


# BDSSS 13-19yrs CURRICULUM ACTIVITY RISK ASSESSMENT

<b>School/College</b>	BDSSS		
<b>Curriculum Activity</b> (Attach the EQ Activity Guidelines to this document)	SURFING		
<b>Risk Level</b>	High		
<b>Details of Activity</b>	Surfing Competition		
<b>Teachers / Leaders of Activity</b>	Nigel Shield Kev Crowley, Jason Capello		
<b>Year Levels Involved</b>	7-12		
<b>Start Date</b>	15 / 02 / 2023	<b>End Date</b>	31 / 03 / 2023
<b>Approximate Supervision Ratio</b>	1:4		
<b>Venue</b>	Neilson Park Beach, Agnes Water Beach		
<b>Minimum supervision requirements met</b> (as per Education Queensland Curriculum Activity Risk Management Guideline)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>A registered teacher will be present to take overall control</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Minimum qualification requirements met</b> (as per Education Queensland Curriculum Activity Risk Management Guideline)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Current first aid qualifications including Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) or ready access to first aid facilities, including qualified personnel</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Blue Card requirements met</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Minimum Equipment / Facilities Requirements met</b> (as per Education Queensland Curriculum Activity Risk Management Guideline)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>If NO for any of the above, risk will be managed through the following</b>			
<b>Suggested control measures have been met</b> (as per Education Queensland Curriculum Activity Risk Management Guideline)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>If NO, risk will be managed through the following</b>			
<b>Is parental permission required for this activity?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>If YES has it been gained?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Does the Venue holding the Competition/Trials have a Covid-19 Safe Plan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<b>If NO (and it is a School), does the Principal of that School approve the use of their school and comply with the Covid-19 Safety measures</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Extra Information</b>			
<b>Submitted by</b>	Nigel Shield	<b>Date</b>	13 / 02 / 23

APPROVAL	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved as submitted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved with the following condition(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not approved for the following reason(s)
By: Daniel McMahon	Designation: BDSSS Chair
Signed: 	Date: 20 / 2 / 23

Teachers / Leaders of this activity who have been trained in these procedures and read the relevant Education Queensland Activity Guidelines.	
Nigel Shield	
Kev Crowley	
Jason Capello	

Monitor and Review	
Are the control measures still effective?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Have there been any changes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Are further actions required?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Details:	
Completed By	Date / /



# Surfing (body, board and ski)

Guideline review date: 28 October 2021

This guideline is provided to support schools in implementing the [managing risks in school curriculum activities procedure](#).

The [CARA planner \(DOCX, 600KB\)](#) must be used for the specific school context in conjunction with this guideline considering additional risks, hazards and controls and including environmental, facility, equipment and student considerations

For activities beyond the scope of this guideline, complete a CARA record using the [CARA generic template \(DOCX, 488KB\)](#).

## Activity scope

This guideline relates to student participation in body surfing or surfing with body boards, surfboards or surf skis as an activity to support curriculum delivery.

Depending on the scope of this activity, other risk assessments may be required when planning. Curriculum activities encompassing more than one CARA guideline (e.g. [marine organism activities](#) and surfing) must comply with the requirements of all CARA guidelines appropriate to the activity.

For activities conducted at a non-Department of Education venue, and/or when engaging external expertise, request written risk assessment advice and attach it to this CARA record.

For activities conducted off-site, schools must comply with the [school excursions and international school study tours procedure](#).

For activities conducted as part of representative school sport programs, schools should consult with [Queensland School Sport](#).

## Risk level

### High risk

Surfing activities involving wave riding with or without boards.

## Activity requirements

If any requirement cannot be met, the activity must not occur.

If any other safety recommendation cannot be met, modify the activity (or elements of it) and/or identify and use the [hierarchy of controls](#) to implement alternative control measures to meet or exceed the minimum safety standard.

Prior consultation is required with local authority (e.g. Surf Life Saving Queensland, lifeguard service, [marine park managers](#)) for local advice, emergency support mechanisms and additional supervision requirements to ensure participant and public safety.

Confirmation of student water safety and swimming competence is required prior to participation. The process is determined by the school and must consider the specific aquatic environments in which the activity will take place. Consult the sequence of competency [water safety and swimming education program](#) for support in determining age-appropriate suitability and consider student surf awareness and self-rescue skills.

Do not surf if the forecast wave height and swell direction at the activity location exceeds the level of competence of participants.



Competition rules and procedures with additional or more stringent safety requirements must take precedence.

[Collapse all](#)[Expand all](#)

## Students

Schools must consider age, maturity and skill level of students when planning curriculum activities. Adjustments are required for [students with disability](#) to support access and participation in the curriculum. Consult with the parents/carers of students with disability, or when appropriate the student, to ensure risks related to their child's participation in the activity are identified and managed.

