

The 2008 Southern Shamaal Surf Ski Challenge

RULES AND REGULATIONS

2008 SOUTHERN SHAMAAL PE TO EL SURF SKI CHALLENGE

1 The 2008 Southern Shamaal PE to EL Surf Ski Challenge – 6 to 9 December 2008

1.1 The 2008 Southern Shamaal Surf Ski Challenge (hereafter “the Southern Shamaal”) is available for the following classes of entry;

- i) Single Surf Ski
- ii) Double Surf Ski,
- iii) RelayTeam Event

2 Race Route

Day 1: Blue Water Bay to Woody Cape - paddlers to stay inside St Croix and inside the marker boat off Sundays River mouth.

Day 2: Woody Cape to Port Alfred. Check point at Kenton on Sea - If surf is too big at Woody (a call made by the Race Director) the start moves to Bokness.

Day 3: Port Alfred to Hamburg. Check point at Mpekweni

Day 4: Hamburg to East London. Check point at Kidds Beach.

Rules of the Race Route:

Race direction: These decisions will be made on the forecast of the Port Elizabeth weather officials, supported by other sources, provided to the Race Director at 17h00 the day before the event.

The checkpoints on days 2,3,4 are done in race time, and if the surf is too big then the checkpoint will be behind the back line (rubber duck). Checkpoint on day 1 will be a boat about 1 km off Sundays River Mouth.

The race will be from PE to EL but if a head wind gusting in excess of 18 knots is forecasted then the day will be changed as follows:

Day 1: Blue Water Bay to boat off Sundays to Marker boat to Boat off Sundays and back

Day 2: Woody Cape to Kenton and back (if Surf too big, a call made by the Race Director, then Kenton to Port Alfred and back)

Day 3: Port Alfred to Mpekweni and back

Day 4: East London to Yellows and back

If wind conditions of more than 30 kmph are forecast and cannot be avoided by flexible start times, the day may be cancelled or an alternate route sort by the Race Director. In the event of the day been cancelled, the race will then move on to the route for the next day.

All decisions on race direction and start times will be made the night before. Decisions on Surf will be made at least 45 minutes before the predicted start time.

Starts: Batch starts to aim at having field finish tightly. Start times may vary between 05h00 and 10h00 to avoid or make the best of the wind. The Race Director at the race briefing the night before will announce such a decision. The last day will see the competitors within 30 minutes of the race leader start in lapsed (or Batched) time.

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3 Application for Entry

- 3.1 Participants applying for entry into the Challenge must be registered members of their country's authority on Surf Ski paddling (if such exists). For South Africans this is Canoeing South Africa (CSA).
- 3.2 There will be an application fee of R1000 per participant for the legends event, R1200 for the Relay event. No refunds to entrants that cannot participate, for whatever reason. Entries are done on line through links from www.sothernshamaal.com or direct as per the entry form.
- 3.3 Applications not in the hands of the organizers by the closing date of 14th November 2008 may incur an extra R300 Late Application Fee per application. All applications received after the 26th November 2008 may be rejected.
- 3.4 Applications for entry will only be considered once the applicant has successfully completed the qualifying requirements as detailed in 4 below. In the case where applicants are unable to undertake the qualification requirements, Race Organizers reserve the right to consider these applications based on previous paddling performances. All accepted entrants must read and sign the indemnity (which can be read on the web site) at the race registration.
- 3.5 The decision of Race Organizers is final and Race Organizers reserves the right to decline an application for entry for whatever reason.
- 3.6 In the event of insufficient funds been raised to run the event the Race Organizers may cancel the event and return the entries (less banking/ collection charges).

4 Qualification

- 4.1 Official qualifying races will be held in South Africa in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Kwazulu Natal over a minimum distance of 45km not earlier than ten (10) weeks before the Challenge. Any paddler entering from overseas needs to submit a pre approved qualifying course & audited completion time to the race director.
- 4.2 A participant will be deemed to have successfully completed the qualifying race if his/her time does not exceed an additional 30% of the times of the winning participants in each class.
- 4.3 Participants may take part in as many qualifiers as they like, but have to qualify in the class for which they have applied. Double Ski applicants must qualify in the combination for which they have applied; however both applicants may qualify in the single ski class.
- 4.4 If a participant applies and qualifies in the Double Ski class and their partner withdraws for any reason before or during the Challenge, the participant may, at the sole discretion of the Race Director, be still be permitted to compete in the Challenge.

