



WSL RULE BOOK 2026

LAST UPDATED: July 20, 2026.

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

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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, and Wave System Events that will be in effect for the 2026 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 relating to the Championship Tour (CT) 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, refer to Rule 1.09 and 1.10.
- (c) Subject to Rule 1.05(b), all ties on year-end CT Rankings 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 average heat score from 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.
- (d) CT Ranking Points will be awarded at all CT Events to all CT Surfers other than Event Wildcards.

1.06 **Formats**

- (a) Men's Regular Season CT Events prior to the Cut shall consist of thirty-six (36) Surfers and the following format will be used:
 - (i) Round One is four (4) heats of two (2) Surfers with 1st progressing to Round Two and 2nd place finishing 33rd/500 pts.
 - (ii) Round Two is sixteen (16) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to Round Three and 2nd place finishing 17th/1000 pts.

- (iii) Round Three is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2nd place finishing 9th/3310 pts.
 - (iv) The Quarter Finals 5th/4745 pts., Semi Finals, 3rd/6085 pts., and the Final, 2nd 7800 pts., 1st/10000 pts., are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each heat progressing until a winner is declared in the Finals.
- (b) Men's CT Events after the Cut shall consist of twenty-four (24) Surfers and the following format will be used:
 - (i) Round One is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with 1st place progressing to Round Two and 2nd place finishing 17th/1000 pts.
 - (ii) Round Two is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2nd place finishing 9th/2500 pts.
 - (iii) The Quarter Finals, 5th/4745 pts., Semi Finals 3rd/6085 pts., and the Final, 2nd/7800 pts., 1st/10000 pts., are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each heat progressing until a winner is declared in the Finals.
- (c) Men's CT Final Event shall be held at Pipeline and shall consist of thirty-six (36) Surfers; Pipe Masters Event will award 50% more rankings points than a Regular Season CT Event: and the following format will be used:
 - (i) Round One is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with 1st place progressing to Round Two and 2nd place finishing 33rd/750 pts.
 - (ii) Round Two is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to Round Three and 2nd place finishing 25th/1500 pts.
 - (iii) Round Three is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to Round Four and 2nd place finishing 17th/3240 pts.
 - (iv) Round Four is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to Quarter-finals and 2nd place finishing 9th/4980 pts.
 - (v) The Quarter Finals=5th/7115 pts, Semi Finals=3rd/9125 pts and the Final/2nd/11700 & 1st/15000 pts are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each heat progressing until a winner is declared in the Final.
- (d) Women's Regular Season CT Events shall consist of twenty-four (24) Surfers prior to the Cut and the following format will be used:
 - (i) Round One is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers, with 1st progressing to Round Two and 2nd place finishing 17th/1000 pts.
 - (ii) Round Two is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2nd place finishing 9th/2000 pts.
 - (iv) The Quarter Finals, 5th/4745 pts., Semi Finals, 3rd/6085 pts., and the Final, 2nd/7800 pts., 1st/10000 pts., are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each heat progressing until a winner is declared in the Final.
- (e) Women's CT Events shall consist of sixteen (16) Surfers after the

Cut and the following format will be used:

- (i) Round One is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with 1st place progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2nd place finishing 9th/2000 pts.
- (ii) The Quarter Finals, 5th/4745 pts., Semi Finals, 3rd/6085 pts., and the Final, 2nd/7800 pts., 1st/10000 pts., are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each progressing until a winner is declared in the Final.
- (f) Women's CT Final Event shall be held at Pipeline and shall consist of twenty-four (24) Surfers; Pipe Masters Event will award 50% more rankings points than a Regular Season CT Event; and the following format will be used:
 - (i) Round One is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers, with 1st progressing to Round Two and 2nd place finishing 17th/1500 pts.
 - (ii) Round Two is eight (8) heats of two (2) Surfers with the winner progressing to the Quarter Finals and 2nd place finishing 9th/3000 pts.
 - (iii) The Quarter Finals, 5th/7115 pts, Semi Finals, 3rd/9125 pts and the Final, 2nd/11700 pts & 1st/15000 pts are each two (2) Surfer heats with the winner of each heat progressing until a winner is declared in the Final.
- (g) CT heats will not be moved out of the original running order regardless of the Surfer's circumstances, except with the approval of the Office of Tours & Competition and only if a Surfer's surfboards have not arrived due to limited travel time between CT Events.
- (h) The Office of Tours & 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.
- (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 20% of that initial amount of Base Seed Points deducted from each of the first five(5) CT Events of the Surfing Season (Base Seed Points will be zero (0) from the 6th 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 & 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 six (6) CT Events in the Surfing Season and is their current CT Ranking when injured during any Event after the (sixth) 6th 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 between eleven (11) and twenty (20), the Surfer will be seeded 25;
 - (iii) If their Ranking before the Injury was between twenty-six (26) and thirty-four (34), the Surfer will be seeded 34.
 - (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.
 - (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 & Competition.
 - (j) A world champion returning to the CT after a one-year approved break, shall be seeded as follows: on the Men's CT, the eligible surfer will be seeded after the top 22 male surfers on the CT rankings and after any Injury Wild Card for the first event of the season; and on the Women's CT, the eligible Surfer will be seeded after the top 14 women surfer's and after any Injury Wild Card for the first event of the season.
 - (k) 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.
 - (l) Event seeding may only be altered or changed until 24 hours before the start of the Event Window.
 - (m) Men's 36 Pre-Cut Format shall be seeded the following way:
 - (i) Seeds 29-36 shall be seeded in Round One in 4 heats of 2 Surfers.
 - (ii) Seeds 29, 30, 31 and 32 will be pre-seeded in Round One. Seeds 33, 34, 35 & 36 will be randomly selected to determine their Heat in Round One.
 - (iii) Seeds 1-28 shall be pre-seeded in Round Two, along with the Round One heat winners, in 16 heats of 2 surfers.
 - (iv) The following "Fixed Brackets" shall determine the allocation of Round One heat winners into Round Two: 1.3/H3, 1.2/H6, 1.1/H9, 1.4/H13.

- (n) Men's 24 24 Post-Cut Format shall be seeded the following way:
 - (i) Seeds 9-24 shall be seeded in Round One in 8 heats of 2 Surfers.
 - (ii) Seeds 1-8 shall be pre-seeded in Round 2, along with the Round One Heat winners.
 - (iii) The following "Fixed Brackets shall determine the allocation of Round One heat winners into Round Two: 1.2/H1, 1.5/H2, 1.3/H3, 1.7/H4, 1.1/H5, 1.8/H6, 1.4/H7, 1.6/H8.
- (o) Men's 36 Pipe Masters Format shall be seeded the following way:
 - (i) Seeds 29-36 shall be seeded in Round One in 4 heat of 2 Surfers.
 - (ii) Seeds 29, 30, 31 and 32 will be pre-seeded in Round One. Seeds 33, 34, 35 & 36 will be randomly selected to determine their heat in Round One.
 - (iii) Seeds 17-28 shall be pre-seeded in Round Two, along with Round One heat winners, in 8 heats of 2 surfers. The following "Fixed Brackets" shall determine the allocation of Round One heat winners into Round Two: 1.3/3, 1.2/4, 1.1/6, 1.4/7.
 - (iv) Seeds 9-16 shall be pre-seeded in Round Three, along with Round Two heat winners, in 8 heats of 2 surfers. The following "Fixed Brackets" shall determine the allocation of Round Two heat winners into Round Three: 1.3/1, 1.2/2, 1.4/3, 1.1/4, 1.6/5, 1.5/6, 1.8/7, 1.7/8.
 - (v) Seeds 1-8 will be pre-seeded in Round 4, along with Round Three heat winners, in 8 heats of 2 surfers. The following "Fixed Brackets" shall determine the allocation of Round Three heat winners into Round Four: 1.3/1, 1.4/2, 1.2/3, 1.1/4, 1.5/5, 1.6/6, 1.8/7, 1.7/8.
- (p) Women's 24 Pre-Cut Format shall be seeded the following way:
 - (i) Seeds 9-24 shall be seeded in Round One in 8 heats of 2 Surfers.
 - (ii) Seeds 1-8 shall be pre-seeded in Round 2, along with the Round One heat winners.
 - (iii) The following "Fixed Brackets shall determine the allocation of Round One heat winners into Round Two: 1.2/H1, 1.5/H2, 1.3/H3, 1.7/H4, 1.1/H5, 1.8/H6, 1.4/H7, 1.6/H8.
- (q) Women's 16 Post-Cut format shall be seeded the following way:
 - (i) Seeds 1-16 shall be seeded in Round One in 8 heats of 2 surfers.
- (r) Women's 24 Pipe Format shall be seeded the following way:
 - (i) Seeds 9-24 shall be seeded in Round One in 8 heats of 2 Surfers.
 - (ii) Seeds 1-8 shall be pre-seeded in Round 2, along with the Round One heat winners.
 - (iii) The following "Fixed Brackets shall determine the allocation of Round One heat winners into Round Two: 1.2/H1, 1.5/H2, 1.3/H3, 1.7/H4, 1.1/H5, 1.8/H6, 1.4/H7, 1.6/H8.

