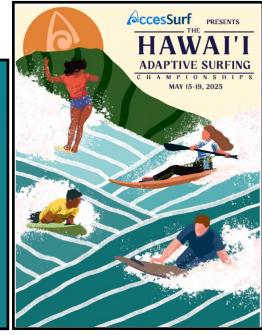


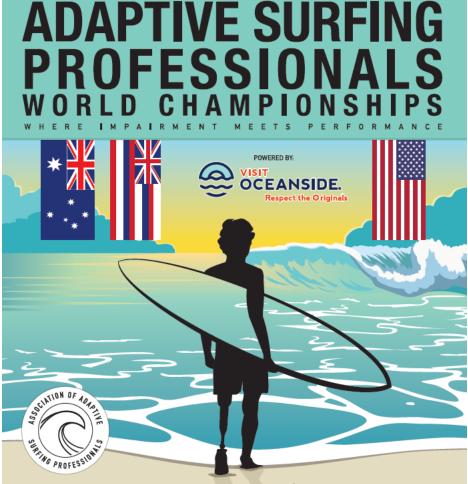
2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS











#### AASP WORLD TOUR SCHEDULE WITH OVER \$100,000 IN CASH PRIZES

THE BRIGHTSKY AUSTRALIAN PRO ADAPTIVE SURFING CHAMPIONSHIPS March 25-30, 2025 Byron Bay, NSW Australia PRESENTED BY FORWARD ABILITY SUPPORT

THE HAWA!' ADAPTIVE SURFING CHAMPIONSHIPS May 15-19, 2025 Queens, Waikiki Hawaii PRESENTED BY ACCESSURF ADAPTIVESURFINGPROFESSIONALS.COM

**OFFICIAL BYLAWS** 

AND

**CLASSIFICATION MANUAL** 

POWERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

**U.S. OPEN ADAPTIVE** SURFING CHAMPIONSHIPS

September 4-7, 2025 Oceanside, CA USA

32



### Table of Contents

Schedule of Events	3
AASP Committee	4
AASP Mission Statement	5
Bylaws	6
Water Safety and Equipment Requirements	7
AASP Membership & Sportsman Code of Conduct	8-9
Judging and Priority	10-11
AASP Point Structure and Judging Protests	12
Qualifying Impairments Body Functions	13-14
Qualifying Impairments Body Structure	15
Classification Procedures for Athletes	16
List of Surf Classes and Descriptions	17-18
Individual Surf Classes	19-27
Upper Limb Standing	19
Below the Knee Standing	20
Above the Knee Standing	21
Any Kneeling/Upright	22
Wave Ski	23
Unassisted Prone	24
Prone Assist	25
Blind/No Vision	26
Blind/Low Vision	27
References and Resources	28
Surfer Blessing	29
Sponsors and Gratitude	30-32

# 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS





# UNIVERSITY of ST. AUGUSTINE for HEALTH SCIENCES









2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



Schedule of Events

**Registration Schedule** 

**Classification Schedule** 

\*\*\*Mandatory Competitors Meeting\*\*\* Schedule

Thank you, Visit Oceanside for your hospitality and sponsorship. We are proud to call Oceanside the Home of the US Open Adaptive Surfing Championships.

**Competition Schedule** 

8:00am – 4:00pm Competition Heats \*See Heat Schedule for specifics

**Final Schedule** 

8:00am to 3:30pm Competition Heats and Finals \*See Heat Schedule for specifics

\*\*\*Awards Ceremony 30 minutes following last Final

\*All competitors must check in with Director of Classification-Dr. Mo. Only new and Review competitors will have to be classified for the AASP event unless there is a change in competitor status from last year. Classification structure copvrighted by:

©2018StokeforLifeFoundation and Mo Johnson, PhD, MS, OT/L, CBCPR, C/NDT







# Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals Committee

## Byron Bay AASP Representatives:

Mark-Mono and Deb Stewart

Hawaii AASP Representatives:

**Richard Julian - Eric Welton** 

#### **US Open ASC Representatives:**

James McDonald - Charles Webb

# **Committee Chair:**

Roy Tuscany



# **AASP Classification Committee**

Director: Mo Johnson, PhD, MS, OT/L, BCPR, FNAP, CHSE-A, C/NDT Jessica Armes, MOT, OTR/L Rebecca Askew, MSPT, NCS Daniell Bennett, PT, DPT Kim Canterbury, PT Helen Chen, PT, DPT Heather David, PT, Ed.D, MPT, NCS Marissa Gonzalez, MOT, OTR/L Kate Koschei, MS, OTR/L Angie Maidment, OTR/L LeeAnne Robotta, DPT, PT



## 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS





# Surfer Blessing

May the waves rise to meet you May the winds be slightly offshore May the sun shine warm on your face.



