



# SFT PARAWING WORLD CUP 22 - 26 AVRIL

**SFT Downwind Parawing Foil World Cup 2026  
Mondial du Vent / Leucate, France  
22-26.04.2026**

*It is a pleasure for us to announce the 2nd stop of the SFT WORLD TOUR 2026*

*which will be held in Leucate, France and will be the first ever Parawing World Cup event.*

The dates will be from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2026

**This is a SFT World Tour event.**

This edition of the Mondial du Vent will make history by hosting the first-ever SFT Downwind Parawing World Cup, and the only French stop of the series, at the iconic Leucate/La Franqui spot. Under the area's powerful winds, the world's top Parawing riders will perform on this legendary stage, delivering an exceptional spectacle for spectators and media.

## **Registration**

### **Entry procedure and Registration**

All competitors invited to enter this special SFT World Tour event must register via the link provided on the relevant event page of the **SFT World Tour website**, or directly through the following link:

<https://app.surffoilworldtour.com/>

Registration may also be completed **by email** at **carlos@surffoilworldtour.com**, or by **other means as specified by the SFT Sports Commission**, no later than the **official closing date for entries** for this event.

The **registration period and payment deadline** will close on **March 25th, 2026**. Timely registration is essential to allow for proper organization of **event lycras** and the **event safety plan**. Please note that **accommodation availability in the area is very limited**, and early booking is strongly recommended. Parental authorization (mandatory for riders under 18 years old)

### **Data Protection**

Registration implies acceptance of the SFT Riders App Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy. Personal data may be processed for sporting and event purposes in accordance with GDPR and applicable data protection laws.



### **Entry restrictions**

The SFT entry fee for this event is **€40**. A valid **SFT membership** is mandatory and can be obtained as either a **single-event membership (€20)** or a **full-year membership (€40)**.

### **Important note for French riders:**

Please be aware that French riders must also hold a **valid full-year FFV 2026 “Licence Compétition”**, issued by the **Fédération Française de Voile (FFV)**, costing **€72**, in order to participate. All French riders must send their details to **marion.tabes@mairie-leucate.fr** before **20th March 2026**.

Payments must be made via credit card. For certain exceptions, late payments can be made in cash at the inscription at the respective event. Cash-payments will only be accepted in Euros or USD currency, If so an amount of 30,- EUR processing fee will be added to the regular entry-fee.

In the case that the full amount of the inscription fee is not paid by the end of the announced inscription-time, the rider will not be allowed to compete.

### **SFT Payment Links**

SFT Parawing Leucate Entry Fee (40 Euro): <https://buy.stripe.com/aEU17c9LW5GKawocOf>

SFT One event only membership fee (20 Euro): <https://buy.stripe.com/28o6rw8HS6KOawo15t>

SFT Full Year membership fee (40 Euro): <https://buy.stripe.com/9AQaHM4rCglodlAeWk>

### **Eligibility**

A competitor is eligible for any SFT event if he meets the following conditions:

- He has a personal medical insurance with worldwide coverage. A valid membership card or certificate, or other satisfactory evidence of worldwide medical coverage may be requested.
- The competitor cannot hold the SFT, the GKA Event Gmbh, Deep Ocean Consulting Ltd or the event-organizer responsible for any claims for damages as a consequence of the competitor not having sufficient personal medical insurance.
- The competitor cannot hold the SFT, the GKA Event Gmbh, Deep Ocean Consulting or the event-organizer responsible for any legal liabilities and/or any claims for damages by third parties caused by the competitor.
- He holds a valid competitor's membership with the SFT World Tour of the current year.
- Riders under 18 must provide a signed parental authorization (parent or legal guardian) before registration is confirmed.
- **Important note for French riders:** All French riders must send their details to **marion.tabes@mairie-leucate.fr** before **20 March 2026**. (for this event only)

### **Entry allocation**

This is an **Open** SFT Downwind Parawing World Cup.



## **Disciplines**

This SFT World Tour event will feature **one official discipline only**. The **Pro/Am Division Invitational** will be open to both **men and women**.

Please note: The venue and race area are shared with the GWA Wingfoil Freestyle event (separate tour, separate rules and communications). This Race Notice applies to the SFT Parawing event only.

