

# 58<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL



AUSTRALIA'S LONGEST RUNNING SURF CRAFT EVENT

**7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2026**  
**STARTING FROM 10.00<sup>AM</sup>**  
**LOWER SANDY BAY**  
**VISIT [SURFSAFARI.ORG](http://SURFSAFARI.ORG)**

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# SURF SAFARI 2026 - EVENT INFORMATION

## LOCATION

On **Saturday 7 November 2026**, the Surf Safari will celebrate 58 years of continuous surf craft racing in Tasmania - making it the longest running endurance surf craft event in Australia. An event of impressive endurance, taking place on the picturesque River Derwent which runs through the city of Hobart. The river and estuary provide a relatively safe, but at times testing, environment for the event. This year the Surf Safari will start and finish at Long Beach Lower Sandy Bay - 5kms south of the Hobart CBD or as advised for the Long Course events.

## EVENTS & COURSES

Endurance craft events are available to meet all capabilities and ages across several disciplines including surf boats, skis, and boards. The following events and categories are to be conducted (subject to conditions) with event updates communicated via [www.surfsafari.org](http://www.surfsafari.org) and Facebook @SurfSafariTas

| EVENT            | CATEGORIES                                                                                             | START TIME                 |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| SKI              |                                                                                                        |                            |
| Long Course 18km | Single (Ocean or Spec) U17 / U19 / Open (M&F)<br>Masters (Over 35, 50 & 60) (M&F) Double Ski           | From 11:00am (wind window) |
| Short Course 8km | (Open)<br>Single (Ocean or Spec) U17 / U19 / Open (M&F)<br>Masters (Over 35, 50 & 60) (M&F) Double Ski | 11:15am                    |
|                  | (Open)                                                                                                 |                            |
| SURF BOATS       |                                                                                                        |                            |
| Long Course 18km | Open (M&F)                                                                                             | From 11:00am (wind window) |
| Short Course 8km | Open (M&F)                                                                                             | 11:10am                    |
| BOARD            |                                                                                                        |                            |
| 2km              | Nipper - U11 / U13 (M&F)                                                                               | 11:30am                    |
| 4km              | Malibu - U15 / U17 / Open / Masters (M&F)                                                              | 11:45am                    |

**NOTE: START TIMES ARE ESTIMATES AND MAY CHANGE ON THE DAY**

### LONG COURSE DOWNWIND – 18KM

The 18km long course for ski paddlers and surf boats will be run as a downwind event utilising a start time in a 2-hour window. The start location to be confirmed at least 24hrs prior to race day, will be dependent on weather conditions, with a finish at Long Beach, Sandy Bay. In adverse conditions an out and back course will ensure the event is held starting and finishing at Long Beach.

### SHORT COURSE – 8KM

For the skis and surf boats an out and back short course will be conducted starting and finishing at Lower Sandy Bay. The halfway turning mark will be located north of Cartwright Point, Taroom.

#### BOARD COURSES – 4KM and 2KM

All board races will be conducted within the confines of Long Beach. Course to be conveyed to competitors on the line.

Course maps to be advertised on [www.surfsafari.org](http://www.surfsafari.org) or via Facebook (@surfsafaritas).

### AGE GROUP COMPETITORS

The age group categories are as per normal SLSA rules. Age will be as of 30 September 2026.

### ENTRIES

Early bird entries are available online from Friday 31 July 2026 until 6pm on Friday 23 October 2026. Entries received after 6pm on Friday 23 October will incur a \$5.00 late fee per person.