#### **References and Resources**

AccesSurf (2018) Classifications for Hawaii Adaptive Surfing Championships

- Johnson, M.E., & David, H.M. (2022). Development of evidence-based classification for para surfers with physical impairments: A narrative review. Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, 14(10), 1227-1240. https://doi.org/10.1002/ pmrj.12674
- Johnson, M.E., David, H.M. & Ganesan, M. (2022). Surfing performance in para surfers with lower limb amputations: A cross-sectional study. *Journal of Prosthetics and Orthotics*, 34(4), 252-258. https//doi.org/10.1097/ JPO.000000000000398
- Johnson, M.E., David, H.M. & Ganesan, M. (2022). Satisfaction of para surfing classification – A survey analysis. Palaestra 36(4), 24-30.
- Inge K. Stoter, Florentina J. Hettinga, Viola Altmann, Wim Eisma, Hans Arendzen, Tony Bennett, Lucas H. van der Woude & Rienk Dekker (2017) Initial steps towards an evidence-based classification system for golfers with a physical impairment, Disability and Rehabilitation, 39:2, 152-163.
- IPC Handbook (2015) IPC Policy on eligible impairments in the Paralympic movement. Downloaded from: https:// www.paralympic.org/theipc/handbook
- ISA (2017) Official rulebook for the 2017 Stance ISA World Adaptive Surfing Championships
- Titulaer, S., et al. (2019). Paralympic Classification Seminar Eurosurf Adaptive Congress Viana do Castelo, Portugal

Tweedy, S. M., Beckman, E. M., & Connick, M. J. (2014). Paralympic classification:

# 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



#### **AASP Mission Statement**

The objective of the AASP is to create and sustain a legitimate international professional adaptive surfing tour and elevate the sport of adaptive surfing to an elite professional level. It will be the responsibility of the AASP to be the international governing body of professional adaptive surfing and its world rankings. It is our intentions with the support of mainstream surf, sports, medical companies, and large corporate entities to elevate this sport to a professional platform and help adaptive Athletes reach the goal of becoming professional adaptive surfers.

This is achieved by combining major adaptive surf events from around the world with the same classification structure, priority judging, and point system. In 2025 the AASP will have a three stop tour: Australian Adaptive Pro Byron Bay, Australia, Hawaii Adaptive Surfing Championships, and the US Open Adaptive Surfing Championships, with an overall combined points from both events to determine a true world champion of adaptive surfing in all nine divisions

Stoke for Life Foundation and the US Open ASC would like to thank those adaptive surfers who had a voice in helping structure this event. We will continue to use the input of the adaptive surf community to evolve competitive adaptive surfing to an elite world class level.

Stoke for Life Foundation and the US Open ASC would also like to thank the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, Dr. Maureen Johnson, Dr. Heather David, and the occupational therapy and physical therapy students at the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences for your knowledge, expertise, dedication, and assisting the Athletes to ensure a safe and enjoyable championship.



