



BELLS BEACH SURFING RECREATION RESERVE

Vision Statement

Bells Beach is unlike anywhere else in the World, it is a unique part of the Australian coastline and has a special place in surfing culture. The Surf Coast community acknowledges the importance of Bells Beach and seeks to protect and enhance the reserve's Natural assets and those of the surrounding hinterland.

Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve Surfing Events Policy

Purpose

To ensure surfing events at the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve are managed in a manner, which ensures protection of the reserve and minimal disruption to public use. A secondary aim is to assist in the development of sustainable events, which reflect the values, and culture of the Surf Coast Shire.

The policy covers:

1. Management Vision,
2. Quality of events suitable for Bells Beach,
3. Application process,
4. Approval process,
5. Management plan requirements,
6. Number of events permitted and timing,
7. Fees.

Bells Beach is managed by Surf Coast Shire's Bells Beach Reserve Advisory Committee, as it is Crown Land Reserve.

Management Vision

Bells beach is internationally renown as a premier surfing location. Many requests are made to host events at Bells Beach due to its location and reputation. Management of the reserve seeks to balance public access with benefits of promotion, consistent with vision statement, achieved through events.

Quality of events

All events within the Bells Beach Surfing Recreation Reserve are required to gain the necessary permits from Surf Coast Shire. Surfing events approved for Bells Beach are those suited to competitions - Professional events, international/national or state titles and other approved amateur events.

Area of Use

Events will be limited to one surfing break eg. Winki Pop and Bells and will also need to determine whether they need to be exclusive use or not.

Advertising

Event Calendar to be displayed on Information Board at Winki Pop.

Application Process

1. Contact Surf Coast Shire Event Co-ordinator to apply for permit.
2. Applications close on 31 May for events in the following financial year.

Approval process

1. Bells Beach Advisory Committee will assess applications and make recommendations to Council.
2. All applicants will be advised in writing.

Rip Curl Pro

Terms and conditions of this annual Easter event to be addressed in the Licence Agreement.

Spirit of Surfing

All event organisers to demonstrate an understanding of and to abide by the Spirit of Surfing philosophy.

Management plan requirements

1. Description of activities, dates, times and locations.
2. Management plan documentation to be in accordance to the Surf Coast Shire Event Guide and in relation to the size, numbers and logistics of event.
3. Copy of public liability insurance policy up to \$10 million.

Number of events permitted and timing.

Five sanctioned events, plus the Rip Curl Pro to be held annually between 1 July to Easter the following year. The reserve will not be available after Easter up to 30 June to allow for recreational surfing and natural regeneration of the site. No back to back events will be allowed. 3 sanctioned Torquay Boardrider events with 3 week waiting period.

One land based event will be permitted.

This policy assumes event organisers do not charge an entrance fee into the Surfing Reserve. Should organisers wish to charge a fee an application for a Licence will be required.

Fees

All fees for use of the reserve will be directed to maintenance, capital works and special projects within the reserve for the benefit of everyone. All fees exclude electricity use and additional cleaning services.

All sanctioned events

Fees and/or equivalent in-kind will be applied according to the scale and level of event to be held. Bond will be required at the discretion of the Bells Beach Advisory Committee. Fees applicable to surfing days only.