

SUP Suisse Race Rules



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#### Document Changes

Date	Version	Author	Changes
09.03.2024	1.3	Andi Saurer	Tour categories and annual ranking added, board weight restriction re- moved, chapter 1.2 refined to allow kids into competition
15.08.2023	1.2	Andi Saurer	Preface: added wording on how to read and act based on these rules, 6.5: Specified penalties for prohibited drafting, 6.7: Refine rules about miss- ing a buoy to not result in DSQ.
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The purpose of this document is to provide the rules that govern the Stand Up Paddle (SUP) competitions organized by the SUP Suisse & partners. These rules aim to provide a base where athletes and organizers come to the same understanding of how a SUP race should be held. Disqualification shall always be the last resort in cases of violations of the rules and only given in very specific cases or for unsportsmanlike conduct.

The rules are in extension of <u>ICF SUP competition rules</u> 2023. Where not specified otherwise, the ICF SUP competition rules apply.

# 1 Rules

## 1.1 Jury & Race Committee

The Competition Committee is composed by 3 official members of the organization and will be appointed by the Race Director prior to every event.

- Race Director
- Appointed 1
- Appointed 2

## 1.2 Athletes Eligible for Competition

All athletes in a good state of health and fitness which allows them to compete at a level commensurate with the disciplines they are eligible for. The last year an athlete can compete in the junior age group is the year of their 18th birthday. The masters' age groups are defined by each discipline with a minimum age of 40 years.

## 1.3 Anti-Doping

Doping as defined in the World Anti-Doping Code and the ICF anti-doping rules is strictly forbidden

## 1.4 Disqualification for Unsportsmanlike Behavior

An athlete who attempts to win a competition by irregular means, wilfully breaks the rules, or who contests their validity, as deemed by the officials, may be disqualified for the competition. For disqualification after competition caused by doping or ineligibility the following must be completed:

- Deletion of all achieved results and rankings of boat(s)
- Re-calculation of all results accordingly;
- Production of the revised version of all affected outputs (results, summaries, medals)



# 2 Athlete Equipment

#### 2.1 Board Specification

- 1. Hard Board
- 2. Inflatable Boards
- 3. Soft Boards

Boards Sizes	14″	12.6″
Maximum length	427 cm	384 cm

#### 2.2 Board Construction

- 1. The shape, construction method, materials used are without restrictions.
- 2. All boards must be built symmetrically upon the axis of their length.
- 3. No part of the board may have moving parts which can be used to help propel the board in a way which would give athletes an unfair advantage.
- 4. The length of the board must be measured from the extremes of the nose to the tail.
- 5. Rudders are not permitted. A rudder is a fin or foil that is able to rotate and contribute to steering the board.
- 6. Fins may only be attached to the rear third of the board. Fins may be of any length, form and width as long as they do not in any way enhance the hydrodynamics giving the competitor an unfair advantage. The fin must be secured tightly and may not be moved or adjustable/adjusted in any way that would enable it to be used as a rudder.
- 7. The board must have only one hull.
- 8. Multi-hull and Catamaran styles are not allowed. A catamaran is defined where a board has more than one (1) hull or having a concave shell with its deepest point in the middle being deeper than five (5) cm between the peaks.
- 9. All boards should have at least one (1) strengthened point provided for attaching a leash.
- 10. Foils are not permitted (unless it is a specific Hydrofoil event). Foils are fins of a particular shape or positioned at a particular angle that creates hydrodynamic lift and an unfair advantage.

## 2.3 Safety Equipment

Personal flotation devices (PFD) are required by all athletes in Technical, Long Distance, and Inflatable races. However specific regulations might be required to meet the local standards for a competition. The Race Committee may also require the PFD's to be manufactured out of bright coloured material.



Organisers can make compulsory some or all of the following equipment:

- A leash (approved by the organisers) attaching the athlete to their board;
- A whistle and a signalling mirror;
- Pyrotechnic devices such as hand or aerial flares;
- A communication device such as a cell phone or vhf radio;
- Navigation aids such as a compass or a GPS;
- All around white light if the race is expected to start before sunrise or continue after sunset;
- A cable on the bow for towing;
- Mandatory for athletes & participants under the age of 16.

## **3** Competition Format

- Where shallow water is encountered it is permitted to disembark in the water and drag or carry the board into deeper water.
- Turning points must be negotiated as directed.
- The competition event is run according to the respective competition format either with heat eliminations or fastest times.
- The Race director is responsible for the GO or NOGO of the event in all matters that are related to the security of the competitors.