#### **Bylaws**

- The AASP recognizes the difference in physical and visual impairments that require a variety of different adaptive surf classes to keep the adaptive competitive playing field level.
- If an Athlete is classified to surf in more than one division, it will be allowed unless there is a competitive advantage.
- Event Individual Competitor Assessment-Each Association of Adaptive Surfing Professional World Championship tour stand-alone event personnel (contest director, head judge, water safety director, or classification director) has the ability to assess each competitor individually based on disability, equipment, skill level, and competition experience to strongly suggest or recommend added equipment for the safety of that competitor and all other competitors in the event. If those suggestions or recommendations go unaddressed by the competitor, that competitor may be unable to compete in the event based on safety for all competitors and water safety involved in the event.
- Unassisted surfers may NOT surf in any assisted division.
- An assisted surfer may NOT paddle themselves while being pushed into or while on the wave as it creates a competitive advantage.
- Any division can be split by gender (Men/Women) providing there are enough contestants to fill each division by gender (minimum three participants).
- Once a division has been split by gender (Men/Women) there shall be no crossover allowed.
- Any surfer that has added an adaptation, i.e. a swim fin or a paddle, for safety purposes shall be allowed IF that adaptation does not provide a clear advantage while riding the wave. Swim fins for Athletes with above knee amputations in the kneeling division only.
- There must be 3 or more Athletes to run a division. For 2 or less Athletes at an event, designated combinations of sport classes are as followed: AKS may go into BKS; and Blind, No Vision may go into Blind, Low Vision.

#### 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



Surf Class	Classification
Blind/Low Vision	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : Significant vision impairment with corrected visual acuity between 20/70 and 20/200 and a difficulty engaging in daily activities due to vision
Definition of Classification	Surfing Position: Standing Equipment: Surfboard Functional Abilities: Independent with paddling in water Independent with catching waves physically Independent riding waves Independent with surfboard ↔ water transfers and wave recovery physically Physical Assistance Needed: Navigating land Navigating in the water Verbal assistance timing/location/catching of waves Transporting surfboard to ↔ from water Eligibility Criteria: Moderate to severe visual loss Minimal Impairment Criteria to Participate: Best corrected visual acuity > 20/70 Restricted visual field loss ≥ 50% of fields Cranial Nerve Deficits
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Ophthalmologist report Peripheral field tests Cranial nerve tests for III, IV, and VI

\*Short Stature Surf Class: Athletes with Short Stature may compete in an open division if there are 3 or more Athletes with short stature present at the adaptive surf competition and at the discretion of the Contest Organizers. 27



Surf Class	Classification
Blind/No Vision	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : Blind Significant vision impairment with no correction for visual acuity and difficulty engaging in daily activities due to vision
Definition of Classification	Surfing Position: Standing Equipment: Surfboard Functional Abilities: Independent with paddling in water Independent with catching waves physically Independent riding waves Independent riding waves Independent with surfboard ↔ water transfers and wave recovery physically Physical Assistance Needed: Navigating land Navigating in the water Verbal assistance timing/location/catching of waves Transporting surfboard to ↔ from water Eligibility Criteria: Moderate to severe visual loss Minimal Impairment Criteria to Participate: Uncorrected visual acuity
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Ophthalmologist report

2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



#### Water Safety

The AASP considers water safety for the participants to be the most important details of the event, and water safety team members responsibility is to keep every competitor safe as possible in the water without adding any competitive advantage for the participant.

- Safety zone: There will be a designated safety zone, which will be outside the impact zone, where water safety team members can assist any participants to safety. If any surfer is stuck in the impact zone, water safety team members may assist the surfer to the designated safety zone.
- Surfers in the Prone Assist sport class may have their water team members assist them from the safety zone to the main peak area. The surfers in the other sport classes are expected to paddle themselves over to the main peak area.

# **Equipment Requirements**

The AASP equipment requirements listed below:

- Surfboard (Stand-Up/Prone)
- Knee Board
- Wave Ski—<12 feet/3.657 meters

No Tandem Prone Surfboards permitted

No electronic fins permitted



# 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS

Classification

Surf Class



AASP MEMBERSHIP

#### AASP MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All AASP World Championship Tour events are Membership Only Events, meaning you must be a member of the Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals to enter any tour event.

Either single event membership if only participating in only one tour event, or an annual membership if participating in more than one AASP tour event.

# AASP POINTS AND MONEY ELIGIBILITY

For a contestant to be eligible to win World Championship Tour points and prize money at any of the Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals (AASP) World Championship Tour (WCT) events, it is required that the contestant be a member of the Association Adaptive Surfing Professionals.

Association of Adaptive Surfing Professional members are eligible to receive AASP World Championship points (per event), applied towards AASP World Rankings and AASP World Championship Title. AASP members are also eligible to receive prize money per event depending on finishing placement, AASP members are also eligible to receive prize money for the over all Adaptive Surfing Professionals World Championship points winners.