Schools must consult current student medical information and/or health plans in accordance with the [managing students' health support needs at school procedure](#). Record information about any student condition (e.g. physical or medical) that may inhibit safe engagement in the activity and include specific support measures within emergency procedures.

## Emergency and first-aid

Emergency plans and injury management procedures must be established for foreseeable incidents (e.g. separation from group, shark sighting).

Adult supervisors must have:

- emergency contact details of all participants
- a medical alert list and a process for administering student medication
- communication equipment suitable to conditions (e.g. mobile phone in a waterproof container, air horn) and a process for obtaining external assistance and/or receiving emergency advice.

Safety procedures must be determined for the location (e.g. buddy system, signal for assistance), incorporating advice from the [Beachsafe website](#).

Access is required to [first aid equipment \(DOCX, 479KB\)](#) and consumables suitable for foreseeable incidents.

Buoyant and rescue aids appropriate to the location (e.g. a rescue tube/board).

An adult with current emergency qualifications is required to be quickly accessible to the activity area. Emergency qualifications include:

- [HLTAID009—provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation \(CPR\)](#) or equivalent
- [HLTAID011—provide first aid](#) or [SISSS00118—sports Trainer Level 1](#) or equivalent

An adult with concussion management knowledge or training is required. Consult [first aid—managing head injuries \(DOCX, 565KB\)](#).

For participants with known allergies, schools must comply with the [supporting students with asthma and/or at risk of anaphylaxis at school procedure](#) and the school's [anaphylaxis risk management plan \(DOCX, 159KB\)](#), including an adult supervisor of the activity with [anaphylaxis training](#).

## Induction and instruction

Induction is required for all adult supervisors on emergency procedures, safety procedures and correct techniques (e.g. surfing etiquette). Induction is to be informed by advice provided in consultation with the local authority (e.g. lifeguard service, [marine park managers](#)).

Instruction is required for students on safety procedures and correct techniques, and consider student surf awareness and self-rescue skills.

## Consent

[Parent consent \(DOCX, 124KB\)](#) is required for all activities conducted off-site.

# Supervision

Principals make final supervision decisions for the activity. Sufficient adult supervision must be provided to manage the activity safely (including emergency situations).

Note: Lifeguard services are not considered as supervisors of the activity

For activities with students with a medical condition or disability that may impact on safety during the activity, consultation with parents is required prior to allocating supervision to determine the impact of students' medical condition or disability on safety during the activity.

The number of adult supervisors required to fulfil emergency and supervision roles must consider the nature of the activity, students' ages, swimming competence and specialised learning, access and/or health needs.

- Beginner surfers require a ratio of 1 accredited coach to 6 participants.
- For activities with a class group of students in years 7–12 who are determined to be water-safe in the activity location (e.g. [surf survival certificate](#)), one registered teacher may be sufficient to fulfil recovery, emergency and supervision roles for activities. In this situation, students must be inducted to respond correctly in an emergency by clearing the water, assembling in a safe area and providing assistance (e.g. seeking adult help, summoning an ambulance and/or acting in a support role in resuscitation).

Specific roles for supervisors must include recovery, emergency and general supervision roles. At no time should students be relied upon to recover a person in difficulty.

Before the activity, all adult supervisors:

- must be familiar with the contents of the CARA record
- must assess [weather conditions](#) and obtain accurate information on [tides](#), depths, currents and other expected water conditions (if applicable) prior to undertaking the activity, inspecting the intended location in order to identify variable risks, hazards and potential dangers.

During the activity, all adult supervisors:

- must be readily identifiable
- must be appropriately dressed to perform an immediate rescue at all times
- must closely monitor students with health support needs
- must ensure all students in the water are in sight of at least 1 adult supervisor at all times
- must comply with control measures from the CARA record and adapt as hazards arise
- must not allow free-swim/surf activities
- must continually monitor emerging surfing conditions (e.g. rips, sweeps, currents, undertows)
- must suspend the activity if the conditions become unfavourable or when environmental warnings have been issued (e.g. hazardous surfing or water conditions, thunderstorms, lifeguard warning).

Consider using a whistle for command signalling.

## Supervisor qualifications

Principals make final decisions in determining supervisor capability (competence, relevance and currency) and are responsible for encouraging and enabling school-based activity supervisors to raise their qualifications to improve safety standards.

All adult supervisors must comply with the [working with children authority—blue cards procedure](#) and be able to identify, and respond to, risks or hazards that may emerge during the activity.



A registered teacher **must** be appointed to maintain overall responsibility for the activity.

