



Waydoo SFT E-FOIL WORLD CUP 2026



SHENZHEN, CHINA

MAY 17-19, 2026



GFA
GLOBAL
FOIL BOARD SPORTS
ASSOCIATION

Waydoo-SFT E-Foil World Cup 2026 Shenzhen, China May 17th-19th, 2026

It is a pleasure to announce the 5th global event of the SFT SURF FOIL WORLD TOUR 2026 which will mark the 2nd stop in the E-foil discipline in 2026.

This is a SFT Surf Foil World Tour event.

The event will be held under the title **Waydoo-SFT eFoil Race World Cup 2026**. The venue is the **Shenzhen Wuzhou Mountain and Sea Bay Hotel, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China**. The event is part of the **Surf Foil World Tour (SFT) 2026 calendar**. The event is organized in cooperation with **Waydoo** and the **Surf Foil World Tour**. This is an open SFT E-Foil competition. Riders from all brands are welcome to compete.

Registration

Entry procedure and Registration

All competitors planning to enter a SFT Surf Foil World Tour event shall register through the link on the respective event page on the SFT Surf Foil World Tour website, or under the following direct link:

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

Alternatively, registration may be sent via email to carlos@surffoilworldtour.com

The registration period and payment deadline will close on 25th April 2026 for E-foil. Late registration may be accepted but will incur an additional late-entry fee of 20 EUR (total entry fee 100 EUR).

Entry restrictions

The entry fee for this event is 80 EUR per discipline, and a valid SFT membership is required (one-event membership 20 EUR or full-season membership 40 EUR).

Payments must be made via credit card. For certain exceptions, late payments may be accepted in cash during inscription at the event. Cash payments will only be accepted in EUR or USD, with an additional 30 EUR processing fee. Failure to complete full payment by the close of the announced inscription time will result in exclusion from competition.

Payment links will be provided as follows:

- SFT China E-Foil Entry Fee (80 EUR): [Stripe link]:
- <https://buy.stripe.com/eVq00k74p9byd9t7XT5EY1G>
- One Event Membership Fee (20 EUR): [Stripe link]
- <https://buy.stripe.com/28o6rw8HS6KOawo15t>
- SFT Full Year membership fee (40 Euro): [Stripe link]
- <https://buy.stripe.com/9AQaHM4rCglodIAeWk>

Eligibility

A competitor is eligible for any SFT event if he or she holds valid worldwide personal medical insurance. Proof of coverage may be requested at registration. Competitors cannot hold the SFT, GKA Event GmbH, Deep Ocean Consulting Ltd, or the event organizer responsible for damages resulting from insufficient insurance or third-party liability.

A valid competitor's membership with the SFT World Tour is required.

Entry Allocation

There is an unlimited number of entries per division for the SFT Shenzhen.

Disciplines

E-Foil: Pro competition (defined by time trials). Awards: Pro Men, Pro Women.

Youth (U16), Masters (40+) and Open category might be counted for merit medals.

Divisions:

Pro (minimum 16 years old), Open.

Categories:

Pro Men, Pro Women, Open Men, Open Women, Youth (U16), Masters (40+).

Event Seeding:

Seeding will be based on the current SFT E-Foil Ranking or time trial results. Competitors without ranking will be seeded by draw.

Important Info:

All riders must wear a helmet during competition. Competitors must wear the official lycra vest provided by the organizers during competition and training. Each competitor is responsible for their vest, no replacement will be issued.

Competitors must place one SFT board sticker on both the top and bottom of their board. Advertising and media rules as outlined in the SFT Rulebook apply. Breaches may result in warnings or fines up to 500 EUR.

Attendance at all official rider meetings and ceremonies is mandatory. Riders may not associate their names with unauthorized events. A social event calendar will be published and riders are encouraged to join and share via social media.

