



National
Outdoor
Leaders
Registration
Scheme

SURFING REGISTRATION LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

NOLRS VERSION 2.2

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Outdoor Council of Australia

Ph: (08) 9248 6677 1800 660 540 Fax: (08) 9248 5799

Email: nolrs@outdoorcouncil.asn.au

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It is the responsibility of a particular employer, organisation, government agency or resource manager to determine the "appropriate" skills, knowledge and experience required, based on a risk analysis of the type of program(s), situations, participants and conditions. It should therefore be noted that additional skills over and above those specified as a minimum within the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme (NOLRS) might be deemed necessary in some circumstances.

In administering the NOLRS, the Outdoor Council of Australia (OCA) does not conduct assessments of an applicant's skills, knowledge and experience; rather it relies upon the information and certification provided by external training providers / assessors to determine the applicant's competency. Whilst every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of evidence presented, the OCA accepts neither liability nor responsibility for any direct or indirect loss, damage or liability that may be suffered or incurred by any person as a consequence of reliance upon a person gaining NOLRS registration status.

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Introduction

This document contains information on the minimum skills required to achieve Registration within the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme (NOLRS) at specific levels within the activity of SURFING.

Additional documents are available at www.outdoorcouncil.asn.au that provides information about the Scheme and the registration process includes:

- **NOLRS *Registration Guide*** - information about the registration requirements and process
- **NOLRS *Re-registration Guide*** - information about the re-registration requirements and process
- ***Application for Registration***
- ***Application for Subsequent Registration***
- ***Application for Re-registration***
- **NOLRS *Partnered Assessment Providers*** - a guide for organisations that conduct assessment of outdoor leaders, detailing how to have their course outcomes recognised as equivalent to the skill and knowledge requirements of the NOLRS.

What is SURFING?

The activity of surfing involves riding ocean waves on surfboards for pleasure, challenge, experience and / or educational outcomes.

It is not intended that competitive surfing events will be captured by this Standard.

Registration Levels and Description

SURFING registration levels apply to Guides and Instructors who conduct SURFING activities riding ocean waves on surfboards or body boards for pleasure, challenge, experience and/or educational outcomes.

The following registration levels are available within the NOLRS within the activity of SURFING -

- Surfing Guide
- Surfing Instructor (Basic to Intermediate)
- Surfing Instructor (Intermediate to Advanced)

SURFING Guide:

A person designated as a SURFING Guide has the skills, knowledge and experience to work autonomously within a closely defined range of skilled operations involving known routines, methods and procedures, where a small amount of discretion and judgement is required in the selection of equipment, services or contingency measures. This person may conduct activities independently only within clearly defined contexts where there are clearly defined Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and relevant documented guidelines for the activity, they are familiar with those SOPs, and where assistance is readily available should a non-routine situation arise.

A SURFING Guide leads or guides dependent participants in SURFING activities. There is no intention of imparting skills or knowledge to participants beyond that which is necessary to enable their safe participation in the activity. At the end of a session or program with a Guide, the intent is not for the participant to have acquired the skills to independently participate in the activity

A SURFING Guide may conduct activities only at sites which have documentation that defines the key safety features and risk management procedures for the activity. A SURFING Guide does not have the ability to adequately assess the suitability of a new facility / site and its characteristics or to independently develop procedures for the conduct of SURFING activities. They may work as an assistant with a more experienced leader in potentially non-routine or more complex activities and programs.

A Surfing Guide has the knowledge, skills and experience that enable them to:

- Plan for minimal environmental impact
- Undertake risk analysis of activities
- Interpret weather forecasts
- Guide outdoor recreation sessions
- Follow defined Occupational Health and Safety policy and procedures
- Facilitate groups and deal with conflict
- Perform intermediate level surfing manoeuvres
- Respond to emergency situations
- Perform a simple rescue in moderate surf conditions
- Guide surfing sessions
- Apply surf survival and self rescue skills

SURFING Instructor (Basic to Intermediate):

A person designated as a SURFING Instructor (Basic to Intermediate) facilitates skill transfer or development to participants in order that they may independently SURFING. This requires the instructor to be able to transfer required skills and knowledge, apply a variety of

appropriate instructional strategies, and assess a participant's skill and knowledge acquisition during and at the end of a program or session.

