



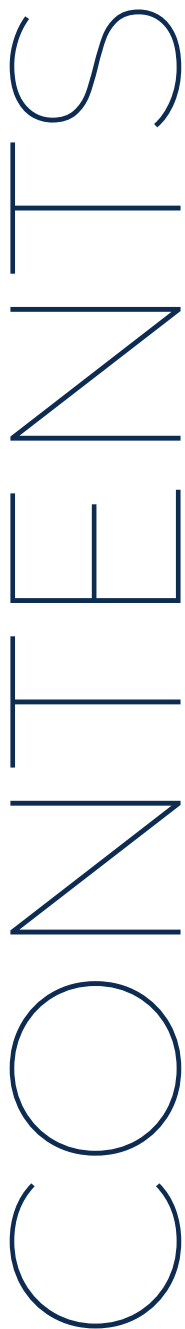
OUTRIGGER
DUKE KAHANAMOKU
FOUNDATION

SURFING IN HAWAII SCHOOLS A WHITE PAPER

Making Surfing a Varsity Sport &
Sanctioning an Official Statewide
High School Surf Tournament



PHOTO: Jack Ho



02. Introduction
03. Why is surfing in schools important?
05. Club sports and school-sanctioned sports
06. Maui's Success Story
09. How did Kamehameha Schools create a varsity team at a private school?
10. Steps to Success Overview
11. What does it take to get surfing started in my school?
12. Requirements to add a sanctioned interscholastic sport
13. What is needed to run a league?
14. How do we hold an official statewide surfing championship?
15. Additional considerations
16. National Surfing Championships
17. College Surfing
18. Professional & Olympic Surfing
19. Appendix

NOTHING BUT THE BEST

Settling Polynesians introduced surfing to Hawaii possibly as early as the 12th century. For Native Hawaiians, surfing is not only a sport but a part of cultural and religious practice. The famous Native Hawaiian Olympic swimmer Duke Kahanamoku introduced surfing around the world as he traveled and made Hawaii synonymous with surfing. Surfing has been Hawaii's official individual sport since 1998, and Hawaii is given special reverence at the international surfing competition level. Despite all this, surfing has yet to be supported as an official sport in most Hawaii high schools.

For years, many people have desired to make surfing an official school-sanctioned sport so that Hawaii high school students who surf can enjoy the same respect, honor, and glory as traditional — and imported — high school varsity sports like football or baseball. The coconut wireless reports the reasons surfing is not already a sanctioned high school sport are liability, insurance, and finances. However, further examination shows the missing pieces are mainly student and parent political pressure and proactive leadership at the school level.

County of Maui public high schools are the only public schools in Hawaii that have successfully launched varsity surfing. This paper will share their story as a blueprint for other schools. This paper will also outline the necessary requirements for HHSAA to sanction an official statewide high school surfing tournament.

Why is surfing in schools important?

Aquatics safety needs to be taught in Hawaii schools because we are an island state surrounded by water. More than half of second graders in Title I schools in Hawaii lack basic swim skills to save themselves from drowning. (Source: [Hawaii Aquatics Foundation](#)). We need aquatics education and ocean safety awareness taught in elementary school, junior lifeguarding provided in middle school, and lifeguarding offered in high school. Surf teams are a natural part of a water safety continuum. Surf teams require basic swim skills upon entry, and they build aquatics skills and water safety knowledge through experience. Surfing can also inspire young people to become lifeguards, a job field in high demand of young workers, that can lead to opportunities for growth in many public safety and medical career paths.

Active participation on a high school surf team could also provide a runway to career paths in surfing-related industries. We need to groom leaders with high business acumen so that they will be at the table, and will make decisions that elevate Hawaii's prominence in the surf industry. Australia has done this and is now influencing professional surfing more than Hawaii, the birthplace of the sport.

In today's fast-paced society, many are overworking themselves to keep up with increasing demands from their respective industries. Unfortunately, spending most of one's days working at a desk can result in stress and severe burnout. These examples of mental exhaustion can in turn create serious health problems. People of all ages face these risks caused by our work-centered culture, and now more than ever, they need an antidote. Surfing provides a solution to these concerning issues by greatly boosting one's mental and physical well-being.

"Surfing heals
and empowers
the mind, body,
and spirit."
-Sunny Kazama,
student



Surfing gives people a much-needed break from the busy pace of our world, allowing surfers to leave worries on land and be present. The sport of surfing itself requires mindfulness: a surfer must be mindful of their surroundings (the waves and the other surfers in the lineup) and their body (how they stand on a board, how they move with a wave's energy, etc.). Even if one surfs for only twenty minutes, that brief stretch of mindfulness provides a necessary and relaxing reset from the stresses of modern life.

Surfing also builds a sense of community. The ocean has no boundaries, and the sport of surfing attracts people from diverse backgrounds for the same purpose: to catch a great wave. As one continues to surf the same lineups with the same people, it is inevitable that new connections and friendships are formed. In the age of social media and technology, as our world experiences an epidemic of loneliness, surfing can help provide connection.

Surfing also helps people reap benefits from being in nature. A research study showed that sunlight exposure "lowered systolic blood pressure in people with kidney failure on dialysis," which also decreased risk for its related health problems, such as "heart attack, stroke, and kidney damage." Additionally, surfing is a fun way to absorb vitamin D, which plays "an important role in bone health and immune system function." (Source: <https://www.goodrx.com/health-topic/environmental/benefits-of-sunlight>) Surfing fulfills the Hawaiian value of lōkahi meaning unity, oneness, and harmony, in that surfers can feel at one with nature, a more elusive feeling for today's teens who have smartphones and video games at their disposal.

Lastly, surfing does wonders for physical health as it is like a 3-in-1 workout session. Surfing is a combination of intense cardio (the fast pace of paddling and carving on a wave), strength training (the continuous use of one's body while surfing), and muscle building (development of muscle groups, especially shoulders and back). The benefits of all three of these workouts can be enjoyed by surfing, an efficient way to release mood-improving endorphins.



What is the difference between club sports and school-sanctioned sports?

