

OFFICIAL RULES 2018

WBLA JERRY ALLEN LONGBOARD PRO-AM

Eligibility

- Competitors may only enter the division that corresponds to their age as of October 6, 2018

Heats

- Preliminary heats will normally be 15 minutes for both amateur and professional divisions. Final heats will be 20 minutes
- Each heat will begin and end with two sound signals and display of a green shape. A five-minute warning will be given with the display of a yellow shape.
- Competitors are given 8 waves maximum for preliminary heats and 10 waves maximum on final heats. Upon reaching the maximum wave total competitors will immediately exit the water. Failure to do so will result in an interference penalty. Competitors are responsible for keeping their own wave count.

Check-in

- All competitors must check in 20 minutes before their first heat begins, or when called.
- It is the sole responsibility of each competitor to stay current with changes in the competition schedule. Changes will be posted on the schedule board or announced. All longboards may be measured at check-in at contest director's discretion, from nose to tail; bottom of board.

Penalties

- When penalties result in a competitor's loss of scoring wave(s) in a heat, the penalty will be averaged in, as one-half (50%) of the score of the lowest scoring wave *and* the wave is included in the competitor's wave count for that heat.

Equipment

- Longboard must be a minimum of nine (9) feet in length except "boys" which shall be a minimum of (3) feet longer than the competitor's heights.
- Leashes: Competitors assume sole responsibility for abiding by local surfing ordinances/codes. **Township of Wrightsville Beach requires leashes to be used in all heats, at all times.**

Jerseys

- All competitors must return their jerseys to the check-in area immediately upon exiting water.
- Any competitor removing jerseys before exiting the water and surfing in the contest area may result in disqualification.

Starts/Exits

- Exiting competitors must not stand up after the conclusion of their heat. At the conclusion of heat competitors will immediately exit the competition area and return to the beach in prone position or on knees as the next heat begins. Violation of this will result in disqualification.

Interference

- Interference is determined by another competitor impeding first rider up, or first rider to establish position:
- Closet to the curl/peak has wave possession. In the event two riders stand up at the same the rider closet to the curl has wave possession.
- Any action, which impedes a contestant riding or taking off on a wave by another competitor by dropping, in taking off, or paddling in front of the rider in possession, will result in an interference penalty of that

wave not being counted as a scoring wave and loss of one-half (50%) of their lowest scoring wave in that heat.

- In cases where a rider is in front of another rider unknowingly, or so appears to the majority of judges, and that rider exits promptly with no impediment on the right of ways rider's ability to perform moves, then no interference shall be called. (No Harm, No Foul).
- When a competitor receives a second interference infraction in a heat, the competitor shall exit the competition immediately. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

Catching Waves

- Longboard competitors must paddle into waves (e.g. no 'run-at' or 'skim board' type wave entry).

Snake Rule

- Paddling directly in front of or around directly behind a competitor to impede the take off and with non-sportsmanship conduct forcing position for wave possession will not be allowed. Known as 'snaking,' the penalty will be considered interference and loss of one-half (50%) of their lowest scoring wave in that heat.
- Boxing out tactics by two competitors against another in a heat will be considered interference and have the same penalty.
- Collapsing a wave will be considered interference and will have the same penalty.

Judging General

- A three and/or five judge panel plus a head judge will be scoring competitors on the stand. In the event of a five judge panel, the judges sheets with the high and low placement scores for the heat will be dropped and the remaining three judge's placement scores will be combined and averaged in final tally for that heat's place finishes.
- To decide a winner, the top two waves of each judge's sheet will be tabulated, and the places indicated on each judge's sheet.
- Points will be calculated on a 10-point system.
- Scale utilized: 0.0-1.9 Poor, 2.0-3.9 Fair, 4.0-5.9 Average, 6.0-7.9 Good, 8.0-10.0 Excellent
- Longboard surfers must perform to the judges "key elements" to maximize their scoring potential.
- It is important to note that the emphasis on certain elements is contingent upon the location and the conditions on the contest/event, as well as changes of conditions during the day.
- Judges analyze the following major elements when scoring waves:
 - Commitment and degree of difficulty
 - Combination of traditional and modern maneuvers
 - Innovative and progressive maneuvers
 - Combination of major maneuvers
 - Variety of maneuvers
 - Speed, power, flow
- Two interference calls or contacts will result in disqualification for the entire event.

Ties

- Tie scores broken on wave scores will be broken by the surfer with the highest scoring wave factored. If still tied, highest single scoring wave will be next break; then the highest fourth wave score, and so on.

Protests

- Protest must be filed in writing and given to the on-site contest director within 15 minutes of the posting of the results for the heat in question. Citing rule definitions in protest from this list is recommended. Include name, color, and heat number.

- Concerning procedure to make protest or comply with contest director's decision. Failure to handle final judgment with good sportsmanship may result in immediate disqualification. Non-professional attitude, profanity and rude behavior will be considered bad sportsmanship and will be handled appropriately.

Advancing

- Please make sure you know when you surf. If you have questions consult the schedule board or ask contest director.
- Please be advised that the contest schedule is subject to change. All changes to the schedule will be announced and/or posted on the schedule board.

Sportsmanship

- Any display of poor sportsmanship by a competitor, or in the case of a minor, the competitor's parent, shall be cause for automatic dismissal from the contest. This also applies to unsportsmanlike conduct directed to another competitor.

WBLA Nose Riding Rules

- Have fun – it is you against the clock
- Your board will be marked 2 feet from the nose with duct tape by officials.
- Your time will start when both feet are in front of the duct take and end when at least one of your feet goes behind the duct tape.
- Your wave time will NOT count if you do not complete the wave ride just like in regular competition. You must start and finish your wave.
- You will be scored on your two longest times for advancement in the next heat.
- The top two competitors will move onto the next heat. If there is a tie on "scored times" then those ties will be decided on the top sheet similar to regular tabulation rules.

Retro/Twin Fin

- Any type of board that pertains to the traditional shapes of the late 60's to the present that is single-fin, twin-fin, or quad (ie. retro-fish, mini Simmons, and eggs.) is eligible.
- All boards must be inspected prior to the heat. We retain the right to reject any board that we think does not fit the criteria.

Professional Division

- WBLA defines a 'Professional Surfer' as any person who has earned over \$600 in professional purse collection in the calendar year starting in January (2018). Amateur surfers may surf the pro division. Professional surfers by our definition may not surf the amateur division.

These rules, and any interpretive judgments, are determined at the sole discretion of the WBLA Contest Committee, the Heat Judge, and the Contest Directors.