As Parawing is a newly established discipline, the **world's top Parawing foil riders have been selected by SFT**, while **additional Parawing riders are also invited** to participate in order to test their level and gain competitive experience.

SFT has **contacted all major Parawing brands** to encourage the participation of their leading riders and ensure the highest possible competitive level.

## **Awards Categories:**

- 1,2,3 Open Pro/Am Men
- 1,2,3 Open Pro/am Female
- 1 Masters Male
- 1 Masters Female
- 1 Youth Male
- 1 Youth Female

## **Parawing Divisions:**

- Open Pro/Am (**minimum 14 years old in the year of competition**)
- Masters award: (**minimum 40 years old in the year of competition**)
- Youth award: Youth Award (U18) Additional prize category within the Open division. All riders race in Open. **Minimum age to compete: 14 years old (in the year of competition)**.

## **Event Seeding**

Event seeding will be determined by **time trials conducted on the morning of the first competition day**. A short course will be set, including designated **stash zones**, with times recorded **from start to finish**. All competitors will be **seeded into the competition ladder based on their fastest valid time**, with lower times receiving higher seeding priority.

## **Important Info**

- All riders need to wear a helmet during competition!
- Competitors have to wear the official lycra at all times when proceeding to the water, also during training.
- Each rider will get one competition rider vest at the registration. Each rider is responsible for his competition vest. In case of loss, a replacement might not be possible.



- Competitors shall wear the event advertising lycra vest supplied by the Event Organizer over all other clothing on the water at all times during the event and one SFT board sticker to be placed on the top and on the bottom of the board.
- All competitors are required to abide by the advertising rules as laid out in this Event Rules. Competitors breaching these rules may be warned in writing for the first offense and may incur a fine at the second offense of not more than EUR 500 for each violation.
- All rider meetings and opening/closing ceremonies in the schedule are mandatory to all riders. Please be on time and ready.
- Riders are not permitted to publicly associate their names in non-authorized parties/ autograph sessions.
- There will be a social event-calendar for each event site that all riders must join via social media and share.

## **Membership**

- Every competitor needs to hold a valid one event only or a full year SFT membership.
- Membership fees shall be determined by the SFT at the start of the year and may be changed at any notice during the year.
- Competitors are not fully covered by SFT membership. They must still prove that they have accident insurance and a civil liability. There may be a request for medical certificate.
- At the end of the inscription-time, the rider must be able to prove a valid SFT membership. Payments must be made via credit card. For certain exceptions, late payments can be made in cash at the inscription at the respective event. Cash-payments will only be accepted in Euros or USD currency.
- The cost of the SFT membership for this one event is 20€. Competitors competing for the whole year are advised to pay the standard 40€ per year to cover you for all remaining events in 2026.

## **Travel info**

### **Travel & Access**

The closest airport is **Perpignan**, however most international flights connect via **Barcelona, Girona, Montpellier, or Toulouse**. Approximate driving times from these airports are as follows:

- **Perpignan:** 30 minutes
- **Montpellier:** 1 hour 20 minutes
- **Girona:** 1 hour 30 minutes
- **Toulouse:** 2 hours
- **Barcelona:** 2 hours 50 minutes

Riders arriving with a **caravan or motorhome**. **Riders arriving with a caravan or motorhome: there is one parking area near the post office in La Franqui.**



### **Travel documents and Visa:**

If an invitation letter is needed for riders, please email [carlos@surffoilworldtour.com](mailto:carlos@surffoilworldtour.com) and will issue the document for you.

### **The event address**

Location: La Franqui, Leucate, France

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/GwoLmMNJXqMU6fff8>

### **Registration & Riders' Meeting:**

*Le Golf*

**3 Avenue de la Méditerranée**

**La Franqui**

### **Organizer Contact:**

**Valerie:**

[valerie.salles@orange.fr](mailto:valerie.salles@orange.fr)

### **Accommodation for competitors:**

#### **1. La Franqui Village**

Participants may rent an apartment in the village of La Franqui via platforms such as Airbnb, Abritel, or leboncoin.fr. Please note that availability is limited, and **early booking is strongly recommended**.

#### **2. Domaine La Franqui (Camping Sandaya)**

The following reservation conditions apply for riders:

- The accommodation allocated for competitors is “**Les Atolls**”.
- There is **no distinction between 4- or 6-person units**.
- A **20% discount** is available on bungalows with the promotional code **MDV26**.