If a contestant is only able to participate in one AASP World Championship Tour event there is a "single event" membership available, so participant is eligible to receive AASP World Ranking points and maintain prize money eligibility. The "single event" membership is only good for one AASP Tour event. If a "single event" member competes in more than one AASP event the balance of an ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP would need to be paid before further point rankings and prize money can be received.

AASP Membership fees must be paid before AASP events and before points and prize money can be earned at any Adaptive Surfing Professionals WCT events.

With AASP membership paid members will get an annual AASP membership card and any AASP annual membership swag.

Sun Glass	Classification
Prone Assist	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : SCI/Muscle Impairment Ataxia Cerebral Palsy Multiple Sclerosis Muscular Dystrophy
Definition of Classification	<pre>Surfing Position: Prone Equipment: Surfboard Functional Abilities: Independent with riding waves Physical Assistance Needed: 2-person water support team Navigating land at w/c level Transporting surfboard to ↔ from water w/c ↔ surfboard transfer Water ↔ surfboard transfer &amp; wave recovery Paddling in water Catching waves Eligibility Criteria: Surfers who are not able to functionally kneel or stand on a surfboard Minimum Impairment Criteria to Participate: PROM ≥half reduced in BUE's and BLE's MMT ≤ 120/130 points BUE AND MMT ≤ 5/10 Trunk ≥ 2/4 MAS score in 1 UE &amp; 1 LE AND 5/5 in 1 UE AND 10/10 in 1 LE OR 20/20 in BLEs coordination impairments</pre>
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Goniometry for PROM Oxford Scale for MMT Description of limb deficiency Modified Ashworth Scale Coordination tests



Surf Class	Classification
Unassisted Prone	<b>Typical Diagnosis:</b> SCI/Muscle Impairment Ataxia Cerebral Palsy Multiple Sclerosis Muscular Dystrophy
Definition of Classification	Surfing Position: Prone Equipment: Surfboard Functional Abilities: Independent with paddling in water Independent with catching waves Independent with riding waves Independent with surfboard ↔ water transfers and wave recovery Physical Assistance Needed: Navigating land at w/c level Transporting surfboard to ↔ from water w/c ↔ surfboard transfer May need assistance to get from the impact zone out to back side of waves. Eligibility Criteria: Surfers who are not able to functionally stand or kneel on a surfboard Minimum Impairment Criteria to Participate: MMT ≤ 60/120 points BLEs AND MMT ≤ 7/10 Trunk Description of amputation or limb ≥ 2/4 on Modified Ashworth + 8/10 in 1 LE OR 16/20 in BLE coordination impairments
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Oxford Scale for MMT Description of limb deficiency Modified Ashworth Scale Coordination tests

#### 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



# AASP Sportsmanship Code of Conduct

All professional Athletes, coaches, trainers, and acquaintances of the professional Athletes are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner to all event officials and volunteers.

No official of any AASP event, in any capacity, shall at any time, be subjected to unsportsmanlike conduct in either word or deed. Any display of poor sportsmanship by either a competitor or in the case of a minor, the competitor's parents and/or coach, shall be cause for automatic dismissal of the competitor from the contest. This also applies to unsportsmanlike conduct directed to another competitor by any AASP competitor, parent, or coach.

A second infraction will result in dismissal for the remainder of the season. Included is any correspondence via email, text message, Social Media postings, or phone calls that are determined by the US Open Adaptive Surfing Championships/ Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals to be threatening or abusive in nature or detrimental to the US Open Adaptive Surfing Championships/Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals in any manner.

The AASP honors ZERO TOLERANCE for unsportsmanlike behavior and conduct.





ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS Where Impairment Meets Performance!



#### **Judging and Priority**

Events are comprised of rounds and those rounds are made up of heats ranged from two-to-four surfers looking to lock in their two highest-scoring waves, both out of a possible 10 points for a possible 20-point heat total. There will be an active judging panel of three scoring judges, one rotating judge and one priority judge. A Head Judge will be used to oversee the judging panel. The two best scoring waves (each out of a possible 10) are added together to become a surfer's heat total (out of a possible 20).

