

Surf Rules

Waveski surfers are just one more group of surfers sharing the waves and there are some basic rules that apply to EVERYONE. These rules help regulate who has right of way when surfing and like the rules of the road create a safer more enjoyable environment. Breaking these rules can lead to bad vibes in the water that reduce everyone's enjoyment when accusations start to fly. Waveski surfers have a distinct advantage in being able to catch waves easily which can create frustration with other surfers. Knowing and surfing within the rules is vital. These rules are also applicable in competitions and following them avoids incurring penalties from the judges.

- Wave Riding Priority Rules**
- Surfer A is nearer the shoulder (closer to the inside) and has right of way.
 - B must give way to A.
 - If B does catch the wave he/she is "dropping-in" on surfer A.
 - Surfer A has right of way.
 - B must give way to A who has already caught the wave.
 - Surfer B is not entitled to catch the wave that is already caught and being ridden by surfer A, even if the inside wave face is clean and empty.
 - If B does catch the wave he/she is "snaking" surfer A.

Kneeboarding and Standup Surfing have an evident transition from paddling to surfing. Waveski Surfing and Bodyboarding do not have this transition.

- Historically standing surfing said that: surfer A, having already caught the wave (stood up first), has right of way over surfer B.
- However, with waveski surfing and interdisciplinary surfing it is not easy to establish who is riding first (no transition).
- Thus Rule 1 (inside rule) must apply giving surfer B priority over surfer A..
- Surfer B is not making progress toward the unbroken wall.
- Surfer A must not cause the wave to collapse impeding surfer B intentionally.
- Surfer A is then entitled to take-off.
- If Surfer B regains the face Surfer A must cut out.
- Surfer A, riding in or in front of the white water toward the unbroken shoulder has right of way.
- Surfer B must not take-off or impede surfer A.
- Surfer B, attempting to take-off in a broken section of a wave, has no entitlement to the shoulder occupied by surfer A.
- If B does catch the wave he/she is "snaking" surfer A.
- Surfer A wipes out.
- Surfer A must not cause the wave to collapse impeding surfer B intentionally.
- Surfer B may then catch the wave.
- Surfer A has right of way on the right hand shoulder.
- Surfer B has right of way on the left hand shoulder.
- Where there is a clearly rideable left and right shoulder.
- Surfer B is not entitled to cross under the peak to the shoulder already occupied by surfer A
- Surfer A may cross under the peak to the unoccupied right-hander shoulder.
- In doing so the left hand shoulder will become available for other surfers to catch.
- Both surfers are entitled to take-off and ride the unbroken wave section.
- Neither has right of way over the other.
- One or both must pull off the wave before a collision occurs.
- Surfer A, riding the wave, must avoid surfer B who is either stationary or paddling out.
- This is true except in competitions, when A has priority.

Sense Rules