



2023 Think Mental Health WA School Surfing Titles Event & Competition Information

Surfing Western Australia and School Sport WA are once again proud to be presenting the upcoming Think Mental Health WA School Surfing Titles for 2023. As surfing and bodyboarding continues to grow in popularity this event continues to attract more and more schools to compete each year.

The Think Mental Health WA School Surfing Titles is the state's biggest participation-based surfing event and the time is fast approaching for secondary schools around the state to start selecting their surf teams which will compete for a chance to represent WA at the Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles to be held on Phillip Island, Victoria in late November / early December.

The aims of the Think Mental Health WA School Surfing Titles are to:

- Provide surfers and bodyboarders the opportunity to compete against their peers whilst representing their school.
- Provide a pathway for students to higher levels of competition after having completed learn to surf and advanced surfing courses.
- Promote surfing and bodyboarding within the school curriculum, whilst continue the development of surf-based activities for students.

We are actively seeking schools from all across the state to participate in the event that will run on the following dates:

- Regional Titles: Tuesday 23rd May - Friday 11th August 2023 (Various Locations in WA)
- Metro Titles - Monday 14th – Friday 18th August 2023 (Trigg Beach – conditions dependent)
- State Final - Friday 25th August 2023 (Trigg Beach – conditions dependent)

EVENT MECHANICS

Teams - \$55.00 per team (GST inc)

The Champion Teams are decided through a series of Zone Qualifying Rounds. In Western Australia, the state is divided into ten regions (zones) and each school is allocated into one of these zones. There are 8 divisions that students can enter.

For Surfing (Teams of 2)	For Bodyboarding (Teams of 2)
Senior Boys (18 & Under)	Senior Boys (18 & Under)
Senior Girls (18 & Under)	Senior Girls (18 & Under)
Junior Boys (15 & Under)	Junior Boys (15 & Under)
Junior Girls (15 & Under)	Junior Girls (15 & Under)

Competitor Age:

All students must be enrolled and attending a secondary high school and be a minimum of 12 years of age in the year of competition to be eligible to compete. No students attending primary schools will be eligible to compete.

Secondary students are broken into two age groups Senior & Junior. (Ages as of December 31st 2023)

- Senior: 18 years & Under – Students cannot turn 19 before 31st December 2023
- Junior: 15 years & Under – Students cannot turn 16 before 31st December 2023

STATE TEAM SELECTION – AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR TITLES 2023

Only the winning team in each of the SURFING division at the State Finals will be selected to represent WA at the Woolworths Australian Junior Surfing Titles to be held in Victoria from the 25th November to the 3rd December 2023.

2023 COMPETITION DETAILS

ENTRIES FOR ALL REGIONAL ZONES CLOSE ONE WEEK PRIOR TO EVENT

ENTRIES FOR ALL METRO ZONES CLOSE MONDAY 7th AUGUST 2023

REGIONAL QUAILIFYING DATES

ZONE	DATE	CONTACT
Southern (Denmark)	Tues 23 rd MAY	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
Northern (Geraldton)	Mon 24 th JULY	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
Peel (Mandurah)	Wed 9 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
Bunbury	Thurs 10 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
South West (Yallingup)	Fri 11 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au

METRO QUAILIFYING DATES

ZONE	DATE	CONTACT
Metro 1 – Trigg	Mon 14 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
Metro 2 – Trigg	Tues 15 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
Metro 3 – Trigg	Wed 16 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
Metro 4 - Trigg	Thurs 17 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au
Jnr & Snr Girls - Trigg	Fri 18 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au

STATE FINAL DATES

ZONE	DATE	CONTACT
STATE FINAL Trigg Beach	Fri 25 th AUG	Surfing WA 9448 0004 justin.majeks@surfingwa.com.au

2023 SCHOOL SURFING TITLES IMPORTANT INFORMATION

School Nominations:

Schools can nominate their teams and students via the attached school nomination form or via the School Sport WA website. Teachers can submit team lists as long as names, teams, age groups and surfing / bodyboarding can be clearly distinguished.