At the time of this writing, with the exceptions of Maui high schools and Kamehameha Schools, surfing is still only a club sport across Hawaii. Club teams have school students playing on them but athletes generally must pay to be in the club and for all their uniforms, equipment, and games. Either parents must supply the funds or the students must fundraise. In some economically disadvantaged communities, a coach pays for team costs out of pocket.

School-sanctioned sports get school funding for their uniforms, transportation, and games. Athletes in school-sanctioned sports also directly represent and play for the school. There is a deeper feeling of pride and responsibility. School-sanctioned athletes are governed by school athletic rules, including requirements of a preseason physical examination and at least a 2.0 GPA in the public school setting. Varsity athletes can have access to the athletic trainer and the weight room and can get special recognitions from the school system that are not available to club athletes. As a club team member, a surfer could never be the “Athlete of the Year” or be recognized at the year-end athletic awards banquet for all sports. Varsity athletics infer a higher level of commitment, responsibility, and training than club sports, and therefore are more significant on a college application.



'Iolani Surf Club Team 2023

Maui's Success Story

For 19 years there was an unofficial surf championship for Maui high schools called the Maui Scholastic Surf Championship. There was clearly interest in surfing to become a varsity sport. Students, parents, teachers, and interested citizens started lobbying at the annual state school board meetings on Maui. The interest soon spread to Oahu where more local citizens spoke at school board meetings including students, parents, educators, politicians, and leaders in the surf community. Liability was repeatedly brought up as an issue of concern, but it was proven that injuries were far less common in surfing than in any of the traditional DOE sports — like football, basketball, soccer, and wrestling — by looking at the high school trainers' injury reports. The Amateur Athletic Union (AAU), which insures the Hawaii Surfing Association contests, also confirmed they'd never had a claim filed due to surfing.

The opposition continued from the statewide Department of Education (DOE) at every school board meeting, but because of the public demand, the DOE was forced to look into the possibility of making surfing a varsity sport. The DOE tasked the Executive Director of the Oahu Interscholastic League (OIA) to look into the costs of implementing surfing as an interscholastic sport. The then Executive Director of the OIA came up with a budget that was outrageously costly. When asked where he got his figures, he said, "the internet." He never asked one of the many individuals or organizations that produce surf contests throughout the state. This was one of many attempts at stymying the sport of surfing in public schools. Regardless, in 2004, the state school board finally voted unanimously 10-0 to allow surfing as a school sport in Hawaii public schools!

HAWAII BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICIAL SURFING POLICY

The Board of Education recognizes that surfing, or he`e nalu, has been a part of Hawaii's history since ancient times. Surfing is recognized for its long-standing historical and cultural roots and significance to Hawaii. Surfing is the official individual sport of the State.

The Board of Education approves surfing as a high school sport. The Department of Education shall adopt regulations to implement surfing as a high school sport.

Approved May, 2004 - Click book icon for link.



Maui's Success Story (continued)

It took the DOE three more years to form regulations regarding the implementation of surfing in public schools. The safety guidelines were more restrictive than any other high school sport. Finally, in 2012, the Maui County high school principals voted to adopt surfing as an interscholastic sport. After an exhibition year in 2013, Maui Interscholastic League (MIL) had surfing as an official sport for the first year in 2014.

The MIL was able to start its first official season of varsity surfing as a spring sport. Spring was determined to be a good season to catch both north and south swells. Each high school receives its own budget from the DOE. It is up to the principal to allocate a portion of that budget to athletics, and generally up to the athletic director to allocate a portion of the athletic budget to surfing. It was up to the athletic directors at each school to find a coach and start implementing the program. Generally, each school has a paid head coach and a paid assistant coach, but more may be needed if there is a large team.

The cost of running a full public school team is under \$10,000 per year, which pays for coaches' part-time salaries, surf jerseys, transportation to practice and meets, and coach certifications. (See appendix for itemized costs.) Some schools also choose to purchase board shorts and t-shirts for their students. Students usually must supply their own boards and leashes and parents sign off on liability and attest in writing that their children are capable surfers. Billabong sponsored Kamaaina Kids to provide the coach safety certification on Maui in the first year, but it was very expensive. Now Archie Kalepa, the former head of Maui County Ocean Safety who now trains Navy Seals, and Cary Kayama, the current Chief of Maui County Ocean Safety, have volunteered to run the coach certification for free. The coaches must pass an open ocean swim test, and receive training in ocean rescue, lifesaving techniques, and ocean risk assessment. There is also classroom training in CPR and first aid. The coaches use this training to pass on the knowledge they have learned to their student-athletes, including basic CPR, first aid, and swim skills, though it is not generally a certification at this time, depending on the school. (On Oahu, schools hire off-duty City & County lifeguards to run the certifications.)

Maui's Success Story (continued)

Teams may have 5 boys and 5 girls competing for their school at each Maui Interscholastic League meet. Like tennis, the teams compete in tiers - #1 vs #1, #2 vs #2, etc. The #5 surfer — maybe the least skilled — is still as important as the #1. This keeps competition more balanced and lower-ranked kids are still encouraged to be a key part of the team. Teams may have more than 10 kids with alternates and currently, some have 20-plus. A small school, like Hana, has less than 10 team members and usually does not have the statistical ability to win a meet, though they compete anyway and can win their division individually. Students that earn cash sponsorship, turn product sponsorship into cash, win a surfing prize over \$600, or sign a contract to represent a company for cash are ineligible to compete. Product sponsorships are not considered disqualifying at this time.

In the entire spring season, Maui holds 5 meets — 4 as a team with points to determine boys' and girls' team champions and one as individuals to determine the individual boys' and girls' champions. (HHSAA allows leagues to determine championship structures however they want to as long as it's within the season-determined timeline, usually 12-14 weeks.) These meets have been organized from the beginning by Kim Ball, who had already been staging unofficial meets for 19 years before the MIL started surfing in 2014. He estimates the initial season costs to run 5 meets for 10 schools to be about \$20,000, but that includes at least \$12,000 in equipment that will have multiple years of life. (See appendix for full details of his budget.) Ball has personally sought sponsorships and donations to cover these meet costs over the years. He also donates his own time. In other non-school-sanctioned leagues, teams and individuals pay a fee to the organizer to cover these costs. The MIL has only paid the judges and a water safety officer. The beach marshals, computer techs, set-up and breakdown staff, and the announcer are all volunteers.