## 4 Field of Play

#### 4.1 Course

- 1. Courses may be held on any open water or open sea, in a variety of formats and conditions. Courses should be selected to test the ability of the athletes and use the conditions to their advantage.
- 2. Competition courses must be decided in advance where possible and published at least one (1) week before the competition.
- 3. Courses may be changed at short notice to suit the conditions on the day of the race.
- 4. Sprint courses must be in a straight line.
- 5. Technical courses must contain turns.
- 6. Long Distance courses can be a variety of formats and conditions.

#### 4.2 Race Markers

- 1. There should be race markers (start line, finishing line, turns and other course markers) which will be explained in the race instructions.
- 2. It is advised that markers are easily visible and recognisable They should be bright in colour and be no smaller than 30cm in diameter. Both starting and finishing lines must be marked with flags or buoys at the points where these lines intersect the outer limits of the course;



# 5 Pre - Competition

## 5.1 Duties of the Host Organising Committee (HOC)

The HOC is responsible for the preparation and running of the competition. The HOC must, in particular:

- 1. Make available a suitable venue and technical equipment conforming to the present SUP Race Rules;
- 2. Distribute the competition programme including the date and time of the participants briefing. It must be distributed in advance of the competition.

## 5.2 Instructions for team leaders and participants

The preliminary draw should be available at the competition venue or online, giving the names and sporting disciplines of the participants and the draw. The following information must be posted or distributed to the athletes before the Athletes Briefing including:

- Detailed information on the course(s) and their markings;
- Starting time(s) and procedures;
- Time(s) and location of the Athletes Briefing;
- Starting line;
- Finishing line;
- Obligatory safety equipment requirements;
- Transport arrangements for boards and athletes, if being provided by the organisers;
- Specific competition rules information.

#### 5.3 Alteration of entries and withdraws

- Notification of alterations must be given before or at the Athletes Briefing.
- The Race Director may in exceptional circumstances accept written replacement of named athletes by named reserves up to one (1) hour before the start of the first race of the day.
- The Race Director's decision as to what constitutes an exceptional circumstance is final and is not subject to appeal.
- The withdrawal of an entry is considered final and no renewed entry of the same athlete is allowed. Entry fees will not be refunded.



## 5.4 Boards and Personal Competition Numbers

- All boards should, whenever possible, carry a board number, which should be attached to them as instructed by the race organiser.
- Markings must be set up in order to recognise the athletes on the starting line and on the course. This procedure is for the safety and identification of the athlete.
- The whole number must be visible.
- The personal competition numbers (bib) may be provided by the HOC and should be placed on the back and/or on the front of the athlete as required by the HOC. The title or main sponsors name may be shown on the personal numbers.

## 6 Competition

## 6.1 Means of propulsion

The boards used for SUP competitions must be propelled solely by means of single-bladed paddle. Paddles with adjustable lengths are permitted.

- The use of kites and sails are prohibited.
- The athlete must be standing on the board for the entire duration of the race. Exceptions will be made for moments of exhaustion or the orientation phase in which case the athlete may execute up to five (5) paddle strokes kneeling or sitting on the board without gaining an advantage and/or position.
- Active kneeling (knee contact with board) is not allowed. In case of infringement, the Race Director will decide whether to penalise the competitor or not.

#### 6.2 Start

- The Start Line must be clearly marked, with the marks described to the athletes in the race instructions or during the Athletes Briefing.
- The Start Line should be long enough to allow all athletes to line up alongside each other. When this is not possible, athletes will be organised according to the SUP Suisse Tour ranking with the best-ranked athletes win the best place to start the race.
- The start signal must be described in the race instructions or during the Athletes Briefing.
- Athletes should be at the start at the time specified in the competition programme. The start will be given without reference to any absentees.
- The start must be as fair as possible, allowing all athletes an equal chance. Should this not be the case a restart can be ordered.



