



MEDIA RELEASE

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High School Surfest Challenge a Barrel of Fun

Reflections Holiday Parks will be front and centre at Newcastle's Surfest this February, with the popular holiday park group the official sponsor of the 2018 High Schools Team Challenge.

Recognised as Australia's largest surfing festival, Surfest has grown significantly since its humble beginnings in 1985 as the *BHP International*. Now in its 33rd year (the festival was not held in 1991), the *High Schools Team Challenge* has become a major drawcard for both grommets and seasoned surfers on the festival's calendar.

This year the *Reflections Holiday Parks High Schools Team Challenge* will see schools across NSW in both male and female divisions compete for the top wave over what promises to be a swell two days on the 15th and 16th February.

Reflections Holiday Parks Acting CEO, Michelle Griffin, called surfing a major drawcard for *Reflections* guests travelling to the 28 coastal parks across NSW and said she was looking forward to supporting an event which will attract a whole wave of grommets and their families to the parks on their next coastal getaway.

"This sponsorship not only gives us the opportunity to give back to the NSW surfing community but to also showcase our parks as sitting on some of the best breaks across the State," Ms Griffin said.

"With our Head Office located in Newcastle it's exciting to play a part in such a significant local event with a hugely positive effect on the city.

Surfest Coordinator Warren Smith said the team is excited to welcome *Reflections Holiday Parks* on board as a major sponsor this year, with over 700 surfers set to compete in 12 different surfing events.

"The *Reflections Holiday Parks High School Teams Challenge* promises to be a great two days which will bring together a number of NSW High Schools to compete in a style unique to this event," Warren said.



“Rather than being specifically focused on the individual surfer, teams of three will compete together to gain highly valuable bonus points within their heats. Two rounds will be held before the elimination rounds begin, though all teens competing will be considered winners by the surfing community.

“As with every other year, the High School Teams Challenge promises to be one of the highlight events of SurfFest and we look forward to watching the high level of competition these school teams will produce.”

Ms Griffin said there was plenty of accommodation available at the Group’s Hawks Nest and Jimmys Beach parks for out of towners looking to attend the event and enjoy the surrounding region during their stay.

“For those impressed by the National Surfing Reserve of Merewether Beach I also highly recommend they take a trip to our own Surfing Reserve found at Killalea,” Ms Griffin said.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the future of Australian Surfing competing in the *High Schools Team Challenge* and wish all teens taking part the best of luck.”

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About NSW Crown Holiday Parks Trust, NSWCHPT

NSWCHPT was formed in 2013 to consolidate the operations of 28 coastal and nine inland holiday parks and reserves located on Crown land throughout NSW and incorporated three holiday park brands under its corporate banner. (*North Coast Holiday Parks, South Coast Holiday Parks and Inland Waters Holiday Parks.*)

Reflections Holiday Parks brings its 37 holiday parks and public recreation reserves on Crown land under the one unified banner. The promise of *Reflections Holiday Parks* is to be *the place where happy holiday seekers and nature lovers will discover the quintessential caravan and camping break and create unforgettable experiences and family memories.*