

A high-action photograph of a surfer riding a wave, with a blue and white color scheme. The surfer is in a crouched position, leaning forward, with their arms outstretched. The wave is breaking, creating a spray of white water. The background is a deep blue, and the foreground is a lighter blue, suggesting the surface of the water. The overall mood is energetic and dynamic.

 SURFING AUSTRALIA

JUNIOR SERIES

ANNUAL SURFING AUSTRALIA JUNIOR
SERIES WINNER IN THE UNDER 16 & 18
MALE & FEMALE DIVISIONS WILL EARN
A SPOT ON THE IRUKANDJIS TEAM AND
REPRESENT AUSTRALIA AT THE
ISA WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

WELCOME TO THE SURFING AUSTRALIA JUNIOR SERIES

WHAT IS THE JUNIOR SERIES?

Working closely with our State Branches as our event partners and with Live Heats, Surfing Australia will monitor and publish up to date rankings for every participating competitor in eligible events.

After each event, a surfers' placing will receive points that reflects the event rating.

There are 5 levels of Event Rating which are weighted according to the SA Event criteria.

At the end of the Surfing Australia Junior Series, the National Rankings will showcase the best competitive surfers in each Australian age category.

Annual Junior Series Champions in the Under 16 & 18 Male & Female Divisions will earn a spot on the Irukandjis Team and represent Australia at the ISA World Junior Championships.

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THE JUNIOR SERIES?

The benefits of The Surfing Australia Junior Series will be varied and wide-reaching. Surfers and their coaches will be able to monitor and promote their progress throughout the competitive year, Athlete management can utilise this progress for sponsorships and endorsements.



THE NO.1 GOAL

TO PROVIDE A NATIONAL SERIES FOR ALL COMPETITIVE SURFERS ACROSS ALL DIVISIONS OF AUSTRALIAN SURFING.

The Surfing Australia Junior Series is continually being updated and would allow every competitive surfer access at any time their individual Australian ranking compared to all other surfers in their respective age divisions.

2026 has seen the continuation the rolling seedings where by an athletes seed will be determined on a list of their best 3 results from a rolling 12 month period. i.e. If an event was held in April, a surfers seeding would take into account results from April the year prior to March in the current year.

This Rolling Seeding will be live and updated after each event. This is a tool for event promoters in establishing heat draw seedings and does not effect National Rankings.



2026 SURFING AUSTRALIA JUNIOR SERIES UPDATES

- Australian Junior Surfing Titles - 12,000 Ranking Points
- 6 x 10,000 rated events across Australia
- Taj's Small Fries - WA, Jan 2026
- Parko's Junior Pro - QLD, Apr 2026
- North Narrabeen Junior - NSW, Apr 2026
- Billabong Occy Grom Comp - QLD, Jun 2026
- Skullcandy Oz Grom Open - NSW, July 2026
- Rip Curl GromSearch Phillip Island - VIC, Sept 2026
- \$180.00 + GST for 10,000 rated events



2026 SURFING AUSTRALIA JUNIOR SERIES UPDATES

- All Junior State Titles – Elevated to 7,500 Ranking points
- Under 12s Divisions will be the first to start accumulating Ranking points towards the Australian Junior Series
- International competitors are still able to compete however, they will now be excluded from collecting ranking points
- Junior athletes wanting to surf up an age division in the 2026 year must confirm this in writing to their respective state branch. If done so, they cannot rely back on their actual age division rankings results to support future events. If chosen to surf up an age division, all lower age results will be excluded from their profile.
- If athletes surf in a second age division and have not elected to surf up in the 2026 series, the higher age results will be excluded from their profile.



COMPETITION FORMATS AND DIVISIONS

COUNTING BEST RESULTS - 2026

DIVISION

Under 18 (Jnr Male & Female)

Under 16 (Jnr Male & Female)

Under 14 (Jnr Male & Female)

Under 12 (Jnr Male & Female)