Presently, the MIL has 6 public schools (Baldwin, Hana, Kihei Charter, King Kekaulike, Lahainaluna, Maui High), and 4 private schools (Haleakala Waldorf, Kamehameha Maui, Maui Prep, Seabury Hall) competing in surfing.

How did Kamehameha Schools create a varsity team at a private school?

Despite the vast resources and Native Hawaiian heritage of Kamehameha Schools (KS), the administration was not initially open to a varsity surf team. In 2009, a group of students, parents, and teachers formed a club and paid for team costs out of pocket and by fundraising. They set their sights on the national championship — the National Scholastic Surfing Association (NSAA) Championship in Dana Point, California. Since 2009, Kamehameha's Surf team has competed 13 times and eventually won back-to-back national championships in 2014 & 2015. It was then after continued advocacy from students, parents, and coaches that the team was finally granted varsity status in 2018.

Over the years, dedicated coaches, parents, and students have historically fundraised the majority of the costs associated with participating in surfing as a high school sport, locally and nationally. Though KS covers some aspects of the team now that it is varsity, travel will still not be paid for by KS until surfing is an official Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) sport. As such, throughout the year, Kamehameha's Surf Team hosts car washes and surf sample sales and runs a concession stand at the school, in order to pay for food, lodging, airfare, and transportation when traveling for the NSSA championship as well as competitions on the outer islands.

Kamehameha Schools student, Kahanu Cuban, wins the individual NSSA title in 2019.



STEPS TO SUCCESS

01

Start a surf team or club in your school

Get an faculty advisor to help you. Recruit students. Follow safety rules. Get insurance.

02

Partner with your principal, athletic director, and area superintendant

Teach them why interscholastic surfing is important to you and your friends and ask for their support.

03

Get on the agenda at your league meetings

Ask for varsity surfing in your league and ask the principals in your league to call a vote to add surfing as a sanctioned sport. Bring other supporters to testify as well.

04

Hold a season and championship

Once you league officially adopts surfing, run a season and hold a league championship.

05

Encourage other schools to follow these steps

Once three leagues are established and hold championships, HHSAA will hold a state championship.

What does it take to get surfing started in my school?

The good news is that the way has been paved for surfing to be a varsity surf in any Hawaii public high school. Surfing is already authorized to be a school-sanctioned sport in the state of Hawaii. The safety regulations are already in place. Now, the most important decision-makers are the principals, complex area superintendents, and superintendent, along with influence from school athletic directors. Keep in mind that many of these people have no experience in competitive surfing and may need to be educated about its significance and potential to be a competitive sport. Heavily burdened with a spectrum of responsibilities, it appears **administrators will not act until they are pushed to do so by their student bodies and parent groups**. In recent (2023) official testimony the superintendent of schools wrote as a reason not to implement a budget for surfing, “On Oahu, surfing has not been proposed by any Department high school principal.”

So firstly, if your school doesn't have a club surf team already, start one. Anyone can start a club at their school with a supportive adult advisor. Rules may vary by school but many club teams already exist throughout the islands. It is suggested that your club team start following the state safety requirements (see appendix) and have a well-written safety plan. If your school cannot provide insurance, club team insurance can be purchased pretty inexpensively through the AAU (<https://aausports.org/Insurance>). Recruit boys and girls from all grades.

The next step is to ask your high school league to make surfing an official sport. Find teachers and staff members who surf and can help advocate. Directly ask your principal and/or superintendent to add surfing as an official interscholastic sport. Get on the agenda at school board meetings and school assemblies. Ask in emails and through social media posts. More importantly, get your schoolmates to ask too. Collect signatures for a petition on paper or through the web on free sites like Change.org. Ask social media influencers to promote the petition and tag your school, its administration, and your league. Get your student government involved. Parents can rally around this cause too and mobilize the PTA to formally ask for the sport to be added.

Requirements to add a sanctioned interscholastic sport in the Hawaii high school leagues

Each league has its own requirements to add sanctioned sports (see below). Get familiar with your league's specific requirements and then go to the local league meetings which are generally held quarterly and attended by principals. Request ahead of time to get on the agenda. At the meeting, speak about why you want varsity surfing at your school and request that principals call a vote to add it as a sanctioned sport in your league. Keep doing this until it happens.

Oahu Interscholastic Association (OIA): <https://www.oiasports.com/>

12 of 23 principals need to vote to adopt the sport. 8 schools need to participate in the sport that first year.

Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH): <http://ilhsports.com/>

There needs to be a committee formed to research for one school year and present its findings to the Board for consideration of implementation as a new sport. For team sports, 6 schools need to form a team. For individual sports, 8 schools need to form a team. (Surfing is both team and individual, so there would need to be 8 teams.)

Big Island Interscholastic Federation (BIFF): <https://www.biifsport.com/>

If the HHSAA has not yet sanctioned the sport, 8 schools need to field a team. If the HHSAA has sanctioned the sport, only 3 schools need to field a team. HHSAA website lists 24 schools because they include charter schools which usually add on to larger school teams. <https://www.hhsaa.org/schools>

Kauai Interscholastic Federation (KIF): <https://www.hhsaa.org/schools>

2 out of 3 voting members need to approve the adoption of the new sport. (The 3 voting members are Kapaa, Kauai, and Waimea.)

Maui Interscholastic League (MIL): <https://milsports.org/home>

Already has sanctioned (shortboard) surfing and is already running a league with 13 schools, including Lanai High School and Molokai High School.



What is needed to run a league?