Membership

- Every competitor needs to hold a valid SFT membership. The duration of SFT membership is from the first to the last event of the SFT season.
- 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.-euro. 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

The closest international airports are **Shenzhen Baoan International Airport (SZX)** and **Hong Kong International Airport (HKG)**. From Shenzhen Airport, the venue can be reached by taxi or Didi in approximately **75 to 120 minutes**, depending on traffic. The estimated fare is **CNY 250 to 350**, including tolls. From Hong Kong International Airport, riders may take the **SkyPier ferry** to Shenzhen Shekou or Fuyong Pier, followed by a taxi or Didi to the hotel. Total transfer time from Hong Kong will generally be longer, with the ferry taking approximately **30 to 50 minutes**, followed by an additional **60 to 80 minutes by car**. Although Shenzhen has an extensive public transport network, the most convenient

option for athletes and crew is to use **taxi or**

Didi. Didi is strongly recommended, as it offers route tracking and transparent pricing. If a regular taxi is used, competitors are advised to ensure the driver uses the meter and, if necessary, note the driver's identification details displayed in the vehicle. All visitors must hold a passport valid for international travel, and **entry requirements depend on nationality.** A number of countries are currently eligible for **30-day visa-free entry**, while some others may enter under the **240-hour transit permit** scheme, subject to the applicable conditions. Competitors from all other countries must obtain a visa in advance. As visa policies may change, all participants are strongly advised to check the latest requirements with the relevant **Chinese Embassy or consulate** before travelling. The event venue is centered around the **Shenzhen Wuzhou Mountain and Sea Bay Hotel**, located at **Building 1 Shanhaiwan, 7 Zonglv Avenue, Xiasha Community, Dapeng Subdistrict, Longgang District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China.** The Chinese address is **深圳市龙岗区大鹏街道下沙社区棕榈大道7号山海湾1号楼**. Competitors are encouraged to save the hotel name and address in both English and Chinese for transport and navigation purposes.

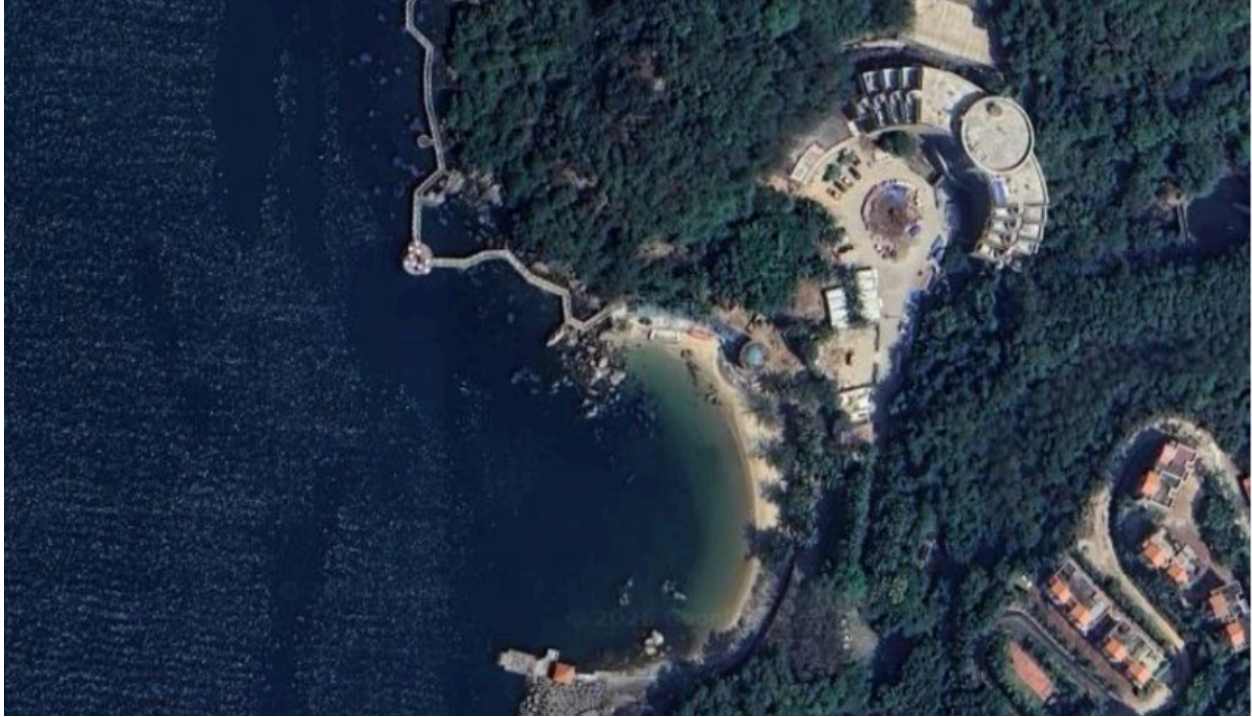


Event site and Event area:

The event site is located at the **Shenzhen Wuzhou Mountain and Sea Bay Hotel**, Building 1 Shanhaiwan, 7 Zonglv Avenue, Xiasha Community, Dapeng Subdistrict, Longgang District, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China.

Chinese address: **深圳市龙岗区大鹏街道下沙社区棕榈大道7号山海湾1号楼**.

Direct map link to the venue: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Lu8GhmtnQPWbr1Wu6>



Accommodation for Competitors

The official event hotel is the **Shenzhen Wuzhou Mountain and Sea Bay Hotel**, which also serves as the event venue. Competitors staying at the official hotel will therefore have direct access to the race site. Additional accommodation options may also be available in the surrounding Shenzhen area. Participants who choose to stay elsewhere are advised to arrange their own daily transport to and from the venue.

Activities

Shenzhen is one of China's leading high-tech cities and offers athletes and guests a dynamic modern environment during their stay. Participants will also find a wide range of services, restaurants, and city infrastructure throughout Shenzhen. Any official side activities, social program, or local excursions may be added here once confirmed by the organizer.

Weather

At the time of the event, competitors can expect typical late-spring conditions in Shenzhen, with temperatures generally ranging from **24 to 32°C**, and an average of around **26 to 27°C**. Humidity is usually very high, often between **65% and 90%**, and conditions may feel hot and sticky. Scattered showers or thunderstorms are possible, often short but heavy, with mostly cloudy skies, occasional sunny breaks, and light southerly breezes. Competitors are advised to stay hydrated, prepare for heat and humidity, and be ready for occasional rain.

Event Schedule

The SFT China E-Foil event in Shenzhen is proposed as a three day format combining venue setup, technical preparation, rider registration, time trials, racing, and media activities.

Sunday, 17th May

Setup and Training Day

- 12:00 to 14:00: Buoy preparation, positioning and course setup
- 15:00 to 18:00: Track testing and rider training

Monday, 18th May

Registration and Time Trials

- 09:00 to 10:00: Rider registration
- 10:00 to 10:45: Technical inspection and safety check
- 11:00: Riders meeting and event briefing
- 12:30 to 13:30: Opening Ceremony and Welcome Lunch
- 14:00: Warm-up
- 15:00 to 18:00: Time Trials
- 20:00 Riders Dinner / Party
- Time Trial results will determine race seeding and starting order
- After the Time Trials: Photoshoot in the hotel bay or autograph signing session / meet the riders

Tuesday, 19th May

Race Day

- 10:00 to 12:00: Fun Race Full Fleet long distance
- 12:30 to 13:30: Lunch break
- 14:00 to 17:00 Main Event Races
- 18:00: Closing ceremony and prize giving

Notes for Participants

Competitors are expected to respect all applicable **local laws, regulations, and public conduct standards** while in China. All participants are responsible for ensuring that their travel documents, visa status, and entry conditions are valid before departure. As entry policies may be updated regularly, riders should verify the latest requirements with the relevant Chinese Embassy or consulate before travelling.

Participants are strongly advised to prepare their mobile devices before arrival. A **travel SIM or eSIM** is recommended for reliable connectivity and access to commonly used apps and websites. Riders should also install and set up **Alipay** for payments, **Didi** for transportation, and **Amap or Apple Maps** for navigation. **WeChat** may also be useful for communication and additional local services. For local

transportation, **Didi** is recommended as the most reliable option. If a regular taxi is used, participants should ask the driver to use the meter and may note the driver's identification details if needed.

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.
- The use of a helmet is mandatory.

