



Return to Competition

ORGANIZER GUIDELINES

The information in this document is current to September 1, 2020



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Return to Competition

TIMELINE

The BC Government's Restart Plan outlines four (4) distinct phases.

PHASE 1

Declared Public Health emergency. Banned mass gatherings, Closed all Provincial and Federal parks (Ended May 18th)

PHASE 2

Organized grassroots and club events to resume with modifications (May 19 - June 24)

PHASE 3

Organized local and B.C. provincial events to resume with modifications (June 25 - current)

PHASE 4

All levels of competition to resume. Modifications to normal practice may continue to be necessary. (TBD)

General Guidelines

TO BE RESPECTED AT ALL TIMES

Surfing is a multi-disciplinary sport that most participants participate freely outdoors without the need for a specialized venue.

The provincial health authority has stated that outdoor activities are lower risk as compared to indoor activities and low contact sports are also a lower risk than contact sports.

All surfers and guardians are expected to adhere to the Provincial Health Officer's (PHO) orders and guidelines with respect to COVID-19.

For more information visit, <http://covid-19.bccdc.ca/>.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Each person planning to engage in surfing is expected to evaluate their health and state of mind prior to surfing. Only surf if you are healthy and take extra care; pay attention to your surroundings.
- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, headache, or shortness of breath), you should NOT participate in sport. If these symptoms begin during an activity, you must leave immediately and contact your local public health office for recommendations. You must also inform Surf Canada.
- In addition, the following individuals should not participate in organized surfing activities:
 - Any person who receives a diagnosis of COVID-19. Individuals must comply with the current mandated self-isolation policy as per the BC Ministry of Health (www.gov.bc.ca).
 - Any person who has been told to self-isolate.
 - Any person who lives in a home with or has been in close contact with someone with symptoms of COVID-19.

GENERAL GUIDELINES continued...

- Any person who has arrived in British Columbia from outside of Canada within the last 14 days as they are mandated to self-isolate and monitor for symptoms for 14 days upon their arrival.
- All participants must practice recommended social/physical distancing by keeping two meters (six feet) away from one another at all times.
- Do not touch your face, eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a disposable tissue or the crease of your elbow when you sneeze or cough.
- Practice enhanced hygiene, including regular cleaning of equipment.
- Be self-sufficient – leave prepared for nutrition, hydration and technical.
- Do not share equipment, food, drinks, utensils, water bottles, etc.
- Do not shake hands, embrace or high-five to celebrate.
- Do not loiter before or after organized activities.
- First-aid kits should have extra PPE (gloves, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, masks), if appropriate.
- All participants will be required to complete a COVID-19 Declaration online through CCN. The COVID-19 Declaration, once made, will apply to participation in all future events.

MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

All participants in Surf Canada sanctioned events will be required to complete the COVID-19 Declaration at the time of registration for their first event.

REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

- Online pre-registration via csasurfcanda.org should be used as much as possible in order to minimize onsite interactions and accreditation handling.
- Onsite registration and competition rashie/bib pickup and drop-off are to occur at an open tent, from a soap filled rinse tub to allow for physical distancing between staff/volunteers and surfers.
- Registration tables should be equipped with plexiglass separators between staff and surfers.

REGISTRATION GUIDELINES continued...

- In areas where SUP racers are expected to form a queue at a beach start, ground markings demonstrating 2m distance should be installed. Ocean start, racers must be 2 paddle lengths from adjacent racers.
- If onsite registration is permitted, it is recommended that the organizer provides an option for contactless payment using credit card and/or debit card.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

face masks

When should a face mask be worn?

Non-medical masks are strongly recommended when in public, particularly when physical distancing is not possible. Wearing a face mask in public areas should be accompanied by other protection measures including frequent hand washing, coughing into one's elbow, and the sanitization of high touch surfaces.

Why wear a face mask?

Not all people infected with COVID-19 experience symptoms. Some people can be infected without knowing. By wearing a mask, we are reducing the risk of spreading COVID-19 to others.

Who should wear a face mask?

Mandatory for officials, judges, employees of Surf Canada and members of the organizing committee who are in contact or in proximity to other people (***within two metres***).

Recommended for all others (surfers on water excluded).



RESPONSIBILITIES OF SURFERS

Important: All participants will be required to complete a COVID-19 Declaration online.

