approval. Official WSL equipment means the jersey, wearable technology provided by WSL, and other equipment specifically designated in the future by WSL. For avoidance of doubt, an individual's surfboard is not official WSL equipment. Individuals bound by this Policy are responsible for any images or words on their surfboard, which in all cases are subject to this Policy. For avoidance of doubt, in no event, may an individual bound by the Policy include a direct endorsement of a political figure or political party on their surfboard. Any Surfer found in violation of this Rule shall be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- (a) **Monetary Fines and Disqualification.** The monetary fine amount for an offense of this Rule ranges from \$1,000 USD to \$50,000 USD per offense.
- (b) **Suspension and Expulsion.** Any offender under this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour upon the first offense. Where multiple offenses occur within one (1) or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct, the Surfer may also be subject to

suspension and/or expulsion from the WSL.

14.06

**Gambling, Inappropriate Financial Interest or Relationship, and Bribery:** No individual bound by this Policy shall:

- (a) participate in any form of wagering, betting, offering/taking of odds or any other form of gambling in connection with professional surfing (including asking others to place bets on their behalf, or otherwise benefiting financially from, or assisting with, bets placed by others);
- (b) associate or have any dealings with persons or organizations whose activities, including gambling, might reflect adversely on the integrity of professional surfing;
- (c) place illegal bets on any sport or event, including bets placed with illegal bookmakers or illegal off-shore sports betting websites or applications;
- (d) solicit or accept any bribe, gift, payment or reward or anything of value for the purpose of influencing competition during an Event;
- (e) perform services in any capacity involving sports betting for any third party (including without limitation, consulting or advising on sports betting issues, or advertising, promoting or endorsing sports betting products or services);
- (f) attempt to gain financial benefit by using any confidential information that an individual possesses by virtue of such individual's position in relation to a Surfer or WSL official, which may be sought by individuals who desire to exploit such information in the betting markets;
- (g) fail to cooperate with any and all requests by the WSL Discipline Director during an investigation, that relates specifically to information relevant to gambling, betting or undue benefits received by any individual relating to professional surfing; and
- (h) fail to report any activity indicating a violation of this Rule 14.06 to the WSL Discipline Director as soon as practicable.

Notwithstanding anything in this Rule to the contrary, free to play "fantasy surfing" games will not be a violation of this Rule, except for any competing Surfer or Office of Tours and Competition staff, including judges.

Individuals bound by this Policy may place legal bets on sports other than surfing in jurisdictions in which sports betting is legal, provided that the person placing the bet is eligible under applicable law to place the wager. Similarly, individuals bound by this Policy may participate in legal fantasy games that involve bets relating to sports other than surfing.

**Disciplinary Actions**

- (a) **Monetary Fines.** Due to the incredibly negative repercussions to professional surfing and the integrity of WSL competition, any individual found in violation of Rule 14.06 may receive a monetary fine of five (5) times the highest amount able to be won from the violating activity whether any benefit was received or not, and a further fine as determined in the discretion of the Discipline Committee.
- (b) **Suspension and Expulsion.** Any individual found to violate this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from an

Event or WSL Tour upon the first offense. Where multiple offenses occur within one (1) or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct, the Surfer may also be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from any WSL Tour.

- (c) Other Appropriate Sanctions and Substantial Assistance. Any individual found to violate this Rule may be subject to other appropriate sanctions imposed by the Discipline Committee designed to protect the integrity of the sport and competitions. Any substantial assistance provided by an individual in connection with further investigations and discovery of other violations will be a considerable factor when final sanctions are determined.

14.07 **Best Efforts:** All Surfers shall compete in accordance with their “Best Effort(s)” in all Events. For the purposes of this Rule, “Best Efforts” shall be defined as a Surfer’s utmost attempt to compete to the best of such Surfer’s ability during all Competitive Events. Any Surfer who overtly and intentionally fails to exercise such Surfer’s best effort in competition shall be found in violation of this Rule. Any Surfer found in violation of this Rule shall be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- (a) Monetary Fines and Disqualification.
- (i) Any Offense of this section on any tour other than the CT: A minimum of \$1,000 USD
- (ii) First Offense of this section shall subject a Surfer on the CT to a fine in accordance with the following schedule (based on the most recent position in the WSL Rankings)::

1 – 10	\$10,000
11 – 25	\$5,000
26+	\$2,500

Second Offense of this section shall subject a Surfer on the CT to a fine in accordance with the following schedule (based on the most recent position in the WSL Rankings):

1 – 10	\$20,000
11 – 25	\$10,000
26+	\$5,000

Third Offense of this section shall subject a CT Surfer to a fine in accordance with the following schedule (based on the most recent position in the WSL Rankings):

1 – 10	\$50,000
11 – 25	\$25,000
26+	\$10,000
51+	\$5,000

- (b) Suspension and Expulsion. Any Surfer who is found to have three (3) offenses of this Rule in one or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct may also be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour.

- 14.08 **Verbal Assault:** No individual subject to this Policy shall directly or indirectly verbally assault a WSL official, Judge, Surfer, Event sponsor, WSL management member, any WSL Representative, or member of the media. During Events, this Rule also includes spectators, or any other person within the designated Event area. For the purposes of this Rule, verbal assault is defined as any oral statement about one or more of the aforementioned persons that: threatens harm; instills fear; implies dishonesty; is derogatory; consists of profanity; or is otherwise highly offensive. Verbal assaults include statements made in person and statements made to the media, on the broadcast or on Social Media. Any individual involved in an incident of verbal assault will be subject to the following disciplinary action:
- (a) **Monetary Fines and Disqualification.**
    - First Offense: \$1,000 USD
    - Second Offense: \$2,500 USD and possible disqualification or removal from the Event if it is the second concurrent offense at the same Event.
    - Third Offense: \$5,000 USD and possible removal or disqualification from the Event if it is the third offense in one (1) season.
  - (b) **Suspension and Expulsion.** Any Surfer who is found to have three (3) offenses of this Rule in one or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour.
- 14.09 **Physical Assault and Mutual Combat.** No individual subject to this Policy shall physically assault a WSL official, Surfer, Event staff (including volunteer), Event sponsor, WSL management member, any WSL Representative, member of the media, spectator or any other person at or in relation to an Event (e.g., during the Event Window or close to the Event site). For the purposes of this Rule, physical assault is defined as any battery or assault. All forms of shoving, fighting, mutual combat or the like are considered violations of this Rule. An act deemed by the Discipline Director to be an act entirely in self-defense will not be treated as a violation of this Rule. If it is immediately clear to the Head of Tours and Competition or the Head Judge which individual or individuals were the initial aggressor of the incident, then that individual shall be disqualified from the remainder of that Competitive Event or, if the Surfer has already been disqualified via loss, then the Surfer shall be suspended from the next Event. Any individual involved in an incident of physical assault will also be subject to the following disciplinary action:
- (a) **Monetary Fines and Disqualification.**
    - First Offense: \$5,000 USD and automatic disqualification from the remainder of the Event. Disqualification may be waived in a "mutual combat" type situation.
    - Second Offense: \$10,000 USD and automatic disqualification from the remainder of the Event.
    - Third Offense: \$15,000 USD and automatic disqualification from the remainder of the Event.
  - (b) **Suspension and Expulsion.** Any offender under this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour upon the first offense. Where multiple offenses occur within one (1) or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of

unacceptable conduct, the Surfer may also be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour.

