



A Help
Company

RISE

 SURFING AUSTRALIA

RISE GUIDE

PARTICIPATION & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR
WOMEN & GIRLS



An Australian Government Initiative

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play our way

AGENDA



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THE PROGRAM GOALS - BY JUNE 2027

- **Employ female Surfing Australia Women's Participation & Development Manager & 6x State P&C Development Coordinators** to drive growth and engagement across the country.
- **1,600x free surf coaching, judging, and official courses** for women, offering opportunities to develop new skills and become leaders in the sport.
- **25x new women & girls boardrider clubs**, creating fresh, inclusive communities for female surfers to thrive in.
- **25x new women & girls subcommittees** within established boardrider clubs, to increase women & girls' participation & development.
- **100x on-beach training days** held across Australia, providing hands-on learning and growth opportunities for women and girls.
- **Annual development camp** at the Hyundai Surfing Australia High-Performance Centre for the next three years, offering skill development, mentoring and networking opportunities.
- **Ambassador opportunities for women**, empowering them to lead and inspire the next generation of female surfers.
- **Content creation and storytelling** to capture and share the program's impact, inspiring more women to engage and participate in surfing.
- **In-kind support from Surfing Australia** to provide additional resources, enhancing value for the community and supporting women's growth in the sport.



CREATING NEW BRC's



The Play Our Way Grant aims to establish 25 new women and girls' boardrider clubs across the nation.

These 25 clubs must be exclusively for women and girls.

There are two boardrider club models to choose from:

Competitive boardrider clubs must have the necessary permits to operate clubs rounds & events at a designated beach.

Social boardrider clubs typically do not require a beach permit and can operate at multiple beach locations. However, requirements vary by state, so please check with your local council.

The grant will cover the first year of club affiliation, which includes insurance.

Surfing Australia, along with your relevant state branch will offer ongoing support to assist in the growth and development of your club.

To set up a boardrider club, please email your state branch or Surfing Australia.

SUBCOMMITTEE - EXISTING BRC



The Play Our Way Grant will support the creation of 25 women's and girls' subcommittees within existing boardrider clubs across Australia. These subcommittees, functioning as sister clubs, aim to increase female participation by fostering inclusive, supportive environments.

The sister club will have a 'subcommittee' comprising of 3–6 women who meet regularly to plan events and initiatives. One member will represent the group at the club's general committee meetings to ensure alignment and communication.

Clubs can choose from three models based on their needs:

- Competitive
- Social
- Combination

Competitive: Focused on growing female representation in competitions (e.g., additional divisions, tailored conditions).

Social: Encourages participation through non-competitive events like learn-to-surf days, social group surfs, workshops, and info nights.

Combination: A blend of both competitive and social approaches to boost women & girls' participation rates all-round.

The grant covers the cost of upgrading affiliation tiers (including insurance and benefits) for one year and provides additional funding for participation-based initiatives (e.g., coaching, events or info nights). All spending must be approved by Surfing Australia and reported accordingly.

Surfing Australia, along with your relevant state branch will also offer ongoing support to ensure the continued growth and development of these boardrider clubs.

To set up a subcommittee, please email your state branch or Surfing Australia.

LEADERSHIP ROLES

Coaching: The Play Our Way Grant offers women and girls the opportunity to access free Foundation (Level 1), Progression (Level 2), or SUP Coaching Courses.

Coaching can lead to roles within surf schools, boardrider clubs, state branches, Surfing Australia, and high-performance coaching.

Judging: The Play Our Way Grant also allows women and girls to take free Foundation (Level 1) or Progression (Level 2) Judging Courses.

Judging can lead to opportunities in BRC club rounds, state and national events, as well as ISA, WSL, and Olympic levels.

Officiating: Through the Play Our Way Grant, women and girls can access free Officiating Courses.

Officiating training equips you with skills for your boardrider club, including general topics, best-practice safety, and risk management.

Eligibility:

- 16+ years old
- Must not have previously completed the course (no renewals)

For your discount codes, please email your state branch.



ON-BEACH TRAINING SESSIONS

The Play Our Way Grant aims to empower women and girls by providing 100 free on-beach training sessions across the country. These sessions are designed to upskill and support the development of new coaches and judges, forming a key part of our national strategy to enhance participation, leadership, and progression within the surfing community.

Delivered in collaboration with the Surfing States and their existing women and girls surf programs, each session will be tailored to create a supportive and inclusive environment that helps participants develop both technical skills and personal confidence.

The on-beach sessions will include a mix of learn-to-surf, coaching, and judging opportunities, with some sessions contributing toward required logbook hours for an active accreditation.

Funded by Surfing Australia and implemented by the Surfing States. For more information please contact your state branch.