## 6.3 Starting Options

The method of starting should be one of the following and should be decided by the HOC

- Beach Start (Long Distance, Technical, and Inflatable)
- Athletes will line up at the water's edge.
- All athletes will hold their crafts, in ankle to thigh deep water as instructed by the Starter or Aligners.
- When all athletes are aligned and the conditions are favourable, the start signal will be given.
- 6.3.1 Bank Start (Long distance, Technical, and Inflatable)
  - The boards are lined up on the bank.
  - The boards must be on the ground next to the athletes. Athletes can hold the boards, but they must not be lifted off the ground.
- 6.3.2 Stationary Water Start (Long Distance, Sprint, Technical, and Inflatable)
  - The position of the boards at the start is such that the noses of the competing boards are on the starting line.
  - The boards must be stationary.
  - The boards may be held at the tail by board holders, or blocked at the front by an automatic start system;
  - Athletes start from standing, kneeling or sitting (on board) positions. The position must be described beforehand.
  - This starting line must be perpendicular to the first turn buoy.
- 6.3.3 Rolling Water Start (Long Distance and Inflatable)
  - Where strong wind or current render a stationary start difficult, a rolling start may be used. The boards are allowed to drift or paddle slowly towards the start line with a view to crossing at the time of the signal.
  - The start line may be fixed or be between two (2) boards that are moving.

Wherever is possible all boards in an event should line up at the starting line. Where this is impossible or impracticable owing to lack of space, or water or weather conditions, the following alternative simultaneous starting procedures may be employed:

#### 6.3.4 Grid Start (Long Distance, Technical, and Inflatable)

- Where a simultaneous start in one line for all athletes is impracticable or undesirable, a Grid Start for Bank start, Stationary Water Start or Rolling Water Start (in groups) may be used.
- The athletes are separated in groups. The groups are lined up behind each other and determined by the SUP Suisse Tour ranking or random draw.



#### 6.3.5 Interval Start (Long Distance, Technical, and Inflatable)

- Where a simultaneous start is impracticable or undesirable, an Interval Start for Beach Start, Bank Start or Stationary Water Start (either in groups or individually) may be used. Starting order will be determined by the SUP Suisse Tour ranking or random draw.
- Athletes or group of athletes should start from the same start line at equal intervals.

In all cases athletes must be called to the Starting Area at least three (3) minutes before the scheduled start.

#### 6.4 Start Procedure

For all starts, the start signal must be audible to all racers. The audio may be a blast of a whistle or horn, a shot from a start gun or a shouted word "go".

The following procedures will then apply for the respective starts:

- 6.4.1 Beach Start, Bank Start, Stationary Water Start, and Grid Start
  - The Starter must ensure all boards are stationary behind the starting line.
  - When the Starter is satisfied that the boards are aligned correctly and are stationary, he/she will call "Ready" followed by the start signal.

#### 6.4.2 Interval Start

- A list of athletes with their starting times must be displayed on a notice board and/or issued to the athletes at least one (1) hour before the start of competition.
- The Starter must count down for each athlete with a loud and clear voice from 5 to zero (0). Instead zero he/she must say "Go" along with the waving of a flag.

#### 6.4.3 Rolling Water Start

- The athletes should move towards the start line slowly, aligned with each other as best as possible.
- When the athletes are approximately 10 metres from the start line, the command "Ready" will be called. When the Starter is satisfied that the boards are correctly aligned and that no athlete will obtain any undue advantage as a result of the start,
- he/she will give the start signal.



#### 6.4.4 False start (Beach Start, Bank Start, or Stationary Water Start)

- If an athlete attempts to start before the start signal he/she has made a false start.
- Before the new start, the Starter must identify the offending athlete(s) making the false start and give everybody in the race a warning.
- In the case of a second false start by an athlete, he/she will be disqualified (DSQ) from the race and must leave the starting area and the course immediately. This process will then continue with each offending athlete disqualified (DSQ) until a fair start is achieved.
- The Starter will make a written report on any disqualification and forward it to the Race Director.

#### 6.4.5 False start (Rolling Start or Interval Start)

- If an athlete commences paddling after the word "Ready" and before the start signal is given, he/she has made a false start.
- An immediate time penalty of 10 seconds must be imposed upon the athlete making a false start.
- After a false start, the Starter, at their discretion, can call a restart if they feel the start was not largely fair or can let the race continue. The Starter will make a written report on any given penalties and forward it to the Race Director.
- Whenever possible, advice of any time penalty may be given to the offending athlete(s) at the first available opportunity.