Once a league adopts surfing as a school-sanctioned sport, here is what is needed:

1. A person or entity who will organize and run the league like Kim Ball does on Maui. These are some possible organizations that could fill this role:
 - a. Hawaii Surfing Production Corp under Hawaii Surfing Association (HSA) runs the OIA non-sanctioned league and charges \$2,711 (as of 2023) to each school for five events. HSA could possibly be contracted to run the OIA and ILH leagues if they were to become sanctioned. The Hawaii Surfing Association has chapters on Oahu, Big Island, Kauai, and Maui: www.hawaiisurfingassociation.org
 - b. Hawaiian Lifeguard Association. They are an umbrella organization and members and chapters across the islands. They have the skills to teach water safety and run events. This could be a means of fundraising for the lifeguards to earn money for equipment and training. www.facebook.com/HawaiianLifeguardAssociation/
 - c. Nā Kama Kai. This nonprofit organization teaches water safety and already runs its own surf contests. www.nakamakai.org
 - d. National Scholastic Surfing Association (NSSA) Hawaii has the ability to run contests as well: www.nssahawaii.org
2. The principals and athletic directors will need to allocate a budget for the surf team at their schools and hire a coach.
3. Public and private schools must buy sports insurance for surfing and may do so through the sports insurance broker Loomis & LaPann, Inc. www.loomislapann.com / (800) 566-6479
4. The coaching staff must get safety trained following the state safety requirements and make a plan to implement safety training for the athletes.
5. Tryouts and practices pursue like any other sport.



How to get Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) to run an official statewide surf tournament

The many competitive athletes on club teams across Hawaii have been clamoring for an official statewide tournament for some time. Here are the rules from the Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA), the governing body of Hawaii high school athletics.



HHSAA will conduct a state tournament when 3 leagues in the state have adopted the sport and crown a champion, with at least 3 schools in each league participating.

HHSAA will conduct a state tournament when 3 leagues in the state have adopted the sport and crown a champion, with at least 3 schools in each league participating. Maui already has a league and a championship, so only 2 other leagues are needed. Kauai seems like an easy prospect because there are only three voting members. ILH may be another good early prospect because there are multiple schools already operating clubs in that league, and it's a smaller league than OIA.

Once HHSAA is compelled by its bylaws to conduct a state tournament for surfing, it has catastrophic insurance that will cover the championship tournament. It will also cover all the costs of running the championship tournament except for transportation to the tournament and the team uniforms and equipment. HHSAA does collect a small fee per student at the beginning of the season.



Additional considerations for high school surfing

Supporting different skill levels: Some schools may field a very experienced, competitive team while others may be teaching surfing for the first time to some athletes. For many schools with a range of participant skills, a club surfing team may continue to be a great option to include novice and beginning surfers to teach water safety skills and help kids build relationship with the ocean. This could possibly be a complement to the varsity surf team. At one school on Oahu, the surf club sponsors dryland events like surf movie nights and CPR classes for anyone in the club, and only certain students compete in meets on the actual surf team.

Shortboarding, longboarding, or bodyboarding: In the first years of the Maui surfing league, the athletic directors wanted to include shortboarding and bodyboarding. Because of time restraints, bodyboarding could not be retained. Most of the bodyboarders were shortboard surfers who were competing in bodyboarding only to help their team. This may not be the case in other leagues. Bodyboarding does not exist in a national format, but it is the most cost-effective entry point into wave riding, plus bodyboards can be easily brought on the bus by kids who lack access to other transportation to the beach.

Longboarding is a thriving sport and a good entry point for a lot of beginner surfers. Longboarding seems to be particularly popular right now with advanced-level female surfers. The club league on Oahu currently holds girls' and boys' competitions for longboarding and shortboarding, and co-ed competitions for bodyboarding. Encourage all kinds of wave riding on your team and competitions will follow based on involvement.

Extracurricular vs. Cocurricular: In Hawaii public schools, surf teams should be extracurricular – not co-curricular for school credit – because then the sport loses some of its competitive edge. By current law, in a cocurricular activity, no one can be cut from the team and a teacher must be hired to organize the team, adding to the cost. However, school credit rules vary at private schools. At Kamehameha, surfing is a varsity sport but does not add school credit. 'Iolani grants its varsity athletes a free study period for half the school year, in lieu of the required P.E. classes, if they represent their school in two varsity sports.

National Championships for High School

The National Scholastic Surfing Association (NSSA) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to encourage and assist its members in their interest to learn and develop the fundamentals and skills of surfing competition while competing in structured and quality events. More than 80 NSSA events are run nationwide that culminate with the annual National Championships which is regarded as the highest-profile youth surfing event in America. Currently, any team from Hawaii can self-fund and attend the NSSA championships while teams in other parts of the country have to qualify at regionals. The NSSA national championships are currently held in California but there is an interest in the Hawaii surf community for Hawaii to be at least an occasional host.



Kamehameha Schools Surf Team attending the NSSA Nationals in 2019.

Surfing in College

Surfing is not currently a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) college sport in any division for men or women. Here is the link to more information about how to add a women's sport to the NCAA:
<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2016/8/26/ncaa-emerging-sports-for-women-process-guide.aspx>

For men's sports, at the same link provided above, refer to "18.2.4.1 Men's Sports. A National Collegiate Championship or a division championship may be established in a men's sport if at least 50 institutions sponsor the sport. (Adopted: 1/11/94 effective 8/1/94, Revised: 1/17/09)"

Can a college have "varsity" surfing if it is not NCAA?

Yes. Colleges can sponsor sports at the varsity level even if it is not an NCAA sport.

If surfing were to become a NCAA sport, would sponsored athletes be ineligible to compete?

All athletes competing on any of the member teams must follow all applicable NCAA rules and guidelines on NIL (Name, Image, Likeness). Additional NIL information here: <https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2021/2/8/about-taking-action.aspx>

Quotes from the link:

- "NCAA college athletes now have the opportunity to benefit from their name, image and likeness. All three divisions have adopted a uniform, interim policy suspending NCAA name, image and likeness rules for all incoming and current student-athletes in all sports."
- "Individuals can engage in NIL activities that are consistent with the law of the state where the school is located. Colleges and universities may be a resource for state law questions."
- "Individuals can use a professional services provider for NIL activities."
- "College athletes who attend a school in a state without an NIL law can engage in NIL activity without violating NCAA rules related to name, image and likeness."
- "State law and schools/conferences may impose reporting requirements."