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 & 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 & Competition will select the WSL Replacement in its sole discretion who will be eligible for a replacement spot for CT Events prior to the Cut. The Office of Tours & 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) A Surfer who has checked in and has to later withdraw for justifiable reasons, they may still receive Ranking Points and minimum Prize Money at the discretion of the Office of Tours & Competition (subject to verification).
- (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 Cut and return for the Final CT Event at Pipe Masters, with a thirty-six (36) man format. After the Cut, 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.
 - (ii) In the case of a tie for any of these positions refer to Rule 1.0(d) below.
 - (iii) One (1) WSL Event Wildcard, which may be a WSL Wildcard for all Events after the Cut or an Event Wildcard for individual events, as determined by the Office of Tours & Competition.
 - (iv) One (1) Event Wildcard where required.
- (b) If there are nine (9) Regular Season CT Events prior to the Cut, then there will be two (2) Throwaway for the purposes of determining the top twenty-two (22) men pursuant to Rule 1.09(a). For the year end Rankings, World Title decision and final overall Top 22 CT qualification, a surfers top nine (9) overall results shall count towards the surfers final adjusted ranking if there are twelve (12) CT events in a Surfing Season and a surfers top ten (10) overall results shall count towards the surfers final adjusted ranking if there are thirteen (13) CT events in a Surfing Season
- (c) Subject to Rule 1.09(d), the Surfers below will qualify for all WSL Events held prior to the Cut in the following year’s Men’s CT Surfing Season:
 - (i) the top twenty-two (22) men from the current CT Rankings;
 - (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 is also a Championship Tour Qualifier, the next surfer in line on the Challenger Series ranking will move up into a qualification spot.
- (d) In the case of a tie relating to Surfers ranked twenty-two (22) at the Cut and in the year-end CT Rankings, 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 average heat score from the CT Surfing Season will fill the twenty-two (22) spot and the lower ranked Surfer will not re-qualify.

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 Cut and return for the Final CT Event at Pipe Masters, with a twenty-four (24) woman format. After the Cut, the format will be reduced to sixteen (16) women, with the following breakdown:
 - (i) The top fourteen (14) women from the current CT Rankings, who will qualify for all CT Events after the Cut.
 - (ii) In the case of a tie for any of these positions refer to Rule 1.10(d) below.
 - (iii) One (1) WSL Event Wildcard, which may be a WSL Wildcard for all Events after the Cut or an Event Wildcard for individual events, as determined by the Office of Tours & Competition.
 - (iv) One (1) Event Wildcard where required.
- (b) If there are nine (9) Regular Season CT Events prior to the Cut, then there will be one (1) Throwaway for the purposes of determining the top fourteen (14) women pursuant to Rule 1.09(a). For the year end Rankings, World Title decision and final overall Top 14 CT qualification, a surfers top nine (9) overall results shall count towards the Surfers final adjusted ranking if there are twelve (12) CT events in a Surfing Season and a surfers top ten(10) overall results shall count towards the surfers final adjusted ranking if there are thirteen (13) CT events in a Surfing Season

- (c) Subject to Rule 1.10(c), the Surfers below will qualify for all events held prior to the Cut in the following year's Women's CT Season:
 - (i) the top fourteen (14) women at the end of the current Surfing Season;
 - (ii) For the 2026 CT Surfing Season: from the Challenger Series Ranking at the end of the current Surfing Season who have not already qualified as one of the top fourteen (14) Surfers from the current CT Rankings; for the 2027 CT Surfing Season and beyond the top six (6) women from the Challenger Series Ranking at the end of the then current Challenger Series Surfing Season who have not already qualified as on the top fourteen (14) Surfer from the then current CT Season except in the event that there are no applicants for the Maternity Wildcard (as set under this section 1.12(b)) in which case one additional spot shall be available to the surfer who places 7th at the end of the then current Challenger Series Surfing Season.
 - (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 is also a Championship Tour Qualifier, the next surfer in line on the Challenger Series ranking will move up into a qualification spot.
- (d) In the case of a tie relating to Surfers ranked fourteen (14) 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 fourteen (14) spot. If the tie is not broken, clause (y) will apply;
 - (y) The Surfer with the higher average heat score from the CT Surfing Season will fill the fourteen (14) spot and the lower ranked Surfer will not re-qualify.

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(d), for each Surfing Season at Regular Season CT Events:
Up to the 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 & 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 & 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 Cut;

- (ii) two(2) (men) / two(2) (women) wildcard/s will be selected by the Office of Tours and Competition for each CT Event after the Cut for which the WSL has an Event Wildcard. Event Wildcards will not receive CT Ranking Points.
- (b) **Maternity Wild Card.** One (1) additional women wildcard shall be reserved at the start of the 2027 CT Surfing Season and thereafter for a female athlete who has taken a Maternity Break from participation at the CT for Pregnancy pursuant to section 1.18 of the Rule Book. A surfer who wishes to apply for the Maternity Wild card must do so no later than November 1 of the calendar year preceding the CT Season in which the surfer intends to participate; and must return for the start of the CT Season that occurs within 24 months of the start of the Maternity Break. WSL reserves the right to grant the Maternity Wildcard upon receipt of an application, and any subsequent application received after the Maternity Wildcard has been granted shall be placed into consideration for a subsequent CT Season. In the event that there is more than 1 (one) applicant for the Maternity Wildcard for any Surfing Season, the Maternity Wildcard shall be granted as follows: (i) World Champions to take precedence, and will be weighted based on the number of World Titles held; and if no applicant is a World Champion, or if more than 1(one) World Champion applies (and the applicants all hold the same

number of World Titles), (ii) highest ranking of each applicant on the prior CT season that the applicant competed on. In the event that there are no applicants for the Maternity Wildcard under this section 1.12(b) the Maternity Wildcard shall be available to the surfer who places 7th through the CS rankings.

- (c) A Surfer may take a maximum of one (1) consecutive year (i.e. one CT Surfing Season) as an excused absence from WSL competition and retain eligibility to apply for a wildcard upon return. This provision applies to maternity; injury or medical leave and to all other absences which are excused in advance by the WSL.

- (d) All Wildcards must sign the Championship Tour Athlete Agreement and are subject to approval by the Office of Tours & Competition.