A SURFING Instructor (Basic to Intermediate) has the knowledge, skills and experience of a SURFING Guide as well as additional skills and experience in training and assessment. A person at this level of competence may instruct participants to enable them to:

- Train Small groups
- Instruct basic to intermediate surfing skills

SURFING Instructor (Intermediate to Advanced):

A person designated as a SURFING Instructor (Intermediate to Advanced) facilitates skill transfer or development to participants in order that they may independently SURFING. This requires the instructor to be able to transfer required skills and knowledge, apply a variety of appropriate instructional strategies, and assess a participant's skill and knowledge acquisition during and at the end of a program or session.

A SURFING Instructor (Intermediate to Advanced) has the knowledge, skills and experience of a SURFING Instructor (Basic to Intermediate) as well as additional skills and experience in training and assessment. A person at this level of competence may instruct participants to enable them to:

- Perform advanced level surfing manoeuvres
- Perform a comprehensive range of rescues in moderate to difficult surf conditions

SURFING Skill, Knowledge and Experience Requirements

SURFING Guide:

Critical aspects of a SURFING Guide experience, knowledge and skills include:

- Application of risk analysis principles in a SURFING context
- Maintenance of a participant's physical and emotional safety during SURFING sessions in a diversity of situations (eg, different participant groups, different learning outcomes)
- Ability to plan, guide and evaluate SURFING sessions at a number of different locations to suit available resources, environmental limitations and different types of participant groups with differing needs and activity aims
- Establish and maintain positive group dynamics
- Sources of weather information and how to interpret weather information for SURFING
- Demonstrate a broad understanding of rescue knowledge, hydrology, equipment usage in rescue situations, first aid knowledge appropriate to the location,
- Selection and use of equipment for trips and location knowledge
- Personal surfing skills to a high level of technical correctness
- Swimming ability
- Use of rescue equipment
- Navigation skills
- Group management
- First aid skills appropriate to the location

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of four (4) SURFING sessions (minimum of two hours per session) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house' or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of guiding a minimum of six (6) SURFING sessions (minimum of two hours per session) at least two (2) different locations.

SURFING Instructor (Basic to Intermediate):

Critical Aspects of a SURFING Instructor (basic to intermediate) skills and knowledge include those of a SURFING Guide **PLUS** the following:

Skills to:

- Effectively deal with emergencies whilst instructing surfing using appropriate rescue competencies
- Adapt sessions to meet a variety of surfing abilities using appropriate instructional techniques
- Demonstrate and teach basic to intermediate surfing skills
- Teach required knowledge relevant to a basic to intermediate surfing activity
- Teach safety and rescue procedures appropriate to a basic to intermediate surfing activity

Ability to demonstrate and / or teach the following:

- Required knowledge, ethics, codes of behaviour, points of interest or principles relevant to surfing and achievement of competency in a manner which achieves interest and participant understanding
- Instruct participants on factors to consider when planning for participation in surfing
- Identify minimal impact practices appropriate to surfing , and determine participant level of understanding
- Outline specific aspects of equipment selection, use and care, to enable the participant to achieve competency at a relevant level
- Explain communication systems and relevant calls or signals used whilst participating in surfing, and determine participant level of understanding in their use

In order to demonstrate currency, an applicant seeking registration must have verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of four (4) SURFING sessions (minimum of two hours per session; at least three sessions must be instructing) in the past twelve (12) months. In addition, evidence must be supplied of 'in-house' or external aquatic rescue training within the past 12 months, or participation in aquatic rescue of 'real' participants.

Newly trained outdoor leaders require verifiable evidence of instructing or guiding a minimum of six (6) Surfing sessions (minimum of two (2) hours per session; at least three (3) sessions must be instructing) at different locations.

SURFING Instructor (Intermediate to Advanced):

Critical Aspects of a SURFING Instructor (Intermediate to Advanced) skills and knowledge include those of a SURFING Guide **PLUS** the following:

Skills to:

- Teach required knowledge that applies to an intermediate to advanced surfing activity
- Teach safety and rescue procedures appropriate to an intermediate to advanced surfing activity

Ability to demonstrate and / or teach the following:

- Required knowledge, ethics, codes of behaviour, points of interest or principles relevant to surfing and achievement of competency in a manner which achieves interest and participant understanding
- Instruct participants on factors to consider when planning for participation in surfing
- Identify minimal impact practices appropriate to surfing , and determine participant level of understanding

- Outline specific aspects of equipment selection, use and care, to enable the participant to achieve competency at a relevant level
- Explain communication systems and relevant calls or signals used whilst participating in surfing, and determine participant level of understanding in their use

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