- Surfers should not attend an event if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or if positive with the virus.
- Respect physical distancing rules at all time.
- Do not arrive more than 60 minutes before your scheduled start time.
- Read and understand the specific event rules prior to arrival.
- Only surfers and their guardians (if minors) are permitted at the competition site.
- High fives, handshakes, 'chairing' or congratulatory physical contact is prohibited.
- Minimize the amount of time you spend onsite following competition.
- Do not touch equipment belonging to another surfer.
- No exchange of food or clothing between surfers is permitted.
- All materials left behind will be systematically discarded.
- Surfers should be self-sufficient for all nutrition and technical needs.
- At all times, surfers must follow the directions of competition officials or risk being disqualified.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORGANIZERS

Meetings of the Organizing Committee and Competition Officials

As much as possible, all meetings in preparation for events should occur online using conferencing software. If this is not possible, in person meetings should be conducted respecting physical distancing rules. The use of printed documents should be minimized.

Record Keeping

It is mandatory for all organizers to maintain precise participation records including full registration lists including name and sorted by category and/or start time. This is to facilitate quick and efficient contact tracing in the event that someone contracts COVID-19.

Similarly, maintaining a full record of all staff and volunteers and their assigned roles is mandatory.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORGANIZERS

continued...

Minimize The Number Of People On The Event Site

The competition site, including the start and finish area, should not exceed the gathering size permissible under current Provincial Health Officer recommendations. For more information on managing participation numbers according to the PHO recommendations please refer to page 10 of viaSport's Return to Sport Guidelines.

- Only surfers, coaches, guardians of minors (one parent per child), and organization personnel are authorized to be at the competition site.
- Authorized vendors, sponsors, and dignitaries may also be permitted on the competition site at the discretion of the event director.
- Limit the number of categories or stagger race times to reduce traffic.
- Reconfigure the competition schedule to maximize participation while reducing the number of people required to be present on site at one time.
- For SUP, as much as practicable, ensure that the course is set up and available ahead of the event for practice and course recon.
- Volunteer parking lot attendants are recommended to help alleviate congestion and to facilitate physical distancing.

Event Services

- Food or beverage services are permitted provided that the necessary certifications ('Foodsafe Level 1' and 'Serving it Right') are obtained.
- Cleaning and disinfecting of public washrooms or portable toilettes should be completed at regular intervals. Confirm cleaning intervals and protocol with the facility owner or toilet vendor in advance.
- Personal hygiene products and facilities should be made available in higher traffic areas, as suitable. This includes running water, soap, hand sanitizer, sanitizing wipes and contact-free garbage bins.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORGANIZERS

continued...

Operational Area

- For registration area protocols, please see “registration” section.
- Competition Rashies/Race bibs should be distributed on site in accordance with physical distancing measures:
- A predetermined event schedule should be communicated to the public using electronic means or on-site signage to avoid excessive gathering (i.e. staggered plate pickup times by categories)
- Administration tables should be equipped with plexiglass separators between staff and competitors.
- PPE (gloves and masks) are mandatory for event administration staff and commissaires when in proximity to others.
- Competition Officials should be situated in an outdoor area or a well-ventilated covered area. In the case where competitor materials need to be distributed to participants (swag, wax, sunscreen, etc.) prepare bags in advance and handle with gloves and face masks.

Officiating Area

- The Officiating area should be set up with physical separation between judges and other essential officials (i.e. timers, spotters). If those working in the Judging area are unable to maintain physical distancing, a face mask should be worn. No public access to the official's area and judge's area will be tolerated with exception for technical staff and commissaires.
- Avoid use of communal pencils and pens. If a personal writing utensil is unavoidably shared, it must be disinfected.
- All handling of paper documents must be done with the use of gloves and face masks
- Competition results should be made available electronically in a timely fashion (i.e. live timing software, posted to event website or shared on social media). In cases where this is not possible, physical distancing must be respected when reviewing results.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORGANIZERS

continued...

Competitor Zone (Phase 3 and 4 only)

- Allocate tent space maintaining two meters.
- Signage or a volunteer should remind all participants to maintain physical distancing.
- No more than three persons should be under a single tent (10x10) at one time.
- Depending on the physical size and layout of competitor area, a sufficiently wide passage should be maintained for two-way traffic, of if necessary, signage ensuring one-way traffic.
- In some cases, an accreditation system can be put in place to control access to competitor areas.

Spectator Area

- Bleachers, seating or picnic tables should be equipped with physical distancing markers using tape. In areas where maintaining physical distancing is not possible, access should be prohibited.
- Promote hand washing with signage.
- Spectator areas should be supervised by a volunteer or a professional security agency to maintain the attendance capacity.