14.10 **Discrimination, Sexual Harassment or Abuse:** WSL has zero tolerance for any form of discrimination, sexual harassment or abuse in professional surfing. Any individual subject to this Policy who engages in discrimination, sexual harassment or abuse in any way associated with professional surfing shall be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- (a) Monetary Fines and Disqualification. The monetary fine amounts for an offense of this Rule ranges from \$1,000 USD to \$50,000 USD per offense.
- (b) Suspension and Expulsion. Any offender under this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour upon the first offense. Where multiple offenses occur within one (1) or more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct, the Surfer may also be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from the WSL.

14.11 **Social Media:** Individuals bound by this Policy shall not engage in the following conduct with respect to the use of Social Media:

- (a) Displaying or transmitting Content via Social Media that reasonably could be construed as an official public communication of WSL or any WSL Tour without obtaining proper authorization.
- (b) Displaying or transmitting Content that contains confidential or proprietary information of WSL or any WSL Tour or their respective employees or agents, including, for example, financial information, medical information, strategic information, etc.
- (c) Displaying or transmitting Content that reasonably could be construed as condoning the use of any substance prohibited by WSL or WADA.
- (d) Displaying or transmitting Content that questions the impartiality of, or otherwise denigrates, a Judge or judging decision.
- (e) Displaying or transmitting Content that is derogatory or insensitive to individuals based on race, color, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, national origin, age, disability, or religion, including, but not limited to, slurs, jokes, stereotypes or other inappropriate remarks.
- (f) Displaying or transmitting Content that constitutes harassment of an individual or group of individuals or threatens or advocates the use of violence against an individual or group of individuals.
- (g) Displaying or transmitting Content that contains obscene or sexually explicit language, images, or acts.
- (h) Displaying or transmitting Content that violates applicable local, state, federal or international law or regulations.

Any person bound by this Policy and found to violate this Rule shall be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- (i) Monetary Fines and Disqualification. The monetary fine amounts for an offense of this Rule range from \$1,000 USD to \$100,000 USD per offense. An offender under this Rule may also be subject to disqualification from the Event or future Events.
- (ii) Suspension and Expulsion. Any offender under this Rule may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from a WSL Tour upon the first offense. Where multiple offenses occur within one (1) or

more concurrent seasons which demonstrate a pattern of unacceptable conduct, the Surfer may also be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from the WSL.

- 14.12 **Other Miscellaneous Violations and Penalties:** The following table is a general guideline for miscellaneous violations which may not be covered in the other Rules of Chapter 14. However, some violations described below may also be considered violations of Rule 14.02 or Rule 14.03 and in such circumstances, the violation penalty shall be the greater of the two (2) possible penalties. Suggested guideline penalties followed by “\*” indicate violations for which Suspension and/or expulsion are possible penalties given either the severity or the repetitiveness of the violation.

Description of Violation	Fine/Disciplinary Action (in USD)						
Surfer's Caddy rides a wave	\$500 per wave						
Any finalist or semifinalist who fails to attend an Event awards presentation	\$5,000 for any tour other than the CT  For the CT, the monetary fine in accordance with the following schedule (based on the most recent position in the WSL Rankings): <table border="1" data-bbox="607 878 837 961"> <tr> <td>1 – 10</td> <td>\$20,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11 – 25</td> <td>\$10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26+</td> <td>\$5,000</td> </tr> </table>	1 – 10	\$20,000	11 – 25	\$10,000	26+	\$5,000
1 – 10	\$20,000						
11 – 25	\$10,000						
26+	\$5,000						
Surfing during next or previous heat	\$500 per wave						
Not leaving the Competition Area by the two (2)-minute warning before competition starts	\$500						
Failing to attend a press conference if requested (including a post-heat interview)	\$2,000 for any tour other than the CT  For the CT, the monetary fine in accordance with the following schedule (based on the most recent position in the WSL Rankings): <table border="1" data-bbox="607 1347 837 1430"> <tr> <td>1 – 10</td> <td>\$10,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11 – 25</td> <td>\$5,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26+</td> <td>\$2,500</td> </tr> </table>	1 – 10	\$10,000	11 – 25	\$5,000	26+	\$2,500
1 – 10	\$10,000						
11 – 25	\$5,000						
26+	\$2,500						
Failing to compete/check-in for the first round of CT Events	\$5,000						
Failing to attend compulsory Surfers' meetings (CT seed only)	\$1,000						

Failing to attend CT Surfers' orientation meeting	\$5,000 No discretion and no excuses. This is an "administrative" fine and automatically applies to any Surfer who is not in attendance at the CT Surfers' orientation meeting.
Surfer stays in Competition Area after two (2) interference calls against them	\$1,000
Equipment abuse (including person's own equipment) in Event and Event Site; provided that there shall be no fine if a Surfer damages or breaks the Surfer's surfboard in the locker room	First violation: \$1,000 Second violation: \$1,500 Third violation: \$5,000*
Failing to attend and compete in non-CT Events entered without a valid medical certificate as per Rule 2.18. For avoidance of doubt, the failure to compete includes failing to continue to compete in the Event until you are either eliminated or win the Event	PRIZE MONEY ROUND SEED First violation: \$1,000 Second violation: \$1,500 Third violation: \$5,000*
Providing notice to WSL Regional Office within seven (7) days or during the Event will mean a 20% reduction in the applicable fine (prior to Rule 14.12 applying)	NON-PRIZE MONEY ROUND SEED First violation: \$500 Second violation: \$1,000 Third violation: \$1,500*
Knowingly wearing competition jersey incorrectly or removing it prior to returning the jersey to the Beach Marshall, including failing to wear the competition jersey during a post heat interview	\$1,000
Free surfing in Competition Area during heats	\$5,000
Ripping up or defaming printed results sheets	\$2,000
Entering judging area to complain/protest without permission of the Head Judge or the Office of Tours and Competition	First violation: \$2,000 Second violation: \$5,000 Third violation: \$10,000
Failure to attend the CT Events entered with warning but no doctor's certificate (excluding wildcards)	First violation: \$12,500 Second violation: \$25,000 Third violation: Automatic suspension for three (3) Events or remainder of the tour year if less and no entry into Challenger Series Events during this time.

Failure to attend the CT Events entered without warning or a doctor's certificate (excluding wildcards)	First violation: \$25,000 Second violation: \$50,000 Third violation: Automatic suspension for three (3) Events or remainder of the tour year if less and no entry into Challenger Series Events during this time
Fraudulent activity (including providing misleading information to WSL or an Event in person, in writing or in any other form)	First violation: \$5,000 Second violation: \$10,000 and suspension Third violation: \$20,000 + automatic suspension for three (3) Events or remainder of the tour year if less and no entry into Challenger Series Events during this time.
Failing to comply with directions of WSL staff to comply with the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement, BW Surfers Agreement or World Longboard Tour Athlete Agreement	Monetary amount to reflect the actual damage/loss caused to WSL from the violation and an additional amount which may reflect an amount to deter future violation.
Public comments (including on Social Media) made by the Surfer about a sanction imposed under this Rule Book without the consent of the Discipline Director	Double the original sanction imposed.
Disclosure of any kind (including on Social Media) about another Surfer being tested under the WSL Anti-Doping Policy	Minimum of \$10,000 and suspension from the next CT Event up to and including expulsion from the CT.
After being notified by WSL, a Surfer permits a person to assist them in a way that is not deemed to be in the spirit of fair competition (not covered by Rule 14.02) or actively accepts assistance from a person subject to current discipline/order by WSL.	First violation: Minimum \$500 and maximum of \$10,000 Subsequent violation (including a violation in the same heat/Event): (i) A further monetary fine; (ii) Disqualification from a heat or an Event as determined by the Head Judge and the Tour Manager if he/she is available and depending on the seriousness of the situation.
Using profanity on broadcast of Event or media interview at Event	\$10,000 monetary penalty to be considered by the Discipline Director.
Entering, competing in, promoting or in any way actively supporting any surfing tour or event that is not sanctioned by WSL	First violation: \$50,000 Second violation: a minimum fine of \$100,000 and disqualification from one or



	more Events as determined by the Discipline Director.
Violation of the WSL's Health & Safety Plan for an event	First violation: \$1,000 Second violation: \$2,500 Third violation: \$10,000 Fourth violation: \$25,000 and disqualification from one or more Events as determined by the Discipline Director.
Violation of the WSL's Health & Safety Plan for an event that directly or indirectly exacerbates a Pandemic Response Matter, event schedule adjustments or otherwise adversely impacts the WSL	\$25,000 and disqualification from one or more subsequent Events as determined by the Discipline Director
Failure to comply with the requirement to wear or use WSL Official Equipment	First violation: \$1,000 Second violation: \$5,000 Third violation: \$10,000 with the possibility of a suspension as determined by the Discipline Director.
Violation of the WSL's content capture and usage guidelines	First violation: \$500 Second violation: \$1,000 Third violation: \$5,000 Fourth violation: \$10,000 and disqualification from one or more Events as determined by the Discipline Director.