Reservations must be made **directly via Camping Sandaya** at:

<https://www.sandaya.fr/nos-campings/domaine-la-franqui/>

Camping Sandaya also offers a **designated area for camper vans and motorhomes**, subject to a **daily fee**.





### 3. Other Accommodation Options

Additional accommodation options are available in and around **La Franqui (11370 La Franqui, Leucate)**.

#### Weather:

Leucate has a Southern European climate, with typical spring conditions that can vary significantly. During this time of year, **average air temperatures range from approximately 10°C to 24°C**.

**April is one of the windiest months in the area**, with a high frequency of strong wind days. The dominant wind is the **Tramontane**, a dry, offshore-to-sideshore northerly wind that can blow from **moderate to very strong**, often creating flat to lightly textured water conditions. The **Marin**, a warmer onshore wind, may also occur, bringing more humidity and occasional swell.



The **average water temperature in April is around 13°C**, so participants are advised to bring an appropriate **wetsuit**.

**Sunrise** is around **07:00**, and **sunset** around **20:30**.

#### **Equipment storage:**

**TBA**

#### **Event Schedule**

SFT Parawing will be scheduled around the GWA Wingfoil Freestyle program. Both tours share the same venue and race area. The disciplines will be run in separate time blocks to allow riders to compete in both and to manage safety logistics (including the number of support boats). The daily timetable and time blocks will be confirmed on site based on weather conditions, safety, and event flow.

#### **Equipment**

- Only hydrofoils are eligible for use in competition. There are not any restrictions on the size, length and width of the quiver.
- There are no restrictions on dimensions or constructions of the boards.
- Foot-straps, pads and wax are allowed.
- Both serial and prototype parawings are allowed.
- The use of a helmet and vest is mandatory.

#### **Prize money**

The total prize money for the Mondial du Vent SFT Parawing World Cup 2026 will be **8.000 EUR**. There must be a minimum of 4 competitors to run a valid division, otherwise men and women run together in one division.

#### **General Allocation Principle Equal Gender.**

The total prize money is divided into two components:

1. **Podium Prize Money (Top 3) – 80%**
2. **Depth Bonus – 20%**

Masters and Youth divisions are ranking-only and do not receive prize money, unless their results place them within the paid positions of the Open Men or Open Women divisions. All percentages are calculated based on the **total event prize money**.

#### **Podium Prize Money (Top 3 – 80%) Men and Women.**

80% of the total prize money is allocated to the Top 3 and is **equally split between Men and Women** (40% per division), regardless of the number of participants.

Within each division, the Top 3 prize money is distributed as follows:

- **1st place:** 50%
- **2nd place:** 30%
- **3rd place:** 20%

This ensures full gender equality at podium level.



### **Depth Bonus (4th–6th – 20%)**

The remaining 20% of the total prize money is allocated as a **depth bonus** and is awarded **only in divisions with more than 10 registered riders**.

If applicable, the depth bonus is distributed **within that division** as follows:

- **4th place:** 7.0%
- **5th place:** 6.8%
- **6th place:** 6.2%

If a division has **fewer than 10 registered riders**, the depth bonus **does not apply** in that division and the corresponding amount is **added to the Podium Prize Money (Top 3) of the same division**, maintaining the same podium distribution percentages.

This system is designed to reward competitive depth while maintaining equal prize money distribution at podium level.

### **Example – Total Prize Money: 8,000 EUR**

#### **Men Division (more than 10 riders registered)**

- 1st place (20%) – **1,600 EUR**
- 2nd place (12%) – **960 EUR**
- 3rd place (8%) – **640 EUR**
- 4th place (7%) – **560 EUR**
- 5th place (6.8%) – **544 EUR**
- 6th place (6.2%) – **496 EUR**

#### **Women Division (fewer than 10 riders registered)**

- 1st place – **1,600 EUR**
- 2nd place – **960 EUR**
- 3rd place – **640 EUR**

### **SFT World Tour**

As a competitor, I agree to respect the racing rules and in particular:

- to display visibly the competitor-number attributed to me.
- to always wear the official event-competition-lycra when proceeding to the water (also during training) as well as during interviews, official presentations and on podium.
- to wear a safety helmet during the competition,
- to follow the recommendations and/or instructions provided by the crew.
- to place board stickers (SFT Surf Foil World Tour & Event sponsor) on the top and on the bottom of the board at all times during the event (competitions, interviews, media conferences, award ceremony...).
- to take note that all rider meetings, opening/closing ceremonies and media conferences requested by the Event Organizer are mandatory to all riders. I assure that I'll be on time and ready.
- I'm aware that a non-observance of this rule will incur a fine of up to 500 EUR. Any competitor finishing in the top 3 positions who fails to attend the awards ceremony on time (without being justified by a force of major circumstance) will incur a fine equal to their earned prize money for the event. Furthermore, fine can incur an additional penalty of up to 1.000 EUR and suspension for the next event.





## **Parawing competition**

### **Format**

The Mondial du Vent SFT Downwind Parawing Foil Competition 2026 will consist of various distinctive courses, designed to test different aspects of parawing skills. There will be 5 days where the competition can take place depending on wind forecast: 22nd to 26th April 2026.

### **Time Trials - Qualification Series**

Day 1 we will run the time trials, that count as qualification times and seeding for the elimination series. If a competitor is missing the time trial race, the athlete can still compete for the elimination series, but will be entering the first elimination race with a seeding lower than those who have participated in the time trials.

### **Elimination Series**

After the time trials we will run elimination series. The race is run in an elimination ladder format, where each heat has a number of athletes competing against each other at the same time on the course and the best 1 or 2 athletes advance into the next round until the final of the race.

We might also do **Half fleet** or **Full fleet** races depending on the number of riders registered, weather conditions and logistics regarding space and amplitude of the field and crew/judges to spot every detail.

### **Race Course Examples: (They may vary)**

These are examples of courses where the main goal is to be the most complete rider, upwind, beam or board reach, and of course stashed (downwind). If we have flat water from off shore wind the stashing zones will be shorter as it will demand more pumping, and if we have some on-shore with some swell we will make stashing zones longer use the swell we encounter.

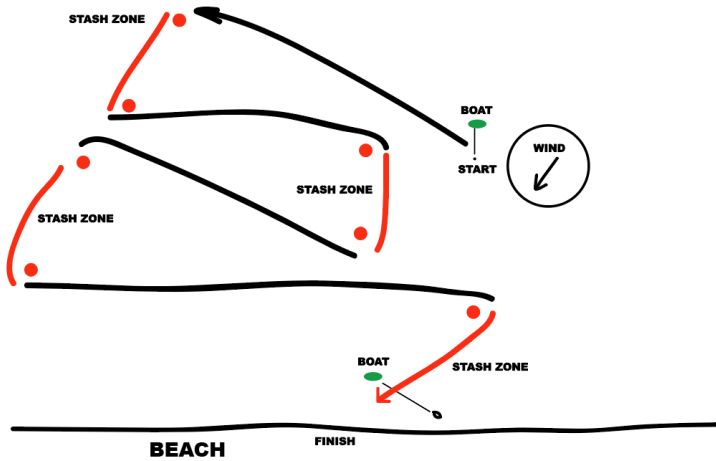
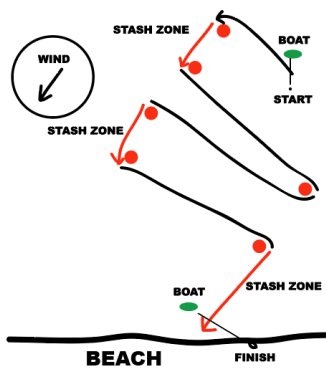
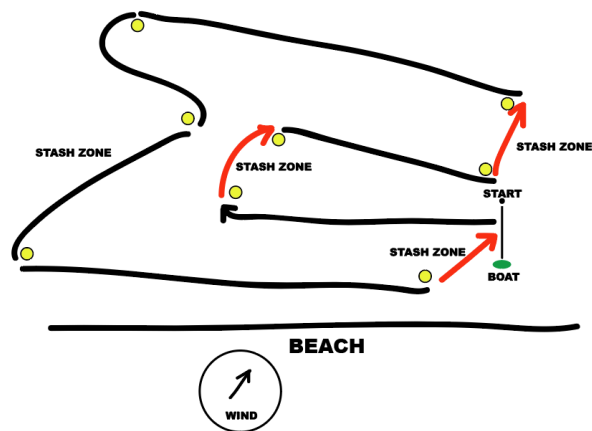
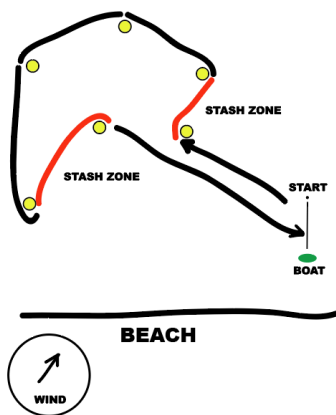
### **See graphic below:**