HPC DEVELOPMENT CAMP



Surfing Australia will host an exclusive annual camp at the Hyundai High-Performance Centre, designed for 40 women and girls (coaches, judges & officials) scheduled in **May 2026 & May 2027**.

This immersive two-day, one-night camp offers a unique opportunity for participants to build lifelong connections, advance their leadership careers, boost their confidence, and enhance their overall surfing skills. It is a safe and supportive environment where women can connect with like-minded individuals and learn from experienced mentors.

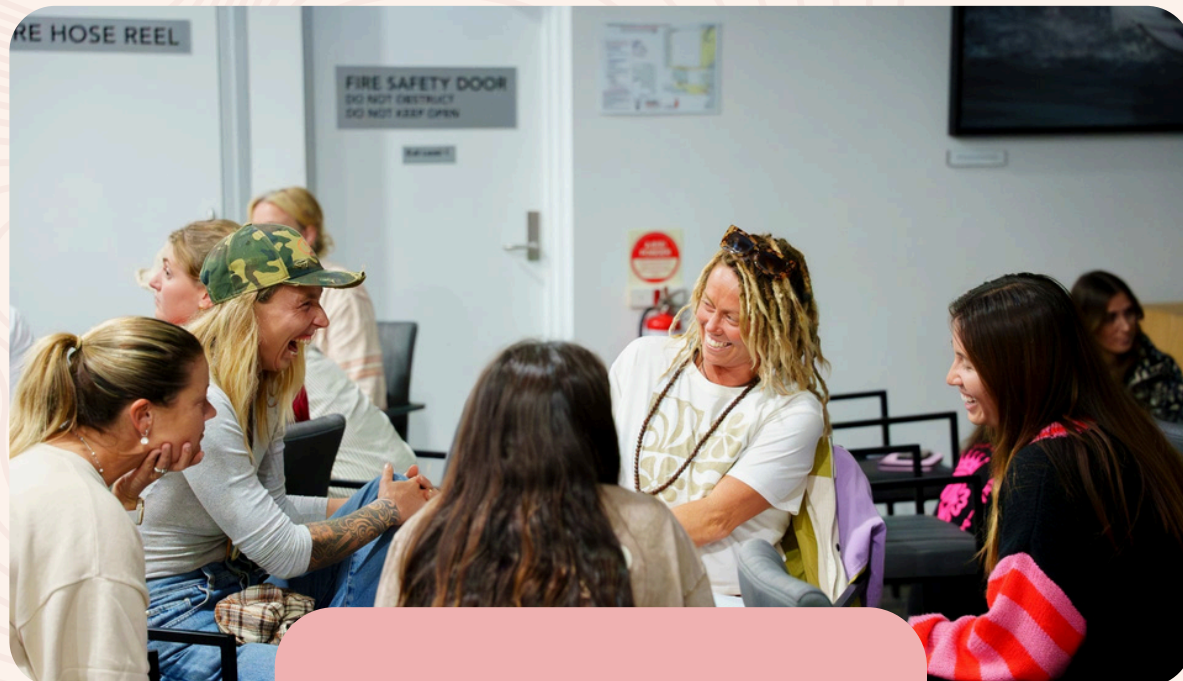
The camp program includes a range of activities designed to improve both physical and mental aspects of surfing. Participants will engage in on-beach training sessions and mentor-led discussions, all tailored to elevate their skills and knowledge. Additionally, video analysis will be provided to help participants identify areas for improvement, while workshops will cover important aspects such as goal setting, strategies, and personal growth.

This camp is fully funded for all successful applicants, ensuring that women from all backgrounds have the opportunity to participate and benefit from this life-changing experience.

Eligibility:

- 18+ years old
- Must be an accredited coach, judge or official or have completed all online modules from your course. (Logbook hours may be completed prior or during the camp)

Applications are open until 1st March 2026 and can be submitted via the Surfing Australia - Play Our Way webpage.



STORY TELLING



Surfing Australia will implement a dynamic content strategy to capture and share the program's impact, aiming to boost visibility and engagement across multiple platforms. Content will be distributed via television, social media, websites, and EDMs (Electronic Direct Mail).

To further amplify the message, we will collaborate with ambassadors who genuinely connect with our target audience. Through their stories, testimonials, and personal experiences, these ambassadors will highlight the program's benefits—creating authentic, inspiring content that encourages more women to get involved.

Participants can access this content through the social media channels, websites, and EDMs of Surfing Australia, as well as Surfing NSW, QLD, VIC, WA, SA, and TAS.

We encourage all interested individuals to follow Surfing Australia and their relevant state branch to stay informed and ensure they don't miss key updates or opportunities to participate.



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 SURFING AUSTRALIA

Get In Touch

Email

shanice@surfingaustralia.com

Instagram

[@surfingaus](https://www.instagram.com/surfingaus)

Call us

02 6671 0000