14.13 **Disqualification during an Event.** Any Surfer who violates Rules 14.02 through 14.12 may be subject to disqualification during an Event in addition to other disciplinary action as provided in those Rules.

14.14 **Monetary Fines**

- (a) All monetary fines, whether prescribed within this Chapter or elsewhere in this Rule Book, are payable BEFORE competing in (or attending) the subsequent WSL Event from date of issue, otherwise the monetary fine amount will be deducted from the Surfer's Prize Money at the subsequent Event(s). In the event that the aggregate fine amount is in excess of the minimum Prize Money possible at the subsequent Event, then the violating Surfer must deliver cash payment of the difference between the two amounts to the WSL Regional Office hosting the subsequent Event prior to the Event Start Date. If payment of the fine is not delivered by the Event Start Date, then the Surfer will be disqualified from the Event.
- (b) All monetary fines, whether prescribed within this Chapter or elsewhere in this Rule Book, will be deducted in the local currency.
- (c) Whether paid directly by the Surfer or deducted by the WSL Region from the Surfer's Prize Money, all fine monies are to be forwarded to WSL and shall be used for the ongoing administration of this Rule Book.

- (d) The following proportions will apply to all monetary penalties issued in accordance with this Chapter:
  - (i) **CT Events:** 100% of the respective penalty;
  - (ii) **QS 5000 and above Events** (including Challenger Series Events) and **Big Wave Events:** 75% of the respective penalty;
  - (iii) **Events rated below QS 5000:** 50% of the respective penalty;
  - (iv) **World Longboard Tour and World Junior Championship Events:** 75% of the respective penalty;
  - (v) **Masters Events:** 50% of the respective penalty;
  - (vi) **JQS Events:** 25% of the respective penalty; and
  - (vii) **LQS Events:** 25% of the respective penalty.

14.15 **Review of Violations and Imposition of Discipline**

- (a) In the event of a violation of this Rule Book, the Discipline Director may impose sanctions in the form of a warning, fine, probation, suspension, expulsion, other appropriate ordered activities or a mixture of the foregoing after consultation with the Discipline Committee.
- (b) Where a serious violation of the WSL Rule Book has occurred at an Event, a decision by the Discipline Committee cannot be made as they cannot be contacted in a timely manner, and immediate disqualification from the Event is reasonable in accordance with this Rule Book, the WSL Tour Director in consultation with the Head Judge and other WSL representatives (after using reasonable efforts to obtain a statement from the Surfer stating their defense and considering the same) may disqualify a Surfer from the Event. The Discipline Director will rule to modify, ratify or set aside the disqualification of the Surfer at the earliest convenience in accordance with this Rule and this Rule Book. WSL will not be liable to the Surfer for damages for loss as a result of the implementation of this Rule.
- (c) Subject to Rule 14.15(e), before any sanction is imposed by the Discipline Committee, the individual subject to discipline shall be notified of the rule violation and sanction that would be imposed should the individual fail to submit a written statement in accordance with Rule 14.15(d) to the Discipline Director.
- (d) From the date of the Notice, the individual has ten (10) days to provide an explanation for the violation, an opinion on the sanction proposed in the notice, any applicable mitigating circumstances, and supporting evidence to the Discipline Director for consideration. Should a statement under this Rule 14.15(d) not be submitted, the sanction proposed in the notice will take immediate effect.
- (e) Following a submission of a statement in accordance with Rule 14.15(d), the Discipline Committee shall review any materials provided in response to the notice and promptly notify the individual of any sanction imposed.

14.16 **Appeals of Disciplinary Actions made by the WSL Discipline Director**

- (a) A disciplined individual wishing to appeal a Disciplinary Action by the Discipline Committee must file a notice of appeal with the Discipline Director within ten (10) days after the sanctions

become final. The notice of appeal shall set forth all reasons why the discipline imposed should be reversed or reduced and any other relief sought.

- (b) Within five (5) days of the Discipline Director's receipt of the notice of appeal, WSL shall provide the appealing party a list of three (3) independent arbitrators. The appealing party shall, within five (5) days of WSL's transmittal of the list, select an arbitrator from that list to hear the case and notify WSL of that selection. If no arbitrator has been selected by the appealing party, then WSL shall select an arbitrator from the list to hear the case.
- (c) Within five (5) days of the arbitrator selection, WSL shall file its response to the appealing party's notice of appeal.
- (d) The procedural rules for the appeal shall be established by the arbitrator, recognizing that speedy resolution of the matter is critical and that normal judicial rules do not apply.
- (e) The arbitrator may set such hearing or schedule such scheduling or status conferences as he/she deems appropriate.
- (f) A hearing shall take place, either in person or by videoconference, as directed by the arbitrator, within forty-five (45) days of the arbitrator's appointment.
- (g) At the hearing, the appealing individual shall have the right to be represented by counsel and to call witnesses and submit documents and other relevant evidence. WSL shall have the same right. The appealing party may also engage the services of an interpreter at his/her own expense. The arbitrator shall rule on the admissibility of evidence, including whether to allow evidence in the form of affidavits. Both the appealing party and a representative of WSL shall be present at the hearing so that they may be examined by the other party.
- (h) Unless decided otherwise in the decision of the arbitrator, each party shall be responsible for its own costs and attorney fees incurred in the appeal, and the fees and expenses of the arbitrator shall be split equally between the parties.
- (i) The arbitrator shall render a written decision within ten (10) days of the date of the hearing.
- (j) The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on all parties and shall not be subject to appeal or any form of judicial review.

#### **14.17 Confidentiality of Disciplinary Proceedings**

- (a) All disciplinary proceedings, including fines or sanctions and any information shared during such proceedings will be kept confidential by the applicable Surfer(s), except as otherwise required by law.