Professional Surfing

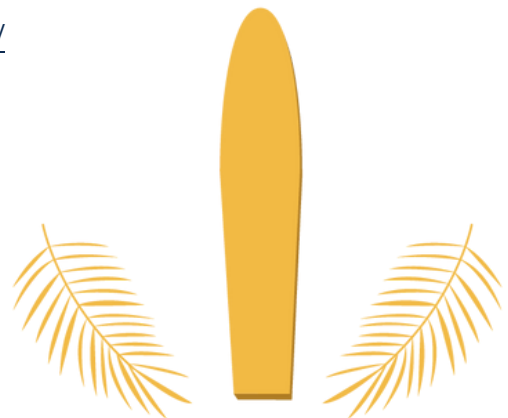
There is a professional world championship every year with the International Surfing Association (ISA), the recognized governing body of surfing. Hawaii has a special status in the ISA and is recognized as its own country within ISA competition. ISA, founded in 1964, is recognized by the International Olympic Committee as the World Governing Authority for Surfing. The ISA governs and defines Surfing as Shortboard, Longboard & Bodyboarding, StandUp Paddle (SUP) Racing and Surfing, Para-Surfing, Bodysurfing, Wakesurfing, and all other wave riding activities on any type of waves, and on flat water using wave riding equipment. The ISA crowned its first Men's and Women's World Champions in 1964. It crowned the first Big Wave World Champion in 1965; World Junior Champion in 1980; World Kneeboard Champions in 1982; World Longboard Surfing and World Bodyboard Champions in 1988; World Tandem Surfing Champions in 2006; World Masters Champions in 2007; World StandUp Paddle (SUP, both surfing and racing) and Paddleboard Champions in 2012; and World Para Surfing Champions in 2015. ISA membership includes the surfing National Federations of 113 countries on five continents.

From: <https://isasurf.org/>

Olympic Surfing

Surfing premiered as an Olympic sport at the 2020 Olympic games, about 100 years after Duke Kahanamoku first called for surfing to be in the Olympics. Significantly, the first Gold medalist in surfing was Carissa Moore, who has Native Hawaiian heritage.

Learn more: <https://olympics.com/en/sports/surfing/>





20.

Costs to stage a high school surf contest on Maui

21.

Maui surf team expenses

22.

Example Contents of Surf Team Binder

23.

About HHSAA

24.

DOE Surfing Regulations

APPROXIMATE COSTS TO STAGE A HIGH SCHOOL SURF CONTEST ON MAUI (2023)

EQUIPMENT

\$1,200	Apple Laptop Computer
\$1,500	6-iPads (3 judges, 1 head judge, 1 announcer, 1-back-up)
\$1,500	Sound system, two speakers, soundboard, microphone
\$1,200	Electronic timing system
\$2,400	3 pop-up tents (logos on tent cover, good aluminum frame)
\$300	5 6-foot tables
\$360	12 chairs
\$2,800	Honda generator (quietest)
\$400	Miscellaneous (trash bags, zip ties, manual back-up scorecards, pens, duct tape, tent stakes/sand bags, extension cords, power strips, heat board, back-up horn)
\$12,460	TOTAL - Most things can be reused all season if not season after season.

CONTRACTORS

\$450	Judges. Note: Our judges are International Surfing Association (ISA) certified. ISA is the Olympic governing body for surfing.
-------	--

\$150	Head judge
-------	------------

\$250	Water safety officer
-------	----------------------

\$120	Liveheats.com (license per event)
-------	-----------------------------------

\$405	Police officer if required (Hookipa is required; Lahaina Harbor, Koki Beach, Fleming Beach, Kahului Harbor not)
-------	---

Note: Schools rotate their athletic trainers at each event. Maui has one athletic trainer per MIL contest.

\$500	Uniforms for officials (short sleeve Tee, long sleeve Tee, cap) for the season (Many Maui officials are volunteers, and the judges are paid less than pro events.)
-------	--

\$1,875	TOTAL
---------	-------

SCHOOL EXPENSES

\$560	Surf jerseys (3 sets of six, 18 per school - S, L, XL)
-------	--

\$1,080	Optional - Boardshorts will be \$50-\$60.
---------	---

\$270	Optional - T-shirts around \$10-\$15
-------	--------------------------------------

\$1,910	TOTAL (for 18 students)
---------	-------------------------

Example Contents of Surf Team Binder

Coaches should bring the Surf Team Binder to all practices, competitions, and activities. The binder includes all of the following information for surfers, in case of emergency:

- 1.Coaches Certifications: NFHS (Fundamentals of Coaching, Concussion In Sports, Heat Illness Prevention, Sports Nutrition, COVID-19, etc.); Lifeguard; AAU Membership documents; etc.
- 2.Magnus 911 Emergency Documents: Consent for Medical Treatment; Medical Disclosure Statement; Athletic Participation Waiver
- 3.Parent Guardian Emergency Contacts
- 4.Parent Insurance
- 5.Healthcare Provider and Primary Care Physician
- 6.Allergies
- 7.Medications
- 8.OTC Medications
- 9.Medical History
- 10.Immunization Record



About HHSAA

The Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) serves 95 public, private, and charter schools across the state of Hawaii to support and promote athletics as part of the high school education program. HHSAA currently conducts championships in 18 different sports (2nd most in the nation) and offers 44 team and 88 individual championships impacting nearly 40,000 student-athletes. HHSAA also conducts workshops for coaches and officials and coordinates two scholarship programs that benefit 33 deserving high school seniors. HHSAA performs these functions on an annual budget of \$1.9 million. Operational costs are kept at a minimum as the HHSAA office is a classroom at Kaimuki High School (no rent) and is operated only by a full-time staff of three. Half of the annual budget is attained through fundraising and support by corporations. Without such sponsors, HHSAA would not be able to operate state championships at no cost to its member schools. (Note - schools pay approximately \$100,000.00 in member dues annually, however the HHSAA returns over \$150,000.00 to its member schools in profit sharing).

