

## Judging Notes and Criteria

### 2026 Rip Curl GromSearch / Rip Curl Nationals

**Location:** Cox Bay, Tofino Canada

**Description:** Cox Bay is a really fun high performance beach break with both left and right options. Opportunities are available at all tides and favor a shorter period swell that will keep the corners open with potential for multiple sections and scoring potential. Judges will be using the WSL criteria and judging

- **Event Criteria:** All aspects of the WSL Judging Criteria will be applied, with scoring based on the following components:
  - **Combinations of Major Maneuvers:** Executed on critical sections with high speed, power, and good flow throughout the ride.
  - **Variety and Flow:** The surfer's ability to read the wave and adapt their repertoire to different sections, utilizing the wave's energy to maintain good flow and smooth transitions between sections to maximize scoring potential.
  - **Big Airs and High Risk Progressive Maneuvers:** Performed on critical sections, with emphasis on execution. When evaluating aerial maneuvers, judges consider:
    - The critical nature of the air's launch section.
    - Height and projection/amplitude.
    - Inversions and rotations.
    - Technical grabs.
    - Speed and flow of execution.
    - Difficulty and control of the landing, and how the surfer rides out of it.
  - **Single Major Maneuvers:** Depending on swell size, when performed on heavy critical sections, these can be highly rewarded.
  
- **Additional Judging Notes:**

Surfers must demonstrate full control and forward momentum when exiting maneuvers for them to be considered completed and scored accordingly. Surfers must show this by riding out in front of the whitewash. Also, please be mindful of both priority and non-priority situations. Surfers with priority have the unconditional right of way to choose and surf the wave that they commit and paddle for. We are excited to be here with the local staff and crew and look forward to an outstanding 3 days of competition and crowning champions. Best of luck to all of our competitors.