1.13 Intentionally Omitted

1.14 Intentionally Omitted

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) Notwithstanding the foregoing, non-attendance for extenuating circumstances, injury, pregnancy or paternity may be considered by the Office of Tours & 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 (500 for men and 1000 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 an extenuating circumstance, that is approved by the Office of Tours & Competition or if a CT Surfer is not able to attend a CT Event as a result of or in connection with any Unforeseen 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 & Competition, the CT Surfer would receive minimum CT Ranking Points and minimum Prize Money for the CT Event.
- (e) If a seeded CT Surfer fails to advise the Office of Tours & Competition, they are not attending their first heat and does not check in for their heat, the other CT Surfer in the heat must surf the heat alone in case the opponent turns up late. Re-seeding for later heats will not occur. The Office of Tours & Competition may adjust the daily schedule by reducing the impacted heat's running

time if informed and is confident that the CT Surfer will not be competing in the CT Surfer's scheduled heat.

- (f) When a CT Surfer does not show for any heat the other CT Surfer in the heat must surf the heat alone in case the opponent turns up late. The Office of Tours and Competition may adjust the daily schedule by reducing the impacted heat's running time if the Office 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.
- (g) 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 twenty-four (24) hours 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 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:** 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 if a CT Event is canceled by WSL for reasons of Force Majeure and if a replacement event is not placed on the schedule for such

Surfing Season:

- (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. No Prize Money shall be paid for a Cancellation for Force Majeure where the Cancelled event has been replaced by the WSL.
- (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; Paternity/Caregiver:** 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 an 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. If the CT Surfer intends to take a break from participation in a Surfing Season due to pregnancy or in order to be a Primary Caregiver, the CT Surfer must confirm, in writing, to the Office of Tours and Competition the period during which the Surfer intends to take a leave of absence from the CT (such period referred to as the "Maternity Break"), and may be required to provide a proper medical clearance documentation (and if necessary, submit to an independent medical examination) prior to a return to competition after having given birth. Such notice should be provided as soon as reasonably possible.. Should a Surfer wish to take parental leave such as paternity leave, or as a secondary caregiver (ie a person who has parental responsibility

for a child of their spouse, domestic partner or co-parent, but is not the primary caregiver who may apply for a Maternity Break) a Surfer may request an approved leave of absence from up to two(2) events or one calendar month from the Office of Tours and Competition. Such Surfer shall receive minimum CT Ranking Points for each event that is excused. For any other circumstances relating to childbirth or childcare, the Office of Tours and Competition shall approve necessary excused absences on a case-by-case basis.

- 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 qualification to or relegation from the CT.

CHAPTER 2: QUALIFICATION SERIES AND CHALLENGER SERIES EVENTS

This Chapter applies to all Events, Event licensees 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 WSL Regional Office 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 fourteen (14) 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 fourteen (14) 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 thirty (30) 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) QS6000 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 WSL Regional 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 WSL Regional Office 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: QS formats, heat times, and field sizes listed below are default standards but are subject to change. Any adjustments required due to local permit restrictions or operational constraints must be approved in advance by WSL Tours and Competition. WSL Tour Representative, in collaboration with the Head Judge, may alter the Event format and/or heat times during the Event in order to complete the Event due to poor surf conditions or other extenuating circumstances. WSL may implement alternate formats for Events held in Artificial Wave Systems.

All formats must be approved by the WSL Tour Representative.

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

FORMAT A			
	Heat Numbers	Heat Time (min)	Seed Placements
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	
Total	47 heats	23 hr 30	

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

(a) Men's QS6000

FORMAT B			
	Heat Numbers	Heat Time (min)	Seed Placements
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.	
Total	87 heats	36 hr 25 min	

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 QS2000, QS4000

FORMAT C	Heat Numbers	Heat Time (min)	Seed Placements
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	
Total	83 heats	28 hr	

If time permits, for QS2000-4000, 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:

FORMAT D			
	Heat Numbers	Heat Time (min)	Seed Placements
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	
Total	31 heats	15 hr 30 min	

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

(a) Women's QS6000 Events

FORMAT E	Heat Numbers	Heat Time (min)	Seed Placements
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.	
Total	43 heats	18 hr 5 min	

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 QS2000 – QS4000 Events

FORMAT F	Heat Numbers	Heat Time (min)	Seed Placements
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	35 heats	12 hr	

If time permits, for QS2000-4000, heat times for Format F should be increased to twenty-five (25) minutes.

Where possible all QS2000-QS6000, 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 WSL Tour Representative.

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) **QS2000 and QS4000 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) **QS6000 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:** During a CT Season the WSL will consider expanding the number of entrants for a Challenger Series Event in order to accommodate participation from existing CT Surfers. The minimum number of entrants for a Challenger Series Event shall be eighty (80)

For Women's QS and Challenger Series Events:

- (a) **QS2000 - QS4000 Events** must allow for a minimum of thirty-two (32) Surfers and use Format F.
- (b) **QS6000** 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:** During a CT Season the WSL will consider expanding the number of entrants for a Challenger Series Event in order to accommodate participation from existing

CT Surfers. The minimum number of entrants for a Challenger Series Event shall be forty eight (48).

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) 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).
- (c) 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).
- (d) Trials qualifications must be run prior to the licensed Event dates unless permitted by the WSL Regional Office.
- (e) 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.
- (f) All rules not specific to an Event will apply to Trials.
- (g) 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.
- (h) 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.
- (i) Any Surfer who is eliminated from a Trials will retain their original position on the Alternates list.
- (j) 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 WSL Regional Office at least sixty (60) days prior to the Event Window.
- (k) 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.
- (l) 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 average heat score in the respective Surfing Season will fill the tied rankings position while the other Surfer will take the lower rankings position.
- (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 & 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 four (4) results will count; and if there are four (4) or less Challenger Series Events then three (3) results will count.

INTL QS6000

Challenger Series Surfers can bring 1 result from an INTL QS6000 event, to replace their lowest counting CS result.

Regional QS Surfers can bring 1 result from an INTL QS6000 event, to count on their Regional QS ranking.

Regional QS Series

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

2.12 **Injury or Pregnancy/Paternity Ranking Adjustments**

- (a) In order to receive consideration for Regional QS or Challenger Series Event injury or pregnancy or paternity 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 Regional Office, 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 Regional Office, the Surfer will receive their seeding from the beginning of the year and not their ranking until such time the successful applicant either bettered 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 Regional Office 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 WSL Regional Membership and Entry fees and purchase the travel insurance policy offered through MemberPro or have alternative insurance to cover their participation at the Event during a Surfing Season (depending on region, subject to verification).
- (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 2000-6000 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) 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 or purchased insurance to cover participation at an Event (subject to verification); different rules applicable in different regions, please confirm requirements with your regional tour manager if necessary. Please note there is a mandatory

requirement in certain regions to purchase insurance through MemberPro. If you require an exemption from the same, please contact your regional manner,

- (d) CT Surfers pay the applicable entry fee into all WSL QS/Challenger Series Events but are not required to pay any QS Surfer fees.
- (e) 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.
- (f) There is no difference in fees for amateurs and professionals when entering WSL Events.

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 WSL Regional Office. If a Surfer does not agree with a determination relating to their application, they can submit the reasons for such disagreement to the Regional Office, who will make a final determination, in their sole discretion.
- (e) If a surfer changes Regions mid-season, either on Juniors or QS, they will be ineligible for a qualifying position in their new region, until the new season begins. They will, however, be able to get rankings points for the current season.

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 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 & 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) Qualifying Series Selection & Seed Order: Selection of Entries for Regional QS2000-QS6000 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 WSL Regional Office, or its nominated representative.

Selected Entries for a Regional QS2000 - QS6000 Event are seeded in the following order at the time of Seed List production for the relevant Event (including which round the Surfer is seeded into): Heat draw production will order the seeded surfers inside each round of competition based off current year seed points and following the Regional mid-season will be ordered off current year QS ranking points. Surfers in points (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) below will remain grouped together. Points (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) seeded off CT/CS ranks. Following mid-season surfers in points (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v) remain grouped together and seeded off CT/CS/QS ranking. Final event of the season points (i), (ii), (iii) remain grouped together.