Altogether, nearly 40,000 students participate in one or more of the 18 sports that HHSAA offers. Participants in sports by current state championships are as follows:

- Air Riflery – 60 boys, 60 girls
- Bowling – 100 boys, 100 girls
- Cross Country – 200 boys, 200 girls
- Football – 12 teams (approx. 60 members per team)
- Volleyball – boys 20 teams, girls 24 teams (approx. 15 members per team)
- Cheerleading – 18 teams (approx. 15 members per team)
- Basketball – boys 20 teams, girls 24 teams (approx. 15 members per team)
- Canoe Paddling – boys 16 teams, girls 16 teams, mixed 16 teams (approx. 15)
- Soccer – boys 20 teams, girls 24 teams (approx. 20 members per team)
- Baseball – 20 teams (approx. 25 members per team)
- Golf – boys 96, girls 66
- Judo – boys 160, girls 160
- Softball – 24 teams (approx. 25 members per team)
- Tennis – 32 boys, 32 girls
- Water Polo – 12 teams (girls) (approx. 20 members per team)
- Wrestling – 224 boys, 224 girls
- Swimming & Diving – 400 boys, 400 girls (many perform multiple events)
- Track & Field – 196 boys, 196 girls

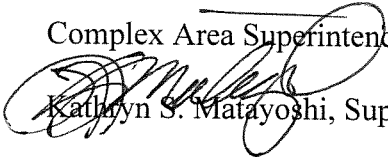
From www.hhsaa.org



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

March 7, 2014

TO: Complex Area Superintendents, High School Principals, and Athletic Directors
FROM:  Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent
SUBJECT: **Updated Surfing Regulation 2180.1**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) has updated the Surfing Regulation 2180.1 to include interscholastic surfing. Please discard the April 2005 Surfing Regulation 2180.1 and replace with the attached regulation. Each interscholastic league that adopts surfing as an interscholastic sport should follow the parameters in Surfing Regulations 2180.1(Rev. 02/14).

Should you have questions, please contact Mr. Raymond Fujino, Interim DOE Athletics Administrative Officer, at (808) 421-4394.

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this matter.

KSM:RF:rf

Attachment

c: Assistant Superintendents
Superintendent's Office Directors
District Athletics Specialists
State Public Charter School Commission Office
Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support

SURFING REGULATION

Purpose

This regulation is established to implement Policy 2180 on Surfing. It sets the authority and minimum requirements to implement surfing as a high school sport in Hawaii's public schools.

Definitions

High School Sport – any athletic activity in grades 9-12.

Surf Club – a special interest club for high school students formed to promote the historical and cultural roots of surfing and/or to implement surfing as a high school sport.

Interscholastic Leagues – shall refer to and mean the Oahu Interscholastic Association, the Big Island Interscholastic Federation, the Maui Interscholastic League, and the Kauai Interscholastic Federation

Interscholastic Surfing Contest – a high school surfing competition sanctioned by the Oahu Interscholastic Association, the Big Island Interscholastic Federation, the Maui Interscholastic League, or the Kauai Interscholastic Federation, and governed by the interscholastic league's sport rules, constitution, bylaws, and eligibility requirements.

Surf Team – a student athletic surf team for high school students whose members engage in competitive surfing and other ocean-based activities related to surfing.

Surf Club advisor – an adult Department of Education ("DOE" or "Department") employee who serves as a mentor to student club members and who is responsible for ensuring that all DOE requirements for student clubs are met.

Surf Club Coach – an adult who meets specified minimum ocean-safety/surfing experience requirements, helps mentor student club members, and is responsible for “coaching” student surfers. The coach is responsible for the safety of student members and participates in all ocean-based activities related to surfing, including preparing for surfing, riding waves, and competition. The coach does not need to be a DOE employee but must be knowledgeable about and agree to adhere to all DOE policies, rules, regulations, procedures, and guidelines.

Surf Team Coach – an adult who meets specified minimum ocean-safety/surfing experience requirements, helps mentor student-athletes, and is responsible for coaching student-athletes. The coach is responsible for the safety of student members and participates in all ocean-based activities related to surfing, including preparing for

surfing, riding waves, and competition. The coach does not need to be a DOE employee but must be knowledgeable about and agree to adhere to all DOE as well as individual athletic leagues' policies, rules, regulations, procedures, and guidelines.

Authority

1. Hawaii public schools with grades 9-12 that establish surfing clubs, with the permission of the school principal, shall adhere to all DOE regulations including 2120.1 – Student Activities Program, 2250.1 – Field Trips, and to all guidelines/procedures pertaining to student activities, water safety, and surfing.
2. If the Interscholastic Leagues sanction surfing as an interscholastic competition, all public schools in their respective interscholastic leagues shall adhere to all DOE policies, rules, regulations, guidelines, and procedures pertaining to student activities, water safety, and surfing.

Surf Club Regulations

Surf Club Staffing Requirements

1. Each surf club shall have an advisor who is a DOE employee. The school principal must approve all club advisors.
2. Each surf club shall have a minimum of three coaches. The school principal must approve all surf club coaches.
3. Each surf club coach, whether ocean-based or land based, shall meet the following minimum qualifications:
 - a. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification
 - b. First Aid Certification
 - c. Ocean Rescue Skills Training
 - d. Ocean Safety Risk Management Training
 - e. Ocean-Related Injury Prevention Training
 - f. Training in Legal and Cultural Issues Related to Ocean Safety Management in Hawaiian Waters
 - g. Near-Shore Waters Environmental Awareness Training
 - h. DOE Background Check
4. All certifications must be current.

Surf Club Student Requirements

1. Student surf club members (also referred to as "club members") shall meet all academic requirements for participation in co-curricular activities as specified in Board of Education Policy 4520, DOE Regulation 4520.1.