Early bird pricing:

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| BOAT ROWERS                 | \$125.00 per crew   |
| SKI PADDLERS – SHORT COURSE | \$30.00 per paddler |
| SKI PADDLERS – LONG COURSE  | \$40.00 per paddler |
| NIPPER AND MALIBU BOARD     | \$20.00 per paddler |

**All entries close at 4pm on Friday 6 November - NO RACE DAY ENTRIES**

Entries and payment via the online entry system Webscorer:

|               |                                                                                                                 |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SKI ENTRIES   | <a href="https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=434485">https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=434485</a> |
| BOAT ENTRIES  | <a href="https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=436449">https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=436449</a> |
| BOARD ENTRIES | <a href="https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=436445">https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=436445</a> |

### CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Entry for SURF SAFARI 2026 is subject to the following conditions:

- All competitors must complete the online entry and declaration form online.
- All competitors must read and be familiar with this race information and important pre-race information to be distributed via email to all competitors the day prior to the race. All competitors are to attend in person the final race briefing to be conducted approx. 30mins prior to their race start where important course and safety instructions will be communicated.
- The event is endurance in nature and even in cool conditions hydration packs are encouraged together with appropriate sun protection. Proof of training/past races may be requested.

The event is open to surf boats, SLSA specification skis and ocean skis, nipper and Malibu boards. The Referee has the right to refuse entry to any craft deemed unsuitable. Surf boats, SLSA specification skis and surf boards must comply with SLSA craft specifications. Random scrutineering of craft and equipment will occur pre, during and post event to ensure compliance.

The event is open to both SLSA members and the public. All current SLSA members wishing to compete in any race category must comply with the following requirements:

- Be a current financial member of a Surf Life Saving Club.
- Must hold a current Bronze Medallion or Junior award and be proficient.

### **SURF SKI**

- All ski paddlers must wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) of a minimum of 50 newton.
- All ski paddlers must be attached to their craft with a tethering device.
- Wear the hi vis cap provided or similar cap.
- Paddlers may be asked to provide evidence of training/past races for entry into the 18km event.
- All long course competitors are to carry a charged mobile phone in a waterproof case with the Webscorer GPS tracking feature active for the duration of the event.
- Minimum age of entry is 15 years.

### **NIPPER AND MALIBU BOARD**

- All board paddlers must be current financial members of a SLSA club.
- All board paddlers must hold an appropriate award for their age group and be proficient for the current competition year.
- All board paddlers must wear a SLSA approved fluoro top.

### **SURF BOATS**

- All surf boat rowers and sweeps must wear a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) of a minimum of 50 newton.
- Surf boats must be fully compliant with SLSA specifications, including carrying a secure rescue tube.
- Minimum age of entry is 15 years.
- All surf boats are to carry a charged mobile phone with the Webscorer GPS tracking feature active in a waterproof case secured in the boat.
- Sweeps will also be required to be signed off by a recognised Surf Boat Sweep Coach as being capable prior to Race Day.

Surf boat rowers and sweeps are welcome to compete without being financial members of SLSA or proficient bronze holders. However, due to the physical requirements of the event these competitors are encouraged to enter the shorter 8km event.

### **SAFETY**

Safety measures include following powered watercraft and patrolling board paddlers. If a competitor requires assistance, please raise your hand/arm to alert water safety/race officials who will come to your aid. Assistance can also be sought by contacting the Water Safety Officer (TBA – at pre-race briefing). It is imperative that you advise race officials in the event you withdraw from the race at any time.

At this time of the year conditions can range from freezing cold to hot and windy, so come prepared. It is recommended you pay particular attention to HYDRATION.

To provide race management with greater awareness, all long course (ski and boat) competitors are to carry a charged mobile with the Webscorer GPS tracking feature active for the duration of the event.

### **RACE NUMBERS**

Stickers with competitor's race numbers **MUST** be displayed on the left-hand front of all craft. This is essential for race timing. Board paddlers will be provided with race numbers on their arms/legs/hand's pre-race.

### **PRIZES & PRESENTATIONS**

Great prizes will be on offer, both for winners/place getters together with great random draws. All presentations and random spot draws will be made at Sandy Bay following the conclusion of each event category.

### **RACE RESULTS**

Full race results will be available at [www.surfsafari.org](http://www.surfsafari.org) or on our Facebook page during the week following the event.