<https://www.schoolsportwa.com.au/interschool/secondary/other/surfing-champion-schools/>

Competitor Competency:

Surfing WA reminds all schools, teachers and likely competitors that this is a surfing competition and not a 'learn to surf' opportunity. We are seeking students who are keen and active surfers that own their own equipment. All competitors must be competent swimmers able to swim 50m (in the ocean) unaided and tread water for 1 minute. It is school's responsibility to ensure all students meet this minimum requirement.

Please remember this is a surfing event and not a learn to surf opportunity.

Divisions and Disciplines:

Students can compete in one age group only, either Junior or Senior, but they can compete in both surfing and bodyboarding if they wish. Schools are only guaranteed entry of up to 2 teams in each division. (ie: 2 Open Boys Bodyboarding Teams, 2 Junior Boys Bodyboarding Teams etc). If numbers allow extra teams will be accepted, but schools must contact Justin @ Surfing WA prior to this being approved.

We remind teachers that regional competitions are limited to 2 teams per school per division, given the tight timeframes needed to complete the events in just one day. Please contact Justin Majeks if your school has increased demand for teams / positions.

Competitor Briefing:

All school staff and students will be required to be at the beach for a competitor briefing at 7.45am sharp. Competition will begin at 8.00am SHARP each day. An event heat draw and format will be distributed to schools prior to their day of competition.

Essential Items To Bring:

- All surf equipment (surfboard / bodyboard, wetsuits, towels)
- Food and drinks for the day
- School banner / flag
- Some shelter for students if possible (Surfing WA will provide tents but there may not enough to cover everyone if it rains)
- Positive attitude
- Change of warm clothes

Supervision:

Please note that schools are required to provide adequate supervision of students for the day. This can be teachers or students parents, but please remember Surfing Western Australia will only be responsible for supervising students while they are in the water competing in their heats. At all other times students are the responsibility of the school. Surfing WA follows all Department of Education standards and ratios in relation to student supervision and safety.

Water Safety / First Aid:

Surfing WA staff members are all trained in Surf Rescue and Senior First Aid, but it is important that school bring a basic first aid kit to the beach for minor injuries. Surfing WA will have a water safety officer at all events, either in the water or on the beach (conditions depending). Surfing WA reminds schools and teachers that we are looking for active surfers to participate in this event. It is important that schools are confident of student's abilities prior to nominating them. Surfing WA has risk management plans and public liability insurance available for those that require it.

Conditions / Locations:

Surfing WA will aim to hold all metro qualifying events at Trigg Beach, however if conditions look unsafe or uncontestable, we'll advise a suitable back up location. School and teachers will be advised as early as possible of any likely location change. Regional events will be scheduled to run at the best location given the forecast prior to the events commencement.

Standard Judging Criteria:

"A surfer must perform committed radical maneuvers in the most critical section of a wave with speed, power and flow to maximize scoring potential. Innovative and progressive surfing as well as variety of repertoire (maneuvers) will be taken into consideration when rewarding points for waves ridden. The surfer who executes the criteria with the maximum degree of difficulty and commitment on the waves shall be rewarded with the higher scores."

State Final:

The State Team finals will be held at Trigg Beach on Friday 25th August 2023. Each winning team from each metro zone and each regional zone will be invited to the WA State Finals. The winning surfing teams from the State Finals will then go onto represent WA at the Australian Junior Surfing Titles.

Basic Competition Rules:

SURFING & BODYBOARDING

- ALL HEATS WILL BE 15/20 MINUTES (FINALS 15/20 MINS)
- 2 TEAM MEMBERS IN THE WATER AT ONE TIME.
- 2-3 TEAMS IN THE WATER AT ONE TIME (MAX 6 STUDENTS)
- SCHOOLS WILL COMPETE IN RED & WHITE, YELLOW & BLUE & GREEN & BLACK COLOURED RASH VESTS
- SURFERS SCORED ON BEST 2 WAVES. 10 WAVE MAXIMUM
- SCORES ARE ADDED FOR TEAM TOTAL – HIGHEST SCORE WINS
- WINNING TEAM PROGRESSES THROUGH TO NEXT ROUND IF THERE ARE THREE SCHOOL HEATS THE TOP TWO SCHOOLS WILL PROGRESS.