#### 6.5 Group racing and drafting

- When athletes are racing in a group it is duty of all the athletes in the group to keep clear of each other at all times. This rule applies to any manoeuvring within the group and whilst drafting. Inadvertent contact between boards should be avoided.
- When a board is overtaking another board, it is the duty of the overtaking board to keep clear of other board at all times until the other board is overtaken (overtaken is defined by being completely clear of the other board). Refer to 6.8 in the case of a collision.
- The organisers may prohibit drafting between athletes in different categories. Notice of any restrictions to drafting should be published in the race instructions.
- An athlete is declared drafting when he/she is a half (1/2) board length or more behind another athlete and within three (3) meters from him/her without making an effort to pass for more than 10 seconds.
- Failing to compel with the drafting restrictions will result in a time penalty of up to 10% of the total race time, depending on the length and occurrence of the total draft.



#### 6.6 Portages

- Long distance, technical, and inflatable races may include portages. Athletes may only portage at official points designated by the race organisers.
- At official compulsory portage points, the layout of the section of the bank/beach to be portaged must be clearly marked, showing the start and end of the disembarkation area and the start and end of the embarkation area.
- Athletes must carry/drag their boards and paddles through the whole length of the portage.
- Any water after the end of the disembarkation area and before the start of the embarkation area is out of bounds.
- Organisers must aim to provide enough bank space to allow at least four (4) boards to be portaged simultaneously.
- An athlete making a portage at a point other than the designated portage area along the course must not gain any advantage unless directed by the Competition Committee.
- Obstruction of an athlete or their equipment by another athlete can lead to a time penalty or disqualification. If the Course Umpire believes the obstruction to be intentional, the offending athlete will be disqualified. If the Course Umpire believes the obstruction was not intentional then the athlete will receive a time penalty.

#### 6.7 Turns

Turns are acceptable for Long Distance, Technical, and Inflatable races.

An athlete will not be disqualified for touching a turning point buoy, in making a turn, the board may follow as closely as possible the course as marked by the buoys at the turning points.

Should an athlete have failed to follow the correct course of the race (for example missed a turning buoy) the athlete has broken the racing rules and will be subject to a penalty for each violation of the rules:

- If the Course Umpire believes the athlete has gained a small advantage over other athletes, a time penalty of 30 seconds will be given;
- If the athlete has gained a medium to major advantage or obtained a positional advantage (gaining a position, making other athletes lose the group/draft) in the race by not following the course, a time penalty of 10% of the total race time will be given;
- Major advantages or violations (i.e. missing multiple) will be treated as unsportsmanlike behaviour and result in immediate disqualification (DSQ);
- Should a buoy be missed due to a collision in group racing during a turn, this will be investigated, and the board that caused the collision will be



penalised or disqualified (DSQ). The athlete who missed the buoy due to a collision may not be penalised.

## 6.8 Collision or Damage

- For all races, a collision will be an event where an athlete or any part of their board or paddle touches another athlete's board or paddle in a way that disadvantages the athlete.
- A collision can happen at any time within the group and is applicable for all parts of the course.
- Any athlete who is considered by a Course Umpire(s) or Race Director to have been responsible for a collision, or who damages the board or paddle of another athlete or unnecessarily deviates from the direct racing line or deliberately blocks or impedes the path of another athlete(s) may be penalised or disqualified.
- If it is considered that the athlete(s) have only had some minor disadvantage compared to other athletes as a result of the incident the responsible athlete will receive a time penalty of 10 seconds.
- If it is considered that the incident has caused other paddlers a major disadvantage the penalty will be disqualification (DSQ) of the offending athlete.
- The penalties as decided by the Race Director are not subject to appeal.

#### 6.9 Lapped Boards

- They must not interrupt or block boards that overtake them. They are not allowed to draft on the boards that overtake them.
- Their current rank will be recorder and included in the results. No time will be taken.

#### 6.10 Check Points

Athletes may be required to pass through designated check points by the race organisers for safety or other reasons.

#### 6.11 Multi-Stage Races

- For Long Distance race where a race is divided into several stages, the starts of the second and subsequent stages may be carried out individually or in groups as determined by the organiser and advised to the Team Leaders and/or athletes as appropriate.
- carried out individually the athletes will leave the stage start in the order of arrival from the previous stage and at the same intervals of time.
- Athletes not completing a stage, for whatever reason, will not be allowed to start the following stage.
- Timing will be cumulative and the winner being the athlete having taken the shortest time over the whole course making due allowance for any time penalties awarded by the organisers.



