



2023

Surfing Tasmania

Annual Report

# Thank you to our major Partners and Sponsors



## GOVERNANCE 2022-2023

### SURFING TASMANIA CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

President	Stacey van Dongen (Interim – nomination to be appointed at August 2023 AGM)
Director	Dave Banks
Director	Mel Sharman
Director	Jo Goldfinch
Director	Richie Hassett
Director	Holly Brown (appointed May 2023)
Director	Richard Ramsden (appointed May 2023)

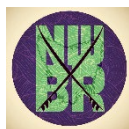
### SURFING TASMANIA MANAGEMENT TEAM

Event Managers	Leanne Johannesen Luke Johannesen
Media Manager	Blainey Woodham
Finance & Operations	Dave Banks (Interim)

### SURFING TASMANIA REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE

NWBR Representative	Toby Ray
NEBR Representative	Jock Hogarth
PBBR Representative	Stu Quarrell
SABR Representative	Eddie Lawrence/ Guy Vandekelen
Storm Bay SUP Representative	Dave Smith
Head Judge	Michael Schmidt & Richie Hassett
Coaching Manager	Vacant

### AFFILIATED BOARDRIDER CLUBS



Northwest Board Riders  
Northeast Board Riders  
Park Beach Board Riders  
South Arm Board Riders

Storm Bay Standup Paddle  
Christian Surfers Australia  
The Albert Street Gang

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

### **A time of significant change**

The past year has seen many changes at Surfing Tasmania with significant activity in leadership, funding support, and event management. I am so pleased to see more people join our community and work together to support surfing in Tasmania.

As always, a huge thankyou to the ongoing support of the Surfing Australia team. The Surfing Tasmania Board has enjoyed building our national presence through contribution to CEO and Chair meetings and processes. I would like to particularly thank Layne Beachley for her national leadership and her support of the Surfing Tasmania flagship event Women in Waves. I have so enjoyed developing a professional relationship with Layne – thanks Layne for your humour and strategic insight and commitment to our sport.

### **Leadership**

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the work and commitment in leadership in our surfing community. Shayne Clark showed his commitment to surfing in this state through over ten years in the role of Executive Officer of Surfing Tasmania. Shayne's dedication to the role went above and beyond the obligations of the position and the Board wishes Shayne good times in his retirement with more time to dedicate to his love and devotion to surf ski paddling.

Our community elder statesman and former President, Mick Laurence – Mick's intellect, his relentless dedication to empowering the community through his voice on paper, on the beach, and in film is unprecedented in the sport landscape. I want to make particular note of Mick's dedication to ensuring the future of surfing in this state through supporting the younger generation of our surfers. This commitment was most visible through managing the Thwaites Foundation and, as such, continuing the ongoing legacy of the Thwaites family in the surfing community. It was an important milestone in Tasmanian surfing history to also recognise the posthumous contribution of Mrs Thwaites with the 2022 Dara Penfold Award under Mick's presidency. Mick, you are a super legend of this sport – thank you.

### **Governance**

The Surfing Tasmania Board has fulfilled its corporate governance obligations while moving through organisational review and change management processes for future proofing surfing in Tasmania. This has seen Board Directors take on dual commitments of steering the ship in strategic oversight in governance and operational management whilst managing these review processes – including a comprehensive review of our coaching programmes. Thank you to Richie, Mel, Jo and Dave, for your commitment to steering our ship!

To my Board colleague and mentor in governance, Dave Banks - I can confidently say all of us in the surfing community are indebted to you for your quiet resolve, governance intellect, fairness and professionalism in overseeing operational management. I would also like to welcome our newest Board members Holly Brown and Richard Ramsden to the Surfing Tasmania Board. Both have already provided valuable contributions to our strategic direction and will be crucial as we move through this next phase of changes – thank you.

## **Events**

The Surfing Tasmania event management responsibilities call for dedication to process, quality, community relationships, and quite simply 'blood, sweat and tears'. I can confidently say the whole surfing community thanks Luke and Leanne Johannessen for their commitment and successful management of the events in the past year. We are now reflecting on an increase participation at competition events and overwhelming success of our flag ship participation event Women in Waves, and very happy and satisfied event partners and sponsors – huge thanks to Luke and Leanne.

## **Communications**

Communications and stakeholder relationships will take on greater role in our strategic commitment to increasing membership in the community and inviting support from the community. A critical success in the past year has been the increase of partnerships and resource support from these new connections. Our social media platforms have a pivotal role in gaining this support. This success is in part attributed to Blainey Woodham joining the operational team in the new role of Communications Manager. We are so grateful for the communications experience and skills Blainey brings to the team from his time at Surfing Australia – thanks Blainey.

## **Community**

Surfing is about community. The Board Rider Clubs are the 'front door' to our surfing community. This involves relentless time and energy volunteered to continuing the roles of BRCS in all regions and supporting members of the surfing community and in the general communities. Thank you to SABR, NW Boardriders, Storm Bay SUP, Albert Street Gang, Christian Surfers, Park Beach, and NE Boardriders – we are looking forward to working with you in this next exciting stage of Surfing Tasmania.

Surfing Tasmania would not survive without the relentless dedication of our volunteers – volunteers are the heart of the surfing community. Thank you for carrying the equipment to the beach, putting up the tents, supporting and mentoring the younger surfers, judging the comps, feeding the masses, reaching out to gain funds to continue your activities and creating a fun and safe place for all to be involved in your club. I want to take this opportunity to specifically thank Krissie Lawrence to her dedication to managing the scoring process for comps and supporting the younger surfers. Krissie - you are legend and a role model in our community!