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5 Craft & Branding

- 5.1 Supplied branding (race decals) of the Challenge is to be applied to all craft and paddles prior to the completion of race registration. Race decals are to be applied to the craft and paddles in the positions indicated by the organizers at race registration, all these decals are to remain visible throughout the event.
- 5.2 NO other stickers or decals (other than as per 5.1 and the standard craft manufacturer decals) are to be present on the craft ahead of the front seat. Pirate brand marketing will not be allowed and Race Organizers may request such to be removed for the duration of the event (i.e. flags, banners, branded vehicles, decals etc).
- 5.3 The participants race number (the number provided by the race organizers) is to be displayed on the ski, in the case of a double ski, the front participant's number is to appear on the ski. Incorrect or incomplete numbers may result in disqualification from the race. Numbers are to appear on both sides of the top deck of the ski, not more than 2m from the nose of the ski. No other numbers are to be displayed.
- 5.4 It is recommended that the front and back deck (to at least a 300mm width) of all craft should be painted in bright orange/red/yellow. The tips of the participants paddle blades should also be painted with the same bright colored paint. This is a safety precaution to aid aerial surveillance and assist in search procedures.
- 5.5 Only one ski may be used for the duration of the race. In the event of a ski been damaged, anyone may help a participant repair his/her ski, provided no unfair advantage is gained. E.g. On a boat moving forward while repairing ski.

6 Rules of Participation

- 6.1 All participants are to heed directions and instructions of the race officials.
- 6.2 A participant, who rides the wake of a motorized craft, in an attempt to gain advantage, may be disqualified.
- 6.3 Any participant who receives physical support or physical assistance, or who boards a boat, may be disqualified, with the exception of those doing so to repair their craft or to recover from illness, in which case the boat is to ensure that it does not travel in the direction of the race finish.
- 6.4 A time limit may be announced for each day and/or section thereof. The time limit may be lengthened at the discretion of the Race Director. All participants failing to meet the specified time limit may, for safety reasons, be removed from the water and may not continue the Challenge further.
- 6.5 A safety mobile phone number for emergencies as well as for notifying the Chief Race Official of withdrawals will be provided at race registration. It is highly recommended that all participants take a mobile phone with them during the event.

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- 6.6 All participants are to have a leash, whistle, flare and an approved Personal Buoyancy Aid (PBA) ("life jacket") as compulsory items of their race kit. Inflatable PBA's must be fully inflated at all times. The PBA must be worn at all times whilst on the water; all other items must be fitted to your craft or person. A participant who discharges his flare may be disqualified.
- 6.7 Starting procedures will be explained at Race registration and at each day's race briefing. Race starts will be staggered daily and batches will be announced at the previous days briefing. Where possible, the start will take place from the beach. However, the Race Director has the right to change this to a sea start if he considers conditions warrant this.
- 6.8 The Race director may decide whether a participant should be prevented from continuing the race at any time. The Race Director's decision will be final and by signing the application form, you agree to abide by this rule.
- 6.9 Medical personnel, or their designated representative, shall have the ULTIMATE and FINAL authority to remove a participant from the race if the participant is judged to be physically incapable of continuing the race without risk of serious injury or death. Medical transport of any participant will result in disqualification.
- 6.10 No participant may use any illegal, detrimental or dangerous drugs, stimulants, depressants or other substances or procedures with the intent to improve performance, eliminate the sense of fatigue or for any other purpose. The Medical Control Rules set by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) (WADA) regulations and policies on banned substances, will be binding on all participants. In addition, other rules and regulations even if not recognized by the IOC may be instituted, which if such occurs, you agree to abide by. Participants may be requested to undergo drug-testing procedures, before and after the event. If you are requested to do so, you hereby agree to abide by such testing procedures. Should any participant test positive for any substance banned by the IOC regulations and policies and is not vindicated by the administrative appeal process, or test positive for any other item as mentioned above, the participant, at the judgment of the Challenge officials, may be banned from participation for a period of two years. A second offence may result in lifetime suspension of participation in the Challenge event.
- 6.11 Fraud, theft, cheating or attempting to do any of these, abusive treatment of volunteers or others and acts of poor sportsmanship are grounds for immediate disqualification and may result in contestants being suspended from competing in any Challenge event in the future.
- 6.12 Finishes will be clearly indicated on the beach. Participants must cross the line (both participants in the case of a double ski) – no need to have ski or paddles with them but they must have paddled to within 100m of the finish. Check points will be clearly marked and the paddler must insure that the race official checks off his passing of the checkpoint. **At the checkpoints on day 2, 3 and 4 the paddlers will have a compulsory 10 minute stop.** The finish markers and checkpoints will be clearly described at the race briefings.

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- 6.13 The onus is on the participant to ensure that timekeepers have registered their number at the finish of each leg.
- 6.14 Craft must be removed from the finish line area immediately once their number has been recorded. A 5-minute time penalty may be imposed on participants who fail to clear the finish line.
- 6.15 It is the onus of all participants to cross the finish line or advise the organisers that they have withdrawn from the event as soon as possible.
- 6.16 It is the onus of the organisers to institute a search for any participant who has not crossed the finish line or advised of his withdrawal.
- 6.17 If a participant decides to withdraw from the race at any time, it is the responsibility of the participant to report to the race referee and turn in his/her race number immediately. It is essential that race officials know where the participants are on the course at all times. FAILURE TO NOTIFY THE RACE REFEREE AFTER WITHDRAWING FROM THE RACE MAY RESULT IN THE PARTICIPANT BEING PREVENTED FROM COMPETING IN ANY CHALLENGE EVENT IN THE FUTURE.
- 6.18 The Race Organisers may institute a search for any competitor who has not crossed the finish line or advised the Race Organizers of his/her/their withdrawal. The costs of the search will be borne by the competitor/s who had withdrawn and not notified the organizers.
- 6.19 Race Organizers reserves the right to make rule changes at any time provided all participants are notified in writing and/or at the pre-stage mandatory meetings.