## 6.12 Assistance

- An athlete may not be accompanied along the course or assisted in any way by any vessel not entered in the competition unless the vessel is an authorised seconding vessel as per the individual race rules. (e.g. motor boat).
- Any outside help (food, coaching, and navigation) is prohibited during the competition unless by an official seconding vessel as per the individual race rules.
- Assistance from a vessel outside of the competition (motorboat, sailboat, rowing boat etc.) may lead to the disqualification of the athlete.
- Private boats must not obstruct athletes during a race. If a relationship can be established between an athlete and an unofficial boat which obstructs an opponent the athlete may be disqualified.
- In case of capsizing during the race an athlete may be helped by another athlete. An athlete may be disqualified or given a time penalty if he/she receives assistance from a boat outside the racing committee. An athlete may receive assistance from an official safety boat, on condition that there is no forward movement of the safety boat during the entire time of the assistance.
- An athlete suffering from a lower-body disability may, by prior agreement from the Competition Committee, receive assistance at a beach start or at a portage from designated helpers. Provided no advantage is gained from the assistance and provided the athlete leaves or is lifted from his/her board before the helpers carry the board.
- An athlete who breaks/damaged their board or paddle can be given a substitute during a race as long as it conforms with the specifications of the equipment rule for the competition.

#### 6.13 Safety Measures

- Depending on the duration of the race, the course, weather and sea conditions, the organisers can make compulsory the equipment described in article "Safety Equipment" any athlete failing to observe the safety requirements will be refused the right to start. If they have started, he/she will be disqualified.
- Every official is required to observe that the safety measures are being adhered to and to prevent athletes from starting or continuing if they fail to meet the requirements laid down in the race instructions.
- SUP is an extreme sport. It is a requirement that any athlete, seeing another in a real danger should render all assistance in his/her power. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification and further sanctions.
- Time bonuses based on actual delays can be awarded to any athlete providing assistance to a fellow participant.
- Every athlete participates at his or her own risk and must ensure that they are healthy and fit enough to meet the demands of the competition. SUP Suisse advises all competing participants to have themselves checked annually by a doctor.
- Neither the organiser nor SUP Suisse can be held responsible for any injury incurred by persons or damage to property.



- By registering and participating in the competition/event the participants assure at the same time their ability to swim at least 200m without assistance and are comfortable paddling in open water.
- The Course Umpire has the right to interrupt a correctly started race if unforeseen hindrances (bad weather, etc.) arise by using a red flag and a strong sound signal. Athletes must immediately stop paddling and await further instructions.

#### 6.14 Finish

The finish line will be between two (2) points (e.g. buoys, flags) described in the race instructions either afloat, on the shore, or combination of both.

The athlete has finished the race when:

• The board nose crosses the finish line with the athlete on it (with the two (2) feet in contact with the board);

or

• The upper body of the athlete crosses the finish line with their paddle in a hand if the finish line is on shore.

If two (2) or more boards cross the finish line at the same time they receive the same rank.



# 7 Post - Competition

#### 7.1 Disqualification

- Any athlete who attempts to compete in a race by any other than honourable means or who breaks the racing rules, or who disregards the honourable nature of the racing rules will be disqualified from the race concerned (DSQ).
- Should an athlete have completed a race in a board which is shown upon inspection does not conform with the SUP Suisse Race Rules or other requirements as described by the organisers will be disqualified (DSQ) from the race.
- Any athlete who has failed to follow the correct course of the race (for example missed a turning buoy) the athlete has broken the racing rules will be subject to a penalty described at 7.2.
- Any athlete who is considered by a Course Umpire or Race Director to have been responsible for a collision or damages will be subject to a penalty described at 7.2.
- Any athlete who is accompanied along the course by other vessel which are not in the race will be subject to a penalty described at "Assistance"

## 7.2 Handling of Penalties

- Time penalties as decided by the Race Director are not subject to appeal;
- Disqualifications are decided by the Competition Committee and are subject to an appeal.

All penalties or disqualifications must be confirmed by the Competition Committee in writing immediately, giving the reasons. The athlete or the Team Leader of the athlete in question must acknowledge the receipt on the notice copy.

Failure to deliver the copy confirmation of the disqualification to the athlete or the Team Leader of the athlete in question does not invalidate the disqualification.

The Competition Committee may discipline any athlete or Official whose behaviour is detrimental to the good order and conduct of the competition. The Competition Committee may disqualify him/her for that competition.