- (i) Current year CT Surfers based on current CT rank
- (ii) Previous year CT Surfers based off previous year CT rank
- (iii) Previous year CS Top 20 men & Top 12 women
- (iv) Current year CS Regional Qualifiers
- (v) Previous year CS Regional Qualifiers (Not in any of the above)
- (vi) Regional QS Surfers based off Rank/Seed Points for the relevant event

- (vii) Regional QS Surfers based off Rank/Seed Points two seasons prior
- (viii) Regional QS Surfer without QS Rank/Seed Points ordered by date of entry.
- (ix) International Regional CS/QS seeds
- (x) WJC champions with or without Regional QS Seed Points
- (xi) Former CT World Champions

If there is a tie among Surfers based on their current QS Ranking Points (see Rule 2.10), to determine the seeding order, the tie will be broken with the higher prior year's QS ranking.

(b) Challenger Series Selection & Seed Order: Selection of Entries for 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 WSL Regional Office, or its nominated representative.

Selected Entries for a-Challenger Series CS Events are seeded in the following order at the time of Seed List production for the relevant Event (including which round the Surfer is seeded into):

Heat draw production will order the seeded surfers inside each round of competition based off current year Challenger Series seed points and following the CS mid-season point (can be more than 50% of CS events) will be ordered off current year CS ranking points.

- (i) Current year CT Surfers based on current CT rank
- (ii) Previous year CT Surfers, not on current CT, based on CT rank
- (iii) Previous year CS Top 20 men & Top 12 women
- (iv) Regional CS Qualifiers based off relevant 'coefficient' order
- (v) WSL International Wildcards
- (vi) Event wildcards

CS Alternate Seed Order

- (i) WSL CS Replacement(s)
- (ii) Current year CT Surfers
- (ii) Previous year CS Top 50 men & Top 35 women
- (iii) Regional QS Surfers 'next in line' off relevant 'coefficient' order

(c) QS6,000 INTERNATIONAL Qualifying Series Selection & Seed Order: Selection of Entries for International QS6,000 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 WSL Regional Office, or its nominated representative.

Selected Entries for International QS6,000 events are seeded in the following order at the time of Seed List production for the relevant Event (including which round the Surfer is seeded into):

Heat draw production will order the seeded surfers inside each round of competition based off previous year CS/QS rank and following the CS mid-season point (can be more than 50% of CS events) will be ordered off current year CS/QS-

- (i) Current year CT Surfers based on current CT rank
- (ii) Previous year CT Surfers not on current CT, based on CS rank

- (iii) Previous year CS Top 20 men & Top 12 women
 - (iv) Regional CS Qualifiers based off relevant 'coefficient' order
 - (vi) Previous year CS Top 50 men & Top 35 women
 - (vii) Previous year Region Surfers - Next 15 off Regional QS rank
 - (viii) Previous year CS Top 70 men & Top 50 women
 - (ix) Previous year Regional Surfers - Next 30 off Regional QS rank
 - (x) Previous year CS remaining ranked surfers
 - (xi) Previous year Regional Surfers - remaining athletes off Regional QS rank
 - (xii) Any Current year CS/QS ranked surfers without previous CS/QS rank
 - (xiii) Order of Entry
 - (xiv) Event and Host Region & WSL Wildcards
- (d) Challenger Series:
- (i) All current CT surfers during CT season. Only cut CT surfers post CT season;
 - (iii) Three (3) men and two (2) women who were CT Surfers that did not requalify for either the CT or the Challenger Series based on CS Rankings;
 - (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 CS positions that are vacant for any reason, those positions will become wildcards and will be awarded by the WSL Tour Representative.
- (e) 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.
 - (f) 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.
 - (g) All remaining positions will be allocated per their position on the Alternates list.
 - (h) 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.

- (i) A four (4) day QS Event will use the one hundred and twenty-eight (128)-person format.
- (j) 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 WSL Tour Representative 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 WSL Tour Representative. 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 and performance by each region.
- (c) Challenger Series Seed Points will be a combination of Base Seed points and current Challenger Series Ranking points for the start of the Challenger Season
 - If there are seven (7) Challenger Series Events then from Event 5 Current Challenger Series Ranking point become Seed Points;
 - If there are six (6) Challenger Series Events then for Event 5 and Event 6 Current Challengers Series Ranking points become Seed Points;
 - If there are five (5) Challenger Series Events then for Event 4 and Event 5 Current Challengers Series Ranking points become Seed Points;
 - If there are four (4) or less Challenger Series Events then the Final Event Current Challenger Series Ranking points become Seed Points.

The change to Current Challenger Series Ranking points is subject to variations outlined above due to considerations of but not limited to Event dates and Event closing dates.

2.21

INTENTIONALLY DELETED

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 2000-6000 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.
- (g) CS Alternate list ordering
Alternate/Replacement list Order (Pre current ranks switch):
The CS alternate list order will be as follows:
 - First Replacement Surfers (max 2 per division)
 - Current CT Surfers
 - Previous year's CS Surfers not in the Event (in ranking order – up to 50th for men & 35th for women)
 - Regional QS Surfers not in the Event (using previous year Regional rankings and coefficient to determine order)
 Alternate/Replacement List Order (Post current ranks switch):
 - First replacement Surfers (max 2 per division)
 - Current CT Surfers
 - Current CS ranks

- Regional QS Surfers not in the Event (using previous year Regional rankings and coefficient to determine order)

2.24 **Failure to Compete**

- 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.
- 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.
- 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).
- Entry fees are not refundable if a Surfer misses their heat.
- 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.
- 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) The Surfing Director of each CS & QS Event must be approved by WSL Tour Representative.
- (e) 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, including as a wildcard on a CT Event.
- (c) If any Surfer under 15 years of age (as of the first day of the Event), wishes to compete outside of the Surfer's Region. A written application for exemption must be submitted by their parent or legal guardian to their Regional Tour Manager. (d) Any 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

Longboard Tour is subject to General Competition rules including but not limited to Chapters 2, 10 & 11 of the Rule book.

- 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:

2026 Regular season			
Place	Prize \$ USD	No of Positions	Total
1st	\$5,000	1	\$5,000
2nd	\$3,000	1	\$3,000
3rd	\$2,000	2	\$4,000
5th	\$1,500	4	\$6,000
9th	\$1,200	8	\$9,600
17th	\$1,000	8	\$8,000
		24	\$35,600

2026 WLT FINALS			
Place	Prize \$ USD	No of Positions	Total
1st	\$10,000	1	\$10,000
2nd	\$6,000	1	\$6,000
3rd	\$5,500	2	\$11,000
5th	\$4,000	4	\$16,000
9th	\$3,000	4	\$12,000
		12	\$55,000

2026 WLT FINALS			
Place	Prize \$ USD	No of Positions	Total
1st	\$10,000	1	\$10,000
2nd	\$6,000	1	\$6,000
3rd	\$5,500	2	\$11,000
5th	\$4,000	4	\$16,000
9th	\$3,000	4	\$12,000
		12	\$55,000

- 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 QS2000 point breakdown in Appendix B.

(b)

The men’s and women’s Rankings Points for the Regular Season WLT Events will be allocated the Challenger Series Event 10,000 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 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.

(e)

WSL Tour Representative in collaboration with Head Judge can alter Event format and/or heat times in order to finish the Event due to poor surf conditions and other extenuating factors.
- 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. WSL may elect to allocate up to two (2) Season Wildcards to International Longboard Qualifier events.

4.06 **Qualification for the WLT Finals**

- (a) All three (3) Regular Season events will count towards a Surfers ranking at the end of the Regular Season and determine the Top 12 who will qualify for the WLT Finals. Any ties will follow Rule 4.04 (d).
- (b) The WLT Finals shall consist of the top twelve (12) men Surfers (based on the Ranking Points for the men following the last Regular Season WLT Event) and the top twelve (12) women Surfers (based on the Ranking Points for the women following the last Regular Season WLT Event).
- (c) In the case of (1) a tie between the Surfers in the Regular Season end Rankings or (2) ties among the twelve (12) 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 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.