**APPENDIX A**  
**MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CT PRIZE MONEY BREAKDOWNS**

<b>Men CT 2024 (PRE CUT)</b>			
Prize Money		Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1	\$80,000	1
\$50,000	1	\$50,000	2
\$32,000	2	\$64,000	3
\$21,500	4	\$86,000	5
\$16,000	8	\$128,000	9
\$14,360	16	\$229,760	17
\$13,525	4	\$54,100	33
<b>Total Prize Money Per Event</b>		<b>\$691,860</b>	

<b>Men CT 2022 (AFTER CUT)</b>			
Prize Money		Total Prize Money	Placement
\$100,000	1	\$100,000	1
\$63,000	1	\$63,000	2
\$40,000	2	\$80,000	3
\$20,000	4	\$80,000	5
\$13,500	8	\$108,000	9
\$12,000	8	\$96,000	17
<b>Total Prize Money Per Event</b>		<b>\$527,000</b>	

**Women CT 2024 (PRE CUT)**

Prize Money		Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1	\$80,000	1
\$50,000	1	\$50,000	2
\$32,000	2	\$64,000	3
\$21,500	4	\$86,000	5
\$16,000	8	\$128,000	9
\$14,360	16	\$28,780	17
Total Prize Money Per Event		\$436,720	

**Women CT 2024 (AFTER CUT)**

Prize Money		Total Prize Money	Placement
\$100,000	1	\$100,000	1
\$63,000	1	\$63,000	2
\$40,000	2	\$80,000	3
\$20,000	4	\$80,000	5
\$13,500	8	\$54,000	9
Total Prize Money Per Event		\$377,000	

**Men CT 2024 Finals**

\$200,000

\$100,000

\$75,000

\$60,000

\$40,550

**Women CT 2024 Finals**

1

2

3

4

5

\$200,000

\$100,000

\$75,000

\$60,000

\$40,500

1

2

3

4

5

## APPENDIX B RANKING POINTS

MEN

	CT	Challenger Series Hawaii	Challenger Series	QS5000	QS3000	QS1000
Position	7	6	5	4	3	1
1	10000	10000	10000	5000	3000	1000
2	7800	7800	7800	3900	2340	800
3	6085	6085	6085	3042	1825	650
4	0	5685	0	2792	1675	600
5	4745	4745	4745	2282	1423	500
6	0	0	0	2145	1340	483
7	0	4545	0	2007	1258	445
8	0	0	0	0	1208	403
9	3320	3320	3320	1575	945	350
10	0	0	0	1542	904	342
11	0	0	0	1508	870	333
12	0	0	0	1474	833	314
13	0	3120	0	1440	796	295
14	0	0	0	1280	720	276
15	0	0	0	1120	640	258
16	0	0	0	960	560	239
17	1330	1900	1900	800	480	200
18	0	0	0	790	470	192
19	0	0	1700	780	460	186
20	0	0	1550	770	450	180
21	0	0	0	760	440	174
22	0	0	0	750	430	168
23	0	0	0	740	420	162
24	0	0	0	730	410	156
25	0	1700	750	720	400	150
26	0	0	0	687	375	140

27	0	0	0	654	350	130
28	0	0	0	621	325	120
29	0	0	0	588	300	110
30	0	0	0	555	275	100
31	0	0	0	522	250	90
32	0	0	0	489	225	80
33	265	700	0	450	200	66
34	0	0	0	448	197	66
35	0	0	0	445	197	66
36	0	0	0	442	196	65
37	0	0	650	439	195	65
38	0	0	0	435	194	65
39	0	0	0	431	193	64
40	0	0	0	428	191	64
41	0	0	0	425	190	63
42	0	0	0	421	188	63
43	0	0	0	418	188	63
44	0	0	0	415	186	62
45	0	0	0	412	185	62
46	0	0	0	409	184	61
47	0	0	0	406	182	61
48	0	0	0	403	181	60
49	0	600	300	400	180	60
50	0	0	0	390	178	59
51	0	0	0	385	177	59
52	0	0	0	380	176	59
53	0	0	0	375	175	58
54	0	0	0	363	173	58
55	0	0	0	355	172	57
56	0	0	0	347	171	57
57	0	0	0	339	170	57
58	0	0	0	331	169	56
59	0	0	0	323	167	56
60	0	0	0	315	166	55



61	0	0	0	307	165	55
62	0	0	0	299	164	55
63	0	0	0	291	162	54
64	0	0	0	283	161	54
65	0	300	0	275	160	53
66	0	0	0	264	158	53
67	0	0	0	262	157	52
68	0	0	0	260	156	52
69	0	0	0	258	155	52
70	0	0	0	256	154	51
71	0	0	0	254	152	51
72	0	0	0	252	151	50
73	0	250	250	250	150	50
74	0	0	0	243	146	49
75	0	0	0	237	142	47
76	0	0	0	231	139	46
77	0	0	0	230	134	45
78	0	0	0	228	131	44
79	0	0	0	227	127	42
80	0	0	0	226	124	41
81	0	0	0	225	120	40
82	0	0	0	194	116	39
83	0	0	0	187	112	37
84	0	0	0	181	109	36
85	0	0	0	175	105	35
86	0	0	0	168	101	34
87	0	0	0	162	97	32
88	0	0	0	156	94	31
89	0	0	0	150	90	30
90	0	0	0	144	86	29
91	0	0	0	138	83	28
92	0	0	0	132	79	26
93	0	0	0	126	76	25
94	0	0	0	120	72	24

95	0	0	0	114	68	23
96	0	0	0	107	64	21
97	0	0	0	100	60	20
98	0	0	0	97	58	19
99	0	0	0	93	56	19
100	0	0	0	89	53	18
101	0	0	0	85	51	17
102	0	0	0	82	49	16
103	0	0	0	78	47	16
104	0	0	0	74	44	15
105	0	0	0	70	42	14
106	0	0	0	67	40	13
107	0	0	0	63	38	13
108	0	0	0	59	35	12
109	0	0	0	55	33	11
110	0	0	0	52	31	10
111	0	0	0	48	29	10
112	0	0	0	44	26	9
113	0	0	0	40	24	8
114	0	0	0	39	23	8
115	0	0	0	38	23	8
116	0	0	0	37	22	7
117	0	0	0	30	22	7
118	0	0	0	30	21	7
119	0	0	0	30	20	7
120	0	0	0	30	20	7
121	0	0	0	30	19	6
122	0	0	0	30	19	6
123	0	0	0	30	18	6
124	0	0	0	29	17	6
125	0	0	0	28	17	6
126	0	0	0	27	16	5
127	0	0	0	26	16	5
128	0	0	0	25	15	5

129	0	0	0	24	14	5
130	0	0	0	23	14	5
131	0	0	0	22	13	4
132	0	0	0	21	13	4
133	0	0	0	20	12	4
134	0	0	0	19	11	4
135	0	0	0	18	11	4
136	0	0	0	17	10	3
137	0	0	0	16	10	3
138	0	0	0	15	9	3
139	0	0	0	14	8	3
140	0	0	0	13	8	3
141	0	0	0	12	7	2
142	0	0	0	11	7	2
143	0	0	0	10	6	2
144	0	0	0	9	5	2
145	0	0	0	8	5	2
146	0	0	0	7	4	1
147	0	0	0	6	4	1
148	0	0	0	5	3	1
149	0	0	0	4	2	1
150	0	0	0	3	2	1
151	0	0	0	2	1	1
152	0	0	0	1	1	1
153	0	0	0	1	1	1
154	0	0	0	1	1	1
155	0	0	0	1	1	1
156	0	0	0	1	1	1
157	0	0	0	1	1	1
158	0	0	0	1	1	1
159	0	0	0	1	1	1
160	0	0	0	1	1	1
161	0	0	0	1	1	1
162	0	0	0	1	1	1

WOMEN

Position	CT	Challenger Series Hawaii	Challenger Series	QS5000	QS3000	QS1000
	7	6	5	4	3	1
1	10000	10000	10000	5000	3000	1000
2	7800	7800	7800	3900	2340	800
3	6085	6085	6085	3042	1825	650
4	0	5685	0	2792	1675	600
5	4745	4745	4745	2282	1423	500
6	0	0	0	2145	1340	483
7	0	4545	0	2007	1258	445
8	0	0	0	1988	1208	403
9	2610	3320	3320	1575	945	350
10	0	0	0	1542	904	342
11	0	0	0	1508	870	333
12	0	0	0	1474	833	314
13	0	3120	0	1440	796	295
14	0	0	0	1280	720	276
15	0	0	0	1120	640	258
16	0	0	0	960	560	239
17	1045	1900	1900	800	480	200
18	0	0	0	790	470	192
19	0	0	1700	780	460	186
20	0	0	1550	770	450	180
21	0	0	0	760	440	174
22	0	0	0	750	430	168
23	0	0	0	740	420	162
24	0	0	0	730	410	156
25	0	1700	1700	720	400	150
26	0	0	0	687	375	140
27	0	0	0	654	350	130
28	0	0	0	621	325	120
29	0	0	0	588	300	110