#### 7.3 Protest

- A protest against the right of an athlete to compete in a race must be addressed to the Race Director and handed to the Competition Committee not later than one (1) hour before the start of the first race of the competition.
- A protest made during a competition relating to an incident in the race must be in written form, addressed to the Race Director and handed to the Competition Committee not later than one (1) hour after the last of the athletes involved in the incident have completed the course or if forced to retire, one (1) hour after the retirement has been reported to the organiser.
- All protests must be accompanied by a fee of CHF 100 (or an equal sum in in EUR). The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.
- The decision of the Competition Committee is final.

## 7.4 Results and Reports

• The organisers should be permitted to commence issuing preliminary results and carry out award ceremonies after one third (1/3), or the first three (3), whichever is the greater, of the athletes of the event have completed the course or their retirements notified to the organiser.



# 8 Tour / Annual Ranking

The tour aims to bring multiple races in Switzerland to a similar level, allowing athletes to compare themselves against others throughout numerous races. Athletes shall find similar conditions over various races and a "standard-like" category setup.

## 8.1 Classes

Each tour stop is categorized into a class according to the key factors listed below. The class name marks the maximum number of points a category winner will collect towards the annual ranking.

#### 8.1.1 SST 1000

- International or national and well-established event
- Fully implements all tour categories
- 8.1.2 SST 500
  - National or regional event
  - Two or more tour categories implemented or one category with at least 21 km

#### 8.1.3 SST 250

- Regional/specialized event
- At least one tour category is implemented, but it does not have to follow the standard point ranking (i.e. all participants could receive 40 points).

#### 8.2 Categories

Each tour stop/race shall be set up to match one or multiple categories.

8.2.1 Adult				
	Open	Challenger	Fun	
Distance	8km+ or max 2 km	5 - 7km or max 2 km	~4 km	
	technical	technical		
Boards	max. 14'	max. 14'	no restriction	
Age	No restriction; minors need written permission from a parent or			
	legal guardian.			
Podium <sup>1</sup>	hard- and inflatable	hard- and inflatable	no podium	
	boards	boards		
Ranking	hardboard, inflatable,	hardboard, inflatable,	alphabetical list of	
	and age groups,	and age groups,	all athletes, show-	
	showing rank and	showing rank and	ing their time	
	time	time		

<sup>821</sup> Adult

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A podium / ranking will only be held / created for categories / age groups with more than 3 ranked athletes of the same gender.



#### 8.2.2 Minors

	U12 (Kids)	U15 (Junior)	U18 (Junior Open)
Distance	~500 m	~2 km	2 – 6 km
Age <sup>2</sup>	12 and younger	15 and younger	18 and younger
Boards	provided	provided	max. 14'
Mat. provided	paddle, leash, PFD	paddle, leash, PFD	-
Own paddle	allowed	allowed	allowed
Podium	no differentiation	differentiation be-	differentiation be-
	of gender	tween gender	tween gender
Ranking	no differentiation	only rank shown	Showing rank and
	of gender, only		time
	rank shown		

### 8.3 Age Groups

#### 8.3.1 U20

The last year an athlete can compete in the U20 age group is the year of their 20th birthday.

#### 8.3.2 40+, 50+, etc.

Age groups in 10 steps (40+, 50+, etc.) are recognized. The first year an athlete is considered for the 40+ age group is the year of their 40th birthday, and there is no upper age limit (i.e. a person with 50 years still is counted towards the 40+ ranking).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The last year an athlete can compete in the U12 category is the year of their 12th birthday. Same for the junior categories.



## 8.4 Annual Ranking

The annual ranking is calculated over all tour races (published on <u>www.supsuissetour.ch</u>) and can be found at <u>members.supsuisse.ch</u>, starting with the season's first race.

An annual ranking for each tour category is created based on the following rules:

- 1. To be considered for the annual ranking in an adult category, an athlete needs to be ranked in at least (3) three races of the same category.
- 2. For an annual ranking to be awarded, at least (3) three athletes of the same gender must be ranked in the annual ranking category.

Considering all the above rules fulfilled, the annual ranking could consist of the following at most:

- For Open and Challenger each
  - For men and women each
    - For hard- and inflatable boards each
      - U20
      - Open
      - For 40+, 50+, etc. each
- Fun
- U18 Junior Open
  - For men and women each
- U15 Junior
  - For boys and girls each
- U12