Surfers must perform to the ASP judging key elements to maximize their scoring potential. Judges analyze the following major elements when scoring a ride:

- Commitment and degree of difficulty
- Innovative and progressive maneuvers
- Combination of major maneuvers
- Variety of maneuvers
- Speed, power, flow and length of ride

The subjective judging system will be used (0-10 points using .1 integrals).

Judging scale:

[0.0 — 1.9: Poor] [2.0 — 3.9: Fair] [4.0 — 5.9: Average] [6.0 — 7.9: Good] [8.0 — 10.0: Excellent]

#### 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



Surf Class	Classification
Wave Ski	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : SCI/Muscle Impairment/Spina Bifida Ataxia Cerebral Palsy Multiple Sclerosis Muscular Dystrophy
Definition of Classification	<ul> <li>Surfing Position: Sitting on top with feet in footwells</li> <li>Equipment: Wave ski and one paddle</li> <li>Functional Abilities: <ul> <li>Independent with paddling in water</li> <li>Independent with catching waves</li> <li>Independent with riding waves</li> <li>Independent with wave recovery</li> <li>Independent with water ↔ wave ski transfers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Physical Assistance Needed: <ul> <li>Navigating land at w/c and/or beach chair level</li> <li>Transporting wave ski to ↔ from water</li> <li>w/c ↔ wave ski transfer at water's edge</li> </ul> </li> <li>Eligibility Criteria: <ul> <li>Surfers who are not able to surf standing</li> <li>Surfers with trunk and LE impairments</li> </ul> </li> <li>Minimum Impairment Criteria to Participate: <ul> <li>PROM ≥half reduced in BLEs</li> <li>MMT ≤ 60/120 points BLEs AND</li> <li>MMT ≤ 7/10 Trunk</li> <li>Description of amputation or limb</li> <li>≥ 2/4 on Modified Ashworth + 8/10 coordination impairments</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Goniometry for PROM Oxford Scale for MMT Description of limb deficiency Coordination tests



Surf Class	Classification
Any Kneeling/ Upright	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : Amputation Above the Knee (AKA) or Below the Knee (BKA) (Unilateral or Bilateral) Spinal Cord Injury Cerebral Palsy
Definition of Classification	Surfing Position: Kneeling, Squatting, or Upright position on the surfboard. Equipment: Surfboard/knee board Functional Abilities: Independent with paddling in water Independent with catching waves Independent with catching waves Independent with surfboard ↔ water transfers and wave recovery Physical Assistance Needed: May need assistance navigating land if no prosthetic Transporting surfboard to ↔ from water Eligibility Criteria: Surfers have unilateral or bilateral absent knee joint, ankle joint, and/or foot Surfers have LE deficiency who are not able to functionally stand on a surfboard Surfer must not stand up on surfboard Surfer may use up to 3-4 points of contact Minimum Impairment Criteria to Participate: PROM ≥half reduced ≥ 2 ankle motions affected MMT ≤ 30/60 points 1 LE OR ≤ 80/120 BLEs AND ≥ 2 ankle motions affected Description of amputation or limb ≥ 2/4 on Modified Ashworth + 6/10 coordination impairments
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Goniometry for PROM Oxford Scale for MMT Description of limb deficiency i.e. 1 LE AKA Coordination tests

#### 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



# Priority

No more than four-man heats. All heats will be twenty minutes, twenty-minute heats allow for a maximum of 12 waves to be ridden. All final heats will be 25 minutes with a maximum of 15 waves ridden.

No priority will be given at the beginning of any heat. The first surfer to catch a wave will be given last priority at the end of the ride, the next surfer to catch a wave will move into last priority and so on until all surfers have established the priority structure. Once priority is established there is no "paddle priority", it is first to take off will be given last priority throughout the heat. This priority structure is to ensure that every surfer will get an opportunity to catch a scoring wave.

The surfer with priority has the unconditional right of way to catch any wave they choose. Other surfers in the heat can paddle for, and catch, the same wave, but only if they do not hinder the scoring potential of a surfer with priority. A surfer loses priority once they catch a wave and/or a surfer paddles for but misses a wave.

AASP will be a double elimination round robin format giving each surfer a second chance to advance.