2. Student surf club members that participate in ocean-based activities shall have Junior Lifeguard Certification or equivalent skills in all four areas listed below:
 - a. CPR Certification
 - b. Basic ocean swimming ability
 - c. Basic ocean rescue skills training
 - d. Ocean safety risk management skills training
3. Student club members shall have general physical fitness, as certified by an annual medical examination. Medical examination certification forms shall be on file **prior to** participation in any in-water activities.
4. Student club members shall have signed parent/guardian permission forms that must be on file **prior to** participation in any off-campus club meetings/activities, including surfing practices. Parents/guardians signing permission forms shall acknowledge the hazards and dangers of surfing when they allow participation.
5. Although the Department will not be responsible for verifying the appropriateness or safety of a particular surfboard the student may use, whether owned or borrowed by the student, surf club coaches shall have the sole discretion to disallow the use of surf equipment that the coach determines to be unsafe.
6. Student club members who meet the academic requirements outlined in Policy 4520 but who do not meet all minimum ocean safety skills and training requirements may be club members but cannot participate in any ocean-based activities.

Surf Club Adult-Student Ratios for Water Activities

1. The minimum ocean-based coach to student ratio for water activities shall be one (1) adult to six (6) students.
2. The land-based surf club coach to student ratio shall be one (1) adult to twelve (12) student surf club members.
3. At least one surf club coach shall remain on-shore at all times to observe no more than two in-ocean groups.
4. The level of adult to student supervision shall be increased to accommodate student club members with special needs and other special circumstances to make certain that the safety of all students is ensured. The principal has the authority to impose a lower adult to student ratio when special circumstances exist. The land-based club coach to student ratio and the ocean-based club coach to student ratio shall be adhered to at all times. A land-based club coach observing land-based members cannot also be simultaneously observing any ocean groups, and an on-shore surf club coach observing ocean groups cannot also be simultaneously observing land-based members.

5. An in-ocean group is a group of no more than six (6) student club members.
6. Student club members shall practice the buddy system, 1:1 ratio, whenever participating in in-water activities.
7. There shall be no more than twelve (12) student club members **in** the water at any given time.

Ocean-based-Site/In-water Activities

1. All surf club advisors and club coaches shall have knowledge of and adhere to the Department of Education Guidelines for Water-Related Activities.
2. There shall be a DOE employee at all ocean-based site activities, including surfing practices.
3. Standard Department of Education Field Trip, Consent, Release, and Assumption of Risk, and Use of Private Vehicle forms shall be used for all ocean-site/in-water activities, including surfing practice.
4. All surf club coaches shall assess ocean conditions prior to and during the ocean activity, including surfing practices. Club coaches shall also assess students to ensure they are capable of handling surf/ocean conditions for the activity. Club coaches shall have the authority to prohibit club members from ocean activities if in their sole discretion they determine the club member is not capable of handling the surf/ocean conditions, or if the club members engage in behavior that is deemed risky and/or unsafe.
5. The coaches shall develop an Ocean-Safety Management Plan and implement it appropriately. The Plan shall specify what actions shall be taken when surf or weather conditions are or become unsafe. A copy of the Plan shall be kept on file in the school office. It shall be the responsibility of each school to develop a plan for their surf club. The Plan should include emergency procedures for incidents, which include but are not limited to, extreme weather/surf conditions, accidents, injuries, and shark attacks.
6. The surf club coaches shall assure that there is a plan to account for all student surf club members at all times. The ocean-based site shall be vacated at the end of each activity. Student club members shall not be allowed to remain at the site but shall be dismissed from a designated area, away from the beach. Surf club coaches shall use a sign-in/sign-out form with student signatures to accommodate those student club members who have prior parental approval to drive. The DOE parental approval form must be completed for each practice or event the parent is allowing his/her child to drive to. Student club members leaving the site with someone other than their parent/guardian must submit appropriate parental permission forms prior to the practice or event. Student club members may be released to a parent/guardian from

the activity site provided that the proper release forms noting date/time of release have been verified and signed by parent/guardian and club coach.

Equipment for Surfing Activities

1. The surf club shall acquire and maintain the following equipment for all ocean-based activities, including surfing practice:
 - a. Rescue surfboard, minimum nine (9) feet
 - b. Rescue tube and swim fins
 - c. Emergency medical kit
 - d. Cellular phone: club advisors and coaches shall have cellular phones, a written plan for cellular no-signal areas and also have knowledge of the nearest land-phone line and fire station.
 - e. One automotive vehicle that can be used to transport student members in case of an emergency.
 - f. Color-coded jerseys for student members and club coaches
 - g. Air horns, flags

Insurance

1. Although medical/health insurance coverage is not required, if the club advisor, coach, and student club member chooses to be insured, they shall be responsible for his/her own coverage.
2. Each student and parent/guardian must sign a form that acknowledges their understanding that: a) all insurance costs and medical, dental, and vision costs related to injury are the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian; and b) the DOE will not assume any of these costs.

Surf Team Regulations

Surf Team Staffing Requirements

1. Each surf team shall have a minimum of three surf team coaches. The school athletic director and principal must approve all surf team coaches.
2. Each surf team coach, whether ocean-based or land based, shall meet the following minimum qualifications:
 - a. CPR Certification
 - b. First Aid Certification
 - c. Ocean Rescue Skills Training
 - d. Ocean Safety Risk Management Training
 - e. Ocean-Related Injury Prevention Training
 - f. Training in Legal and Cultural Issues Related to Ocean Safety Management in Hawaiian Waters

- g. Near-Shore Waters Environmental Awareness Training
 - h. DOE Background Check
3. All certifications must be current.