30	0	0	0	555	275	100
31	0	0	0	522	250	90
32	0	0	0	489	225	80
33	0	700	700	450	200	66
34	0	0	0	448	197	66
35	0	0	0	445	197	66
36	0	0	0	442	196	65
37	0	0	0	439	195	65
38	0	0	0	435	194	65
39	0	0	0	431	193	64
40	0	0	0	428	191	64
41	0	650	0	425	190	63
42	0	0	0	421	188	63
43	0	0	0	418	188	63
44	0	0	0	415	186	62
45	0	0	0	412	185	62
46	0	0	0	409	184	61
47	0	0	0	406	182	61
48	0	0	0	403	181	60
49	0	0	600	400	180	60
50	0	0	0	390	178	59
51	0	0	0	385	177	59
52	0	0	0	380	176	59
53	0	0	0	375	175	58
54	0	0	0	363	173	58
55	0	0	0	355	172	57
56	0	0	0	347	171	57
57	0	0	0	339	170	57
58	0	0	0	331	169	56
59	0	0	0	323	167	56
60	0	0	0	315	166	55
61	0	0	0	307	165	55
62	0	0	0	299	164	55
63	0	0	0	291	162	54

64	0	0	0	283	161	54
65	0	0	0	275	160	53
66	0	0	0	264	158	53
67	0	0	0	262	157	52
68	0	0	0	260	156	52
69	0	0	0	258	155	52
70	0	0	0	256	154	51
71	0	0	0	254	152	51
72	0	0	0	252	151	50
73	0	0	0	250	150	50
74	0	0	0	243	146	49
75	0	0	0	237	142	47
76	0	0	0	231	139	46
77	0	0	0	230	134	45
78	0	0	0	228	131	44
79	0	0	0	227	127	42
80	0	0	0	226	124	41
81	0	0	0	225	120	40
82	0	0	0	194	116	39
83	0	0	0	187	112	37
84	0	0	0	181	109	36
85	0	0	0	175	105	35
86	0	0	0	168	101	34
87	0	0	0	162	97	32
88	0	0	0	156	94	31
89	0	0	0	150	90	30
90	0	0	0	144	86	29
91	0	0	0	138	83	28
92	0	0	0	132	79	26
93	0	0	0	126	76	25
94	0	0	0	120	72	24
95	0	0	0	114	68	23
96	0	0	0	107	64	21
97	0	0	0	100	60	20

98	0	0	0	97	58	19
99	0	0	0	93	56	19
100	0	0	0	89	53	18
101	0	0	0	85	51	17
102	0	0	0	82	49	16
103	0	0	0	78	47	16
104	0	0	0	74	44	15
105	0	0	0	70	42	14
106	0	0	0	67	40	13
107	0	0	0	63	38	13
108	0	0	0	59	35	12
109	0	0	0	55	33	11
110	0	0	0	52	31	10
111	0	0	0	48	29	10
112	0	0	0	44	26	9
113	0	0	0	40	24	8
114	0	0	0	39	23	8
115	0	0	0	38	23	8
116	0	0	0	37	22	7
117	0	0	0	30	22	7
118	0	0	0	30	21	7
119	0	0	0	30	20	7
120	0	0	0	30	20	7
121	0	0	0	30	19	6
122	0	0	0	30	19	6
123	0	0	0	30	18	6
124	0	0	0	29	17	6
125	0	0	0	28	17	6
126	0	0	0	27	16	5
127	0	0	0	26	16	5
128	0	0	0	25	15	5
129	0	0	0	24	14	5
130	0	0	0	23	14	5
131	0	0	0	22	13	4

132	0	0	0	21	13	4
133	0	0	0	20	12	4
134	0	0	0	19	11	4
135	0	0	0	18	11	4
136	0	0	0	17	10	3
137	0	0	0	16	10	3
138	0	0	0	15	9	3
139	0	0	0	14	8	3
140	0	0	0	13	8	3
141	0	0	0	12	7	2
142	0	0	0	11	7	2
143	0	0	0	10	6	2
144	0	0	0	9	5	2
145	0	0	0	8	5	2
146	0	0	0	7	4	1
147	0	0	0	6	4	1
148	0	0	0	5	3	1
149	0	0	0	4	2	1
150	0	0	0	3	2	1
151	0	0	0	2	1	1
152	0	0	0	1	1	1
153	0	0	0	1	1	1
154	0	0	0	1	1	1
155	0	0	0	1	1	1
156	0	0	0	1	1	1
157	0	0	0	1	1	1
158	0	0	0	1	1	1
159	0	0	0	1	1	1
160	0	0	0	1	1	1
161	0	0	0	1	1	1
162	0	0	0	1	1	1



**APPENDIX C**  
**2023 QS AND CHALLENGER SERIES EVENT PRIZE MONEY**

If the format for a QS or Challenger Series Event changes from the format specified in this Rule Book, the prize money may need to be adjusted to ensure equal prize money for men and women.

<b>2024 MEN'S RATES 1-on-1 Rd16</b>			<b>2024 WOMEN'S RATES 1-on-1 Rd16</b>		
<b>CHALLENGER</b>	80 Format	Men	<b>CHALLENGER</b>	48 Format	Women
\$167,600	Prize	One on One	\$128,800	Prize	One on One
1st	\$20,000	\$20,000	1st	\$20,000	\$20,000
2nd	\$10,000	\$10,000	2nd	\$10,000	\$10,000
3rd	\$5,000	\$10,000	3rd	\$5,000	\$10,000
5th	\$3,500	\$14,000	5th	\$3,500	\$14,000
9th	\$2,500	\$20,000	9th	\$2,500	\$20,000
17th	\$2,100	\$16,800	17th	\$2,100	\$16,800
25th	\$2,000	\$16,000	25th	\$2,000	\$16,000
33rd	\$1,500	\$24,000	33rd	\$1,500	\$12,000
49th	\$1,250	\$20,000	41st	\$1,250	\$10,000
65th	\$1,100	\$8,800			
73rd	\$1,000	\$8,000			
	Total=	\$167,600		Total=	\$128,800

2024 QS Prize Money, for both Men's and Women's regional events, will be as follows; QS1000 - \$10,000 / QS3000 - \$30,000 / QS5000 - \$50,000. Regions may pay out prize money in local currencies, following approval from the Office of Tours and Competition.

## APPENDIX D DEFINITIONS

**\$** means dollars in the United States currency. All amounts described will be excluding applicable taxes

**Air** means when the Surfer is on a Ride, their board becomes airborne and they complete the maneuver.

**Alternates** are Surfers that are substituted into the Event when an opportunity arises such as a confirmed Surfer no-show.

**Amateur** means a Surfer that competes under an amateur organization or identifies themselves as an amateur Surfer therefore submitting to the fact there will be specific provisions made for the payment of any Prize Money earned.

**Beach Marshall** means the WSL official selected by the Event's Director to inform Surfers of heat times, formats, Event's schedule, Priority, rash vest selection, etc., and who reports to the Head Judge and WSL Tour Director.

