



2024 Junior Surf Series

Event Format



Document Number	SE
Version	2
Issue Date	01/03/2024



2024 Junior Surf Series

Event Format

There is the information surfers, parents/guardians, supporters, sponsors, and other interested parties need to be aware of for the format and delivery of the 2024 Junior Surf Series. Ahead of entering, surfers and parents/guardians should familiarise themselves with this document and by entering the event you accept the terms of this document. Please note this document is subject to change as guidance changes/develops.

Event Divisions:

SHORTBOARD

- Under 12 Girls (Max 12 years old by 31st Dec 2024)
- Under 12 Boys (Max 12 years old by 31st Dec 2024)
- Under 14 Girls (Max 14 years old by 31st Dec 2024)
- Under 14 Boys (Max 14 years old by 31st Dec 2024)

Age categories are in alignment with the ISA rulebook.

IMPORTANT DATES & TIMINGS:

The event dates are:

- Tynemouth xxx
- Newquay xxxx
- Bude xxxx
- St Ives xxxx
- Woolacombe xxxxx
- Finals day @ The Wave 23rd October

Events will be scheduled for Saturdays where possible, with the Sunday as back up.



EVENT ENTRY

The event will be a 1-day, single peak event with live scoring (wifi allowing). The event will be capped and there may not be places available for everyone who wishes to compete. The organising club will hold 50% of the places and the remaining will be on a first come first serve basis.

You must hold a valid membership of Surfing England to enter the contest or membership of the hosting surf club.

For Surfing England Membership you [you can join us here](#). If you are unsure of the status of your Surfing England membership, please log in here to find out: <https://surfingengland.org/my-account/>

If you're unable to access your membership portal, get in touch with Lenka:
lenka@surfingengland.org

Entry will open approximately one month before the event date and will close two weeks before the event. This is a change from previous years, and will give all entries more notice if they have secured a place or not – making it easier to make plans, travel arrangements etc. All entries will be made through [liveheats](http://www.liveheats.com/surfingengland). (www.liveheats.com/surfingengland).

NOT ALL ENTRIES MAY HAVE PLACES – PLEASE **READ THIS EVENT FORMAT** AHEAD OF ENTERING.

- Entry will open approximately 4 weeks before the event at 17:00 on liveheats
- Entry will close 2 weeks before the event at 17:00
- Entry does not guarantee a place. Within 48 hours of entry closing, surfers will be informed if they have secured a place. If you are booking travel/accommodation to Devon, you may wish to choose to wait for this confirmation.
- Successful entrants will be charged £15 per surfer. There will be no refunds available, unless the event does not run on the planned weekend.
- Entry will be limited to a Single Age Division category – you must choose one age-based category. Please make sure you enter the correct age-based division, as referenced above.
- On the Thursday before the competition, event organisers will issue the event call, unless the event is on Sunday, in which case it will be Friday at the latest. If the forecast is clear, organisers will make the call on the Wednesday/Thursday to give as much notice as possible for those needing to travel.
- A minimum of 3 Surfers will be required in a division for it to run.
- All competitors and their parents/guardians are required to have read and agree to the terms of this document.

Please note, whilst we make every effort to deliver each stop in the series, there are variables outside of our control that would mean we are not able to run, in particular weather and sea state.



We will strive to consider everything to ensure the event runs and is safe. This could include venue selection, for example if a more sheltered spot nearby could allow the comp to run with a larger forecast, we may relocate at short notice.

CLUB ENTRIES

The hosting surf club will be allocated 50% of the places available for their members, if that allocation isn't taken it will be made available to everyone else.

OVER SUBSCRIBED ENTRIES (NEW FOR 2024)

With the popularity of the series growing, some divisions are very oversubscribed. With first come first served entry, it has favoured those with parents/guardians who are able to submit entry within minutes of entry opening. This has led to some juniors always being on the waitlist but never getting a place because their parents/guardians aren't available at the entry open times.

For 2024, once a junior has surfed in two events, they will drop down our entry list below juniors who've entered, but not been able to secure a place in two events. This will mainly impact the boys divisions which are most oversubscribed, but we hope will open opportunities to more juniors. We will monitor this approach and may be subject to change.

LATE ENTRIES & CANCELLATIONS

If spaces become available, they will first be offered to any surfers on the waiting list, in order of their entry timing. If a division has no waiting list, then acceptance of late entries is entirely at the discretion of the contest organiser. Late entries will only be accepted if there is no waiting list and there is a space available within the heat format as determined at entry close.

EVENT INFORMATION:

The events are designed to be a fun, friendly and welcoming introduction to competitive surfing. We largely follow the ISA rule book, but with additional flexibility at the discretion of the contest director in the implementation of the rules, based on the spirit of the event.

To ensure the events are deliverable and work for the clubs and volunteers that help make them happen, we limit the competition format to a single peak running over one day.

