

Classifications

2017 English Adaptive Surfing Open

Introduction

This is designed to educate surfers on the classification scheme for The English Adaptive Surfing Open, which is due to take place in Cornwall on Sat 16 Sep 2017.

The event organisers have drawn on existing classification schemes, including the ISA Adaptive Surfing Classes and those used by AccessSurf, to design a functional approach to classification for this inaugural event.

Sporting Classes: General Outline

The classifications, in their simplest form, are as follows:

- **Standing** – Surfers with either a physical, sensory or cognitive impairment who can ride waves, independently, in a standing position.
- **Sitting / Kneeling** - Surfers with either a physical, sensory or cognitive impairment who can ride waves, independently, in a sitting or kneeling position.
- **Prone** - Surfers with either a physical, sensory or cognitive impairment who can ride waves, independently, in a prone position.
- **Assisted** - Surfers with either a physical, sensory or cognitive impairment who can ride waves, with an assistant / guide, in either a standing, kneeling or sitting or prone position.
- **Open** – Surfers with chronic health conditions, that do not significantly impact on their ability to ride waves in a standing¹ position (e.g. mental health conditions).

Note: For rules on equipment please view the ISA Rulebook and Adaptive Rulebook.

Sporting Classes: The Detail

The principle underpinning the categories listed is that the division entered by a surfer is based on their function, tempered with their ability. In addition, following table provides examples (not exhaustive) of the types of condition that surfers entering each class.

Classes ²	Impairment Examples
Standing Sitting Kneeling Prone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impaired muscle power• Impaired passive range of movement• Limb deficiency• Hypertonia• Ataxia• Athetosis• Leg length difference• Short stature• Visual Impairment (where a guide is not required for safety)
Assisted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any of the above conditions where the level of impairment is such that the surfer is unable to ride a wave safely without assistance. Surfers may ride waves in either a standing,
Open	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any medical chronic medical condition that has little or no effect on function (e.g. mental health conditions, hearing impairments, minor visual impairments, mild MS etc).

If a surfer is unsure of their eligibility please email the event manager Nick Rees: nick@surfingengland.org

Note: Surfers who aspire to compete at international events (ISA Adaptive Games) should review the ISA classification criteria as it differs from the above.