4.07 **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 2nd

- and 3rd 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 17th)
 - (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 9th)
 - (iv) Quarter Finals is four (4) two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to the Semi-Finals and the loser eliminated equal 5th)
 - (v) Semi-Finals is two (2) two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to the Finals and the loser eliminated equal 3rd)
 - (vi) Finals is one winner and a runner up
- (c) Surfers will count their best two regular season results (one throwaway), as well as the WLT Final's result towards their end of season ranking and to determine who will win the World Longboard Title. (Best three regular season results will only determine who qualifies for WLT Finals. Best two Regular Season results plus WLT Finals determine end of season ranking and World Longboard Champions.)
- The following WLT format will be used: 12 Surfer Format and will award 50% more rankings points than a Regular Season WLT Event:
- (i) Round 1 is eight (8) Surfers, (seeds 5 - 12), in two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to Quarter Finals and the Surfers who place 2nd eliminated equal 9th.
 - (ii) Quarter Finals is four (4), two (2) Surfer heats (seeds 1 - 4 automatically seeded into the Quarter Finals) with the winner advancing to the Semi-Finals and the loser eliminated equal 5th.
 - (iii) Semi-Finals is two (2) two (2) Surfer heats with the winner advancing to the Finals and the loser eliminated equal 3rd.
 - (iv) Finals is one winner and a runner up.
- (d) WSL can implement alternate formats for events which are held in Artificial Wave Systems. All formats to be approved by the Office of Tours & Competition.
- (e) WSL Tour representatives in collaboration with Head Judge can alter Event formats and/or, heat times in order to finish an Event due to poor surf conditions and other extenuating factors.
- 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 Longboard Membership Fee. In addition, all Surfers must purchase a travel insurance policy through MemberPro or through a third party (depending on region, subject to verification).
- 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 (Wildcards shall be seeded higher if they held a WLT Ranking in the previous season); 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
- (c) The last WLT Event of the season to be seeded based on current ranks.
- 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

Junior Tour is subject to General Competition rules including but not limited to Chapters 2, 10 & 11 of the Rule book.

- 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 requisite fee. In addition, all Surfers must purchase a travel insurance policy through MemberPro or have an alternative policy in place to cover their participation at the Event (depending on region, subject to verification).
- 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:** WSL Junior Championships Prize Money to be announced at the time and event dates and locations are announced.
- 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 6000-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 1st place

progressing to Round 3 and 2nd and 3rd 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.
- (e) WSL Tour Representative in collaboration with Head Judge can alter Event format and/or heat times in order to finish an Event due to poor surf conditions and other extenuating factors.

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 QS2000 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.
 - (f) Event and or Regions may elect to only select entries from members of their own Region, if they seem that other regions participating could be detrimental to their regional development. This will need approval from WSL Tour Representative.
- 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 current year's CS Rankings;
 - (c) Regional Surfers from prior year's CS Rankings;

- (d) Regional Surfers from prior year's JQS Rankings;
- (e) Regional Surfers from current year's JQS Rankings (if applicable);
- (f) Regional Surfers from 2-years prior JQS Rankings;
- (g) Regional Surfers without a JQS Ranking by their order of entry;
- (h) International Surfers based on their respective Regional JQS Rankings.

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

In advance of any Masters Tour event held by the WSL, the WSL Office of Tours & Competition, along with the Regional Office responsible for the Event will provide the rules and format for the Event to the Surfers competing in such Event at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the Event.

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 Office of Tours and Competition 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 Office of Tours and Competition 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 Office of Tours and Competition. 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 Office of Tours and Competition 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:**

- (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 it's 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

In advance of any Event conducted in a WS, the WSL Office of Tours & Competition will provide the rules and format for the Event to the Surfers competing in the Event at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the Event.

CHAPTER 9: INTENTIONALLY DELETED

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 & Competition or (for the non-CT Events) WSL Tour representative attends in their official capacity:
- (a) In relation to competition proceeding, the waves must be considered contestable in size and shape. The Office of Tours and Competition (for the CT), Tour Representative (for the non-CT) (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 Office of Tours and Competition, WSL Tour representative (or designated representative) will make the final decision in consultation with the Head Judge.
 - (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 Commissioner's Representative or WSL Tour representative. 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 Commissioner's Representative, or WSL Tour representative and 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 Commissioner's Representative or WSL Tour representative will make the final decision in consultation with the Head Judge.
 - (d) The Commissioner or WSL Tour representative (or representative of either) 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 & Competition Representative or WSL Tour representative 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) For heat restarts, a five second count down followed by a single siren or horn blast at the established heat restart time will indicate the automatic restart of the heat. If a Surfer is paddling for a wave and attempting to stand up during the countdown and their hands leave the rail before the start of the siren or horn sound, the heat will continue to run from its original time and no restart will be given even if the siren or horn blows. Beach announcer will give a time call as soon as possible to keep Surfers informed.
- (h) The Office of Tours & Competition Representative or the WSL Tours representative, in conjunction with the Head Judge. Head Judge may declare that there will be no heat restarts for an Event prior to any Event starting due to time restrictions.
- (i) the Head Judge may declare that there will be no restart for a heat if in the Head Judge's reasonable opinion and after consulting the judging panel, the Head Judge determines that the Surfers in the heat have been missing or letting waves with score potential go by or if the Surfers in the heat have been putting themselves out of position in the lineup and missing waves with scoring opportunities.
- (j) 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.
- (k) 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.

- (l) 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. Exception to Overlapping format heats (refer to rule 10.03 (j) (i, ii).
- (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. At events with an LED priority board, the visual time warning system will be displayed by a colored light on top of the priority board. Green light indicates the heat has started, yellow or orange lights indicate 5 minutes remaining and red light or NO light indicates that the heat is finished. Exception when in Overlapping format.
- (e) The commentator must give a five (5)-second countdown at the start and at the end of each heat and when the countdown reaches zero the siren must sound and the heat must start or end immediately. The official start and end of the heat is at the start of the first siren or horn blast.
 - (f) The timing disc must be in neutral position and / or the light indicating the time at the LED board must turn off or turn red when the countdown reaches zero at the end of the heat. Exception when in Overlapping format.
- (f) 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.
- (g) 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 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.

- (h) In case of a sound, siren or horn failure or malfunction to start or to end a heat, the time will be determined by the Head Judge official timer. The Head Judge will consult the judging panel and the spotters of the heat to decide if a wave is to be scored or not.
- (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 can vary but must be no more than two (2) minutes unless due to unforeseen circumstances or if the overlapping heat format is being used.
 - (i) If overlapping format is in use there is no time gap in between heats unless officially on hold.
 - (ii) Overlapping heats are designed to run continually. Only the initial heat of the planned sequence will have a single countdown followed by a single horn blast to the start. At the end of the initial heat there will be a countdown to finish and the same countdown will indicate the start of the next heat. Only the last heat of the planned sequence will have two horn blasts to indicate the end of the heat.
 - (iii) All situations from rule 10.03 (h) apply to overlapping format heats.
- (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 or by unforeseen circumstances (e.g. lack of visibility due fog or heavy rain, etc.), as decided by the Head Judge and Office of Tours & 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/light 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 and circumstances are manageable, 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 & Competition Representative (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) The Head Judge can suspend a heat, indicated by a single horn blast, to review an incident or situation that may affect the current heat situation. Upon completion of the review and a decision being made, the heat may:
 - (i) Continue from the time it was suspended; or
 - (ii) Restart if the incident or situation is deemed to have affected the current heat situation; or
 - (iii) Restore the heat clock to the exact time immediately prior to the incident or situation that caused the suspension, as determined by the Head Judge, and resume the heat from that point, if the Head Judge determines that a clear and verifiable error in the application of a rule or officiating procedure, or a technical equipment malfunction, can be corrected without compromising the integrity of the heat situation. This option may be applied when restoring the heat is considered a fairer outcome than restarting the heat. The priority order and all other applicable heat status shall be restored to the state existing at the restored time.