**Base Seed Points** means the points that Surfers receive at the beginning of each year as calculated in the relevant part of this Rule Book.

**Beach Entry** means a Surfer that wishes to enter an Event at the Event site prior to the start of any heats.

**BW Season** means from November 1 and until March 31 of the following year.

**Caddy** (also referred to as *Caddies*) is a nominated person by the Surfer to provide any extra equipment directly to a Surfer during competition and who must act in accordance with the WSL Rules and abide by directions from WSL at all times, or the Surfer will be responsible and may be subject to discipline under this Rule Book for the Caddy's actions.

**Call Interference** is where the majority of Judges have deemed that one Surfer has interfered with the other due to an effect on another Surfer's scoring potential.

**Challenger Series** means the series of Events featuring a global field of up-and-comers and Surfers who have been relegated from the Championship Tour who are seeking to qualify for the Championship Tour..

**Challenger Series Season** means the Events that make up the Challenger Series during a Surfing Season.

**Championship Tour Athlete Agreement** means agreement that is signed by all CT Surfers applicable to each Surfing Season and terms of entry that includes any waiver or consent attached to the same.

**Combined Event** means combined men's and women's Qualifying Series Events.

**Competition Area** means the area of the surf that has been officially designated by the Head Judge and may be indicated by buoys, flags or banners as the area where Surfers may catch waves that can be scored as a Ride.

- Competition Director** means the individual appointed from a short list approved in advance by the CT Surfer Representative.
- Competition Matters** means any matters relating to the CT and/or CT Events, including ranking and scoring systems, format, qualifying protocol, judging systems, equipment specifications, safety and welfare provision for Surfers during CT Events.
- Concussion Protocol** means [·].
- Consumer Wetsuit Company** means a company that is in the regular business of manufacturing wetsuits for sale to consumers (e.g., Billabong, Quiksilver, Roxy, Patagonia, Body Glove, Buell, Vissla, XCEL, AXXE, Roxy, Sistrevolution, ROARK, Outerknown, O'Neill, Hurley), as determined by WSL.
- Content** means all material posted on Social Media, including links to other websites.
- CT means** the championship tour as designated by WSL.
- CT Rankings** means Surfer rankings exclusively from CT Events or Women's CT Events.
- CT Seeds** are Surfers that have been seeded in an Event and are currently on the CT.
- CT Surfer** means any Surfer that has qualified for each CT Event in a Surfing Season (i.e., not a Wildcard or Replacement).
- CT Surfer Representative** means the representative appointed by the CT Surfers from a short list (including at least three (3) options) approved by WSL.
- Defect Wave** means a clearly inferior wave when compared to the majority of waves provided by a WS for other competitors during the round.
- Disciplinary Action** means sanctions, verbal warnings, written warnings, probation, suspension or expulsion from an Event, monetary penalties (fines), non-monetary penalties or a combination of the foregoing.
- Discipline Committee** means a committee of qualified individuals (which may include the Head of the Office of Tours and Competition) selected by WSL at any time.
- Discipline Director** refers to the person or persons appointed by the Head of Tours and Competition to investigate rule violations and has authority to impose discipline as provided in Chapters 14.
- Discipline Violations** means a breach of any kind of the Rules in this Rule Book, whether or not the breach is intended, conspired, or participated in by others.
- Double Interference** occurs where the Judges decide a double interference applies and the two (2) Surfers share responsibility for the collision or other interference with each other.
- Double Qualifier** means a CT Surfer that qualifies for the following year's CT Surfing Season as (i) one of the top twenty-two (22) men from the current CT Rankings at the end of the current Surfing Season and the top ten (10) men from the CS Ranking at the end of the current Surfing Season or (ii) one of the top ten (10) women from the current CT Rankings at the end of the current Surfing Season and the top five (5) women from the QS Ranking at the end of the current Surfing Season.
- Entry Fees** are monies that are required to be paid in full prior to a Surfer being able to enter a WSL Event.
- Event** means any Event conducted or licensed by WSL or a WSL Regional Office. This includes an Event in any of the WSL Tours or a Specialty Event or Trials that are conducted to determine any number of Surfers

that will compete in the main Event.

**Event Planner** are the documents and guidelines that are issued annually to the Events as a guide as to what is expected from their particular Event.

**Event Site** means the site described in the relevant license agreement for where the Event is to be held. The Event Site includes but is not limited to the Competition Area in the surf, all the structures and infrastructure surrounding the adjacent areas to the Competition Area and any other area or structure that can be reasonably assumed to be associated with conducting or managing the Event.

**Event Start Date** refers to the first day of the Event Window.

**Event Window** means the time allocated for an Event to start and complete all heats and finals according to the WSL Schedule.

**Force Majeure Event** means any event affecting performance of an obligation arising from or attributable to acts, events, omissions or accidents which are beyond the reasonable control of a party, including without limitation the following events to the extent that they are beyond a party's reasonable control: flood, lightning, storm, fire, explosion, earthquake, subsidence, structural damage, epidemic, pandemic or other natural physical disaster or event, war, military operations, riot, crowd disorder, terrorist action, threatened terrorist action, civil commotion (or reasonable threat of any of the foregoing), failure or shortage of power supplies, breakdown in machinery, flight delays or cancellation, motor accidents, labor strike, lock-outs or other labor disruptions (in each case by persons other than a Surfer, or any other person with whom a Surfer is affiliated). As Force Majeure Event applies to an Event, it will include the inability of WSL/Event Licensee to conduct an Event for commercial or budget reasons, in the sole discretion of WSL.

**Governmental Authority** means any international, foreign, federal, state or local government, or political subdivision thereof; or any organization or authority, or any authority, agency or commission entitled to exercise any administrative, executive, judicial, legislative, police, regulatory, oversight, quasi governmental or taxing authority or power, any court or tribunal (or any department, bureau or division thereof), or any arbitrator or arbitral body.

**Head Judge** means [-].

**Head of Tours and Competition** means the individual with the authority referred to within this Rule Book or as otherwise granted by the Office of Tours and Competition, and who may delegate such authority as required.

**Inside Position** means a position in the Line-up that, anticipating incoming waves, would result in a Surfer being closest to the peak of a breaking wave.

**Interference** is where a Surfer hinders another Surfer's ability to maximize their scoring potential while riding a wave.

**International Surfers** are Surfers that are registered at a Regional Office that is not the Regional Office running the Event.

**Judge** means an individual who has been approved by WSL as someone qualified to sit on a judging panel at a WSL Event.

**Judge's Sheet** is the paper or electronic-based sheet where Judges record their score and anything else that needs to be recorded.

**JQS** means junior qualification series.

**Lack of Surf** means that the waves at the Event site are not of sufficient size,

direction or quality as determined by the Office of Tours and Competition to successfully stage the Event.

**Last Seeded Round** means the highest round (i.e., furthest from the start of the Event) where a Surfer's seeding in an Event determines their placing in the round.

**License Fee** means the fee required in the relevant license agreement to be paid to WSL for the right to conduct an Event.

**Licensing Region** means the WSL Regional Office that has licensed the relevant Event in their Region and is licensed to act on behalf of WSL in the designated Region.

**Life Members** must have satisfied the requirements for Life membership for WSL. This is only provided by WSL.

**LQS** means Longboard Qualification Series conducted by the WSL Regional Offices.

**Malibu** means a surfboard that is longer than nine (9) feet and shaped with a rounded nose.

**Manual Judging Sheets** means paper-based sheets that are used by WSL Judges to score and record points scored by Surfers in an Event.

**Mid-Season Cut** means the reduction of the men's and women's fields from 36 and 18 to 24 and 12, respectively at the Surfing Season's midway point.