Surf Team Student Requirements

1. Student surf team members (also referred to as "team members") shall meet all academic requirements for participation in co-curricular activities as specified in Board of Education Policy 4520, DOE Regulation 4520.1.
2. Student surf team members shall have Junior Lifeguard Certification or equivalent skills in all four areas listed below:
 - a. CPR Certification
 - b. Basic ocean swimming ability
 - c. Basic ocean rescue skills training
 - d. Ocean safety risk management skills training
3. Student team members shall have general physical fitness, as certified by an annual medical examination. Medical examination certification forms shall be on file prior to participation in any in-water activities.
4. Student team members shall have signed parent/guardian Consent, Release, and Assumption of Risks forms that must be on file prior to participation in any off-campus team meetings/activities, including surfing practices. Parents/guardians signing permission forms shall acknowledge the hazards and dangers of surfing when they allow participation.
5. Student team members shall have surfing experience, skills and abilities equivalent to compete in a surf meet. The student-athlete's parent or legal guardian is required to attest through a written and signed letter that the student team member possesses surfing experience, skills and abilities at the level of a surf meet competitor in order to participate on the school's surf team. When surf team coaches assess the skills and abilities of the student-athletes, the coach shall do it in the ocean on a one-to-one basis.
6. Although the Department will not be responsible for verifying the appropriateness or safety of a particular surfboard the student may use, whether owned or borrowed by the student, surf team coaches shall have the sole discretion to disallow the use of equipment that the team coach determines to be unsafe.

Surf Team Adult-Student Ratios for Water Activities

1. The minimum ocean-based surf team coach to student ratio for water activities shall be one (1) adult to six (6) students. The level of adult to student supervision

shall be increased to a one-to-one basis to assess students' skills and abilities during the initial try-out period.

2. The land-based surf team coach to student ratio shall be one (1) adult to twelve (12) students.
3. At least one surf team coach shall remain on-shore at all times to observe no more than two in-ocean groups.
4. The level of adult to student supervision shall be increased to accommodate student club members with special needs and other special circumstances to make certain that the safety of all students is ensured. The principal has the authority to impose a lower adult to student ratio when special circumstances exist. The land-based coach to student ratio and the ocean-based coach to student ratio shall be adhered to at all times. A land-based team coach observing land-based members cannot also be simultaneously observing any ocean groups, and an on-shore surf team coach observing ocean groups cannot also be simultaneously observing land-based members.
5. An in-ocean group is a group of no more than six (6) student team members.
6. Student team members shall practice the buddy system, 1:1 ratio, whenever participating in in-water activities.
7. There shall be no more than twelve (12) student team members in the water at any given time.

Ocean-based-Site/In-water Activities

1. All surf team coaches shall have knowledge of and adhere to the Department of Education Guidelines for Water-Related Activities.
2. Standard Department of Education Field Trip, Consent, Release, and Assumption of Risk, and Use of Private Vehicle forms shall be used for all ocean-site/in-water activities, including surfing practice.
3. All surf team coaches shall assess ocean conditions prior to and during the ocean activity, including surfing practices. Team coaches shall also assess student team members to ensure they are capable of handling surf/ocean conditions for the activity. Team coaches shall have the authority to prohibit team members from ocean activities if in their sole discretion they determine the team member is not capable of handling the surf/ocean conditions, or if the team members engage in behavior that is deemed risky and/or unsafe.
4. The individual surf team coaches shall develop an Ocean-Safety Management Plan and implement it appropriately. The Plan shall specify what actions shall be taken when surf or weather conditions are or become unsafe. A copy of the Plan

shall be kept on file in the school office. It shall be the responsibility of each individual school to develop their Plans. The Plan should include emergency procedures for incidents, which include but are not limited to, extreme weather/surf conditions, accidents, injuries, and shark attacks.

5. A surf team shall only be allowed to participate in the Interscholastic Surfing Contest if the interscholastic league has developed specific rules and regulations for the surfing competitions, and the rules and regulations include safety precautions for the ocean contest area, as well as the judging/spectator area on shore, and include water safety personnel in the surfing area and security personnel on shore.
6. The surf team coaches shall assure that there is a plan to account for all student team members at all times. The ocean-based site shall be vacated at the end of each activity. Student team members shall not be allowed to remain at the site but shall be dismissed from a designated area, away from the beach. Team coaches shall use a sign-in/sign-out form with student signatures to accommodate those team members who have prior parental approval to drive. The DOE parental approval form must be completed for each practice or event the parent is allowing his/her child to drive to. Student team members leaving the site with someone other than their parent/guardian must submit appropriate parental permission forms prior to the practice or event. Student team members may be released to a parent/guardian from the activity site provided that the proper release forms noting date/time of release have been verified and signed by parent/guardian and coach.

Equipment for Surfing Activities

1. The surf team shall acquire and maintain the following equipment for all ocean-based activities, including surfing practice:
 - a. Rescue surf board, minimum nine (9) feet
 - b. Rescue tube and swim fins
 - c. Emergency medical kit
 - d. Cellular phone: Team coaches shall have cellular phones, a written plan for cellular no-signal areas and also have knowledge of the nearest land-phone line and fire station.
 - e. One automotive vehicle that can be used to transport student team members in case of an emergency.
 - f. Color-coded jerseys for students members and team coaches
 - g. Air horns, flags

Insurance

1. Although medical/health insurance coverage is not required, if the team coach and student athletes chooses to be insured, they shall be responsible for his/her own coverage.

2. Each student and parent/guardian must sign the Consent, Release and Assumption of Risk form that acknowledges their understanding that: a) all insurance costs and medical, dental, and vision costs related to injury are the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian; and b) the DOE will not assume any of these costs.

Adopted: 04/05

Amended: 02/14

Thank you to the people who contributed to this white paper:

Sarah Fairchild, Executive Director, Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation
Kim Ball, Co-Coordinator, Maui Interscholastic League (MIL) Surfing
Daniel Ikaika Ito, Head Coach, Kamehameha Schools Surf Team
Chasen Kim, Assistant Coach, Kamehameha Schools Surf Team
Chris Butler, Assistant Coach, 'Iolani Surf Team
Davin Kazama, Assistant Coach, 'Iolani Surf Team
Sunny Kazama, 'Iolani Surf Team Member (Class of 2024)
Jack Ho, Punahou Surf Team Member and Organizer (Class of 2023)

Thank you to the coaches and organizers who continue to support surfing in Hawaii schools.

CONTACT

Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation

PO Box 160924

Honolulu, HI 96816

www.dukefoundation.com

info@dukefoundation.org

[@dukefoundation](#)

In memory of Duke Kahanamoku.

