

TASMANIAN SURF LEAGUE

ROUND 1 PREVIEW

SURF SKIS – JONO PRICE



It is with much anticipation and excitement that Round 1 of the TSL ski series is upon us. As the focus shifts from the longer marathon events to the high energy sprint season, the series will allow ski paddlers to test themselves in a number of events across the state in the lead up the state and national titles.

The sustained paddling success of Sam Norton should see him at the front of the field in the men's race. Whilst he will be racing at Winx type odds, we can expect to see Steven Blizzard and Nathan Cross chasing hard. The unknown factor in the race is the enigmatic Brad Rubock, often maligned for his lack of consistency he is looking to prove his doubters wrong. From the south of the state, Michael Boulton will also challenge those at the front of the field.

In the Women's race, experienced campaigners Courtney Dowling and Annette Witherden (nee Lakeland) will go head to head once again. These two have had many great battles over recent years and it has often been a blanket finish with Andrea Smith from Hobart included who will also be looking to break the tape first to set up summer campaign.

Throughout the winter the junior male races have been a tightly contested section. Brennan Machen, JeJoon Littler and Lachlan Cahill will all be looking to capitalise on the work in winter and get a competitive advantage over each other for the coming rounds.

The most open race of the day will be the junior women's race with Georgia Mathews looking to take on a number of new challengers. For many of them it will be their first season racing on the skis and they will be looking to set themselves up for the remainder of the series.