**Mid-Season Date** shall be the date specified by the Office of Tours and Competition.

**Office of Tours and Competition** will mean the department of WSL provided the authority to govern the rules and integrity of WSL Events and tours.

**Official Area** means any part of the Event Site that is not available to the general public.

**Overlapping Heats** means when Surfers from two separate heats are in the water at the same time during an Event.

**Pandemic Response Matter** means any event, fact, circumstance or occurrence directly or indirectly arising out of or related to any worldwide or nationwide pandemic (e.g., the novel coronavirus commonly known as "COVID-19"), any subsequent outbreak of such pandemic or any mutation, adaptation or variation thereof, any quarantine, "shelter in place," "stay at home," workforce reduction, social distancing, shut down, closure, sequester or any other applicable law, directive, policy, action, guideline or recommendation by any Governmental Authority or WSL related to any of the foregoing or in response thereto (including the cancellation, postponement, relocation or rescheduling of any Events or conducting of any Events without in-person spectators or with reduced spectator capacity), or any other public health, economic, social or other consequences related to any of the foregoing matters.

**Person** means a natural person, an organization or other entity that is bound to and must comply with this Rule Book, including, but not limited to, Surfers and Support Staff. The context will determine whether a legal entity, natural person or both will apply to a situation.

**Photographers** mean any photographer that has been authorized to film or shot photos pursuant to the procedures established by the WSL or the Event media accreditation process.

**Plus/Minus System** means a system used if an Event does not use the computer scoring system where each Judge nominates the position of each of the Surfers in relation to each other from one (1) to four (4). If

there are five (5) Judges, for example, the Surfer's aggregate positions are placed against each other and a winner is declared.

**Primary Take-Off Zone** means the area of the line-up that is considered the primary area for Surfers to begin their Ride within the Competition Area, as determined by the Priority Judge.

**Priority** means when a Surfer has the unconditional right of way to catch any wave they choose. Other surfers in the heat can paddle for, and catch, the same wave, but only if they do not hinder the scoring potential of a Surfer with priority.

**Priority Allocation** means the Priority Judge determining who the Priority Surfer is (and other Priority positions) during a heat of an Event.

**Priority Disc** is a colored cube (or other approved display system) positioned at the Judges Area clearly visible from any point in the Competition Area. The purpose of this disc is to indicate which Surfer has Priority to the next available wave.

**Priority Judge** means the Judge responsible for determining Priority during an Event.

**Priority Surfer** is the Surfer with an unconditional right of way to any wave over the other Surfers (or the Surfers with lower Priority than them).

**Prize Money** means the money received by a Surfer for making it into a certain round of an Event.

**Prize Money Round** is the round of an Event where Surfers receive Prize Money from that point onwards.

**Prone Position** means to be lying on the surfboard on their stomach.

**Protest** means making a formal report regarding an incident or decision pursuant to this Rule Book.

**QS** means the WSL qualification series of Events (including Challenger Series Events), which results are considered when determining QS Points for a particular Surfer.

**QS Points** means points as described in Appendix B and are earned by competing in QS/Challenger Series Events.

**QS Ranking** means the ranking provided to a Surfer from accumulated QS Points at a particular time.

**QS Seeding Points** are based on a combination of the prior year's final QS Ranking points and the current QS Ranking points earned until the Mid-Season Date as determined by WSL. From the Mid-Season Date onwards, the current QS Ranking points will be the QS Seeding Points for the Surfer.

**Region** is the designated domain of the world that a particular Regional Office has control of in relation to WSL operations as decided by WSL from time to time.

**Regional Champion** means the Surfer who has the highest amount of Regional Ranking Points at the end of the prior Surfing Season.

**Regional Office** is the entity and WSL Representatives acting on behalf of WSL in their respective Region. They are the WSL contact point for all Surfers in their Region and any Events held in their Region. Contact details can be found in Appendix E of this Rule Book.

**Regional Qualifying Event** means a Qualifying Series Event that takes place in a Region.

**Regional Rankings** is the ranking calculated in accordance with Rule 2.10.

**Regular Season CT Event** are all CT Events that take place during a Surfing Season and prior to the WSL Finals.

**Regular Season CT Event** are all CT Events that take place during a Surfing

Season and prior to the WSL Finals.

**Regular Season WLT Event** are all WLT Events that take place during a Surfing Season and prior to the WLT Finals.

**Replacement Wave** is when a Head Judge determines that a wave produced by a WS is a Defect Wave, and the Surfer is provided an opportunity to Ride another wave in the same direction and of the same type (if applicable).

**Retired Surfer** means a Surfer who competed the previous year on the CT and provided WSL with written notice of retirement prior to the start of the calendar year in which they wish to be retire or a Surfer who has died.

**Ride** is when a Surfer's hands leave the rails of their surfboard and lasts until the Surfer falls off their board or exits the wave.

**Right of Way** is the right a Surfer has to exploit the wave they are riding to maximize their scoring potential.

**Run** means a left and right wave.

**Scoring Judge** means a Judge on the Judging Panel who scores a Surfer's Ride.

**Seeding Benefits** means a Surfer is seeded in an Event and are only available if they satisfy all requirements with the relevant WSL Office and have paid any required fees.

**Seeding Order** will determine who a Surfer competes against during an Event.

**Social Media** means any form of online or interactive media, including, but not limited to profiles, commentary, writings, photographs, images, logos, and audio or video files posted on outlets including but not limited to Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, X (formerly known as Twitter), TikTok, Threads, blogs, podcasts, message boards and websites.

**Special Committee** will mean a committee comprised of two (2) members: (1) a CT Surfer Representative appointed by the CT Surfers from shortlist (including at least three (3) options) approved in advance by WSL and (2) a Competition Director appointed by WSL from a shortlist approved by the CT Surfers.

**Specialty Events** are Events that are not part of any particular WSL Tour but are licensed by WSL as a one-off Event.

**Sportsmanlike Conduct** is defined as, but not limited to: respect for WSL Tour and Event sponsors, Judges, opponents, WSL management members, WSL Representatives, spectators, member of the media or any other person within the designated Event site; respect for facilities, privileges and operation procedures at Events; the use of courtesy and good manners at Events; acting responsibly and maturely at Events; refraining from any visible gesture which is commonly understood to be derogatory, profane, and/or highly offensive, or would indicate a sexually explicit act; and refraining from intentional and purposeful display and /or exposure of nudity; and refraining from the use of: (a) profane or abusive language at Event venues (in any language); (b) illegal (e.g. under age) or immoderate use of alcohol at WSL Event venues; and (c) the use of illegal drugs.

**Superior** is the direction which has the highest scoring potential, determined by each individual Judge at point of take-off.

**Support Staff** means without limitation any coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, official, medical or para-medical personnel working with or treating a Surfer to participate or preparing to compete in an Event.

**Surf Off** means two (2) or more Surfers surfing against each other in a format prescribed in this Rule Book or as decided by the Office of Tours and

Competition or its relevant representative.

**Surfer** means an individual that satisfies the requirements of WSL to compete in Events.

**Surfers Area** is the area within the Event site where Surfers have exclusive access to and where they can get ready to compete while watching other Surfers surf in the Event.

**Surfer's Representative** means a nominated individual by the Surfers at the Event. This representative is to be nominated amicably between the Surfers present or available at the Event. If this decision cannot be made, the highest-ranking Surfer will make a unilateral decision on the Representative provided the Surfer accepts the decision.

**Surfing Director** will have the roles and responsibilities as required by the Office of Tours and Competition or as prescribed in this Rule Book. In addition to the above, for non-CT Events, this individual should be referred to at first instance for any obligations owed by the Event licensee.