7 Seconds

- 7.1 Participants will be allowed "seconds" to assist them subject to the rules below:.
- 7.2 Assistance by seconds may only be provided prior to race starts, at the checkpoints (as defined in Para 6.12 and on the beach once the participant has crossed the designated finish line at each stage.
- 7.3 Seconds are to heed directions and instructions of all race officials.
- 7.4 Seconds are not allowed to assist participants in the water or prior to the participant having crossed the designated finish line unless the participant is in danger. In this case, the participant may be disqualified.
- 7.5 Each participant must notify the race referee of his seconds names and cell contact details.(as per instruction on application form)

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8 Clothing

- 8.1 Participants must wear, as instructed by a race official, the clothing, if any, supplied for the event.
- 8.2 No other branded clothing may be worn whilst paddling or talking to the media. This includes headwear. Participants are permitted to wear only unbranded clothing under the supplied race clothing – unless having been specifically granted permission by the Race Director.
- 8.3 Anybody seen to be blatantly advertising products other than the race sponsor(s) stands to be disqualified or to have their participant disqualified in the case of a second.

9. Dispute Resolution Procedure

- 9.1 Only competitors, registered team managers or race officials may lodge protests or disputes. An arbitrator will hear all protests and disputes. A list of persons whom the parties may agree upon to chair a protest or dispute or who the parties may appoint to serve on a panel to hear a protest or dispute during the race, will be made available at race registration.
- 9.2 Where the parties (participant / race organizers) agree on an arbitrator to deal with the protest or dispute, the protest or dispute will be heard by that person only. Where the parties do not agree on a single arbitrator, the protest or dispute will be heard by three arbitrators. The decision taken by the arbitrator / panel of arbitrators will be final and binding on the parties.
- 9.3 The arbitrator / panel of arbitrators may impose penalties for breach of any of the rules or regulations. Penalties may include time penalties or disqualification, without being limited thereto
- 9.4 All protests and disputes will be heard between 15h00 and 17h00 on each race day.
- 9.5 In addition to a dispute or protest lodged above, the arbitrator / panel of arbitrators may make decisions on all disputes pertaining to the safe and orderly conduct of the event and may seek assistance and advice where needed.
- 9.6 Protests and disputes must be delivered to the Race Organizers by 14h00, in writing, on the day on which the incident occurred
- 9.7 All disputes and protests lodged by competitors or team managers delivered to the race organizers must be accompanied by a fee of R500-00
- 9.8 Fees will be refunded where the party lodging the dispute or protest is successful, or at the discretion of the Race Organizers.

10. Single surf ski event

- 10.1.1 The Single Surf ski event is a race between a craft paddled by one paddler for the total distance of the race. The same paddler must paddle the same craft for the total distance
- 10.1.2 The winner is the paddler that completes the total race distance in the fastest time, determined by adding up the times of each day, provided that the paddler has adhered to all the rules herein and instructions of the race officials.

11. Double surf ski event

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- 11.1.1** The Double Surf ski event is a race between a craft paddled by two paddlers for the total distance of the race. The same paddlers must paddle the same craft for the total distance
- 11.1.2** The winner is the two paddlers that completes the total race distance in the fastest time, determined by adding up the times of each day, provided that the paddlers have adhered to all the rules herein and instructions of the race officials.

12. Relay and Team event

- 12.1.1** The relay event is made up of a team consisting of four paddlers who have to paddle one double and two singles.
- 12.1.2** The double has to do one of the two legs each day, and the two singles must do the other leg on the day as per the table below. The paddlers can change the doubles combination as they wish.

Leg	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
One	Singles	Doubles	Singles	Doubles
Two	Doubles	Singles	Doubles	Singles

- 12.1.3** In the event of one paddler not being able to compete the remaining three paddlers still have to paddle the three craft each day ie one paddle will have to paddle single and double on the same day – with the time of the single been doubled. The winning team will be the team with the fastest combined time for the legs as shown in the table above, provided that the paddlers have adhered to all the rules herein and instructions of the race officials.
- 12.1.4** The winning team, be it a relay or legends team, will be the team with the fastest combined time for the legs as shown in the table above, provided that the paddlers have adhered to all the rules herein and instructions of the race officials

13 Other Race Categories

- 13.1** The race organizers may also recognize the following categories:
- 13.1.1** Veterans: This is for paddlers between the ages 40 and 49 based on the their age they turn in 2008.
- 13.1.2** Masters: This is for paddlers 50 years and older based on the their age they turn in 2008.
- 13.1.3** Men or Ladies: based on the natural sex of the competitor
- 13.1.4** Mixed doubles: Both of the sexes in 13.1.3 must be in the double.
- 13.1.5** Juniors 18yrs or younger as at 31December 2008