- Left side circuit courses are off-shore examples.
- Right side circuit courses are on-shore examples.

We might use shorter or longer version ones depending on weather conditions, number of participants to manage, time constraints, etc.

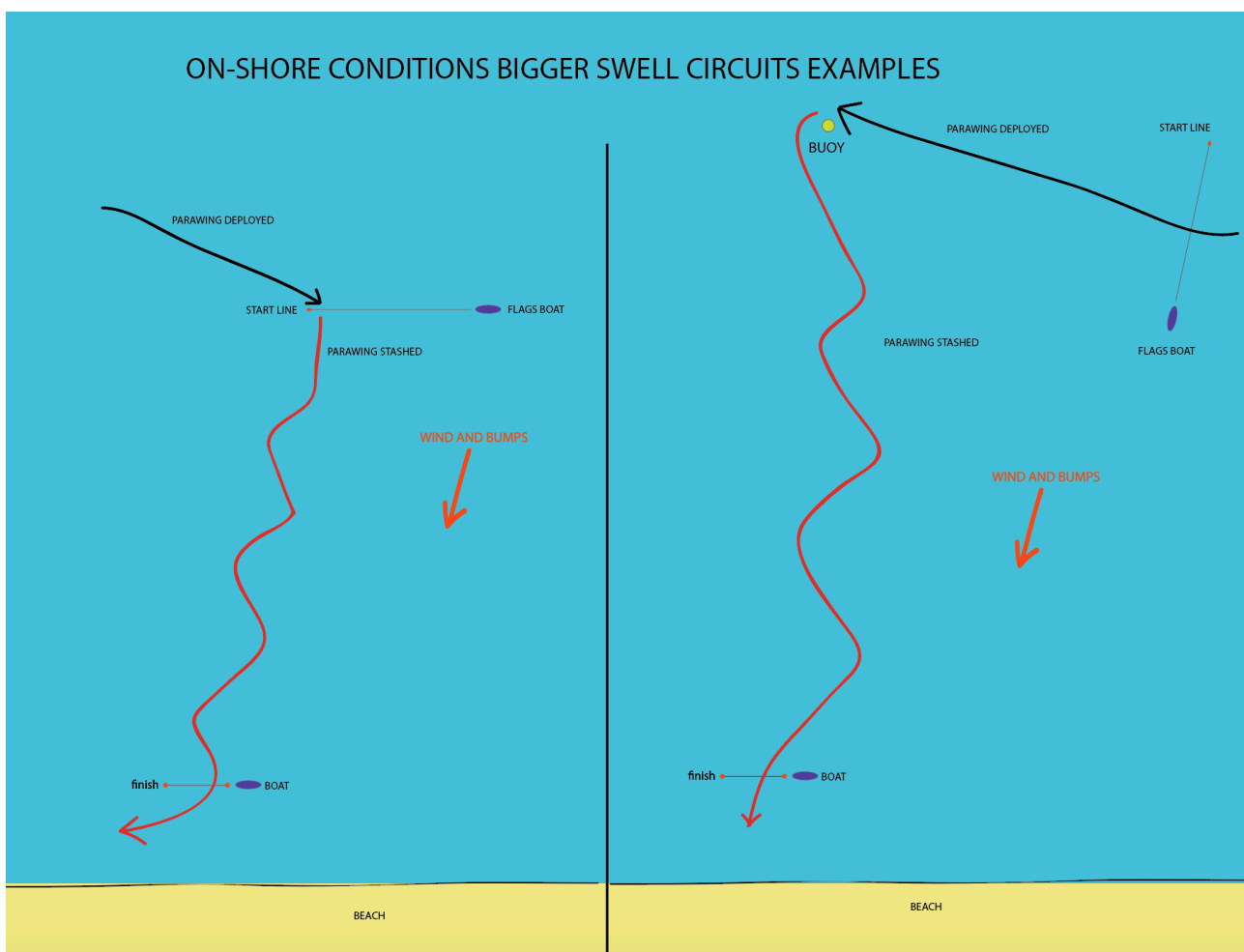


**OFF-SHORE / ON-SHORE EXAMPLES:**





## **ON-SHORE BIG SWELL:**



## **Time Trials / Sprint race (Individual race format)**

We might use any of this or other race courses for the time trials that will be communicated at the riders meeting before we start. We may add some other courses based on logistics.

Race courses will then be defined for the time trials. Additional course variations may be introduced if required by logistics or operational constraints.



### **Time Trials Rules:**

- Only **one competitor** will be on the course at any given time.
- The competitor's **time is measured from the moment they cross the start line until they cross the finish line.**
- Each competitor may be granted **up to two (2) attempts per course**, time permitting.
- In the event of a crash, the competitor has **two (2) minutes** to regain flight and continue the run.

### **Attempts & Ranking**

- If all competitors are able to complete **two timed runs on the same course**, the **best single valid time** will count for ranking and seeding.
- Competitors who do not complete the course will be **ranked based on the distance completed** along the course at the point of crash or voluntary abandonment.

### **Penalties & Race Status**

- **DSQ (Disqualification):**  
A competitor will be disqualified from the run for:
  - A **jump start** (starting before the green flag / official start signal), or
  - **Failure to follow the correct buoy sequence.**
- **DNS (Did Not Start):**  
A competitor will be scored as DNS if they are **not present at the starting line** when the official start sequence is given by the boat:
  - **Red flag raised:** 1 minute
  - **Red flag lowered:** 10 seconds
  - **Green flag:** start of the timed run
- **DNF (Did Not Finish):**  
A competitor will be scored as DNF if they **are unable to regain flight within two (2) minutes following a crash.**

### **Elimination series (Group race format)**



Courses pictured above are examples for elimination series course diagrams. Final courses will be decided by the competition director depending on weather and sea conditions and will be communicated at the riders briefing. We will try to make good use of the time and try to launch many heats if we decide to do full fleet or half fleet races. If we decide to go for a Single elimination we might be able to complete more than one round and then we will have to reseed for a second round and so on.