At least 1 adult supervisor is required to have a demonstrated capacity to perform an appropriate rescue procedure, including using appropriate rescue aids.

At least one adult supervisor is required to be:

- a registered teacher with foundation coach accreditation from [Surfing Queensland](#) or [Surf Life Saving Queensland](#); or
- an adult supervisor, working under the direct supervision of a registered teacher, with development coach accreditation from [Surfing Queensland](#) or [Surf Life Saving Queensland](#).

## Facilities and equipment

The qualified adult supervisor of the activity, in consultation with the principal, determines the requirements for facilities and equipment appropriate to the local context.

Location must be suitable for the activity being undertaken to ensure safe participation and that safety rules and procedures can be followed. Assess suitability of surrounds and reach of water when selecting a location. Consider local water and surf conditions and foreseeable hazards such as:

- tidal flow and currents
- use by other watercraft and traffic patterns
- water temperature, depth and visibility
- underwater hazards (e.g. rocks, reef) and dangerous marine organisms.

Provide a clearly defined surfing area of an appropriate depth considering student age and ability. Depending on the location, rope floats or anchored buoys linked with ropes may be used to define the boundary. Surf only in depths appropriate to swimming competence.

Participants must wear [personal protective equipment](#) appropriate to the activity, the location and conditions (e.g. high visibility rash vest).

Each student must provide their own towel.

If privately owned equipment is being used, obtain principal approval and owner consent/insurance details prior to the activity.

## Common hazards and controls

Further to those listed, include any additional hazards and control measures considering the local context of the activity.

Environmental hazards	Control measures
<b>Animal bites/diseases</b> Stings	Adhere to the Surf Life Saving Queensland <a href="#">Marine Stinger safety guidelines</a> . For further information about types of poisoning and treatment available, consult <a href="#">Queensland Poisons Information Centre</a> or phone <b>13 11 26</b> .  Do not deliberately handle marine organisms. Avoid contact where possible.

Continually assess threat of dangerous marine organisms appropriate to location.

### Biological hazards

Body fluids (e.g. blood, saliva, sweat)

Check with the local authority (lifeguard service) for the presence of known water contaminants (e.g. effluent) or other marine hazards at the location.

Manage bodily substances (e.g. blood) and open wounds before, during and after the activity. Consult [infection control guidelines](#) (PDF, 946KB) and Queensland Health's [exclusion periods for infectious conditions poster](#) (PDF, 1.6MB) for hygienic practices and first aid.

### Debris

Assess the location for floating debris before each session.

### Environmental conditions

Weather, sun, cold

The school's [sun safety strategy](#) must be followed.

Keep the pre-activity briefings short to prevent students becoming cold.

Follow the [managing excessive heat in schools guidelines](#) when participating in very hot or extreme heat conditions.

Ensure drink breaks occur regularly. Make water available for individual participants between drink breaks.

### Facilities and equipment hazards

#### Control measures

#### Damaged or faulty equipment

Check equipment (e.g. boards, leg ropes) for damage and correct fit before and during the activity.

Provide initial instruction in calm water.

Clean and store all equipment safely and securely when not in use.

#### Entry/exit points

Use the designated board riding areas when conducting the activity on patrolled beaches.

Establish appropriate entry and exit points at the water's edge.

#### Vehicles

Watch for vehicles when loading boards.

#### Falling equipment

Tie down and store boards correctly to prevent injury (e.g. when loading/unloading).

### Student considerations

#### Control measures



<b>Manual handling</b> Lifting and carrying equipment	Use correct <a href="#">manual handling</a> processes when lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling or carrying (e.g. when loading/unloading boards).
<b>Physical contact</b>	<p>Use soft boards and leg ropes for beginners and use nose-cones on boards.</p> <p>Match equipment to the size, ability and strength of students (e.g. consider use of short and long boards appropriate to experience of surfer and the location).</p>
<b>Physical exertion</b> Exhaustion, heat/cold stress	<p>Conduct <a href="#">warm-up/cool-down</a> activities.</p> <p>Continually monitor students for signs of distress (e.g. fatigue, hypothermia, exhaustion, illness, hunger, dehydration, difficulty breathing and hyperventilation).</p>
<b>Student issues</b>	<p>Implement procedures (e.g. surfer's out/in logbook) to account for all participants.</p> <p>Limit the number of students in the water when close supervision is required and/or when the water is tending to become overcrowded.</p>

## Additional links

- [Surf Life Saving Queensland](#)
- [SharkSmart](#)
- [Surfing Australia](#)
- [Australian Strength and Conditioning Association](#)
- [Sports Medicine Australia fact sheets](#)

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