The Head Judge will consult with the Tours and Competition Representative, or such other persons as the Head Judge considers appropriate, before determining whether to proceed under (i), (ii), or (iii). Surfers will be notified of the decision by the 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 Commissioner's Representative (CT Events) or WSL Tour Representative(non-CT Events) 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 & Competition and follow the heat review process steps set out below. The Office of Tours and Competition or WSL Tours Representative 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) During the Review Meeting, the Head Judge and a WSL Representative must be present. The Surfer is permitted to bring their coach/manager and if underage, must have a guardian present. 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 and the Priority Judge have 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 a “re-surf”.
- (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 Office of Tours & Competition Representative or WSL Tour Representative at Events, after consulting the Head Judge, may in their 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, no soft top boards paddles or surf skis) by the Office of Tours & Competition or WSL Tour Representative.

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. Country flags may only be included on a surfboard for a country or region that the Surfer represents and must be compliant with the above.
- (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 and helmets may not contain the branding for any company other than the company that manufactured the wetsuit or helmet, as applicable; provided that the company is a **Consumer Wetsuit Company** or a bonafide producer of helmets. 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 hold their surfboards or helmets 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.
- (l) 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). Helmets may not be carried onto the awards presentation stage.

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 Representative (or the Office of Tours & Competition at CT Events) 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 WSL Tour Representative and Head Judge.

- (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 Office of Tours & Competition (for CT Events) or WSL Tour Representative (non-CT Events), 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 & Competition or WSL Tour Representative (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 Office of Tours & 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 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 with the exception of Rule 11.06(a).

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:**

(a) 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).

(b) If neither Surfer can make a definite turn to their chosen direction and collide or hinder one another, both Surfers will be subjected to an interference penalty 1.

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

Paddling 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, or physically blocks 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.
 - (iv) If an interference penalty is called, Interference Penalty 1 will apply.
 - (v) Judges will consider both the scoring potential of the wave and the position of both surfers. No interference will be called if both surfers are deemed out of position and/or there is no scoring potential to be hindered.
- (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, or a dangerous and/or aggressive near-miss 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.

- (d) In the event of a collision or a near miss with the surfers paddling out for the next heat or paddling in from the previous heat which adversely impacts the scoring potential for the Surfer from the current heat riding the wave (if the Head Judge and 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 or possibility of a re-surf), the following applies:
- (i) If a Surfer paddling out or paddling in has no ability to remove themselves from the line of a Surfer Riding a wave then there's no penalty.
 - (ii) If a Surfer paddling out or paddling in accidentally causes a collision or near miss with the Surfer riding a wave it is up to the Head Judge and the majority of the Judges to call an interference penalty and to consider the possibility for a re-surf. In determining whether to call an interference penalty and to consider the possibility of a re-surf, the Head Judge and 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 the majority of the Judges determine that the Surfer paddling out for the next heat or paddling in from previous heat deliberately caused the collision or near miss with the Surfer Riding a wave then interference penalty 2 will be called against the surfer paddling in or out and the possibility for a re-surf could be considered. Any such interfering Surfer will be subject to additional sanctions under Rule 14.02.
 - (iv) If the majority of the Judges determine that the Surfer Riding the wave deliberately caused a collision with a Surfer paddling out for the next heat or paddling in from previous heat, 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 hindering their scoring potential, 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.
- (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 or Penalty 3 (refer to circumstances described in rule 11.17 (b)) will be called.
- (g) 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.
- (h) 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.
- (i) Priority 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.
 - (i) For situations in which multiple peaks and / or different priority zones are available, priority will be awarded as the surfers arrive at the priority zone they elect to surf on. The last priority available will be awarded regardless of the priority zone in question."
- (j) 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.

- (k) 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.
- (l) If any unauthorized PWC assistance is used by any Surfer, they automatically move to lowest Priority.
- (m) 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.
- (n) 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 (1st, 2nd, etc.) they had when they were in the Primary Take-Off Zone can be reinstated once they return to the Primary Take-Off Zone

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

- (a) Make a committed paddle for a wave and block another Surfer from catching that wave; or
- (b) Position himself or herself in the take-off zone and block another Surfer from catching a wave.
- (c) The Priority Judge, in each circumstance described in subsections (a) and (b) will consider both Surfers' positioning relative to the wave's scoring potential. If both Surfers are deemed out of position, the Priority Judge may allocate the lowest available priority to the Surfer, but is not required to do so.

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

For all Events with a Priority Judge, a Surfer who, in the opinion of the Priority and Head Judge, excessively hassles, blocks or hinders another Surfer from paddling in the line-up or while paddle battling for the inside position of a wave – without hindering their score potential due to their positioning in the take off zone - will be allocated the lowest applicable Priority. Aggressive or unsportsmanlike behavior may also result in an Interference Penalty 1. Additionally, the Surfer will also be subject to further 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 visually confirm the Priority order displayed at the Priority board of the Event.

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, 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 but may include sanctions under Rule 14.02. 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) 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.
 - (h) 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 paddles outside of the Primary Take-Off Zone, and prior to having their priority suspended by the Priority Judge, utilizes their Priority in an unsportsmanlike manner to intentionally block another Surfer with lower or no Priority 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 Office of Tours & Competition Representative or WSL Tour Representative 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 11.10(n)(ii).

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, four (4) International Scoring Judges, three (3) Regional Scoring Judges, one (1) International or Regional Priority Judge and one (1) Regional Assistant 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) **International QS 6000 Events:** One (1) International or Regional Head Judge, three (3) or four (4) International Judges (optional if the event is scheduled before or after a CS or CT in the region), three (3) or four (4) Regional Judges (optional if the event is scheduled before or after a CS or CT in the region), one (1) International or Regional Priority Judge and one and one (1) Regional Assistant 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.
- (e) **QS 4000 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 2000, 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) **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 once entered and locked on the computer terminal system. Manual Judge's Sheets has to match what is showing on the computer scoring terminal. 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 or show the replay of the wave where replay system is available 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 Commissioner's Representative 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 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 clear video 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 Office 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. Once the review process is completed, the Office of Tours and Competition (or WSL Tour Representative) will communicate the outcomes and any resulting actions to all relevant parties, including competitors, judges, event organizers, and potentially the broader surfing community if deemed necessary.

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.
- (f) Respond to Surfer's' Protests during an Event.
- (g) Attend Heat Reviews when a Surfer formally requests following the Heat Review protocol.
- (h) Take part in decisions about heat re-surfs and determine who should be involved in the re-surf.
- (i) Stopping heats in case of extreme danger or due unforeseen circumstances.
- (j) Suspend heats for incidents reviews (CT only).
- (k) Place heats on hold due to sound system malfunction,

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
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- (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 Office 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"> <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"> <tr> <td>1 – 10</td><td>\$10,000</td></tr> </table>	1 – 10	\$10,000				
1 – 10	\$10,000						

	<table> <tr> <td>11 – 25</td><td>\$5,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>26+</td><td>\$2,500</td></tr> </table>	11 – 25	\$5,000	26+	\$2,500
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 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; and/or suspension from future events
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 6000 and above Events** (including Challenger Series Events) and **Big Wave Events**: 75% of the respective penalty;
 - (iii) **Events rated below QS 6000**: 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.

14.18 Flags

The WSL permits the participation of individual athletes from countries that currently face a ban by the IOC but only in a neutral capacity under a World designation, and only so long as all participants adhere to the WSL Rule Book and commit to the WSL's principles of peace, non-discrimination, and political neutrality. Additionally, it upholds agreements entered into between the IOC and individual countries relating to the representation of such countries in global sports.

All other athletes have the ability to request the designation they wish to support on the athlete jersey or rankings/seed lists as applicable, including the World designation.