PLEASE NOTE:

E-Foil Battery Policy for Events

E-foil batteries are the responsibility of each rider to arrange for transport and personal use at all SFT events.

Given the complexities of transporting lithium batteries internationally, the Surf Foil World Tour (SFT) supports a **collaborative approach** between riders, brands, and local partners. SFT will assist where possible by facilitating connections and coordinating with event partners, brands, and local networks to help identify solutions.

We encourage:

- **Riders** to work directly with their equipment sponsors and contacts
- **Brands** to support their athletes with logistics and product access
- **Shop owners and distributors** to engage locally where possible

Successful battery logistics are typically achieved through **early planning and open communication** between all parties.

Prize money

The total prize money for the **Waydoo-SFT eFoil World Cup 2026** will be **30,000 USD for the E-foil discipline**. There will be an additional USD 10,000 in gift prizes from DJI

There must be a minimum of 3 competitors to run a valid division, otherwise men and women run together in one division.

Prize Money Distribution

Prize money will be split following the system: 80% of the total prize money will be distributed among the top 3 riders of each division as follows:

1st Place: 50% 2nd Place: 30% 3rd Place: 20%

The remaining 20% will be distributed among the riders placing 4th to 6th, in both Men and Women divisions.

- This extended distribution will only apply if there are more than 10 riders registered in the division the money will be distributed.

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 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.

E-Foil competition

Format

The **Waydoo-SFT eFoil Race World Cup 2026** will consist of various distinctive courses, designed to test different aspects of foiling skills. There will be 3 days of competition: Sunday 17th, Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th of May 2026.

Time Trials - Qualification Series

Day 1 on Monday 18th we will run the time trials, that count as qualification and seeding for the elimination series on the same day. 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

On Tuesday 19th we will run elimination series. The elimination series will run one or multiple races. If multiple races are run, then the results of each race count together towards the event ranking. One race is run in an elimination ladder format, where each heat has 2 to 4 athletes competing against each other at the same time on the course and the best athlete advances into the next round until the final of the race.

Race Course:

Will be shown at the riders meeting and drawn according to be the most suitable regarding weather and spot conditions. We are planning some new exciting track formats that we want to test on Sunday 17th

Principles of the race

- The E-foil competition is a timed race on a marked course.
- Start: Participants must be stationary at the start. They start on the command of the horn (3...2...1... Horn/Signal)
- The best time of the two heats determines the ranking and the winner.
- Each participant is entitled to 2 falls. The 3rd fall is eliminatory.
- If a participant interrupts his race for any reason, he must immediately leave the race area.

Equipment

- Helmets and impact vest are mandatory
- Participants must bring their own E-Foil board. Demo boards might be available for racing, but not guaranteed.

Free trial phase:

- No rules, under the responsibility of each participant

Timed trial phase (optional):

- The timed trial phase is optional and depending on number of participants
- The running order is determined by the numbering of the race number in ascending order.
- The results of the time trials determine the starting order of the race (slowest to fastest).

Race phase:

- The running order is determined by the time trials (slowest to fastest)
- The race phase is divided into 2 heats. Only the best time over the 2 heats will be counted.

- The ranking is determined by the best time.

Elimination ladder:

Any race in the competition can be run using either an **elimination ladder** or a **round robin system**.

In an **elimination ladder** (knock-out format), multiple athletes compete against each other in different heats, where the best competitors of a single heat advance into the next round until the final. Different elimination ladder systems can be applied depending on the total number of participants and the number of competitors per heat.

In a **round robin system**, all athletes have the chance to compete in multiple heats, which guarantees more competition time and opportunities for every rider. This format is especially suitable when participation numbers are lower, or when the focus is on maximizing rider experience and fairness.

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 or crashed at the start,

- 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 competitor 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 applied
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 none of the above rules determines which competitor ranks ahead of the other, the final event ranking shall remain tied, and the competitors shall share the position.

SFT Team Shenzhen 2026

Tour Manager: Tom Hartmann

Contest Director: Carlos Saez

Media Manager: Zuzana Pavelkova

Any question please contact our Sports Director at carlos@surffoilworldtour.com

We look forward to seeing you very soon!

The SFT Team.