- All competitors in a heat start at the same time on a starting signal command. The starting signal command will be given in acoustic and visual form by the competition director or any other member of jury. (Flag procedure to be announced in the riders meeting and the official notice board)
- All competitors must complete the course in the same way according to the course diagram.
- The result of the heat is determined by whoever completes the course correctly and crossed the finish line in finishing order. A competitor who completes the course incorrectly is disqualified.
- Depending on the number of competitors in a heat, a given number of athletes will be advancing to the next round. (number announced in the riders meeting)
- Competitors not qualifying for the next round will be ranked in the heat according to their finishing position across the finish line or the distance completed in the course if the finish line is not crossed.
- A heat is valid as soon as the number of competitor that qualify for the next round, have completed the course or 2 minutes after the first competitor has completed the course, the ranking of the remaining competitors in the heat is determined according to the distance they have completed on the course.

#### Crashes in the Elimination series (Group races):

- If a competitor crashes at the start or during the course, the athlete can get back to foil and start again.
- If two or more competitors crash with each other, the incident is generally treated as a usual racing incident (treated as a standard racing incident unless dangerous riding is identified), unless one or more athletes act under dangerous riding behavior.
- Dangerous riding is called by the competition director or any other member of the jury observing the race, if a competitor behaves in a rude or abusive manner with the intention of putting other competitors in danger. A competitor who acts under dangerous riding will be disqualified from the heat.

#### Elimination ladder:

Any race in the elimination series is run with an elimination ladder in a knock-out system. In an elimination ladder multiple athletes compete against each other in different heats, where the best competitor of a single heat advance into the next round until the final.

Different elimination ladder systems according to total number of participants and number of participants per heat.