The WSL respects an athlete's rights to choose affiliation, subject to compliance with the WSL Rule Book. However, if deemed necessary to ensure the safety of participating athletes, the integrity of an event, or to abide by local laws and regulations, the WSL may, in certain circumstances, require athletes to participate under a neutral designation.

The WSL retains the right to restrict the use of flags or other symbols at a WSL event if deemed necessary to ensure the safety or participating athletes and fans, the integrity of an event and/or to abide by local laws and regulations.

APPENDIX A
2026 MEN’S AND WOMEN’S CT PRIZE MONEY BREAKDOWNS

2026 MEN CT PRIZE MONEY (FULL FIELD)			
Prize Money		Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1	\$80,000	1
\$40,000	1	\$40,000	2
\$20,000	2	\$40,000	3
\$15,000	4	\$60,000	5
\$14,000	8	\$112,000	9
\$13,000	16	\$208,000	17
\$10,000	4	\$40,000	33
Total Prize Money Per Event		\$580,000	
9 Men Events		\$5,220,000	
2026 WOMEN CT PRIZE MONEY (FULL FIELD)			
Prize Money		Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1	\$80,000	1
\$40,000	1	\$40,000	2
\$20,000	2	\$40,000	3
\$15,000	4	\$60,000	5
\$14,000	8	\$112,000	9
\$13,000	8	\$104,000	17
Total Prize Money Per Event		\$436,000	
9 Women Events		\$3,924,000	

2026 MEN CT PRIZE MONEY (REDUCED FIELD)

Prize Money	Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1 \$80,000	1
\$40,000	1 \$40,000	2
\$20,000	2 \$40,000	3
\$15,000	4 \$60,000	5
\$13,500	8 \$108,000	9
\$13,000	8 \$104,000	17
Total Prize Money Per Event	\$432,000	
2 Men Events	\$864,000	

2026 WOMEN CT PRIZE MONEY (REDUCED FIELD)

Prize Money	Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1 \$80,000	1
\$40,000	1 \$40,000	2
\$20,000	2 \$40,000	3
\$15,000	4 \$60,000	5
\$13,500	8 \$108,000	9
Total Prize Money Per Event	\$328,000	
2 Women Events	\$656,000	

2026 MEN CT PIPE PRIZE MONEY

Prize Money	Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1 \$80,000	1
\$40,000	1 \$40,000	2
\$20,000	2 \$40,000	3
\$15,000	4 \$60,000	5
\$13,500	8 \$108,000	9
\$13,000	8 \$104,000	17
\$12,000	8 \$96,000	25
\$10,000	4 \$40,000	33
Pipe Men Event	\$568,000	

2026 WOMEN CT PIPE PRIZE MONEY

Prize Money	Total Prize Money	Placement
\$80,000	1 \$80,000	1
\$40,000	1 \$40,000	2
\$20,000	2 \$40,000	3
\$15,000	4 \$60,000	5
\$13,500	8 \$108,000	9
\$13,000	8 \$104,000	17
Total Prize Money Per Event	\$432,000	
Pipe Women Event	\$432,000	

APPENDIX B **2026 RANKING POINTS: Championship Tour**

	Men 36 Pre-Cut	Women 24 Pre-Cut	Men 24 Post-Cut	Women 16 Post-Cut	Men 36 Pipe	Women 24 Pipe
1	10000	10000	10000	10000	15000	15000
2	7800	7800	7800	7800	11700	11700
3	6085	6085	6085	6085	9125	9125
5	4745	4745	4745	4745	7115	7115
9	3320	2000	2500	2000	4980	3000
17	1000	1000	1000		3240	1500
25					1500	
33	500				750	

2026 WOMEN RANKING POINTS

	Challenger Series Hawaii	Challenger Series	QS6000	QS4000	QS2000
Position	6	5	4	3	1
1	10000	10000	6000	4000	2000
2	7800	7800	4680	3120	1560
3	6085	6085	3660	2440	1220
4	5685	0	3360	2240	1120
5	4745	4745	2760	1900	950
6	0	0	2580	1800	900
7	4545	0	2400	1680	840
8	0	0	2340	1612	806
9	3320	3320	1890	1260	630
10	0	0	1854	1208	604
11	0	0	1812	1160	580

12	0	0	1770	1120	560
13	3120	0	1728	1060	530
14	0	0	1536	960	480
15	0	0	1344	840	420
16	0	0	1152	760	380
17	1900	1900	960	640	320
18	0	0	948	628	314
19	0	1700	936	616	308
20	0	1550	924	600	300
21	0	0	912	588	294
22	0	0	900	576	288
23	0	0	888	560	280
24	0	0	876	548	274
25	1700	750	864	532	266
26	0	0	828	500	250
27	0	0	786	468	234
28	0	0	750	436	218
29	0	0	708	400	200
30	0	0	666	368	184
31	0	0	630	336	168
32	0	0	588	300	150
33	700	0	540	280	140
34	0	0	534	272	136
35	0	0	534	268	134
36	0	0	534	264	132
37	0	650	528	260	130
38	0	0	522	256	128
39	0	0	516	254	127
40	0	0	516	254	127
41	0	0	510	252	126
42	0	0	504	252	126
43	0	0	504	252	126
44	0	0	498	248	124
45	0	0	498	248	124

46	0	0	492	244	122
47	0	0	492	244	122
48	0	0	486	244	122
49	600	300	480	240	120
50	0	0	468	236	118
51	0	0	462	236	118
52	0	0	456	236	118
53	0	0	450	232	116
54	0	0	438	232	116
55	0	0	426	232	116
56	0	0	414	232	116
57	0	0	408	228	114
58	0	0	396	224	112
59	0	0	390	224	112
60	0	0	378	220	110
61	0	0	372	220	110
62	0	0	360	220	110
63	0	0	354	216	108
64	0	0	342	216	108
65	300	0	330	212	106
66	0	0	318	210	105
67	0	0	318	210	105
68	0	0	312	210	105
69	0	0	312	208	104
70	0	0	306	204	102
71	0	0	306	204	102
72	0	0	306	200	100
73	250	250	300	200	100
74	0	0	294	188	94
75	0	0	288	188	94
76	0	0	282	184	92
77	0	0	276	180	90
78	0	0	273	176	88
79	0	0	273	168	84

80	0	0	273	164	82
81	0	0	270	160	80
82	0	0	234	156	78
83	0	0	228	148	74
84	0	0	216	144	72
85	0	0	210	140	70
86	0	0	204	136	68
87	0	0	192	128	64
88	0	0	186	124	62
89	0	0	180	120	60
90	0	0	174	116	58
91	0	0	168	112	56
92	0	0	156	104	52
93	0	0	150	100	50
94	0	0	114	96	46
95	0	0	138	92	46
96	0	0	126	84	42
97	0	0	120	80	40
98	0	0	114	76	38
99	0	0	114	76	38
100	0	0	108	72	36
101	0	0	102	68	34
102	0	0	96	64	32
103	0	0	96	64	32
104	0	0	90	60	30
105	0	0	84	56	28
106	0	0	78	52	26
107	0	0	78	52	26
108	0	0	72	48	24
109	0	0	66	44	22
110	0	0	60	40	20
111	0	0	60	40	20
112	0	0	54	36	18
113	0	0	48	32	16

114	0	0	48	32	16
115	0	0	48	32	16
116	0	0	42	28	14
117	0	0	42	28	14
118	0	0	42	28	14
119	0	0	42	28	14
120	0	0	42	28	14
121	0	0	36	24	12
122	0	0	36	24	12
123	0	0	36	24	12
124	0	0	36	24	12
125	0	0	36	24	12
126	0	0	30	20	10
127	0	0	30	20	10
128	0	0	30	20	10
129	0	0	30	20	10
130	0	0	30	20	10
131	0	0	24	16	8
132	0	0	24	16	8
133	0	0	24	16	8
134	0	0	24	16	8
135	0	0	24	16	8
136	0	0	18	12	6
137	0	0	18	12	6
138	0	0	18	12	6
139	0	0	18	12	6
140	0	0	18	12	6
141	0	0	12	8	4
142	0	0	12	8	4
143	0	0	12	8	4
144	0	0	12	8	4
145	0	0	12	8	4
146	0	0	6	4	2
147	0	0	6	4	2