COUNTING RESULTS

COUNTING BEST 3 RESULTS

COUNTING BEST 3 RESULTS

COUNTING BEST 3 RESULTS

COUNTING BEST 3 RESULTS

COMPETITION STANDARDS & QUALITY PARAMETERS — 10,000 RATED EVENTS

- Must use Liveheats, Map to Rolling Seeding and Rankings
- Head Judge must hold a Level 3 - Elite Judging qualification (Mandatory)
- Minimum Level 2 Progression Judging panel appointed (Mandatory)
 - o Recommended Level 3 Elite accredited judges
- Mandatory use of Priority System with Minimum Level 2 Progression accredited Judge
- Waitlist Entry Process – Based on Selection Doc
- Use of Rolling Seeding for Selection as well as heat draw seeding
- Recommended divisions:
 - U14's through to U18 Men and Women
- Event Formats:
 - Straight Knock-out Format
 - 2-Person heats from Semi Finals (Mandatory)
 - o Ability to run 2-Person heats from Q-Finals onwards
- Minimum Heat times of 20mins (Mandatory)
 - Minimum 25 Minute Finals (Mandatory)
 - Consult with Surfing Australia if for any reason this needs to change (Surf conditions / weather out of event operators control)
- Surfing Australia Wildcard Selection Criteria
 - The athlete's current skill matrix
 - Their likelihood to perform at that wave location
 - Reasonable and evidenced explanation for their ranking position, such as injury, illness or prior commitments to recognised development or performance opportunities
- Selections will be made at the discretion of the selection panel (SA Pathway Coach, SA Pathway Coach, Head of Pathway Program). Where a selection is not made, this will revert to the athlete next on the AJS rankings list.
 - If not used returns to Rolling Seeding



COMPETITION STANDARDS & QUALITY PARAMETERS — 10,000 RATED EVENTS

- State Wildcard:
 - Must be selected off the Waitlisted athletes.
 - If not used – Must go back to Rolling Seeding – Not to Event Promoter / Brand or BRC.
 - States can select from entire waitlist for selection – Injury /
- Event Promoter / Brand or BRC Wildcard x 2 for Round sizes of 24 and above.
 - Brand Wildcards or BRC Wildcards must be on the waitlist for consideration.
- Minimum Round Sizes (Mandatory) :
 - U18 Men – Round of 32 – 17 Heats
 - U18 Women – Round of 24 – 14 Heats
 - U16 Boys – Round of 48 – 26 Heats
 - U16 Girls – Round of 24 – 14 Heats
 - If a division above does not fill and all athletes on waitlist have been exhausted, Only U16's to U18's draws can be expanded.
 - U12's to U14's Round Sizes at the discretion of event operator & Owner
 - Events must have equal gender divisions i.e. Cannot run only boys divisions.
- Recommended Live Webcast of the event for at least the final two days.



COMPETITION STANDARDS & QUALITY PARAMETERS — 5,500 RATED EVENTS

- Must use Liveheats, Map to Rolling Seeding and Rankings
- Head Judge must hold a Level 3 - Elite Judging qualification (Mandatory)
- Minimum Level 2 Progression Judging panel appointed (Mandatory)
 - Recommended Level 3 Elite accredited judges
- Mandatory use of Priority System with Minimum Level 2 Progression accredited Judge
 - U8's through to U12's – Priority System is not mandatory
 - U14's through to U18's – Priority System mandatory.
- No Waitlist – Entries from first come first served basis.
- Use of Rolling Seeding for heat draw seeding
- Recommended divisions:
 - U12's through to U18 Men and Women
- Minimum Heat times of 20mins
- Event Formats:
 - All Surfing Australia Rulebook formats to be used at the discretion of event owner (2nd chance, Straight Knock-out, Advanced Seed etc).



COMPETITION STANDARDS & QUALITY PARAMETERS — 3,500 RATED EVENTS

- Must use Liveheats, Map to Rolling Seeding and Rankings
- Head Judge must hold a Level 3 - Elite Judging qualification (Mandatory)
- Minimum Level 1 Judging panel appointed (Mandatory)
 - Recommended Level 2 Progression Accredited judges
- Recommended use of Priority System with Minimum Level 2 Progression accredited Judge
- No Waitlist – Entries from first come first served basis.
- Use of Rolling Seeding for heat draw seeding
- Recommended divisions
 - U8's Mixed through to U18 Men and Women
- Minimum Heat times of 15mins - 20mins
- Event Formats:
 - All Surfing Australia Rulebook formats to be used at the discretion of event owner and operator. (2nd chance, Straight Knock-out, Advanced Seed etc).



SERIES RANKINGS POINTS

REGIONAL EVENTS:
3500 POINTS

KEY EVENTS:
5500 POINTS

STATE TITLES:
7500 POINTS

MARQUEE EVENTS:
10000 POINTS

NATIONAL TITLES:
12000 POINTS



2026 EVENT RATINGS TABLE

Final Place		REGIONAL EVENTS (WITH INTERSTATE COMPETITORS)	KEY EVENTS*	STATE TITLES*	MARQUEE EVENTS*	NATIONAL TITLES*
1	x	3500	5500	7500	10000	12000
2	x	3010	4730	6450	8600	10320
3	x	2555	4015	5475	7300	8760
4	x	2345	3685	5025	6700	8040
5	x	2135	3355	4575	6100	7320
6		2041	3207	4373	5830	6996
7	x	1943	3053	4163	5550	6660
8		1848	2904	3960	5280	6336
9	x	1750	2750	3750	5000	6000
10		1708	2684	3660	4880	5856
11		1663	2613	3563	4750	5700
12		1617	2541	3465	4620	5544
13	x	1575	2475	3375	4500	5400
14		1533	2409	3285	4380	5256
15		1488	2338	3188	4250	5100
16		1446	2272	3098	4130	4956
17	x	1400	2200	3000	4000	4800
18		1383	2173	2963	3950	4740
19		1365	2145	2925	3900	4680
20		1348	2118	2888	3850	4620
21		1330	2090	2850	3800	4560
22		1313	2063	2813	3750	4500
23		1295	2035	2775	3700	4440
24		1278	2008	2738	3650	4380
25	x	1260	1980	2700	3600	4320