# 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



#### **AASP** Point Structure

This point structure will be used by all tour events to determine an overall AASP World Champion in each division based on combined points per event.

Winner of the Annual Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals Championship is the surfer with the most points after the tour events combined. If there is a tie, the advantage is given to the surfer with the highest wave score at the tour's final event stop.

Place	Points
1st Place	250
2nd Place	180
3rd Place	150
4th Place	120
5th Place	100
6th Place	80
7th Place	60
8th Place	40
9th Place	20
10th Place	10
11th Place+	0

#### Judging Protests

Complaints and protests by competitors shall be in writing and handed to the AASP beach Marshall before action can be taken. All written protests will only be received after a 20-minute cool down period after the heat end. The AASP Contest Director, Beach Marshall and/or The HEAD JUDGE will handle all written protests. THEIR DECISION WILL BE FINAL. Videotape of the wave(s) will not be watched or considered by the judges. No heat that involves a competitor whose advancement is under protest will take place prior to the resolution of the protest.

Surf Class	Classification
Above the Knee Standing	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : Amputation or Limb Situation Above the knee (AKA) or Bilateral Below the Knee (BKA) (Unilateral or Bilateral) Leg Length Discrepancy
Definition of Classification	<pre>Surfing Position: Standing Equipment: Surfboard Functional Abilities: Independent with paddling in water Independent with catching waves Independent with catching waves Independent with water covery Independent with water covery Independent</pre>
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Goniometry for PROM Oxford Scale for MMT Description of limb deficiency Modified Ashworth Scale Coordination tests Pelvis to ankle measurements



2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING	
PROFESSIONALS	A.S.



Any competitor that enters the AASP must have an approved underlying health condition with at least one of the qualifying eligible impairments for body functions.

Qualifying Impairments for Body Functions	Definitions and Descriptions
Vision Impairment	Vision is impacted by either an impairment of the eye structure, optical nerves or optical pathways, or visual cortex of the central brain (IPC Handbook, 2013). Impaired Central Vision (Near and Far) Acuity Impaired Peripheral Vision (Tunnel Vision) from field cuts Low Vision and Glare Issues: Best corrected visual acuity between 20/70 and 20/200 and a difficul- ty engaging in daily activities. Cranial Nerve Deficits of II, III, IV, VI
Impaired Passive Range of Motion	The range of movement or joint flexibility in one or more joint is reduced in systematical way, for example due to arthrogryposis. However, hypermobility of joints joint instability, and acute conditions causing reduced range of movement, such as arthritis, are not consid- ered eligible impairments (IPC Handbook, 2013). AROM-Active Range of Motion: The amount of joint motion achieved on one's own power. PROM-Passive Range of Motion: Joint motion is achieved when another person moves the joint.
Impaired Muscle Power	Impairments in muscle power have in common that there is reduced force generated by the contraction of a muscle or muscle groups, such as muscles of one limb, one side of the body or the lower half of the body (IPC Handbook, 2013). Using Oxford Scale, below 3/5 is considered impaired strength 0 - No contraction 1 - Flicker/trace contraction 2 - Active movement with gravity eliminated 3 - Active movement against gravity 4 - Active movement against gravity resistance 5 - Normal power

Surf Class	Classification
Below the Knee Standing	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : Amputation or Limb Situation Below the Knee (BKA) (Unilateral or Bilateral)
Definition of Classification	<pre>Surfing Position: Standing Equipment: Surfboard Functional Abilities: Independent with paddling in water Independent with catching waves Independent with catching waves Independent with board↔ water transfers and wave recovery Physical Assistance Needed: May need assistance navigating land or trans- porting surfboard to ↔ from water Eligibility Criteria: Surfers have unilateral absent ankle joint, and/or below knee (BKA) leg deficiency or situation.</pre> Minimum Impairment Criteria to Participate: PROM ≥ 1/3 in 1 LE (2 ankle mvts involved) MMT ≤ 40/60 points 1 LE (2 ankle mvts) 1 LE BKA + Description of LE amputation or limb ≥ 2/4 on Modified Ashworth +5/10 coordination impairments
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Goniometry for PROM Oxford Scale for MMT Description of limb deficiency Modified Ashworth Scale Coordination tests



Many competitor that enters the AASP must have an approved underlying health condition with at least one of the qualifying eligible impairments for body functions.