**Surfing Season** means all Events that make up the relevant Tour in which the Rule applies or in which the Surfer competes. The WSL schedule is a good guide to what Events are included in each Surfing Season. This will usually run within the calendar year however, there are rare exceptions.

**Tabulator** is a person designated by the Event to check Judges manual scores with the computer printout at the end of each heat.

**Throwaway** means the Event where a Surfer earned the least points in that tour year.

**Trials** means competition conducted by an Event licensee or promoter with the purpose of selecting Surfers to compete in the relevant Event.

**Verbal Warning** is a warning provided on the spot to the breaching individual verbally and is to be recorded by the WSL Representative with the WSL Rules and Disciplinary Committee in writing for referral purposes as soon as practicable. A repeat of such a warning can result in further Disciplinary Action.

**Vested Interest** means to have a personal interest (e.g., financial, commercial etc.) other than within the capacity that the individual acts within this Rule Book (e.g., a Judge that also acts as a shareholder or even on a Board of Directors of a business entity that is affiliated in anyway with a Surfer).

**VIP Bar Area** is an area within the official's area where the consumption of alcohol is permitted, subject to any conditions applicable to the particular location or Event.

**WADA** means the World Anti-Doping Agency and, where applicable, its prohibited substances list.

**Wave System Events** are Events that are held in a man-made basin where all forces creating the wave are artificial.

**Wildcard** is the wildcard selected by WSL in a process prescribed or if not, at WSL discretion for the particular Event or Events as described in the context described and unless defined elsewhere in this Rule Book.

**WJC** stands for the World Junior Championship, which may form part of the World Junior Tour.

**WLT** means World Longboard Tour.

**WLT Event** means exclusive, elite Events held in idyllic locations, featuring the best male/female longboard Surfers in the world with results determining the undisputed WLT Champions.



**WLT Rankings** means Surfer rankings exclusively from WLT Events.

**Women's CT** means the exclusive, elite event held in idyllic locations, featuring the top sixteen (16) female Surfers in the world with results contributing to the WSL Women's CT Rankings and the WSL Women's CT.

**Women's World Junior Rankings** means Surfer rankings from WSL Women's World Junior Tour.

**Women's World Longboard Rankings** means Surfer rankings from WSL Women's World Longboard Tour.

**Women's World Title** means the points collected through a Surfing Season that contributes to the Surfer's ranking towards being the WSL Women's World Champion, which are only calculated from WSL Women's CT Events.

**World Championship Tour (referred to as "CT")** means exclusive, elite Events held in idyllic locations, featuring the top thirty-four (34) male Surfers in the world with results determining the undisputed WSL World Champion.

**World Junior Rankings** means Surfer rankings from WSL World Junior Tour.

**World Junior Tour event** means exclusive, elite event held in idyllic locations, featuring the best male/female junior Surfers in the world with results determining the undisputed WSL World Junior Champions.

**World Longboard Rankings** means Surfer rankings from WSL World Longboard Tour.

**WSL** refers to the Association of Surfing Professionals LLC, a Delaware (United States) limited liability company doing business as World Surf League in its various capacities around the world in the Regions. Certain responsibilities of the WSL pertaining to fees may be assigned or delegated to other WSL Regional Entities.

**WSL App** means the WSL's proprietary application for the Apple Watch that provides time, scoring and priority data to Surfers during Events.

**WSL Approval** means approval received in writing signed by the relevant WSL representative acting under the authority of the Office of Tours and Competition for any activities that are indicated as requiring such approval. The written approval must indicate the exact Event/activity that the WSL is approving.

**WSL Event Representative** means an individual nominated by the relevant WSL Regional Office at each Event.

**WSL Medical Coordinator** is the individual nominated and authorized by WSL to act as medical coordinator.

**WSL Regional Representative** means an individual that has the authority to act on behalf of a WSL Regional Office. The authority of the representative shall be dictated by the agreement as formed between the WSL Regional Office and the individual.

**WSL Representative** means any individual with a power authorized under this Rule Book or another document entered into, adopted or ratified by the WSL and includes WSL Surfers, Judges, officials, Event employees and volunteers.

**WSL Rules** means the rules within this Rule Book together with any update from time to time as published on the WSL website but WSL.

**WSL Safety Plan** means the safety and security plan that is developed for an Event.

**WSL Schedule** refers to the calendar of WSL Events that lists the dates, rating, status, location and other information relating to each of the Events for the respective year which can be found on the WSL Website from time

to time as it is updated in the sole discretion of WSL.

**WSL Tour Director** means the individual employed by WSL to liaise with Surfers and Events at all times during the year and to fulfill their various obligations at the Events of their respective Tour. For example; the WSL Men's Tour Manager has the above responsibilities for the WSL Men's CT Surfers.

**WSL Tour Representative** means a WSL Representative that has been specifically nominated to act pursuant to this Rule Book by the WSL Tour Director.

**WSL Tours** means the CT, QS Events, Masters Series, WLT, LQS, WJC or Regional Junior Series, each for men and women where applicable.

**WSL Website** means [www.worldsurfleague.com](http://www.worldsurfleague.com)

**WSL Wildcard** means the Surfers selected by the Office of Tours and Competition to compete as wildcard entries in Events in the Surfing Season.

## APPENDIX E

### WSL REGIONAL OFFICES

Africa		Europe	
Post	PO Box 1033, Eppingdust Cape Town, South Africa, 7475	Post	86 Avenue de la fare – BP26, 40150, Hossegor, France
Email	<a href="mailto:africa@worldsurfleague.com">africa@worldsurfleague.com</a>	Email	<a href="mailto:europe@worldsurfleague.com">europe@worldsurfleague.com</a>
Phone	+27 21 534 5738	Phone	+33 558 776 517
Fax	+27 21 534 5738	Fax	
Address		Address	86 Avenue de la fare – BP26, 40150, Hossegor, France
South America		North America	
Post	Pca. Bento Silverio, 121, sala 6 Lagoa da Conceição CEP: 88062-000 Florianopolis, SC Brazil	Post	PO Box 309 Huntington Beach, CA 92648, USA
Email	<a href="mailto:southamerica@worldsurfleague.com">southamerica@worldsurfleague.com</a>	Email	<a href="mailto:northamerica@worldsurfleague.com">northamerica@worldsurfleague.com</a>
Phone	+55 48 2321009	Phone	+714 536 3500
Fax	+55 48 2321576	Fax	+714 536 4482
Address	Pca. Bento Silverio, 121, sala 6 Lagoa da Conceição CEP: 88062-000 Florianopolis, SC Brazil	Address	
Hawaii/Tahiti Nui			
Post	PO Box 223 Haleiwa HI USA 96712		
Email	<a href="mailto:hawaii@worldsurfleague.com">hawaii@worldsurfleague.com</a>		
Phone	Admin: +18084928551 Members: +18084971167		
Fax			
Address	66-250 Suite D200, Kamehameha Hwy, Haleiwa HI USA 96712		
Asia-Pacific (APAC)		International Headquarters	
Post	PO Box 1095, Coolangatta QLD 4225, Australia	Post	2201 Rosecrans Avenue, El Segundo, California, 90245 USA
Email	<a href="mailto:australasia@worldsurfleague.com">australasia@worldsurfleague.com</a>	Email	<a href="mailto:support@worldsurfleague.com">support@worldsurfleague.com</a>
Phone	+61 7 5599 1550	Phone	+1 310-450-1212
Fax	+61 7 5599 3550	Fax	+1 310-399-2152
Address	Suite 213, Level E, Showcase on the Beach, 72-80 Marine Parade Coolangatta, QLD 4225, Australia	Address	2201 Rosecrans Avenue, El Segundo, California, 90245 USA