*must fulfil all SA event parameters

KEY POINTS FOR STAKEHOLDERS

KEY POSITIVE POINTS FOR SURFERS, PARENTS AND TEAM MANAGERS

- A State and National Rankings allows for stronger negotiations for better sponsorship and endorsement packages
- A current rankings can allow the surfer to be more selective when choosing events to compete in without the issue of over surfing
- A National Ranking can identify performance strengths and weaknesses of a competitor
- A surfer can balance their competitive aspirations with other life goals such as school, tertiary education or work/career
- Annual Australian Junior Series Winners in the Under 16 & 18 Male & Female Divisions will earn a spot on the Irukandjis Team and represent Australia at the ISA World Junior Championships.



KEY POINTS FOR STAKEHOLDERS

KEY POSITIVE POINTS FOR COACHES

- State and National Rankings allow coaches to utilise and create a criteria for Talent ID and HPC programs and WC selection for Team Australia
- State and National Rankings allow for the coaches to utilise results to analyse a surfer's strengths and support their surfer through strategic planning
- State and National Rankings allow coaches to utilise rankings when setting career goals for their surfers



KEY POINTS FOR STAKEHOLDERS

KEY POSITIVE POINTS FOR STATE BRANCHES AND CLUBS

- Cohesive integrated rankings for Regional, State and National age divisions
- National & State Rankings allows States to utilise where they see fit (wild cards & team selections)
- State coaches can utilise for State HP programs and Talent ID
- To have a State and or National Ranking, the surfer must be a member of the State branch
- For an event to be rated the event must be sanctioned and insured with Surfing Australia / State branch



KEY POINTS FOR EVENT ORGANISERS

EVENT ENTRY & SEEDING

See selection doc for all events above 7,500

events below 7,500 will use “first in best dressed” entry process.



HOW TO MAINTAIN AND/OR UPGRADE YOUR EVENT

EVENT PARAMETERS	3,500 PTS	5,500 PTS	10,000 PTS & 12,000 PTS
Competition Standards – Live Heats (mandatory)	✓	✓	✓
Competition Standards – State/National sanctioned and Insured (mandatory)	✓	✓	✓
Competition Standards – Minimum L2 Progression Judges and Head Judge (mandatory)	✓	✓	✓
Competition Standards – Priority System	✗	✓	✓
Competition Standards – Recommended Heat times (To be based off competition schedule requirements)	15 to 25 mins	20 to 25 mins	20 to 25 mins
Use of Rolling Seeding to seed heat draws	✓	✓	✓
Minimum Days – The event window will reflect the amount of competitors and desired format	2/4 days	2/4 days	4/7 + days
Use of Rolling Seeding for selection purposes - Adhering to Selection Doc and Process	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	MANDATORY
Event organisers can blend different rated divisions at the same event. (Run an Under 18 and U16 divisions at 10,000 rated event and an U14 and U12 at a 5,500 rated event within the same window).	✗	✓	✓
Use of webcast during the event period	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL
Minimum amount of Divisions (amount of competitors and format sizes)	UNDER 8,10,12, 14,16 & 18	UNDER 14, 16 & 18	UNDER 16 AND 18
Equal Male and Female categories across all age divisions (Equal format size is not a requirement)	✓	✓	✓

Please note: Surfing Australia have sole discretion assigning event ratings, event ratings upgrades and event ratings downgrades within the Surfing Australia Junior Series based on the adherence to the above parameters. The Surfing Australia Junior Series is subject to change.

KEY POINTS FOR EVENT ORGANISERS

MINIMUM SIZE FORMATS

- It is recommended there be a minimum of two days required to conduct the smallest Nationally rated event.
- Bigger events with multiple divisions will require more days to cater for minimum entry numbers and age divisions.
- Please refer to SA Rule book for available formats – Straight Knockout, Second Chance and SA new seeded format for Nationally ranked competitions.

Event organisers can blend different rated divisions at the same event. (Run an Under 18 and U16 divisions at 10,000 rated event and an U14 and U12 at a 5,500 rated event within the same window).