Qualifying Impairments for Body Functions	Definitions and Descriptions
Coordination Impairments: 1. Hypertonia/ Spasticity 2. Motor Ataxia 3. Dyskinesia • Athetosis • Dystonia • Chorea	<ul> <li>Hypertonia is a condition marked by an abnormal increase in muscle tension and a reduced ability of a muscle to stretch. Hypertonia may result from injury, illness, or conditions that involve damage to the central nervous system due to brain injury (e.g. stroke, trauma) or multiple sclerosis (IPC Handbook, 2013).</li> <li>Hypotonia/Hypertonia-state of the muscle in rest tone hypo is low (loose) and hyper is high (tight)</li> <li>Spasticity-velocity dependent catch on a quick stretch Flaccidity-loss of muscle tone from CNS or PNS damage</li> <li>Clonus-uncontrolled oscillation (bouncing) of a spastic muscle group from a quick stretch or position</li> <li>Tremors-involuntary rhythmic movements of joints caused by alternating contractions of opposing muscles; can be resting or intentional.</li> <li>Motor Ataxia is a neurological sign and symptom that consists of a lack of co-ordination of muscle movements that affect gait, posture, and upper extremity motor When the condition occurs in children under the age of two (2), the term cerebral palsy is often used, but it also can be due to brain injury (e.g. stroke, trauma) or multiple sclerosis (IPC Handbook, 2013).</li> <li>Dyskinesia is the inability to perform controlled voluntary movements. 3 types:</li> <li>Athetosis can vary from mild to severe motor dysfunction. It is generally characterized by unbalanced, involuntary movements and a difficulty in maintaining a symmetrical posture and slow, flailing, twisting movements that are worm-like in quality (IPC Handbook, 2013).</li> <li>Dystonia is prolonged involuntary muscular contractions that may cause twisting of the body, repetitive motions, and increased tone.</li> <li>Chorea-involuntary dancing or writhing of a limb or of the facial muscles.</li> </ul>

# 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



Surf Class	Classification	
Upper Limb Standing	<b>Typical Diagnosis</b> : Upper Limb Amputation Upper Limb Deficiency	
Definition of Classification	Upper Limb Deficiency Surfing Position: Standing Equipment: Surfboard Functional Abilities: Independent with paddling in water Independent with catching waves Independent with catching waves Independent with board↔ water transfers and wave recovery Physical Assistance Needed: May need assistance navigating land if no prosthetics Transporting surfboard to ↔ from water Eligibility Criteria: Surfers have unilateral or bilateral absent elbow joint, wrist joint, and/or absent hand or arm deficiency Minimum Impairment Criteria to Participate: PROM ≥ 1/3 in 1 UE + 2 wrist motions MMT ≤ 55/75 points 1 UE + 2 wrist motions Description of UE amputation or limb ≥ 2/4 on Modified Ashworth + 4/5 coordination i pairments	
Key assessments for eligible class impairments	Goniometry for PROM Oxford Scale for MMT Description of limb deficiency Modified Ashworth Scale Coordination tests	



#### **List of Surf Classes and Descriptions**

# 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS



# AASP CLASSIFICATION

Any competitor that enters the AASP must have an approved underlying health condition with at least one of the qualifying eligible impairments for body structure.

Qualifying Impairments for Body Structure	Definitions and Descriptions	
Limb Deficiency/ Leg Length Difference	There is a total or partial absence of bones or joints because of trauma (e.g. traumatic amputa- tion), illness (e.g. bone cancer) or congenital limb deficiency (e.g. dysmelic) (IPC Handbook, 2013). Due to congenital deficiency or trauma, bone shortening occurs in one leg (IPC Handbook, 2013).	
	One leg measurement has a minimum of <b>12 cm</b> <b>reduced length</b> compared to the other in femur and/or tibia.	
Short Stature* *currently an open	The standing height is reduced due to aberran dimensions of bones of upper and lower limbs or trunk, for example due to Achondroplasia of growth hormone dysfunction. (IPC Handbook, 2013).	
division	Men under 147 cm Women under 137 cm	

#### **Classification Explanation**

The Association of Adaptive Surfing Professionals Classification is a sport-specific classification system utilizing minimum impairment criteria for sport class allocation. Sportspecific classification is needed because visual and physical impairments directly affect an Athlete's ability to perform at different levels in various sports. Occasionally, an Athlete may meet a minimum impairment criteria in one sport but may not meet a minimum impairment criteria in another sport based on that sport-specific classification system.