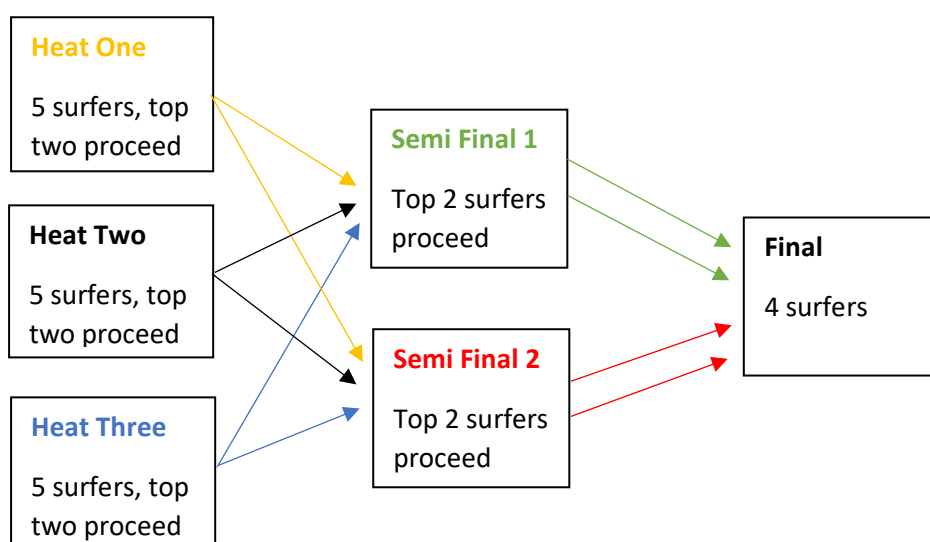
The standard format, if all divisions are full, will be a first round of three 5 person heats. The top **two** surfers will progress to the semi-finals. The top two surfers from each semi final will progress to a 4 person final.



Heats will be planned as 20 minutes with a 5 minute paddle out. Heat length and paddle out times are always subject to change, to reflect conditions on the day. For example, slightly larger conditions may necessitate a longer paddle out time.

The heat format may be subject to change based on entry numbers. If we are low in one division but over subscribed in another we may amend the format and revert back to 4 person first round heats.

Breakdown of the standard heat format per division if all divisions are full



Event Judging

The series is designed to provide an entry point into event judging and an opportunity to train up club volunteers as judges. Surfing England will provide an experienced head judge, with the other panel members likely to be new or less experienced judges. Any appeals must be made within 15 minutes of the surfers heat. The decision of the contest director is final.

Any parents/guardians that are rude or abusive to the judging panel, volunteers or staff that make these events happen will be banned from the remainder of the 2024 series.

Scoring

A surfer's two highest scoring waves, from a maximum of 15 waves ridden in a heat, are used to calculate their total heat score. Judges will be working to the ISA judging criteria, looking for surfers performing manoeuvres on the wave face with speed, power and flow. The more difficult



manoeuvres, performed in the steeper part of the wave will get the higher scores. Wave selection, variety of manoeuvres and how they combine them are also taken into consideration.

SURFER SAFETY

The safety of the contestants is the number one priority. If the event lifeguards and / or event organising team believe conditions are unsafe for any reason, for example fog, increasing swell size, rips or other hazards the contest will be paused or potentially called off. The decision of the safety team is final.

Parents/guardians should only allow entry of their child if the child is a competent swimmer and is able to practice good surfing etiquette. If parent/guardian or competitor has any doubts about the junior's capabilities, please do not enter them. We recommend coming as a spectator instead where you will be able to meet the event team and other families and competitors to get a better idea of the standard before deciding whether to enter the next event in the series, or to join a surf club for more practice and development.

DISCLAIMER – WORDING FROM ROGER

Image Rights and Consent:

As a Member of Surfing England if you attend and / or participate in any event organised by Surfing England, you hereby grant to Surfing England and its partners permission to use your image and/or your child's image (if you are the relevant parent or legal guardian) in photography or videography produced by us including in the following::

- Surfing England displays
- within any printed publications
- on the Surfing England website
- on Surfing England's social media pages
- In Videos and other promotional materials

If you are under 16, then you hereby confirm and warrant that you have obtained consent from your parent(s) or legal guardian(s), for your image to be used by us, in the way set out above.

FAQs



I have entered but now can't come, can I have a refund or transfer entry to another stop on the series? No. We can't issue refunds for the series or transfer places between competitions.

What if there is no surf on the competition date or the backup weekend? We are holding one weekend as backup for the series. If an event can't run as scheduled it will be transferred to the back up weekend of 5th / 6th Oct. Unfortunately if the back up weekend is already taken and further events can't run as scheduled they will be cancelled.

Why can't you tell me straight away if my child has a place? We try and maximise the amount of places available, and if one division is undersubscribed it means we may be able to accommodate extra surfers if another is oversubscribed. We can only work this out once entry is closed.

Can I help my child in the water? Parental assistance is allowed for the under 12s to help them get out back, but ideally surfers will be able to paddle into waves unassisted. Judges will still count assisted waves, but will be scored accordingly.

My child is 15, why don't you have a division for them? The series can only run thanks to the amazing support of our sponsors RYD and Animal and the time and effort from the host surf clubs and their volunteers. Adding additional age divisions would turn the contest into a two day event which doubles the resourcing and cost of running. At the moment, we simply don't have the capacity to do that.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For any Event enquiries, please contact Phil Williams on phil@christiansurfers.co.uk

For Surfing England Membership enquiries, please contact Lenka on lenka@surfingengland.org