Introduction

South African Waveski Surfing Association Web Marketing Strategy

The purpose of this site is to be an online encyclopaedia in which the content always remains relevant and accumulates over time and is a complimentary website to www.sawaveski.co.za which is a News platform.

The aim is to display the highest quality waveski surfing photographs to stimulate further interest in waveski surfing and to educate all levels of waveski surfers on how to achieve their immediate waveski surfing goals.

We welcome feedback of any kind which will help us to remain motivated and continue this work on your behalf.

Wave Riding Theory
Riding a wave basically entails harnessing the waves momentum to propel your waveski forward. The only opportunity exists as the wave starts to break which is as a result of the swell being slowed down at it's base by friction with the sea floor and this causing the top of the wave to topple over itself producing a surfable wave. A bad quality wave simply reaches the shore and in one long line, pitch's becoming spent white water. A quality wave intersects the coast at an angle or the underlying sand banks or reefs create a diagonal break (viewed from above) which causes the wave to peel as it breaks along it's length.

As the wave folds over (pitches) the part where the fold starts is called the shoulder and is gentle with limited energy, the part that curls and pitches is called the pocket and has the most power and energy.

The skill involved in riding a wave is essentially an ongoing balancing act that requires harnessing the perpendicular opposing forces that are the horizontal momentum of the wave and vertical of gravity. By choosing which of these forces you employ at any stage determines your next position on the wave.

Riding directly toward the coast places both forces upon you and the higher the drop and the faster the waves pitch the more powerful the propulsion and the faster you move.

The objective in a good quality wave is to keep as close to the pocket as possible and to use the excess power to execute manoeuvres which carry you out and back into the pocket.

To enjoy this ongoing power involves zig zagging along the face of the wave toward the wave shoulder and cutting back toward or allowing the pocket catch up and starting the process again. The various manoeuvres are categorised as:

- Take Off
- Bottom Turn
- Top Turn
- Cut Back
- 360
- Aerial
- Tube

These various manoeuvres have many variations and some still to be invented but generally are categorised as easy, sophisticated and extreme in there execution.

Waveski Surfing History
According to the Guinness Book of Records, the first known sighting of people surfing waves was recorded by Captain Cook in December 1771 when he saw Polynesians surfing their canoes in Tahiti. The first sighting of surfing standing on boards was described by Lt James King at Kealakekua Bay, Hawaii, in March 1779. This would seem to cast doubts on surfing's claim as the sport of the Polynesian kings.

Anyone who has information and photographs of the early Waveski Surfing pioneers are requested to email them so that we might build up a detailed history.

Throwback to how it all started?