Announcer Area (Phase 3 and 4 only)

- In cases where an announcer is present, they should be allocated an area of at least four metres square. They should limit their movement outside of this area as much as possible.
- Announcer should promote the hygiene and physical distance guidelines.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ORGANIZERS

continued...

Podium Ceremonies (Phase 3 and 4 only)

- Podium ceremonies can take place as long as physical distancing is maintained and gatherings are avoided.
- Podiums should be separated by two metres.
- Prizes and medals are to be handed out by a member of the organizing committee wearing a face mask and gloves.
- Podium ceremonies should occur immediately after competition has been completed by the unique category. Consolidating all podium ceremonies until the end of the event is discouraged to avoid gathering.
- Each podium ceremony can be attended by the official event photographer, accredited press, event staff, the top placing 4 athletes and their chaperones (parent, guardian or coach) in an area where physical distancing can be maintained.*

*Recommendation: Take a picture of all individual podiums and post online in a timely manner.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF FACILITY HOST

General

- The Facility Host will supervise the on-site component of the competition to ensure that the guidelines as laid out in this guide are respected throughout the competition. If necessary, a Surf Canada representative should be provided to assist the Host.
- Facility Host(s) are obligated to maintain 2m physical distance or wear a face mask when communicating with participants or interacting with officials and volunteers.
- The Host(s) should ensure that a means for communication (microphone or megaphone) is provided, if necessary, to avoid having to speak loudly.
- The organizing committee in cooperation with the Facility Host and the technical delegate from Surf Canada will be responsible for and have the right to expel and ban from the event site anyone who refuses to follow physical distancing guidelines.

Team Managers / Surfer Meetings (Phase 3 and 4 only)

- Prioritize the distribution of information in advance by electronic means. In cases where this is not possible, facilitate meetings in a manner that conforms to physical distancing guidelines and avoid sharing printed materials.
- Meetings held online via Facebook live or Zoom are preferred.



COMPETITION GUIDELINES

General

First and foremost, the use of Beach Park facilities shall adhere to municipal guidelines. Signage in spectator areas and parking lots reminding participants of physical distancing is required. See organizer responsibilities above.

SURF – all disciplines

- Recreational surfing allowed during phase 2 so long as physical distancing guidelines are respected and gathering sizes do not exceed provincial guidelines.
- Organized local and B.C. provincial events to resume with modifications (June 25 - current)
- Higher-levels of sanctioning will be assessed during phase 3. The use of facilities must conform to municipal/resort guidelines (i.e. capacity)

Start area

- Visual markings demonstrating two-meter separation should be applied to the start area.
- The use of a Beach Marshall tent is permitted.
- Competition Rashies/Bibs to be cleaned between heats in soapy water
- Competitors will have allocated start times, ensuring there are no crowds at start line.

During Competition

- Competitors will maintain a minimum of 2m (one board length) from other surfers
- Competitors will adhere to all ISA Competition rules at all times
<https://www.isasurf.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2019/06/ISA-Rulebook-13-June-2019.pdf>
- Competitors will adhere to all announcements

Finish area

- Competitors will remove their rashie, on their own, and drop off in wash tub.
- Competitors will be asked to move on once they have finished their heat.
- Competitors should not approach the Officials.

SUP Race – all disciplines

Grassroots individual racing allowed during phase 2 so long as physical distancing guidelines are respected and gathering sizes do not exceed provincial guidelines.

Organized local and B.C. provincial events to resume with modifications (June 25 - current)

Higher-levels of sanctioning will be assessed during phase 3. The use of facilities must conform to municipal/resort guidelines (i.e. capacity)

Start area

- Visual markings demonstrating two-meter separation should be applied to the start area.
- The use of a start tent is permitted.
- High touch areas to be cleaned between starts.
- Competitors will have allocated start times, ensuring there are no crowds at start line.
- The designated starter shall remain two meters from the start line at all times.

During Competition

- Competitors will maintain a minimum of 2m (2 paddle lengths) from other racers.
- Competitors will adhere to all ISA Competition rules at all times.
<https://www.isasurf.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2019/06/ISA-Rulebook-13-June-2019.pdf>
- Competitors will adhere to all announcements.

Finish area

- The immediate finish area/corral will be restricted to event staff only.
- Competitors will be asked to move on once they have finished their race.
- Racers should not approach the finish judge, timing technicians or master of ceremonies.



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