Surf Class	Description	Eligible Class Impairments
Unassisted Prone (UP)	Any surfer who rides in a prone position that does NOT require assistance paddling into a wave and getting back on the board safely.	Impaired PROM Impaired muscle power Coordination Impairments
Prone Assist (PA)	Any surfer who rides the wave in a prone position that DOES require assistance paddling into waves and getting back onto the board safely. Pusher & Receiver Permitted	Impaired PROM Impaired muscle power Limb deficiency Coordination Impairments
Blind/No Vision (BNV)	Any surfer who rides the wave in a standing position with a vision impairment of legal blindness.	Vision Impairment- Legal Blindness 20/200+
Blind/Low Vision (BLV)	Any surfer who rides the wave in a standing position with a low vision impair- ment.	Vision Impairment- partial vision 20/70-20/200 or 50% visual field loss
Short Stature (SS)* *currently open division	Any surfer who rides the wave standing with short stature.	Short Stature



#### **Understand Classification Procedure for Athlete Assessment**

- 1. Athlete will send Dr. Mo supporting medical documents, photos, and videos; sign up for contest; and fill out waiver.
- 2. Athlete will be classified 1-2 days prior to event.
- 3. Classification assessments will be conducted at the event site with any adaptive equipment used in competition and may include an official in water observation.
- 4. Athlete will be allocated a surf class and status based on their classification assessment.
- 5. Athletes have the right to protest and appeal\* their allocated surf class and shall do so with the Director of Classification and the Contest Director. A protest is a challenge against the allocated sport class. An appeal is a challenge to the classification process where a breach of the rules occurred which led to an incorrect sport class or status.
- 6. Once Athletes are allocated a surf class, they will be observed in competition as first appearance. During first rounds, if there is a discrepancy from classification results to competition performance, they will need to get classified again before their next heat. If 2nd classification results are similar, the Athlete is permitted to continue in the competition. If the classification results indicate a change in sport class, then the Athlete is removed from competition with no refund.
- 7. Once an Athlete has a confirmed status, they will not need to be reclassified unless they have a change of status or the classification structure has changed.
- 8. An Athlete that does not have a qualified underlying health condition, eligible impairment, or does not meet the minimal eligibility criteria will not be allotted a surf class and will be designated as "not eligible to compete" or (NE).

\***Protest and Appeal Process:** If an Athlete does not agree with their allocated surf class, two new classifiers will classify the Athlete. Then, the four classifiers will compare classification and discuss the case to determine the appropriate surf class for the Athlete. A water observation may be necessary.

#### 2025 ASSOCIATION OF ADAPTIVE SURFING PROFESSIONALS

**Descriptions** 

Surf Class

List of Surf Classes and Descriptions



**Eligible Class** 

Impairments

Upper Limb Standing (ULS)	Any surfer who rides the wave standing with an up- per limb amputation or defi- ciency.	Impaired PROM Impaired muscle power Limb deficiency Coordination Impairments
Below the Knee Standing (BKS)	Any surfer who rides in a standing position with a below the knee amputa- tion or limb deficiency.	Limb deficiency Coordination Impairments
Above the Knee Standing (AKS)	Any surfer who rides in a standing position with an above the knee amputation or equivalency.	Impaired PROM Limb deficiency Coordination Impairments
Any Kneeling/ Upright (AKU)	Any surfer who rides in a kneeling position, deep squatted position or upright position using 2– 3 points of contact with an above the knee amputation or equivalency.	Impaired PROM Impaired muscle power Limb deficiency Coordination Impairments
Wave Ski (WS)	Any surfer who rides a waveski using a paddle in a sitting position with trunk and both lower limbs im- paired.	Impaired PROM Impaired muscle power Limb deficiency Coordination impairments