## **Funding Support**

All this work cannot be possible without the support of our partners and funding relationships. We have made significant success in gaining funding support to not only continue our work and to increase the quality of what we do. We are now in a stronger position to fulfill our strategic commitment through increased funding from the Tasmanian Government – Department of State Growth (Sport and Recreation) and the Department of Health (Health Tasmania Fund).

I would like to make particular note of our successful funding submissions in the Healthy Tasmania funding processes. The success of two grants to support the 2023 Women in Waves event and securing the event until 2025 is a significant milestone for Surfing Tasmania. This is a recognition of the work we have achieved through encouraging participation in surfing for its health and wellbeing benefits – including the social connections and relationships which are built through our shared love of surfing. The funding resources provide us with the confidence to continue with our operational work - participation in recreational and competition surfing.

A huge thank you to my Board colleague Mel Sharman for her knowledge, intellect and commitment to gender equity in surfing - which has been an integral contribution to this funding success.

We welcome new partnerships with Moo Brew, Woodhams Builders and the Calvary Tasmanian Community Council, and thank the ongoing support of both national and state support from Surfing Australia, Hyundai, Rip Curl, Red Herring, Smitten Merino, and the Goodstone Group and our many event day sponsors.

I am excited with the new direction of Surfing Tasmania, and I look forward to working with you in the next year.

**Stacey van Dongen**

**Interim President/Chair**

**Surfing Tasmania**



## FINANCIAL REPORT & GENERAL OPERATIONS

	2022	2023
Revenue	\$96,324	\$234,153
Expenses	\$100,742	\$162,614
Operating Profit/Loss	\$4,418	\$71,539

Our 2023 audited financials show an operating profit of \$71,539. The uplift was primarily driven from an increase in event fees (greater participation), government grant funding (women in waves), new partnerships and other operational efficiencies (reduced administrative costs). It is noted that the revenue includes the full prepayment of the Tasmanian Government grants to support the women in waves event over the next three years. The related expenses for these showcase events will be provisioned for in 2024 and 2025.

Like most not for profit sporting organisations, we are seeing constant increases in our day-to-day expenses and to date we have successfully absorbed these costs without needing to increase membership or event fees.

Surfing Tasmania had no operational risk events in the past year and has no outstanding complaints or claims at the time of this report.

Significant effort has been made in uplifting our operational controls and practices to ensure we can offer the highest quality and safest events possible.

## SANCTIONED EVENTS 2022-2023

The past year has been one of the most successful seasons in recent times. COVID played havoc with our events over the past few years, and it was pleasing to run a full season of events without the constant risks of cancellations.

Overall participation at events was up by 25% on last year. Several of our events recorded their highest participation levels on record including the Bruny Island Classic and East Coast Classic. A few events saw mainland entries across all divisions which pushed the quality of surfing to even higher levels.

Amongst many highlights, the inaugural Red Herring Pro Am was a showcase event drawing significant media attention and large crowds. This event will grow even bigger over the coming years.

We look forward to another strong season this year and to also commence the planning for the 2025 West Coast Classic which will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year.

## SURFING TASMANIA MEMBERSHIP 2022-2023

Membership Figures		Male	Female	Total
Full members	Under 18	29	57	86
	Over 18	62	143	205
Program members	Under 18	148	247	395
	Over 18	264	226	490
Total		503	673	1176

## ACCREDITED SURF SCHOOLS

Surfing Tasmania's affiliated surf and stand-up paddle boarding - SUP schools operate around Tasmania in the warmer months providing terrific service to the wider community, schools and business groups. They offer a range of introductory programs such as the award-winning Woolworths Surf Groms, Learn to Surf and Sporting Schools and more advanced programs as required. Give them a call or check their websites today to book your place or purchase a gift voucher.







Coastrider Surf Academy	<a href="https://www.coastrider.com.au">https://www.coastrider.com.au</a>
42 South Surf School	<a href="https://42southsurf.com.au">https://42southsurf.com.au</a>
Blue Lagoon SUP and Surf	<a href="https://bluelagoonsupandsurf.com">https://bluelagoonsupandsurf.com</a>






## 2022-2023 STAS STATE AND DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONS

<b>Opens</b>		
	Open Men	1. Jy Johannesen
		2. Benn Richardson
	Open Women	1. Ava Carlton
		2. Sienna Lawrence
<b>Divisional</b>		
	O30 – Men	• Jy Johannesen (Equal)
		• Benn Richardson (Equal)
	O40 - Women	1. Claire Boost
		2. Jo Goldfinch
	O40 - Men	1. Richard Ramsden
		2. Jake Woodberry
	O50 - Men	1. John Gregory
	O60 - Men	1. Kim Gale
		2. John Gregory
<b>Juniors</b>		
	U12 – Women	1. Lola Reid
	U14 – Women	1. Jess Gardner
		2. Lola Reid
	U16 – Women	1. Poppy Woodberry
		2. Ava Carlton
	U18 - Women	1. Sienna Lawrence
		2. Ava Carlton
	U12 - Men	1. Alby Clemow
		2. Sunny Clemow
	U14 – Men	3. Marvin Freeman
		4. Tully Woodberry
	U16 – Men	1. Cowan Duncan
		2. Marvin Freeman
	U18 - Men	1. Noah Hassett
		2. Cowan Duncan

## GALLERY

	Winter SUP - Sept	Phantom Coast - Oct
		
Phantom Coast - Oct	ABB - Oct	ABB - Oct
		

PRO AM - Jan	PRO AM - Jan	Women In Waves - Jan
		
Women In Waves - Jan	Bruny - Feb	Bruny - Feb
		
West Coast - Mar	West Coast - Mar	
		

PJM - April	PJM - April	Schools - May
		
Schools - May	East Coast - Jun	