148	0	0	6	4	2
149	0	0	6	4	2
150	0	0	6	4	2
151	0	0	6	4	2
152	0	0	6	4	2
153	0	0	6	4	2
154	0	0	6	4	2
155	0	0	6	4	2
156	0	0	6	4	2
157	0	0	6	4	2
158	0	0	6	4	2
159	0	0	6	4	2
160	0	0	6	4	2
161	0	0	6	4	2
162	0	0	6	4	2

2026 WOMEN RANKING POINTS

	Challenger Series Hawaii	Challenger Series	QS6000	QS4000	QS2000
Position	6	5	4	3	1
1	10000	10000	6000	4000	2000
2	7800	7800	4680	3120	1560
3	6085	6085	3660	2440	1220
4	5685	0	3360	2240	1120
5	4745	4745	2760	1900	950
6	0	0	2580	1800	900
7	4545	0	2400	1680	840
8	0	0	2340	1612	806
9	3320	3320	1890	1260	630
10	0	0	1854	1208	604
11	0	0	1812	1160	580
12	0	0	1770	1120	560

13	3120	0	1728	1060	530
14	0	0	1536	960	480
15	0	0	1344	840	420
16	0	0	1152	760	380
17	1900	1900	960	640	320
18	0	0	948	628	314
19	0	1700	936	616	308
20	0	1550	924	600	300
21	0	0	912	588	294
22	0	0	900	576	288
23	0	0	888	560	280
24	0	0	876	548	274
25	1700	1700	864	532	266
26	0	0	828	500	250
27	0	0	786	468	234
28	0	0	750	436	218
29	0	0	708	400	200
30	0	0	666	368	184
31	0	0	630	336	168
32	0	0	588	300	150
33	700	700	540	280	140
34	0	0	534	272	136
35	0	0	534	268	134
36	0	0	534	264	132
37	0	0	528	260	130
38	0	0	522	256	128
39	0	0	516	254	127
40	0	0	516	254	127
41	650	0	510	252	126
42	0	0	504	252	126
43	0	0	504	252	126
44	0	0	498	248	124
45	0	0	498	248	124
46	0	0	492	244	122

47	0	0	492	244	122
48	0	0	486	244	122
49	0	600	480	240	120
50	0	0	468	236	118
51	0	0	462	236	118
52	0	0	456	236	118
53	0	0	450	232	116
54	0	0	438	232	116
55	0	0	426	232	116
56	0	0	414	232	116
57	0	0	408	228	114
58	0	0	396	224	112
59	0	0	390	224	112
60	0	0	378	220	110
61	0	0	372	220	110
62	0	0	360	220	110
63	0	0	354	216	108
64	0	0	342	216	108
65	0	0	330	212	106
66	0	0	318	210	105
67	0	0	318	210	105
68	0	0	312	210	105
69	0	0	312	208	104
70	0	0	306	204	102
71	0	0	306	204	102
72	0	0	306	200	100
73	0	0	300	200	100
74	0	0	294	188	94
75	0	0	288	188	94
76	0	0	282	184	92
77	0	0	276	180	90
78	0	0	273	176	88
79	0	0	273	168	84
80	0	0	273	164	82

81	0	0	270	160	80
82	0	0	234	156	78
83	0	0	228	148	74
84	0	0	216	144	72
85	0	0	210	140	70
86	0	0	204	136	68
87	0	0	192	128	64
88	0	0	186	124	62
89	0	0	180	120	60
90	0	0	174	116	58
91	0	0	168	112	56
92	0	0	156	104	52
93	0	0	150	100	50
94	0	0	144	96	48
95	0	0	138	92	46
96	0	0	126	84	42
97	0	0	120	80	40
98	0	0	114	76	38
99	0	0	114	76	38
100	0	0	108	72	36
101	0	0	102	68	34
102	0	0	96	64	32
103	0	0	96	64	32
104	0	0	90	60	30
105	0	0	84	56	28
106	0	0	78	52	26
107	0	0	78	52	26
108	0	0	72	48	24
109	0	0	66	44	22
110	0	0	60	40	20
111	0	0	60	40	20
112	0	0	54	36	18
113	0	0	48	32	16
114	0	0	48	32	16

115	0	0	48	32	16
116	0	0	42	28	14
117	0	0	42	28	14
118	0	0	42	28	14
119	0	0	42	28	14
120	0	0	42	28	14
121	0	0	36	24	12
122	0	0	36	24	12
123	0	0	36	24	12
124	0	0	36	24	12
125	0	0	36	24	12
126	0	0	30	20	10
127	0	0	30	20	10
128	0	0	30	20	10
129	0	0	30	20	10
130	0	0	30	20	10
131	0	0	24	16	8
132	0	0	24	16	8
133	0	0	24	16	8
134	0	0	24	16	8
135	0	0	24	16	8
136	0	0	18	12	6
137	0	0	16	10	3
138	0	0	18	12	6
139	0	0	18	12	6
140	0	0	18	12	6
141	0	0	12	8	4
142	0	0	12	8	4
143	0	0	12	8	4
144	0	0	12	8	4
145	0	0	12	8	4
146	0	0	6	4	2
147	0	0	6	4	2
148	0	0	6	4	2

149	0	0	6	4	2
150	0	0	6	4	2
151	0	0	6	4	2
152	0	0	6	4	2
153	0	0	6	4	2
154	0	0	6	4	2
155	0	0	6	4	2
156	0	0	6	4	2
157	0	0	6	4	2
158	0	0	6	4	2
159	0	0	6	4	2
160	0	0	6	4	2
161	0	0	6	4	2
162	0	0	6	4	2

APPENDIX C

2026 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.

2026 MEN'S RATES 1-on-1 Rd16			2026 WOMEN'S RATES 1-on-1 Rd16		
CHALLENGER	80 Format	Men One on One	CHALLENGER	48 Format	Women One on One
\$167,600	Prize		\$128,800	Prize	
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

QS Prize Money, for both Men's and Women's regional events, to be decided by each Regional Office with approval from the Tour Representative. Regions may pay out prize money in local currencies.

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 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 the guidelines and policies established by the WSL for assessing, managing and/or treating a concussion.

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.

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.

Cut is the reduction in the CT field such that the Men's CT field is reduced from 36 to 24; and the Women's CT field is reduced from 24 to 16; and the Cut Events are the CT Events at which such reduced fields shall compete during a Surfing Season.

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 WSL Commissioner) selected by WSL at any time.

Discipline Director refers to the person or persons appointed by WSL 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 the person appointed by the WSL to oversee the overall operation of judges and competition at an Event.

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.

Men's CT means the exclusive, elite event held in idyllic locations, featuring the top male Surfers in the world with results contributing to the WSL Men's CT Rankings and the WSL Men's CT.

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

Office of Tours and Competition means the department of the WSL that is provided with the authority and responsibility to govern the rules and integrity of WSL Events and oversee all matters relating to the competition.

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 Caregiver is the person who has primary responsibility for the full time care of an infant and must be able to certify to the same.

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.

QS2000 - Regional Qualifying Series event, open to all surfers from specified region. 2000 ratings points will be allocated to the winner.

QS4000 - Regional Qualifying Series event, open to all surfers from specified regions. 4000 ratings points will be allocated to the winner.

QS6000 - Regional Qualifying Series event, open to all surfers from specified regions. 6000 ratings points will be allocated to the winner.

INTL QS6000 - International Qualifying Series event, open to surfers from CT, CS, and all regions. 6000 ratings points will be allocated to the winner.

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 it's 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 female Surfers in the world with results contributing to the WSL Women's CT Rankings and the WSL Women's CT.

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

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	
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