#### Seeding in Elimination ladder:



For the first race of the elimination series, all competitors get seeded into the elimination ladder according to their result from the time trials. If multiple competitors have the same result from the time trials cause they did not start in the time trials order not make it to the finish line,

- those competitors who crashed at the start will be seeded below those who have a ranking from the time trials and a draw will determine the positions between those who do not have a ranking.
- Those competitors who did not start at all in the time trials, will be seeded below those who participated in the time trials and a draw will determine the positions between those who have not participated.

For the second and any following race of elimination series, the result of the previous elimination race counts for the seeding of the next race. Shared positions are split for the allocation in the elimination ladder by the result from the time trials.

### **Event Ranking:**

If the Elimination Series runs one race only, the result of that one elimination stands as the final event ranking. All heats need to be completed to have a valid result.

If the Elimination Series runs multiple races, the results of each race count towards the final event ranking. A competitor collects points for every result of a single race according to the position the athlete finishes within that race.

### **Event ranking points**

The winner receives 0.7 points, second place receives 2 points, third place receives 3 points, 4th place receives 4 points and after that the athletes being knocked out receive the average points of all other competitors also being knocked in the same round in same finishing position.

The competitor with the lowest accumulated points is in first position of the event ranking, the competitor with the second lowest accumulated points is in second position of the event ranking and so on.

### **Discards**

- If four or more races are completed in the elimination series, every competitor can discard one result of all races. This meaning the highest points collected in a single race will not count towards the event ranking.
- If seven or more races are completed in the elimination series, every competitor can discard two results of all races. This meaning the two highest points collected in a single race will not count towards the event ranking.
- If ten or more races are completed in the elimination series, every competitor can discard three results of all races. This meaning the three highest points collected in a single race will not count towards the event ranking.

### **Tie Breaks**

If multiple competitors end up with the same total points in the event ranking, a competitor is ranked on top of another competitors by the following order of rules:

1. In favour of the competitor with the better result from the time trials





2. In favour of the competitor with lower points discarded, if any discard(s) have been effected
3. In favour of the competitor who has finished more often on top of the other one throughout all races including discarded races.
4. In favour of the competitor with the higher number of first, second, third, etc place finishes throughout all races including discarded races.
5. In favour of the competitor who finished better in the last race
6. If all of the above rules miss to determine who is finishing on top of the other competitor, then the final event ranking shall stand with a shared position between these competitors.

## PARAWING DOWNWIND KEY RULES (SFT)

### Discipline

- Races are held over a **defined course with start and finish lines**, marked by buoys.
- One or more **downwind sections** are included.
- During downwind sections, riders must advance **using wave energy and/or pumping only**.
- Downwind **Parawing propulsion is strictly forbidden** and the parawing **must remain stashed at all times**.

### Right of Way

- **Starboard tack has priority** over port tack.
- **Leeward rider has priority** when overlapped on the same tack.
- **Rider clear ahead has priority** when not overlapped.
- A rider **changing tack or transitioning** must keep clear until established.
- When converging downwind and priority is unclear:
  - Overlapped → rider on the other's **starboard side keeps clear**.
  - Not overlapped → **rider clear astern keeps clear**.

### Safety & Conduct

- **Avoid contact at all times** when reasonably possible.
- Riders acquiring right of way or changing course must **give room to keep clear**.
- **Blocking or deliberate obstruction is prohibited**.
- Non-competing riders must stay **outside the competition area**.

### Interference & Penalties

- Interference includes **hindering another rider's course**, or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Interference penalties may be applied by the Race officials, **with or without a hearing**.
- Penalties may include **warnings, score adjustments, heat re-runs, or disqualification**.
- In serious or deliberate cases, **disqualification from the event** may be applied.

### Redress

- Redress may be granted if a rider's result is **materially affected through no fault of their own**.
- Requests must be **submitted in writing** within the prescribed time limits.
- The Race Director may apply **any fair corrective action**, including re-runs or score adjustments.



**SFT Mondial du vent - Team 2026**

**Tour Manager: Tom Hartmann**

**Contest Director: Carlos Saez**

**Scoring Operator: Julio Furest**

**Media Manager: Gema Hamaini**

**Video Production/media: TBA**

Any question please contact our Sports Director at [carlos@surffoilworldtour.com](mailto:carlos@surffoilworldtour.com)

We look forward to seeing you very soon!

**The SFT Team.**

